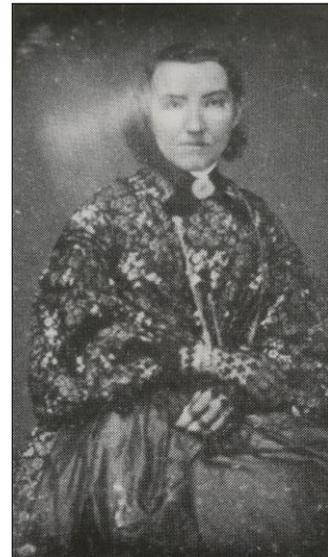


Mildred Eliza Johnson Randall

1827-1913

(Wife of Alfred Randall)

Birth: July 5, 1827 – New Hope, Augusta, Virginia
Died: May 19, 1913 – Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah
Parents: Francis Johnson and Mary Jane Hall
Pioneer: August 29, 1859 – James Brown Company
Wagon Train
Children: Francis, Eli Bradley



Mildred Eliza was born in 1827, in Virginia. This was a home of culture and refinement in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. Her father taught school and she was scholastically inclined. She desired to follow the teaching profession and attended the Augusta Female Seminary in Stanton, Virginia. She also enjoyed doing fine needlework. She often traded her chores to her sisters so she could sew or pursue her studies.

When she was seventeen years of age, her father died. She requested two books he had written on English and math, and her share of the inheritance in money to enable her to pay for additional schooling.

After teaching in Virginia some years, she went to visit her brother, Cicero, in Council Bluffs. While there, she was converted and baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on May 22, 1859. She left shortly thereafter for the Rocky Mountains with Captain James Brown's Wagon Company. They arrived in the Salt Lake Valley on August 29, 1859.

Mildred went to Bountiful and lived with the Randall family. On May 29, 1860, she became Mrs. Alfred Randall, in the Endowment House. She returned to Salt Lake City and began teaching in the 17th Ward. To this marriage was born two sons, but both died soon after their births. She resumed her teaching.

In 1865, she and her husband were called on a mission to the Church Plantation in Laie, Hawaii. She sold her lovely home and gave her furniture to friends to help finance their mission. While there Mildred conducted two schools, one for foreign children and one for native children. Upon her return to Salt Lake, she took charge of Brigham Young's private school on his Eagle Gate property. She taught all classes from ABC's through reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, geography, history and botany. She was well liked by her pupils.

On May 4, 1873, she was set apart for a second mission to the Sandwich Islands, becoming the first woman in the Church to serve a foreign mission without a husband. She borrowed money to finance this mission and went without 'purse or script', teaching school to pay her expenses while there. Upon her return to Utah she not only did regular day teaching, but had night classes in her home and sold books to pay her mission debt.

Mildred Eliza had a lengthy, productive life of service and passed away at the age of eighty six years in 1913. A Deseret News article concerning her death stated, "Community lost one of the most active and best loved of the state's pioneer women." She is to be honored for her devoted service to the Lord and to those around her.

Prominent Women of Faith and Fortitude – Daughters of the Utah Pioneers