

HISTORY #10

"The Reason I Came To Bear Lake"

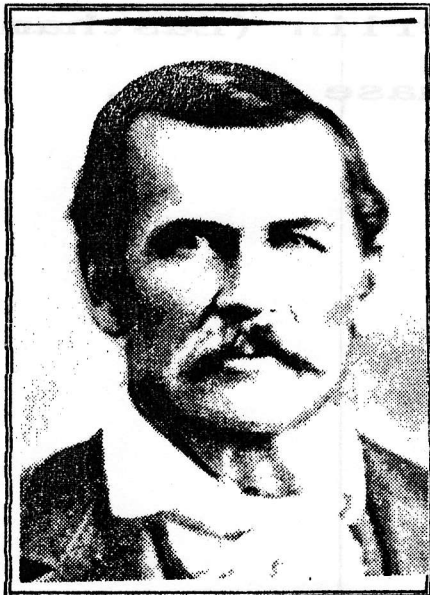
A letter written by Merlin (Eastham)  
Kearl to her son, Chase Kearl.

The reason I came to Bear Lake was because Aunt Ann had a home and an orchard and she was needed to care for her fruit and was expecting a new baby and didn't want to come away from a Dr. or help.

Fanny was living on the farm and had men to cook for and things to take care of.



Merlin - when she was about 13 years old.



My husband - James Kearl

I was married on the 12th of July and of course hadn't prepared a home of any kind there so came here with my Husband on the 29th of August.

I was the first woman to have a home in Round Valley. The first day we got her we camped at Big Spring. The next day on the 30th of Aug. we went on to look at the country and went as far as St, Charles.

Y

from  
Greentonsville

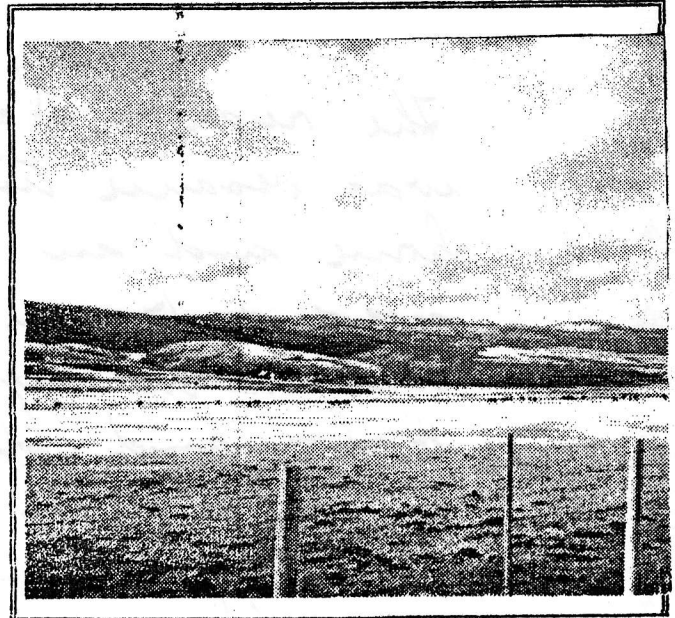
The reason I came to Bear Lake  
was because Aunt Ann had a  
home and an orchard she was  
needed to care for her fruit and  
was ~~in the~~ expecting a new  
baby and didn't want to come  
away from a W. or help.

Fanny was living on the farm  
and had men to cook for  
and things to take care of.

I was married the 12<sup>th</sup> of  
July and of course had to  
prepare to leave of any kind  
there so came here with my  
husband the 29<sup>th</sup> of August.

I was the first woman to  
have a home in Round Valley.  
The first day we got here we  
camped at Big Spring. The  
next day on the 30<sup>th</sup> of Aug.  
we went on to look at the

We didn't see anything we liked as well as Round Valley so we came back and made our home there. About half way down the road between Earleys and the corner. They sat my stove down by the side of the road. Not a tent or a bit of shelter of any kind. The wind blew and the stove wouldn't bake but that's where I stayed while the men, my husband, and



Round Valley



The Cottonwood Trees where Merlin camped when they arrived.

was gone to Salt Lake for Fanny.

George Willis, Larry Morton, and John Anderson put up a stack of hay and got out some logs and built a shed.

I moved into the shed and felt I had a mansion. Then they started building me a log house with two rooms. They chinked it and my cousin from Evanston came and I helped him carry the mud to daub the one room while Jim

country, and went as far as  
St Charles. We didn't see  
any thing we liked as well  
as Round Valley so we came  
back and made our home  
there. About half way down  
the road between Earley  
and the corner. They set my  
stove down by the side of  
the road not a bit for  
a bit of shelter of any  
kind. The wind blew and  
the stove wouldn't bake but  
that's where I stayed while  
the men, My husband, and  
George Willis Lary, norris &  
John Anderson put up a  
stack of hay and got out  
some logs and built a shed.  
I moved into the shed and  
felt I had a mansion.  
Then they started building  
me a log house with two  
rooms. They chinked it and  
my cousin from Evanston 5

He brot (sp) back two little square windows. We didn't have a door so I would move my little square table that the Presiding Elder, Brother Oldfield, gave me when we moved away, up to the door opening. One night a skunk came to visit us and Jim shot it as it was leaving. The smell never entirely left the door step.



Now I must tell about my first babies. Me in my later years. I had my first four born in Round Valley. Merlin Edyth with Mrs. Green for the Dr. Jeanett with Mrs. Morley the Dr.

2  
Willie Hill

came and I helped him carry  
the mud to daub the re  
room walls. Jim was gone  
for <sup>to</sup> Fanny. He brot back  
two little square windows. We  
didn't have a door so I would  
move my little square table that  
the presiding Elder Bro. Oldfield  
gave me when he moved away  
up to the door opening. One  
night while we were in a bed  
a skunk came to visit us  
and Jim shot it ~~it~~ as it  
was leaving. The smell  
never entirely left the door step.

Now I must tell about my  
first babies. I had my first  
four born in Round Valley,  
Merlin Edyth with Mrs.  
Screen for the Mr. Jeanette  
with Mrs. Moley the Mrs 7

John Henry with Mrs. Earley for the  
Dr. George with Fanny for the Dr. Then  
I moved to Otter Creek. Then Robert was  
born with Eliza Johnson for the Dr.  
Then I had Willis Ellsworth with a  
midwife, Mrs. Smith, with me. My other  
four children were born in Laketown.  
Morton, Ethel, Jane Chase & Grace with  
help from Mrs. Carolyn Wahlstrom who  
was a good midwife. There was no Doctors and help of that kind in  
those days.



Me - when I was old.

My first bottle of fruit was a 2 quart bottle of wild  
goosberries picked in birch hollow and put up without any sugar and  
I have



John Henry with Mrs. Carley  
for the Dr. George with  
Fanny for the Dr. Then I  
moved to Otter Creek. Then  
Robert was born with Cligg  
Johnson for the Dr. Then I  
had Willis Ellsworth with  
a midwife Mrs Smith  
with me. My other four  
children were born in  
Lake Town. Morton, Ethel  
Jane, Chas & Grace with  
help from Mrs Carolyn  
Waldron who was a good  
midwife. There was no  
doctors and help of that  
kind in those days.

Chas was born in Round  
Valley.

My first bottle of fruit  
was a quart bottle of  
wild gooseberries picked  
in birch hollow and  
put up with ~~out~~ any  
sugar. And I have

never been so thrilled with all  
the fruit I've canned since as  
I was with that one bottle and  
I'm sure the Lorst must have  
been a help to hundreds of other  
sisters in the same condition.

Mother



My home in Laketown built  
in my later years.

3

never been so "drilled" with  
all the fruit I've canned  
since as I was with  
that one bottle and I am  
sure the Lord must have been  
with me and been a help to  
hundreds of other sisters in  
the same condition  
mother