

ROSALIA KIMBALL EDWARDS

Rosalia was born November 25th, 1853, at Salt Lake City, Utah. She was the fifth child in a family of five. She is the daughter of Heber C. Kimball, who was one of the the Twelve Apostles and a counselor to Brigham Young.

Her mother, Ellen Sanders Kimball, was one of the first three women who came with the first Pioneer company in 1847. She is proud of her parentage.

Rosalia was married to Manassah W. Williams at the age of fifteen, in the Salt Lake Endowment House by her father, Heber C. Kimball. In 1869, she and her husband were called on a mission to Bear Lake, Rich County, Utah, to assist in the upbuilding of that community.

In the first company that left in July, were eight fine young men who had teams and wagons loaded with supplies. Rosalia, her mother and Baby Marian were the only women in the company. They were called the 'Peaked Hat Company'.

It took three days to go from Salt Lake to Bear Lake. Rosalia stated, "The sight that greeted their eyes from the hill just before we entered Bear Lake, was the most beautiful to behold. I was young and I had my husband and mother and dear little girl with me".

Rosalia had three more children born to her in Bear Lake. She had many hardships while her children were small. She divorced her first husband, Manassah, married Joseph S. Gordon by whom she had one daughter, and then a few years later, she and Joseph were divorced. She moved back to Salt Lake after much trouble. Sometime later, she married Edward Edwards by whom she bore six children, five sons and one girl. Ten children in all, seven sons and three daughters. There are now six living children, twenty-four living grandchildren, and sixteen great-grandchildren.

Rosalia has been a widow for about ten years. She has many kind and loving friends and neighbors, especially in the Belvadere Ward and as she says, "the best Bishop in all the world". She has the Kimball wit and the young and old like to visit with her. On November 25th, she will be eighty-five years old and up until about a year ago, she visited her district as a Relief Society teacher. She lives alone and does her own work. She still loves life and likes to dress up and look nice. She has cause to be proud of her ancestors, and we are very proud of her. Her greatest worry now, is for those less fortunate than she.

(Written in 1938 by her daughter, Ellen A. Gealta.)

(Original handwritten document in possession of Dianne Paul Montgomery, Great Granddaughter.)