

rest the reader knows, or can become acquainted with by reading the published account of the terrible tragedy. The foregoing facts I had from the late Captain Killian in person.

Things came to a head in November 1838 with the order for all members of the LDS Church to be expelled from the state of Missouri. It was in this harsh winter that they walked to Illinois with what little they had. For a time they found refuge in Quincy, Adams, Illinois. It was there that Sally gave birth to a daughter, Harriet Emma, on March 10, 1839.

The members of the Church soon found a new place to live. They called the city Nauvoo, which means beautiful. John and his family moved to an area across the Mississippi River from Nauvoo in the town of Montrose, Lee, Iowa.

John was a farmer by trade and an active member of the Church. He was an Elder in the Church and was called upon many occasions to help others. One such occasion is found in the Philo Dibble autobiography. He wrote the following: "While living upon this farm, I was taken sick, Dr. (Frederick G.) Williams attended me, and after a while said he could do no more for me. I then called for the Elders to administer to me and Brother A. J Stewart, his brother, Levi (Stewart), and Brother (John) Killian were called in, but before they arrived, Mr. Robbins, of whom I rented the farm, called to see me. He declared that I might possibly live till three o'clock, but could not live till morning. When the Elders administered to me, Brother Killian being mouth, I was in bed. He poured the oil on my forehead and I jumped right out of bed and put on my clothes. On hearing that Robbins was going to Quincy in the morning, I walked up to his house, three-quarters of a mile, and went with him in his carriage to Quincy, remained all day and returned with him at night."

John continued to serve as a captain in the Nauvoo Legion (a local militia). He also helped build the Nauvoo Temple and received his temple ordinances on December, 24 1845. He was also ordained a High Priest in the Church at this time.

Just as in Missouri, the local citizens started to find fault with the leaders and members of the LDS Church. John took an active part in protecting the leaders and members of the Church. In the book "A History of the Church" by B. H. Roberts, Joseph Smith in June of 1844 was giving some instructions to some members on where he would be staying to keep away from a mob. In these instructions he states: "If you can ascertain by tomorrow morning that there is anything wrong, come over the river to Montrose, to the house of John Killien (Killian), and there you will learn where we are." A few days later a mob killed the Prophet Joseph Smith and his brother Hyrum while they were in a jail.

In 1846 the members of the Church were forced from their homes and fled west. They stopped around Council Bluffs, Iowa and made camp. They referred to the camp as Winter Quarters. Here many lived in tents or wagons until they could move west. Brigham Young, as the new leader of the LDS Church, had set his sights on the Salt Lake Valley. There they hoped to find a place to practice their religion in peace.

The first pioneer company reached the Salt Lake Valley in 1847. The trip from Winter Quarters to Salt Lake was over a thousand miles. John, his wife Sally, Letha Jane (now a widow), her two daughters and Harriett came across the plains in 1850. Because they did not travel with an organized wagon train, we do not have a record of their trip.

Jacob, his wife Susan and Franklin Killian were members of the Joel Edmund's company in 1852. Their half-sister, Rebecca Emma Conley Tryon, and her family were also with this company. They are listed on the company records as follows: "Crossed the Mo (Missouri) river June 8th, 1852... Franklin Killion, Age 23, 1 loose cattle, two horses, 1 gun, Jacob Killion, age 21, 1 yoke oxen, 2 loose cattle, 1 horse, 2 ducks, 1 gun, Susan Killion Age 16." We do not have any other record of when the other children came to Salt Lake.

After the members of the Church arrived in Salt Lake many were asked to colonize other locations. Many of John's children took part in the colonization of Utah and the west.

George married Matilda Phoebe Cochran on July 19, 1853 in Clark County, Missouri. They went to what would later become the Concho area of Arizona. They had five children.