



Hyrum Burgess

Hyrum Burgess was born 25 May 1837 at Kirkland, Geauga, Ohio to Horace Burgess and Iona Almira Pulsipher. Hyrum was their oldest child and brother to George Martin Burgess.

On March 1839 Hyrum a two-year-old was with his family going towards Illinois with some of their neighbors. After traveling 200 miles, they crossed the Mississippi River and found themselves with people that had humanity. His father Horace and his granddad William Burgess made a road into the woods called Bear Creek. They arrived there in the middle of April; camped and set up living on whatever animal they could kill or farm to survive. The men in the family worked at farming and shingle making. 10 August 1839, they moved on to headquarters of the Camp of Israel on the West Side of the Missouri River. Hyrum married his 1st wife Eliza Jane Dykes who was born 27 June 1839 at Nauvoo, Hancock, Illinois to George Parker Dykes and Dorcas Keeling. She died 23 Mar 1909 at Thurber, Wayne, Utah.



Hyrum's 2nd wife was Mary Ann Hales who was born 10 Dec 1844 at Cincinnati, Ohio to George Hales and Sarah Ann Gragery. She was married to Hyrum 4 Mar 1860 in Salt Lake City. They had two children Hyrum William and Sarah Ann Hughes. Mary Ann died 5 Dec 1870 at Elko, Elko, Nevada.

His 3rd wife Agnes Smith born 21 June 1851 at Stewarton, Ayre, Scotland. Agnes and Hyrum were married 6 Mar 1872 and had 8 children together. They were; John Smith, Mary Ann Hughes, George Martin, Frederick, Susan Isabelle Leavitt, Joseph Henry, James Franklin, and Almira Vilate Canfield. Agnes died 23 Mar 1933 and is buried in Mesquite, Clark, Nevada. He and his first two wives were all in Santa Clara on 1854, when he was sent with the 2nd under Rufus C. Allen to be missionaries to the Indians.

In the Apostle Parley P. Pratt's exploring company, in their travels through southern Utah, went as far south in January, 1850, as the mouth of the Santa Clara Creek, and since that time the Santa Clara Valley and its vicinity has been well known to the Mormon population of Utah. It was a favorite rendezvous of the Indians before the arrival of the whites. After the founding of Harmony in 1852, an exploring company was sent down to the Santa Clara and other parts of the country along the Rio Virgen. Some of the brethren called on missions to southern Utah in October 1853, arrived on the Santa Clara Creek in the fall of that year.

In the spring of 1854, this had been organized in Salt Lake City. The other missionaries in the

company were David Lewis, Samuel F. Atwood, Jacob Hamblin, Samuel Knight, Lorenzo W. Roundy, Thales H. Haskell, Richard S. Robinson, Ira Hatch, Amos G. Thornton, Prime T. Coleman, David W. Tullis, Benjamin Knell, Augustus P. Hardy, Clark Ames, Hyrum Burgess, Thomas D. Brown, Robert Ritchey, John R. Murdock, John Lott, Elnathan Eldredge, Isaac Riddle and William Henefer. These first missionaries, called to labor among the Indians, spent some time at Harmony, where they helped to build a fort, but in June, 1854, they arrived on the Santa Clara Creek, where they found a camp of Indians numbering nearly 200 souls. These Indians were very friendly and the missionaries at once commenced assisting the Indians in sowing and planting and otherwise instructing them in civilized ways. Santa Clara continued principally as an Indian missionary station. Jacob Hamblin succeeded Rufus C. Allen as president of the mission. In 1856 the site for a fort was selected half a mile above the present Santa Clara village, or about a quarter of a mile above the log cabin formerly built by the missionaries. This fort, as well as the pioneers can remember, enclosed an area of 100 feet square. The hammer-faced rock walls were two feet thick, and twelve feet high. The fort was built in three weeks, and was afterwards declared by Pres. Brigham Young to be the best built fort in Utah. Hyrum died the 25 Sep 1924 in Mesquite, Clark, Nevada and was buried the 27 Sep in the Mesquite cemetery by his wife Agnes.