

Elizabeth Ann Seaton Stump (Elizabeth Stump)

Benjamin Stump was from Loudon County, Virginia. He was the son of Joseph M. Stump and Elizabeth Boggess. He was born on November 16, 1806. He married Elizabeth Ann Seaton on March 24, 1828 in Fauquier County, Virginia. Elizabeth was born on January 17, 1807 in Fauquier County. James B. and Elizabeth “Betty” James Seaton were her parents.

Benjamin and Elizabeth’s first child was born April 3, 1829 in Union, Monroe County, Virginia. Between 1829 and 1831, the family moved to White Oak, Brown County, Ohio. James Edward was born on March 31, 1831 and Joseph William on February 5, 1833. The next move was to New Hope in the same county. Here the next six children were born, Francis Marion, born February 4, 1835; Jacob Kenner, born July 23, 1837; John Harvey, born November 3, 1841; Benjamin Rush and (twins) Margaret Elvira, born April 25, 1844; and Nancy Adelaide, born December 11, 1846. During their stay in Brown County, Francis Marion died on September 20, 1840 and Elizabeth Ann died on June 4, 1849.

Within a year, Benjamin sold all his possessions and the family started west. He went to Cincinnati, took a boat to Cairo, Illinois and then up the Mississippi River to the Missouri River and then to Kanesville. During their trip, an epidemic of smallpox broke out on the boat and Nancy Adelaide passed away on April 3, 1850; Benjamin, on April 8, 1850; Benjamin Rush on March 28, 1850; and James Edward on May 20, 1850.



Elizabeth Jane, the oldest sibling was left in charge of the family. The family was listed in the 1850 U. S. Census in dwelling #688 and enumerated on October 5, 1850. The list included: Elizabeth, age 31 (should have been 21); Joseph, age 17; Jacob, age 13; John, age 8: and Margaret, age 6.

One night, Elizabeth attended a meeting where Mormon missionaries were teaching about life after death. She had been told at her mother’s death, “to gaze up her Mother’s face for the last time, as you will never see her again.” After hearing the missionaries, for the first time, she had felt comfort. Elizabeth’s name appeared on the Big Pigeon Branch Record and on the Branch Tithing Records. The date on the Tithing Record is date February 1851 and again in March.

On March 9, 1851, Elizabeth Jane married Solomon Parks McIntosh. On the Pottawattamie Marriage Index, both Elizabeth and Solomon are listed as being from Big Pigeon. Solomon was a widower with two daughters. On the 1850 U. S. Census, the family was enumerated in dwelling #685 as Solomon, age 40; Sally, age 14; and Malinda, age 7.

Solomon, Elizabeth, Sarah Ann McIntosh, Malinda Jane McIntosh, and Margaret Elvira Stump left with the Daniel A. Miller/John W. Cooley Company on June 8, 1853 from Six Mile Grove. They arrived in the Salt Lake Valley on September 9, 1853. The family settled in Lake Point, Tooele County, Utah Territory. There Elizabeth gave birth to two daughters, Nancy Elvina and Mary Ann, who both died very young. She endured the conditions when the grasshoppers swarmed over the land and there was very little to eat. Even in her weakened condition, she gave birth to Benjamin Cornelius.

After her son's birth, marital problems developed between Elizabeth and Solomon. Brigham Young approved a divorce for her. She then moved to Pond Town (Salem), Utah County, Utah Territory. She worked at anything she could to support her children. Through friends, she met Uriah Curtis and they were married on February 5, 1860. She had a daughter, Vicena Calesta Curtis, on October 15, 1860 and a son, Joseph Uriah Curtis, on October 18, 1863. Joseph Uriah was only one hour old when his father, Uriah Curtis, died of pneumonia.

Uriah oldest son, Erastus Curtis, took responsibility for his father's families and was called by Brigham Young to help settle Sanpete County, Utah. Elizabeth then moved to Moroni. She lived in the house of a good friend until the Blackhawk War began and she had to move into the Fort. When the War declined, she moved back to her house.

When Cornelius was about 10 years old, he and his little brother, Joseph, took the team of horses to go collect sage brush so they would have fuel. On the way home, the horses became spooked, Joseph was thrown from the wagon into a mud puddle and was not harmed but Joseph was fatally injured when the horse's hooves struck his head. He died three days later.

Elizabeth struggled to feed herself and her two children. She cleaned houses, nursed the sick, and used her spinning and quilting skills. In the spring of 1872, an old friend of the family, Dr. William Taylor Dennis, came to Moroni and on April 1, 1872 Elizabeth married Dr. Dennis.

The couple moved from Moroni to Marysville, Piute County, Utah. Elizabeth milked cows and made butter and cheese. Because of domestic problems, she moved back to Moroni and used the surname of Curtis. On December 29, 1872, a daughter, Elizabeth Ann Dennis was born.

Elizabeth continued to spin and quilt and find any work that she could to sustain her family. Smallpox broke out in Moroni and she worked with Dr. Clark. Nursing became her livelihood and she studied to become a midwife.



Elizabeth spent the last days of her life with her daughter, Vicena Blackham. She lived to be eighty years of age and died on May 19, 1909. She is buried in the Moroni City Cemetery.