

History of Agnes Wood Smith
Written by Martha Smith Bronson

Elizabeth Agnes Wood Smith, daughter of David Wood and Catharine Crites Wood, was born 11 July 1836 at Osnabrook, Eastern Canada.

She was first baptized 1845, in Nauvoo Illinois. She was later re-baptized in Midway Utah, 30 Mar 1879. She passed thru those days of sorrow and trials. She married Benjamin Mark Smith, 28 February 1855, in American Fork, Utah, Utah.

She remembered the Prophet Joseph Smith very well. Her father was a true friend of the prophet. Her oldest sister worked for the Smith family. Mother often said she visited with her sister at the Prophet's home. While visiting there one day the Prophet laid his hand on her head and said she would yet testify of him. I have heard her say many times that she knew he was a true Prophet of God.

She loved him dearly and loved to talk of him. She remembered the martyrdom of Joseph and Hyrum. She viewed the bodies after they were brought home from Carthage Jail.

She crossed the plains in 1852. Her father was Captain of the company she came thru with.

I heard her tell of the happy times they had in the journey to the West.

I remember my mother telling of the first time she saw my father. She was standing by a window as he passed by, driving some horses and she said, "There goes my future husband." My mothers people were well to do people. When they lived in Canada they owned a sugar plantation, She said she could remember seeing sap hauled from the maple trees and made into sugar.

Father and mother lived in American Fork a short time after they were married. Then they moved to California, from there to Nevada. While in Genoa, Douglas, Nevada my oldest sister Winnifred was born. They again located in American Fork, after a

period of unrest in Nevada, it was there I was born. They lived there until 1859, then came to Provo Valley, and lived there for a short time, and again crossed the mountains for the land of gold. There my sister Amanda Smith Sulser and my brother David Warren were born. Then for the third time, they journeyed to Utah, having to travel a long dreary road, six times by team.

I was only six years of age but I can remember crossing those great mountains. The Indians were troublesome in those days and we did not know when they might come upon us and kill us.

Mother was in a delicate condition and we children had the chills and fever, so our journey was not one of pleasure.

There was a family by the name of Davenport that came with us. I can remember how they had to double teams coming over the mountains and we all had to get out and walk.

Mother had nine children, all lived to man and womanhood. She was always ready to help those in need or sick. Her heart and home was always open to those that were in need.

She was the mother of nine children as follows:

- 1 Winnifred Catharine b 2 Nov 1856, Carson Valley, Nevada
- 2 Martha Ann b 12 Dec 1858, American Fork, Utah, Utah
- 3 Amanda Agnes b 11 Oct 1860, Sacramento, Sacramento, California
- 4 David Warren b 2 Oct 1862, Plymouth, Amador, California
- 5 Mark Alexander b 29 Dec 1864, Midway, Wasatch, Utah
- 6 Stephen Hyrum b 16 Jun 1867, Midway, Wasatch, Utah
- 7 Charles William b 9 Feb 1870, Midway, Wasatch, Utah
- 8 Lydia Melissa b 2 Aug 1873, Midway, Wasatch, Utah
- 9 Carson Oscar b 29 Sep 1875, Midway, Wasatch, Utah

Mother died Saturday 4 Feb 1911, after an illness of two weeks of Pneumonia. She is buried in the cemetery in Midway, Wasatch, Utah.