

HISTORY OF PHEBE ANN RODEBACK *Crafts*

PIONEER OF THE YEAR 1852
185

COMPANY ARRIVED WITH _____ DATE _____

BORN 2 November 1835 West Chester Pa.
DAY MONTH YEAR CITY COUNTY STATE

MARRIED David King Crafts
NAME OF SPOUSE

HISTORY WRITTEN BY Marjorie Crafts Herndon DATE 1976

SUBMITTED BY Marjorie Crafts Herndon DATE April 1976

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DATE

CAMP HISTORIAN Lois R. Stephens

NAME OF CAMP PHILLIPS ,Kaysville, Utah

COUNTY HISTORIAN Edna Wood

NAME OF COUNTY Davis

Phebe Ann Rodeback

Marjorie Crafts Herndon, Granddaughter

Grandmother Phebe Ann Rodeback was born 2 November 1835 in West Chester, Pa. to James Rodeback and Phebe Beagle.

Phebe Ann is a direct descendant of American Indian Princess Pocahontas, and an English gentleman John Rolfe. They were married in April 1614. Pocahontas was baptized as a Christian, with the name of Rebecca in 1613. She died in England in 1617 at the age of 22. Pocahontas left one son Thomas Rolfe who went to Virginia where many of his descendants still live.

One of the most important memories of my grandmother Phebe Ann Rodeback, was that she sat on the Prophet Joseph Smith's lap while they were living in Nauvoo. He told her she had eyes as black as his wife Emma's.

When Phebe Ann's parents came west with a covered wagon, Phebe Ann, along with the other young people, walked across the plains. One night after they had made their camp, some Indians came. One of them was on a beautiful white horse. The Captain of the company asked how much he wanted for the horse. He said he would trade it for that squaw, pointing to grandmother. The captain said the Indian could have her if he would bring another horse exactly like the one he was on. The Captain didn't think there would be another horse like it in the country. The next evening the Indian returned with another horse exactly like the one he was on. The men of the company had a hard time to convince the Indian that the Captain was only joking. Another time an Indian gave grandmother a woman's gold wedding ring.

Phebe Ann's parents were sent with others to help settle a town 46 miles from Salt Lake, later called Cedar Fort. Here she met David King Crafts and was married by Bishop Allen Weeks. They lived in Cedar Fort until 1859 and then moved to Hyrum, Utah in Cache Co. Her health was poor

in Hyrum, and they moved to Millard County in 1867 and later to Cedar Fort again before 1869. She had ten children and my father was the 10th child.

Phebe Ann was a devoted wife and mother and a good cook and a friend to many people. At one time she took the muslin curtains from her windows to make burial clothes for a neighbor's small boy who drowned. Everyone was always welcome at their home for meals, lodging, or just visiting.

The whole family loved to read and study, and many visitors and people traveling through to California wondered how anyone so far away from civilization could be so well informed on so many subjects. Grandmother and Grandfather always encouraged learning because they said this couldn't be taken from them, and their children grew up strongly believing this.

Phebe Ann Rodeback Crafts died suddenly of a stroke, 4 May 1903, at her home in Cedar Fort.

Sketches of the life of

Phebe Ann Rodeback *Crafts*

Born May 2nd 1836

came to Utah 1847

Written by

Charlottie Julia Black

Granddaughter

handed in by

Charlottie Julia Black

of Camp Fort Utah

Daughters of Utah Pioneers

Utah Center County

Provo, Utah

Phebe Ann Rodeback was the daughter of James and Phebe Beagles Rodeback. She was born 2 May, 1836. James and Phebe Beagles lived in West Chester, Pennsylvania. Phebe Ann was their second child.

When the prophet Joseph Smith was receiving undue persecution from the mob during the translation of the wonderful golden plates, the prophet went to Pennsylvania and while there, he met the Rodeback family, who were from Holland. In later life Phebe Ann became my grandmother. Myself and my brother John were about the only grandchildren they had at that time.

While the prophet was in Pennsylvania, and through his inspiration and teachings, the gospel spread throught the country, and through Brother Joseph's influence, he was able to baptize the entire, Rodeback family, and took them back to Illinois with him. Phebe Ann, as a small child, sat on the prophets lap and he told Phebe she had eyes that were as black as his wife Emma's. Phebe was also taken into the Smith family as a baby nurse to his children, and lived in the prophet's home until they left Nauvoo for the promised land.

They, the Rodebacks, were driven from place to place and Phebe came across the plains with others of the Smith family. They came in the Brigham Young Company. Like other young folks, Phebe walked across the plains, and it is said that Phebe walked the entire way without shoes.

One night when they made camp, some Indians came into the camp. One of them rode a beautiful white horse. The captain of the company ask the Indians how much he would take for the horse. The Indian said he would trade it for the squaw, and pointed to Phebe. Then the captain said tothe Indian, that he could have her if he could bring another horse exactly like the one he was riding. Of course, the captain was thinking there could not be another horse like it in the plains. But to his dismay, the next night the Indian came with another horse just like the one he was riding. The captain really had a hard time making the Indian understand he was only joking.

Another time when they were camped, an Indian gave Phebe Ann a women's gold band wedding ring, perhaps taken from some poor soul that they had captured. One of Phebe's girl friends wished to wear it, so Phebe let her take it and she never recovered it again. Phebe was very dark and my father told me that mother Phebe Ann was a descendant of Pochahontas, and perhaps that is why the Indians took to her. I remember as a child that Grandmother Crafts always had her coffee pot on the stove, and I thought that was why she was so dark.

While crossing the plains the Saints used buffalo chips for firewood, and as they journeyed along, would collect them, and put them in back of the wagons. One day Phebe picked some up and found a fine comb in one of the chips.

The trip across the plains has been recorded in history, an account of the hardships and suffering, as a tale of sorrow for a just cause. So why should we not honor them, and love them for what they did for us.

Phebe Ann's parents were sent to Cedar Fort to help settle the town. Phebe was seventeen or eighteen by then. Here was where she met David King Crafts, and was married 10 April, 1854 by Bishop Allen Weeks, and in the year 1861 they went through the temple.

Grandmother Crafts I dearly loved, I can remember very well when churning day came along, and just before the rich thick cream breaks into butter, Grandmother would call me, "Come, Lottie, with your saucer and spoon!" And OH! How I liked that cream. Grandmother would let me have what she thought was good for me.

After she and David moved back to Cedar Fort, I was about six years old. Phebe Ann died on 4 May 1903 at Cedar Fort and layed to rest there.