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Biographical Sketch

of

Samuel Dean

read by June Shelley Wright

Pioneer Year 1863

Born 7 July 1851 at Burnley, Lancashire, England

Married 18 June 1871 to Prudence Bourne in the

Salt Lake Endowment House

Died 13 Sep 1934

Samuel Dean was born July 7, 1851 at Burnley, Lancashire, England. His parents were Mary Anne Salts and John Dean. When he was on year old, his mother died. In a few years his father wed again.

John Dean and his family having become converts to the Mormon faith, decided to travel to Utah. Leaving England in the year 1863, they took passage on a sailing vessel to cross the Atlantic Ocean. Eight weeks passed before the ship landed at Castle Gardens. John Dean and his son, Samuel, were the only two to reach the new land. The other members of the family had died and had been buried at sea.

After father and son had traveled as far as they could by rail, they purchased an ox team and completed their journey.

Samuel's first winter in Utah was spent with a family by the name of Rhodes, at Mill Creek. The following spring he helped his father herd sheep at the mouth of Bingham Canyon.

In 1865, he came to American Fork. For two years he lived with and worked for Thomas Proctor. For the next two years he was employed by John Bourne (later his father-in-law). He also worked on the railroad on the way to Promontory, Utah.

The next spring, he with John Conder and John Armstrong started with two yoke of oxen for White Pine, Nevada. When they reached the Jordan River they received word of the mining discoveries at Tintic. The party immediately changed their plans and started for Tintic. On the way, they became very thirsty. Mr. Dean volunteered to go ahead of the wagons in search of water. As he traveled on, he was suddenly surrounded by a band of Indians. He feared for his life but the Indians traveled on, leaving him unharmed. These same Indians, he learned later, were on their way to war in San Pete County. The men took up a claim at Tintic and worked all summer. Mr. Dean then sold his share of the claim to John Armstrong for a yoke of oxen and a wagon. On his arrival at American Fork, he traded the oxen and wagon for a one-room house and lot where the Dean home now stands.

On the eighteenth of June 1871, Samuel Dean married Prudence Bourne. They were married in the Salt Lake Endowment House. They

were accompanied through by President Brigham Young. To this union ten children were born. Three babies died in infancy and two daughter, Prudence and Alice, preceded their parents in death.

Mr. Dean took an active part in building up this vicinity. He worked in the Dutchman Mine in American Fork Canyon, he cut ties and helped build the railroad into the canyon. He was elected to the office of County Road Supervisor and held this position for four years. For three years, he was manager of a threshing machine and at the same time acted as secretary of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association. He and Amos Wagstaff were the librarians of the Sunday School. For a number of years he was on the Old Folks' Committee and was manager of the Opera House. He took out his citizenship papers in April 1885 and on Oct. 1 of the same year, he was appointed Justice of the Peace for American Fork by Eli J. Murray, governor of the Territory of Utah. He worked at the first flour mill in American Fork, peddled to such mining camps as Bingham, Eureka and Mercur; he also engaged himself in farming and raising chickens. For a number of years Mr. Dean was the city constable and water master. The last office he held was that of city water tax collector.

The death of Prudence Dean, on Nov. 27, 1932, separated this happy couple who had enjoyed sixty-one years of married life. After her death Mr. Dean lived alone until Sept. 13, 1934 when he passed away at the age of eighty-three years. Surviving him were five son: Samuel Jr., Oscar, Lenard, and Owen Dean of American Fork, and Elijah Dean of Garfield.