

Written by great granddaughter Lenna May Hill Harris.

Albert Haws, the 8th child and 4th son of Gilbert and Hannah Whitcomb Haws, was born February 15, 1837 in Wayne County, Illinois. When he was five years old, his parents joined the LDS church. At the age of ten, they left their home in Illinois and went to Iowa. They stayed there but a short time, being driven from their homes during the persecutions of the Saints.

In 1848 the family joined the Lorenzo Snow Company and started west, arriving in Salt Lake Valley in September 1848. After spending the first winter in Salt Lake, they were sent with a group of saints to settle Provo. Albert Haws was 12 years old and helped as all boys did, sometimes doing a man's work. They helped to build the first Provo Fort. There isn't too much in records of his early life in Provo. He was a Minute Man in the Black Hawk War.

One month and one day after his 20th birthday, he married Nancy Haws, daughter of John Haws and Martha Masters. John and Gilbert were brothers, so this made Albert and Nancy first cousins.

He was a hard worker, becoming a blacksmith, wheelwright, and a carpenter. He served as sheriff and water master in Provo. At one time he drove freight from Vernal to Price. Albert and Nancy were the parents of nine children, five boys and four girls. They buried three of their children when very young.

Nancy was a very ambitious woman. We find she was one of the first dentists in Vernal. She was also a photographer, and ran the hotel there for many years. Her photo studio was upstairs over the hotel, while the dentist's office was in the back of the building. She loved to raise flowers and do needle work. She moved out to Vernal in the late 1880's or early 1890's. She and Albert separated, so she took the family that were left at home and moved near her three older children who had married and settled in Ashley Valley.

Albert Haws married Harriett Mayberry in September 1879. She was the daughter of Thomas Mayberry and Mary Ann Chittenden of Australia. She came to Utah in 1879. She was born 6 May, 1860.

Albert and his second family moved to Naples, near Vernal, where he continued his work as a farmer and carpenter. He built a two room house, later adding more rooms. Albert died in Naples from a sun stroke 20 May, 1912, at the same time as his very good friend, a Mr. Bascome, so they had their funerals at the same time. He was 75 years old at the time of his death.

Story found in "Lovin' Memories", a compilation of histories and pictures from the Haws and Wiltbank family lines. It was put together

by Carol Bloomfield in 2010.