

History of Isaac Asay *Filed Dec - 1984*

Isaac Asay was the fourth son of Joseph Asay and Sarah Ann Pedrick. He was born the 15th day of July 1848 in Trenton New Jersey. He was scarcely twelve years of age, when his parents and family left the land of their birth to gather with the Saints in Utah. A lad of this age must have had many and varied experiences on that long and hazardous journey. It is too bad that there was no record kept or later made of their trek westward. It would give many answers to questions now in doubt:

It is said the family first lived in Salt Lake City on the block where the New House Hotel once stood, and that later they had a farm of 160 acres south on the Jordan river. It was at this place that John Blythe said that they caught fish and the Asay boys. Most likely Isaac was one of them, would peddle the fish in Salt Lake City.

The family lived in the valley among the Saints for seven years when at the October Conference of 1867, the father, Joseph, and two sons were called along with more than a hundred other men, to strengthen the settlements in the so-called Muddy Mission. Isaac was one of the sons who answered this call., and was more than likely one of the sons with father Joseph who were seining fish when the Major Powell exploring company came through the Colorado Canyon, and found to their surprise that their journey was over.

A story is told by Parmer Asay, of Ike and his fishing luck while down on the Muddy. This was supposed to have happened near the warehouse at Call's Landing on the Colorado River.

Ike was fishing when his line suddenly was jerked hard. He had a fish-- must be a big one. Ike began to pull him in. The fish didn't want to come, and pulled the other way. Ike could see that he had a real big one, so he pulled some more and some more. The fish refused to be pulled in. Ike yelled, "darn you I'll jerk your old head off" and the fish gave another jerk--and Ike went into the river. Ike hung onto his line, and by swimming and holding on desperately to the line, he

managed to bring the fish ashore. What A prise he had, it was said to weigh sixty pounds. Some one even took a picture of Ike and his fish. Now there is a fish story for you. Could be that the fish grew in the telling?

The settlers left the Muddy because of the back taxes levied by the State of Nevada. Under Daniel Stark, who had been bishop of the St. Joseph Ward in the Muddy Mission Settlement, his group on the old site of Winsor, later named Mt. Carmel

Just when and where Isaac met his future wife is not known, but the marriage occurred 1st Dec. 1872. Elizabeth Ellen Allen and Isaac later made a journey to Salt Lake City, and received their endowments in the Old Endowment House 23 Nov. 1874 and were sealed the same day by Daniel H. Wells, second conciler to Pres. Brigham Young.

When the Saints at Mt. Carmel were advised to live the United Order, it was first tried there for a short time, but the former settlers of the old town of Winsor had returned, and these families with some of the Muddy settlers desired to disorganize the order. Those who desired to live the order withdrew from Mt. Carmel under Bishop Howard O. Spencer, and selected a site about half-way between Mt. Carmel and Glendale, which became known as Orderville.

A list was made of those families who were willing to join the order, and among them were the names of Isaac Asay Elizabeth Asay and one child. Joseph Asay and Sarah Ann Asay signed up, but soon changed their minds, so never left Mt. Carmel. Isaac Asay and wife remained with the Order for a number of years, living at Orderville.

Isaac Asay seemed an enthusiastic member of the order, and could not understand why his parents did not join. Writing about the Order, his mother, Sarah Ann, writes: "they have bought the grist mill. They have a saw mill. Ike and Bowers are going to run it. Ike settled this spring. He had nine hundred coming to him. He is well. He feels bad, cause we dont join. I tell him we will all join at once someday. Pres. Brigham give them a machine to make buttons.

From another source:

were erected on the east, west, and north sides of the dining hall. Blacksmith, carpenter and cabinet shops occupied the land on the south side. All property was owned by the Order, and every man skilled or unskilled was paid at the same rate for his labor. Foremen were appointed to direct the various projects which included a farm of 315 acres, dairies and herds of sheep and cattle.

The Orderville group became one of the most self-sustaining communities in Utah, making great strides forward under the system. But sentiment for private ownership became strong and the order was disbanded in 1884.

Isaac and family are found at Orderville in the 1880 census

Asay, Isaac _ 29 -- Works at Sawmill

Asay, Elizabeth-27--wife

Asay, Ellen-5-- Charity-2-- Alice-- 6 mos.

It is not known just when Isaac withdrew from the order, in 1882 or 83 is more than likely, as the members kept withdrawing in favor of private enterprise. Three of Isaac's children were born at Orderville, the last born there was Isaac Allen Asay in 1882.

Isaac took his family to Asay Creek, and lived there during the time that the town of "Asay" flourished. For a time, he acted as the presiding Elder of the branch there, under the direction of either the bishop of Hillsdale, or of Panguitch. When Asay town declined and the Mammoth Ward was organized to include both Asay and Hatch settlements, Isaac moved his family to the growing community of Hatch. There his wife died after the birth of a son who did not live very long. Grand-ma Asay helped to take care of the family, as Lawrence was only two years of age when his mother died.

Later, Isaac moved his family to Green River, and lived there a number of years. The Monroe Ward records show that he was received into the ward from Green River, 6 August 1905. He continued to live in Monro until his death 28 Oct. 1909.

Isaac Asay md (1) 1 Dec. 1872 Elizabeth Eliza Allen, b 20 Apr. 1858
Fairview, Utah, dau of Joseph Stewart Allen and Maria Karen Hansen. She died Oct.

1. Ellen Maria b 28 Mar. 1875 Mt. Carmel, Utah
2. Charity b 2 Aug. 1877 Orderville, Utah
3. Alice b 20 Nov. 1879 Ordeville, Utah
4. Isaac Allen b 10 June 1882 Orderville, Utah
5. Cora Luella b 24 Jan. 1885 Asay Town, Utah
6. Amanda Irene b 12 Nov. 1886 Asay Town, Utah d 3 Nov. 1893
7. Joseph Lawrence b 1 June 1893 Asay Town, Utah
8. John Ernest b June 1894 Hatch Utah died as infant.