

ISAAC CHAUNCY HAIGHT and ELIZA ANN PRICE
(Parents of Roselia Jocosia Haight Spilsbury)

Born: 27 May 1813
Windham, Green, New York
Died: 8 September, 1886 (73 yrs.)
Thatcher, Graham, Arizona

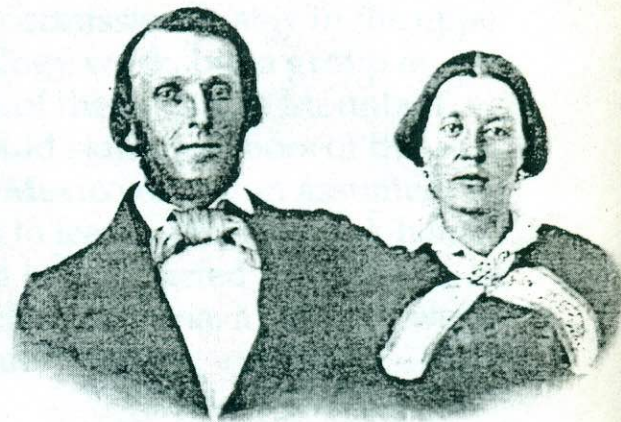
13 May, 1832
Kington, Hereford, England
4 March, 1911 (78 yrs.)
Toquerville, Utah

Married: 10 October 1853

Parents: Caleb Haight and
Keturah Horton

John Price and Mary Jane
Johnson

Isaac and his family joined the church in about 1839. Isaac baptized his brother Hector, who is the great, grandfather of Apostle David B. Haight. The family suffered many persecutions. Isaac said he had three homes destroyed by the mobs. In 1847 they came West with the Saints.



In 1853, Isaac was sent to England by Brigham Young to help a company of Saints immigrate to America. In this company was a 21-year-old convert, Eliza, who had left her family to come to Utah. The ship's log reports that she became very ill on the voyage across the ocean, but recovered after having a Priesthood blessing. Because Isaac wanted to marry Eliza, he enlisted her in a company other than his own as they crossed the plains.

Soon after they arrived in Salt Lake, President Young assigned Isaac to go to Cedar City to start up the ironworks industry. He took Eliza and another woman from the immigrant party as his second and third wives, sold his home and his belongings, and took his family to settle in Cedar City. In all, Isaac had five wives and fathered many children.

Eliza bore ten children and raised them all to adulthood; she spent many years away from her husband, first because of his travels for the church and then because he had to live in hiding the last years of his life. An account in Isaac's diary says he bought a log house and moved it to the Springs (Pipe Springs?) where he moved Eliza to make cheese and butter. He died when she was fifty-four years old and her youngest child was fourteen. She spent her final years in the care of her daughter Roselia, my grandmother. In her old age Eliza suffered from dementia and for her safety had to be tied with a rope; one day she ventured too close to the

fireplace, catching her clothing on fire. She died from the effects of the burns.

Isaac was called to help establish the Iron Mission outside Cedar City. He was the stake president at the time of the Mountain Meadows Massacre. As a result of his association with this unfortunate episode, he was excommunicated. Because of pleas on his behalf attesting to his innocence, Brigham Young personally layed his hands on Isaac's head to restore his blessings. However, wherever Isaac went, he was rejected by his people. He was forced to live away from his wives and dear children.

He and some of his family were given permission to stay in the upper rooms of the St. George Temple to do genealogy work, but a group of angry residents, stinging from the ignominy of the events at Mountain Meadows, told him to leave or his blood would stain the floors of the temple. He went to the Mormon colonies in Mexico under an assumed name, but was finally recognized and forced to leave. His trip back home from Mexico was arduous, wet and cold and he contracted pneumonia; he returned to the home of his nephew in Thatcher, Arizona, a sick and weak man and died with none of his family to comfort him.

Although there was great tragedy in their lives, they were a happy family, completely dedicated to the Church. Isaac was said to be an intelligent, quick-witted, good-humored man, tall of stature and well-built. He was entrusted with great responsibilities in the colonization of Utah and the industrialization of Southern Utah; he was one of the captains in the Parley P. Pratt expedition to Southern Utah, an arduous journey across the mountains in winter. He kept meticulous diaries about many of these events.

Not much is known about Eliza during her child-raising years (perhaps raising ten children says it all). She and Isaac saw that their children were literate and well-educated. My father, Erwin Spilsbury, never knew his grandfather Isaac; he was ten years old when his grandmother, Eliza, died.