

## **Alexander Keele (Dwelling #680)**

Alexander Keele was born in February 25, 1822 in Bedford County, Tennessee. He was the seventh child of eleven born to Richard John and Nancy Eleanor "Ellen" McCullough Keele who lived in Dwelling #672. When he was nineteen years old, he married Minerva Dixon who was seventeen years old. She was the daughter of Solomon and Sarah Burger Dixon. She was born on November 13, 1826 in Blount County, Tennessee.

Alexander and Minerva's first child, John Wesley, was born in 1842 in Greene County, Illinois. They joined the Church and moved to Nauvoo to be with the Saints. Francis Alma and Henry Jefferson were born in Nauvoo.

When the Saints were forced out of Nauvoo, Alexander and his family moved to Big Pigeon. It was here that William Dabney was born on August 24, 1849.

The 1850 U. S. Census listed Alexander, born in Tennessee, age 28; Minerva, born in Tennessee, age 23; John, born in Illinois, age 9; Francis, born in Illinois, age 7; Jefferson, born in Illinois, age 4; and William, born in Illinois, age 1.

The family went west with an unknown Company in 1852. They settled in Payson, Utah County, Utah Territory. A son was born on December 14, 1852. His name was Alexander Keele, Jr.

On July 18, 1853, Alexander was standing guard in Payson during Indian troubles and he was shot by Chief Airopine. Minerva was left a widow with five sons. Minerva married Jeremiah Bingham, Jr. on April 5, 1855.

Minerva and Jeremiah had six children together. She died in Garland, Box Elder County, Utah on October 2, 1912. She was buried by her husband in the Payson City Cemetery.