

Ira Bartlett Elmer (Dwelling #668)

Ira was the son of John S. and Sarah “Sally” Peake. He was born August 2, 1823 in Norwich, Windsor County, Vermont.

Ira married Eveline Elizabeth Wright on November 3, 1842 in Adams County, Illinois. Their first two children were born there—Angeline Vashti and Oliver Samuel.

By 1850, the family was living in Big Pigeon. Listed were Ira, age 27; Evaline, age 27; Angelina, age 8; Oliver, age 4; and Melissa, age 10 months. Malissa Ella and her twin, Martha Louisa, were born November 25, 1849 and may have been born in Big Pigeon. Martha Louisa died the same day as she was born. She may be buried at Big Pigeon.

The family left Big Pigeon with the Uriah Curtis Company which departed from Kanesville on June 28, 1852. They arrived in the Valley on September 29, 1852. The family stayed in West Jordan, Salt Lake County for a few years where Harriet and Amanda were born. The 1860 U. S. Census enumerated the family in Payson, Utah County, Utah Territory. Listed were Ira, age 37; Eveline, age 37; Oliver, age 15; Malissa, age 10; Harriet, age 7; Amanda, age 6; and Ira, age 2. Ira, Jr. was born in Payson. Ira, Sr. was listed as a cabinet maker.

Ira took a plural wife, Sarah Selena Light on June 15, 1869. Of this union, ten children were born. Many of the children from this family were born in Panguitch or Cannonville, Garfield County, Utah Territory.

By the 1870 U. S. Census, the family lived in Saint George, Washington County, Utah Territory. Susan Marie and Hyrum were probably born in Payson and Eveline Elizabeth in Saint George. In 1880, Sarah’s family was living in Cannonville, Iron County, Utah Territory. Eveline Elizabeth died in Panguitch on June 2, 1885.

Eventually, the families move to Pima, Graham County, Arizona Territory and then Thatcher, in the same county. Ira became blind in about 1897 and one of his sons became the man of the house. Two years before he died, Ira became bed ridden. He passed away on June 20, 1903.