My Paternal GrandMother

History

of

Caroline Maria Anderson Peterson by Forrest Peterson

Carolina Maria was born February 2nd 1851,in Stavn, Denmark,to Anders Christensen and Dorthe Kirsten Nielsen, was the 8th child in a family of 10,had four sisters and five brothers.

Stavn,Denmark,the birthplace of Caroline Maria is located on the west shore of the mainland of Denmark and is located on the shore of an inland sea,the land extending back from the shore is but a few feet above sea level,it is chiefly meadow,pasture land and one sees herds of dairy cattle dotting the rolling hills.

Stavn in the past has had two industries,dairying and fishing,those who had no land or cattle were fishermen,and it is supposed that Caroline Maria had her experiences with the sea in fishing boats with her father and brothers,it is not known wether her father was a fisherman or dairyman,but it is known that at the age of 12 Caroline Maria took employment on a large dairy farm.,she worked on this farm for 5 years ,until she was 17 years of age.,one of her friends told her about America and its wonderful opportunities there, her parents had also heard about America and were interested in making the change into a land of opportunity,Caroline Maria saved what meger funds she could for this purpose.

It is not known wether the entire family started for America or not,however Caroline Maria and her parents made their way to Copenhagen in a small sail boat where they stayed for two months waiting for passage to England,where they would book passage for the new land of America,when they reached Hull,England they were able to acquire passage to America

The first week of their sailing was most miserable because of sea sickness that everyone seemed to acquire, and althoughthe Andersons were used,moreor less to small fishing boats on a calm inland sea ,the larger boat on an open sea was something else and they were among the sick ones on the ship.

The second week was very slow due to the rough sea's and stormy weather.

It is truly said"If everone could have their wishes granted them,none would ever complete a stormy sea voyage" however the ship sails on,especially after it has reached a point of no return,so the Andersons,like all the passengers traveled on toward the promised land.

After about four weeks of travelthey were startled one day to hear the fire alarm,everone rushed to the upper deck of the ship ,and everone that could work worked hard for several hours to extinguish the fire. This must of been a harrowing experience,knowing that it was,put out the fire or you were going to die

This experience would also make one wish you had never left the safety of your old home,but there was no turning back,all in all it was about 12 weeks from the time they left their home before they approached the shores of New York.

Before they could dock in New York they had to be inspected, the inspectors found some of the passengers had cholera, all the passengers were examined ,it was found that Caroline and her mother both had the disease,the father was allowed to go ashore but not Caroline or her mother,it was decided that the father should go and find a place for for them when they were able to follow.

We can only partly imagine the heartache that thes people went through at this time and this was only the beginning,the father after only a few days on the Utah trail also came down with the dread disease and died and was buried beside the trail,no one knows where,Caroline and her Mother never saw him again.

After the father left the ship,all the sick passengers on the ship were taken to a hospital island,4 sailing days away,and entered in a hospital there,they were confined there for three months, during most of this time Caroline Maria served as a nurse to the other sick patients and was paid 50¢ a day for her services,when she had accumulated$15.00 she gave it to her mother to help her get to Utah. She stayed on at the hospital for another three months to get enough money to get herself to Zion,Utah.

She tells of many trials and tribulations in crossing the plains and cites one event specifically,of traveling one cold winter day with much snow on the ground,with seven passengers in the wagon,their oxen gave out and they were still 12 miles from the next town,after feeding the last of their hay to the oxen they set out afoot for the town and had walked about three miles when they met a kindly man who turned his wagon around and took them into town,all the food they had left was a half sack of flour and a few potatoes. Caroline avows that the Lord certainly helped in many ways to get her to Utah. This seems to have been in the year 1869.

The summer after her arrival in Salt Lake City,she made her way to Manti,Utah in hopes of seeing her mother,but was badly disappointed to find her mother had died the previous winter of pheumonia,More heart breaking times.

A family adopted her and she stayed with this family for one year,then went back to Salt Lake City,1871.

In Salt Lake City Caroline Maria met her husband,James Marinus Peterson,the church put James Marinus in a polygnous situation, and this was encouraged by the church authorities,so on the 18th of December he was sealed to Caroline Maria Anderson and Caroline Marie Nielsen,these marriages was preformed by Joseph F.Smith in the Salt Lake Endowment house

After her marriage she lived with her husband in Bingham Canyon where her husband was working as a miner,here their first child was born,Mary Jane, After living in Bingham for a time her husband became leaded(too much ore dust in the lungs)and they quit the mines never to return,moved back to Salt Lake City,rented a home in the vicinity of Liberty Park and spent his time farming and hauling granite from the mountains to be used in the building of the Salt Lake Temple,Caroline Cooked for the thrashers for three years,while living in Salt Lake City their first son was born,Marinus.

The Petersons then moved to Ft.Green,Utah and spent three years there,two sons were born here,Andrew and Peter James,this was in the years 1876 and 1878.

The church called upon James Marinus and his wives to go and help settle Emery County or Castle Valley as it was known at this time,so in the fall of 1880they moved over the wasatch range to what is now Castle Dale.

After making the move to Castle Dale,Caroline says they were very poor,all they arrived with was a wagon,a span of oxen,$10.00 2 milk cows and some food for the winter and during the winter which was extremly severe,their cows and oxen frose and starved to death,

James Marinus and his wives homesteaded the townsite of Castle Dale,at the request of the church authorities,for the purpose of having lots where immigrantscould build homes as they came into the aera; When this land was patented they sold the lots for $7.50 or $30.00 for a full block,Caroline stated ,this was a real lift financially for them.

Then the Peterson's homesteaded and traded for the "Brakes Ranch"two miles east of Castle Dale,here Caroline and the family lived in a adobe,one room house,with fabric for window coverings and an earthen floor,for four years,until they were able to build a two room frame house,they lived in this house for 8 years.

Caroline Maria spent one year in Idaho visiting family and enroute visited Yellowstone Park and other points of interest, upom returning to Utah she went to Sunnyside,Utah and run a boarding house for four years,then returned to Castle Dale,where her youngest son.David had bought her a home,here she resided for many years,untill she became unable to live alone,then moved to Boise,Idaho to live with her Daughter,Caroline Marie Zinn.

Caroline Maria died on the 13th day of October 1922 and was interned in Boise Idaho.

She was the mother of 11 Children.besides the four afore mentioned there was Diantha and Israel who died as children, then,Caroline Marie,John Alma,Trena Christena,David Henry and John Edwin,who was killed in a snow slide in the range creek mountains,the rest of the family grew to maturity and were good upright citizens.

Caroline's Husband was away from home much of the time,out herding sheep,he spent three years on a mission for the church in Denmark and was choir director for the Castle Dale Ward for 20 years,all of these activities left much of the family raising to Caroline Maria.

Caroline Maria or Karen Marie as her husband called her had a life of hardships,mixed with many joys,she did the very best she could,with what she had to do with,she was truly a steadfast pioneer and Mother.We of her posterity give honor and voice our respect to her,for the courage and determination she exhibited throughout her life,in coping with her problems and attaining the goals she set forth for herself,during the 71 years she was allowed here on this earth.

We your posterity await the time with egerness when we shall have the opportunity to become better acquainted with you, something we failed to do when you were with us,sometimes we procrastinate doing things untill it is too late,not realizing the importance of you,in our lives.