

**A History of
GEORGE FINLINSON
1835 - 1909**

Joshua Finlinson, blacksmith and later clerk for a Church of England Priest, was christened June 11, 1797, at Dalston, Cumberland, England. He married Rachel Jefferson July 8, 1820. To Joshua and Rachel were born five children. They were Ann, christened July 28, 1821, Mary, christened September 15, 1822, and William, christened March 24, 1824, who lived just five months. He was buried August 25, 1824. Two years later another son was born and, as was the custom then, this child was named William also. He was christened March 26, 1826. Their fifth child James was christened August 19, 1827. Rachel, Joshua's wife, died and was buried June 26, 1829, at Thursby, Cumberland, England, their youngest child being less than two years of age.

Approximately five years after the death of Rachel, Joshua married Mary Thomlinson on October 18, 1834. Mary Thomlinson's parents were William and Susanna Robinson Thomlinson. Her mother before her marriage to William Thomlinson had a child out of Wedlock by Joseph Trimble. This child was Robinson Trimble, grandfather of Susan Trimble Finlinson. Robinson was sealed to William Thomlinson and his mother in the Salt Lake Temple May 16, 1952, thus ending our Trimble line. So Susan Trimble Finlinson's great-grandmother and George Finlinson's grandmother is the same woman.



To Joshua and Mary Thomlinson Finlinson were born four children. George, the eldest was christened March 1, 1835; Susan was christened January 22, 1837; Hannah was christened March 31, 1839; and Rachel was christened August 15, 1841. Little Rachel lived just three years and was buried October 2, 1844. Susan married John Aglionby Wilson July 6, 1864. Hannah married John Hardy July 8, 1872. It is thought that Hardy was a merchant and a wealthy man and lived in Carlisle. Fred L. Finlinson was on a mission to England for the L.D.S. Church about the years of 1926 and 1928 and called on one of Hannah's daughters who was married to a Strong and had a beautiful home on the River Eden in Carlisle.

George at an early age went to live with his mother's brother William Thomlinson. William had no children of his own and wanted George to be his heir and wanted to will all of his property to George. According to John Trimble, George's sisters Susan and Hannah were miffed because they were not mentioned

in Uncle William's will.

William Thomlinson's estate was located just a few miles from Carlisle. It was a beautiful place with nice lawns, flowers and pear trees that were as high as shade trees. They had cows and horses and other farm animals. There were black berries growing along the roadside.

The Trimbles lived not too far away and one of George's best friends was John Trimble. John liked to stop by on his way home because he was given a piece of bread with sugar on it. George often visited at the Trimble home and of course was acquainted with Susan Trimble who was seven years younger than he was. As George and John grew to manhood they often called on the Emmerson sisters. These girls were daughters of James and Elizabeth Emmerson. George later married Ann Emmerson but the sister died that John went to see.

George and Ann were married July 9, 1863, in the Parish Church of Westward, Cumberland, England, by Robert Wood, Curate. The following appeared in the Carlisle Journal, "Marriage Section, July 26, 1863, at Westward on the 9th inst. by Rev. Mr. Wood: George Finlinson of Town Head Farm, Curthwaite, second surviving son of the late Joshua Finlinson, Thursby, to Anne, second daughter of James Emmerson, innkeeper of Curthwaite in the parish of Westward." To this couple was born a baby daughter and they named her Mary

Elizabeth for her two grandmothers.

Mary Elizabeth married Jonathan Simpson and there were three children born to them, they were Violet, Lillian and George. Jonathan Simpson died and Mary Elizabeth married John Wardle. There were two boys born to them. They were John Edward and Harold.

Fred L. Finlinson also called on Mary Elizabeth while on his mission to England. She showed him pictures of her father and gave him a letter, which her father had written to her mother after he came to America. The contents of this letter will appear in this history. Fred called on Mary's son Harold in 1963 and Lucy and Evan Christensen became acquainted with him while they were in England in 1964 to 1966.

The Trimbles had joined the Mormon Church in 1855 and had told George a great deal about their new religion. He was taught the gospel by Edward Trimble and became converted. He was baptized by Elder J. G. Graham and confirmed by Elder George Q. Cannon in April of 1864 in Liverpool, England. His wife couldn't see the truth of the Gospel and became very bitter. George tried in every way to convince her that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was the true church but she couldn't see it. His uncle pleaded with him to stay in England. All the property would be his and he would never want for money. George knew that the new religion was true and it meant more to him than earthly belongings. He left immediately for America. He migrated with the hopes that his wife would see the truth and come later.

(William Thomlinson changed his Will the fall after George came to America.)

The following is a copy of the diary he kept while crossing the ocean and crossing the states:

Saturday 23--(April)--Went to Eastham in Cheshire the nicest place I ever saw 7 1/2 miles across the water. Went on board the Monarch of the sea for New York.

Sunday 24--We had preaching on board and we were very busy getting new berths. Got into a nice place at last. Went to the meeting at night to Liverpool. Brother Cannon preached, Brother Romney and Brother Taylor, they gave us splendid lectures. They appointed Brother Smith son of Hyrum Smith to be president of the vessel assisted by the Elders of the church.

Monday 25--Started out of dock. Sailed into the river and anchored there to get everything in order. The sailors on board and such like and a great lot of brethren came out with us. A woman delivered a fine male child. Both mother and child are doing well. We went to bed about eleven o'clock at night. Brother Cutler gave us prayers at night.

Tuesday 26--Still laying in the river. Brother Cannon and the doctor came on board to pass us all. We had all the decks to sweep clean and make all clean. We all passed except two Danish families who had to go back home on account of them not being healthy. The sailors came on board and they were very busy getting us ready for going.

Wednesday 27--We are already for going but we cannot on account of the want of seaman. The mate turned a lot off on account of them not being good seaman. The captain has been off all day trying to get more but has not got them yet. We want about twenty men more. There is a good deal of dancing tonight among the saints. We expect to get off tomorrow.

Thursday 28--The Captain came on board this morning with some more sailors and we started to heave anchor. About 1/2 past 9 A.M. We set sail about 1/2 past 10 o'clock. The tug steamed us out and carried us a long way. After we got out a bit there was a man jumped overboard and drowned himself. He was a Cornish man and not belonging to the saints. We passed the Welch Mountains about 8 o'clock P.M. There has been 4 marriages on board. Angleya was near steam. Tug left about 10 P.M.

Friday 29--A very calm morning. Not much progress. We have been very busy all day serving provisions. I was serving out rice for about four hours. It took about 8 hours to serve all out. There has been some more marriages on board. P. P. Pratt sleeps next to us. It has been very calm all day. We have not gone above two or three knots. I have a little touch of cold but not bad. There is one woman in the hospital, Danish.

Saturday 30--A very calm morning. Again we made no progress almost stand still. Just one knot an hour. The wind started to rise about 9 o'clock P.M. There was one marriage last night and one child dead and a good many sick in the hospital, all Danish. There was seven on guard last night two middle and upper I had to mind them to keep them to their duty.

Sunday-May 1--We had a rather rough sea this morning and a good many commenced to be sick in the afternoon. I did not feel so very well. I went to bed about 5 o'clock and slept all night.

Monday 2--A very rough sea this morning and a good lot of sickness aboard. Hollsworth and I laid in bed all day not so very sick but we could not stand the vessel rocked so much. We eat nothing all day. We slept a good part of it. We were going about 8 or 9 knots an hour.

Tuesday 3--Still keeps stormy. Laid in bed all day but a little in the morning, vomited a good deal through the day. The passengers were nearly all sick. All together there has not been much eaten these last two or three days. I do assure you I eat 2 herring myself during the day. Wednesday 4--Very stormy again. I was first rate this morning got up fit to eat anything. It became very calm in the afternoon. A deal of people very sick and had to be carried on deck to get fresh air.

Thursday 5 --A very calm morning no wind. We have been nearly at a standstill all day. There was a child buried this morning. It belonged to one of the Danes. It had been poorly a long time. There was a good many sick today just like corpses. I have been busy cooking and washing dishes.

Friday 6--A nice wind this morning. Going nicely along. Been very busy getting weekly provisions in again this forenoon. I changed my messing today to John Ashman close beside where I sleep in the afternoon. The wind dropped and we made very little progress, hardly moving. The hospital is full of sickly people. There was some fun on deck with tight rope dancing. There was a child buried 2 months old.

Saturday 7--A splendid wind struck up today. All on board prayed to God last night for wind and we got it today. He heard our prayers. We are going about 8 knots an hour. We had partridge for breakfast this morning. I never enjoyed them better than I did this morning. There is some people looks very sick yet. There is a good deal of dancing on deck this evening.

Sunday 8--There was no wind this morning. There was a boy buried this morning 7 years of age, of fever and there was a marriage of English people. We had prayers on deck this afternoon. There was a good wind this afternoon a little in the wrong direction giving us about 7 knots an hour. The Captain was rather frightened of the storm.

Monday 9--Fine wind this morning in the right direction. A boy fell down the hatchway and was nearly killed. A child died today. The wind blew very strong all day. I was on guard until twelve o'clock at night. It rained all night through and the wind was very strong. The sailors had to take some of the sails in it was so windy. It was like dismasting the ship.

Tuesday 10--Very wet this morning. There was a most dreadful squall this morning. It was like to tumble the ship right over. Boxes was tumbling and women and men tossed in all directions. The water came over the ship sides and continued all day without ceasing but they made little progress. There was no cooking, but breakfast. The cook could not stand in the galleys.

Wednesday 11--A fine wind this morning commenced about 4 o'clock in the morning and continued all the day. Blowing in the right direction. We went about 8 knots an hour all day. Rather a change from yesterday. There has been a ship going along with us all day, just about the same speed as us. If we continue on this speed the Captain says fourteen days will carry us to New York.

Thursday 12--A strong wind this morning carried on all day. It broke two jib beams during the day. The sailors had a very long day repairing them. The vessel went about 10 knots per hour, and in the afternoon they were compelled to take in some of the sails it was that strong. Had a game of cards this afternoon with Mr. Ashman.

Friday 13--Tremendous wet and stormy last night. She went 12 knots an hour and in the morning it blew hard until afternoon. The boy died that fell down the hatchway the other day and there was an old man died today that had been poorly for a few days. They were both thrown over board immediately. This evening the vessel heaved from one side to another. There still keeps a good many sick. A child died.

Saturday 14--A very strong wind this morning. Very busy giving out provisions today. In the afternoon a tremendous storm set in and continued all night.

Sunday 15--A very strong wind this morning. It was that stormy and cold that there could be no prayers on deck. I never saw anything so cold in my life. It was as cold as the middle of winter.

Monday 16--Still keeps very stormy and wet. There was another child thrown over board this forenoon. It is most tremendous cold. We are close to the banks of Newfoundland. I have been very busy inspecting the cooking galley. We are expecting to see some ice very soon.

Tuesday 17--The wind still keeps very high in the right position. Two or three more children cast at sea

today. Still keeps very cold. I have a little touch of cold on me now but is improving very fast. There was a ship passed us this afternoon from New York being about 8 days sail to where we met her.

Wednesday 18--The wind changed this morning but a very fine morning. Made very good progress. Some more children thrown over board. I cannot tell how many have died exactly yet. We have been very busy cleaning out the decks and sprinkling lime on to sweeten the berths out.

Thursday 19--A very calm morning, this making little progress this morning. About 4 o'clock there were two icebergs passed us, one about the size of this vessel and the other 60 feet high. They would have smashed us if they had come near us. Some more children died during the day.

Friday 20--A calm morning again very little wind. Busy receiving provisions today. Past two ice bergs this afternoon most bitterly cold when we passed them as cold as Christmas nearly. One child thrown over board today. Tom in bed poorly today. A little toward evening very foggy. We passed a vessel today.

Saturday 21--Very calm still. We passed a good deal of ice and it was most dreadful cold. Tom still poorly. A good deal of the people on board bothered with looseness of the bowels, and some very sick. Still very foggy.

Sunday 22--A fine wind this morning. We passed a steam vessel this morning. She had sailed about three days from New York. On guard from 3 o'clock until morning. Preaching on deck this afternoon. One child thrown over board, Danish.

Monday 23--It was a very stormy night last night to sail very much. The wind continued strong until afternoon then it changed a little. Two more children thrown over board today belonging to the Danes. Very cold still, yet.

Tuesday 24--Not much wind this morning. Very still. They are busy painting and cleaning preparing for New York as fast as they can. Hollsworth very poorly in bed today. Another Danish child thrown over board today.

Wednesday 25--A nice breeze this morning. Hollsworth a little better this morning. Three Danish children thrown over board today. The wind was very much against us this afternoon and very thick and misty.

Thursday 26--A calm morning again scarcely moving. Hollsworth a good deal better today. The wind got a good deal stronger this afternoon. Had a game of whist in the cabin with Brother Pratt, the Captain and I.

Friday 27--A fine wind this morning. Provisions given out today. This for the last time till we get to Wyoming. The wind still continues good all day. Had a game of Cribbage with the Captain in the evening then a game of Whist later.

Saturday 28--A calm wind she scarcely stirred at all. Hollsworth clean better now. The wind rather freshened this afternoon. Land in view this evening. Had a game of Cribbage with the Captain at night. The beautifulist evening I ever saw.

Sunday 29--In morning turned out very wet until afternoon and then the breeze freshened. A little too wet for prayers on deck today.

Monday 30--Fine wind this morning. We were delayed about an hour this morning with a fishing boat. (We expected to have seen the pilot. We got news of board.) Had a game of cards at night.

Tuesday 31--Fine wind this morning continued all day, passed Blasts Island. Hollsworth poorly again. The wind blew very strong.

Wednesday-June 1-The wind blew very strong. Hollsworth very poorly this morning. Had a game of cards with the Captain until 12 o'clock and then the pilot came on board. (There were 23 children and I man buried in the ocean of this group.)

Thursday 2--The wind this morning, calm. (In sight of land kept in sight.) There was a tug came about 10 o'clock and fastened to us. It towed us up and we passed the most splendid scenery I ever beheld. The doctor came on board and passed all passengers. On watch at night.

Friday 3--The steamboat came to tow us up the river about 10 o'clock and commenced to get the baggage on it. Arrived in New York about 2 o'clock went in the steamboat to Albany about 150 miles. Started at 6 o'clock and sailed all night. We had a ramble through New York it is a nice place and all along as we go it is beautiful to behold.

Saturday 4--Landed in Albany about 4 o'clock in the morning. It is a beautiful place. Lays on the River Hudson its length is about 160 miles long. Started from there on the train there was about 22 cars on the train.

We passed some of the most splendid places I ever saw. Pen cannot describe them.

Sunday 5--Landed at Rochester about 5 o'clock in the morning and stayed there awhile. It is a very large place. It lays on the Genesee River. Landed at Buffalo at 1 o'clock. It lays on Lake Erie River about 100 miles across. Changed carriages and crossed the river on a steam boat and landed in West Canada about 4 o'clock, landed at Brentford at 8 o'clock and got provisions went on the Strattam arrived at 12 o'clock.

Monday 6--Landed at Port Edward at 6 o'clock and crossed the Detroit River, Lake Huron and started from there at 4 o'clock, changed cars, landed at 8 o'clock got provisions.

Tuesday 7--Passed Battle Creek about 10 o'clock passed Mishgill City at 4 o'clock a tremendous place for sand. Passed Lake Michigan landed at Chicago at 8 o'clock. It is the territory of Illinois. Stayed there all night.

Wednesday 8--Started from Chicago at 10 o'clock passed Osweago. Some water.

Thursday 9--Arrived at Quincy at 11 o'clock crossed the river at 7 o'clock. Started for Palmyra at 8 o'clock.

Friday 10--A very wet night last night, and we got badly on this morning, wing to the rail being slippery and the road so bad and us in cattle cars. We arrived at Brookfield at 11 o'clock landed at St. Joseph at 8 o'clock slept in a shed all night.

Saturday 11--Started from St. Joseph at 4 o'clock slept on board all night. Father cold but dry.

Sunday 12--A very fine morning. We saw 4 Indians this morning the first we have seen.

Monday 13--Came to Nebraska City about 10 o'clock. Landed at -----, Wyoming at 5 o'clock got off and camped on the Platt. Slept all night the camp very comfortable it was.

Tuesday 14--Busy preparing to go west and hired for 20 dollars per month to go with 8 oxen across the plains.

Wednesday 15 --Went to Mr. Harris' camp to start work. Came on very wet and did not move.

Thursday 16--Busy getting the oxen into yokes and yoking them. We had 1 accident. There was a man broke his wagon pole off and delayed us about 1 hour and half, traveled til 9 o'clock at night and camped again.

Friday 17--Mr. Harris had to go to Nebraska today so we did not move camp today.

George did not write more in his diary but he went on to Salt Lake and then on to Fillmore.

Sister Flora Nielson said she remembered the day George arrived in Fillmore. She saw him first at her Grandmother Carling's home in Fillmore. Her grandmother had let George and Tom Mathers have a government wagon for a bedroom. George was hired by Allen Russell to work. George and Ole Jensen hauled the first load of rock to build Cove Fort. This was built to protect the settlers from the Indians. George had bought a team of oxen on his way to Utah.

There were two tribes of Indians in the vicinity. One was the Pavans for which the Pavant Valley was named. They lived at Kanosh with Kanosh as their chief and were peaceable. The other tribe was the Utes. They lived all through the mountains and were not friendly. Black Hawk was their chief. The settlers dare not go for a load of wood nor to the field without a gun for fear of being attacked by the Indians. Two men who were on their way to the legislature in Salt Lake City were killed near Nephi. To protect themselves there was a military organization established in each town known as the "Militia". George was one of the officers. When an attack was made, a drum was beaten and everyone assembled at the meeting house. War was settled with the Indians before they moved to Oak City. Flora Nielson was at the meeting when Black Hawk came and made peace. There were celebrations for veterans of the Black Hawk war for many years, each community in turn hosting the event.

George wrote his wife in England again and again pleading for her to join the church and come to America but she was still bitter.

The Trimbles came to Utah the year following George's arrival in the new country, 1865. John Trimble and George worked together. They went to Clear Lake and put up wire grass hay and did some freighting to Frisco. They bought some land in Deseret but never did see it, so John said.

The following year about April of 1866, George married Susan Trimble. There seems to be no way of finding the exact date of the marriage as no license was required and no records were kept except some church records. Flora Nielson remembered seeing them go to get married and said they were married either at Russell's or Owen's. As soon as they were married, they both went back to their places of employment. Their marriage

was later solemnized in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City, July 7, 1868.

George left soon after they were married for Missouri to help other emigrants come to Utah. He kept a diary of part of this journey.

April 18, 1866--Started from Fillmore to the States. Went to Pioneer and stayed three days.

April 21--Went to Radford's Ranch.

April 22--Went to Sevier Bridge.

April 23--Went to that ---- beyond Salt Creek.

April 24--Went two beyond -- and layed over, Reed comes up to us.

April 25 --Went to Summit Creek and camped all night. Awful windy.

April 26--Started in the morning after a little trouble and traveled to a little ways beyond Springville and camped. Most awful rain at night.

April 27--Passed through Provo, Spanish Fork, American Fork and Lehi. Camped at foot of the mountain.

April 28--Made an early start landed in Salt Lake City in the afternoon. Went over Jordan to camp.

April 29--Laid over and went to Sprouls to dinner.

April 30--Had a very busy day. Started out of the city in the afternoon went 7 miles and camped.

May 1--Lost 14 horses and could not find them. E. Stevens had his pistol taken from him by the soldiers. Laid over all day.

May 2--Moved 2 miles to White's camp. Found 7 horses.

May 3--Got over Little Mountain and camped at the bottom of the hill. Stuck many a time.

May 4--Made a start. Got two miles and camped took us until dark. Awful roads, White left us.

May 5--White moved up to his camp 4 miles.

May 6--White left us again and we had a hard time to get along. Up to the summit De Reed turned his wagon up. Camped in Parleys Park.

May 7--White left us again and we camped ourselves on the top of the Weber Mts., E. Stevens broke his wagon wheel.

May 8--Started out pretty early passed White in Weber. We all camped in Echo canyon and forded the Weber River and Reed lost one horse.

May 9--Had a pretty good drive about 20 miles. A good deal of holes in the road. Camped on Yellow Creek.

May 10--Made a good drive today. Passed Bear River. A big snowstorm. Camped 12 miles from Bridger.

May 11--We did not start so early on account of roads being so bad. We went on the Muddy and camped on the Muddy all night. Poor feed.

May 12--Made a good drive. We crossed the Muddy and camped on the river. About the poorest place I ever saw.

May 13--Passed Hams Fork and forded the Green River. Camped on the other side 175 miles from --. (probably Salt Lake City)

May 14--Camp on the Sandy at noon. Passed on the Little Sandy in the afternoon. Saw some Buffalo.

May 15--Made another good drive. Camped at Pacific Springs.

May 16--Camped at Sweet Water about 250 miles from the city. Lots of antelopes.

May 17--Made a good drive. Some of the boys went to shoot antelope but got none. Passed a train today that had laid all winter. Camped at Warm Springs.

May 18--Made a good drive and camped on the Sweet Water.

May 19--Passed Devil's Gate, Independent Rock, crossed the Sweet Water camped one mile from station. 330 miles.

May 20--Drove 20 miles and camped on the Willow Creek.

May 21--Had rather a misfortune today. Andrew Henery's mare gave out. The captain ordered her to be shot. Camped at Platt Bridge. We did not cross it we went down the north side.

May 22--Made a good drive. A great deal of sand. Camped right opposite Deer Creek. Just saw Indians.

May 23--Made a good drive. About 30 miles. Put two shoes on Snap. Awful snow storm. Camped on the Platte.

May 24--It came on wet. We did not make a long drive. Camped at Box Elder Creek. Splendid water. A good many graves.

May 25--Made an early start and got well on. Met two mule trains today. Camped beside one of them tonight. Awful windy.

May 26-- Only made a drive of about 25 miles. Came through the Black Hills. Camped on the Platte at night. About 7 miles from Laramie.

May 27--Most tremendous cold day and rainstorm. Passed Laramie this morning. Camped on the Platte.

May 28--Made a good drive about 25 miles. Met a large emigration train camped on the Platte. Wood scarce.

May 29--Made an early start before breakfast. Passed Scotts Bluff this morning. 32 miles from Laramie. Passed Chimney Rock 45 miles from Laramie. Camped on the Platte made about 38 miles.

May 30--Made an early start. Passed some freight trains today. Made another good days drive. Camped on the Platte.

May 31--Made a good days drive. Met some freight trains going to Montana from Virginia. Passed Ash Hollow and camped on the Platte.

June .1--Had pretty heavy roads. Had been a good deal of rain and was heavy pulling. Made about 23 miles. 154 from Laramie. 388 from -----.

June 2--Made about 28 miles, pretty sandy.

June 3--Made about 28 miles camped beside some emigration trains. It came on very wet at night. Dewit Reed had his mare stole last night. Camped on the Platte.

June 6-- Six wagons left this morning for Omaha. Reed found his mare. Got her from some emigrants.

This ended his diary of his second trip across the plains.

George and Susan lived with Trimbles for sometime after they were married. The home was a half dugout. It was half in the ground and half above. It had a dirt floor with four boards on it. There was one small window and a door. What furniture they had they made themselves. Their first child, Elizabeth, was born in this home. Later George bought a half of a lot from John W. Dutson and built an adobe house on it. The house had only one room. It was located about three blocks north of the Trimbles.

John Trimble and his wife Emma both stated that George was "sure a rustier", and he never complained no matter how little or what they had to eat. They also told of the summer that flies were so thick when they sat down to eat they killed them with their knives.

According to church records on February 21, 1871, Thomas Callister, Bishop Partridge, Lewis Brunson, Platte D. Lyman, George Finlinson and others visited Oak Creek and preached to the saints. At a meeting held in Fillmore Sunday, March 6, 1871, Platte D. Lyman, John W. Dutson, George Finlinson and Jefferson Trimble were sustained missionaries to the Oak Creek Branch. Brother Lyman was to preside, Brother Finlinson to act as ward and tithing clerk, Brother Dutson was Superintendent of the Sunday School and was in charge of the choir. Brother Trimble was to help with the singing. Their families moved soon after that. Oak City was then called Oak Creek and was a branch of the Fillmore ward. John Lovell had been the Presiding Elder. Lovells, Radfords and Ropers had moved up from Deseret. Each man was given fifteen acres of land.

George and Susan had two children, Elizabeth and George Edward, when they moved to Oak Creek. William Walker, Simeon's father, had built a flour mill in the south east part of town. They could only run the mill in the early spring. That was the only time of the year that there was enough water. It was at this mill that George and family lived when they came to Oak City.

George built an adobe house on the main street in Oak Creek. It was on the northeast corner of the first block coming from the south, and was across the street from Ropers. It consisted of one room and a lean-to. Before the home was completed the family lived with Caroline Dutson, a plural wife of John W. Dutson, in a lumber granary that had no lining. This was located on the tithing lot joining the Finlinson lot on the west.

The first crop they raised was sugar cane for molasses. They thought that they couldn't raise anything else. They extracted the juice from the cane and boiled it to a syrup. They peddled the molasses in Sanpete

County and traded it for grain. Albert Pease told them to plant peas and when the peas were in pod to plow them under and the next year plant grain. Before the peas were plowed under the women picked a lot of them. They could hardly stand to see them plowed under. They always left enough to mature for seed for the next year. Pins were put in a post and a horse hitched to each end of the post to turn it around on the peas to thresh them. They raised some corn and finally raised alfalfa too.

Before leaving Fillmore George had received a letter from his wife, Anne, in England and the following letter is the answer he sent to her. This is a copy of the letter Mary Elizabeth gave to Fred L. Finlinson when he was on his mission in England in the years 1926-1929.

Fillmore City
August 10, 1868

Dear Anne:

I just sit down to answer your letter, which I received from you. It is a good while since I heard from the land of my birth and it made me feel very glad to hear once more from my native land. I am glad to hear you are well and likewise the Baby. I am sorry to hear of James being so sick. You talked about my uncles will. I do not know anything about it. I have never heard any particulars. I would like you to send me a copy. I thought that it was very kind of you to give me that information. I would like you to send me word about that particular man that said I could get all if I had a mind to. If it be so, if there be any flaw it will all come out sooner or later.

I am just about the same as when I left - healthy and strong - never had any sickness worth mentioning. My aunt or any of them have not written to me for a long time. I did not know whether I was going to hear from home again. I did not receive your letter right straight. It laid about one week at the post office but I think you will receive this letter fairly soon after your calculations as the railroad is pretty near through to Salt Lake City. They go very quick now. It does not take many days now for a person to start from Salt Lake City and land in England. Now travel is so quick there are many thousands coming out here. This year there will be a very large emigration.

I am glad that you are, both of you, very healthy and I am sorry to say you feel so lonely but it is no more than what I expected. You say you are neither wife nor widow. You are just anything you have a mind to call yourself. I told you a long time ago if you want your freedom you had it from me and if you wanted to be my wife you had the privilege to be so, what more could any person desire. There is no binding people. Every man and woman is at liberty to do as they wish. I calculate to keep my freedom as long as I live. I calculate no one shall take that freedom as long as I am a man. I am at liberty to leave Mormonism at any time that I have a mind to regardless of what people are saying all around me but then when a man knows a road who can persuade him it is wrong. Can any person persuade you to go around by Crofton Tole Bar to Thursby that it was the direct and nearest road, you would tell them they were mistaken? They might talk from now till twenty years from now and I will bet a dollar they could never persuade you it was the nearest road to Thursby. It is hard for anyone to persuade a person a thing is different from what they know a thing for a certainty themselves. It is the same way with me today about Mormonism as when I left England I told you it was true when I left England and I tell you it is true today and as for you not having your freedom you have it just as much as ever. For me it was determined then. I am now a man calculated to live by true principles, principles which if you live by would lead you to comfort in this life and happiness in the next life. If you thought I was not the man to do that if you had had the confidence in me, you would never have let me come out here alone. You would have stuck to me through all trials and tribulations. If you did not think I was the man to do that I did not blame you for not coming with me. I am just the same as ever. I consider myself qualified, if you heard me talk you would just hear me talk as ever I did. Time keeps a rolling. It is a good while since I left. If I come back I would see many changes no doubt.

I would like very much to see my little girl. You said she was all I could wish to see that I have no doubt of at all. You can tell her she has a father living and that no person had anything that they can bring up against him. You can tell her and teach her them principles that is one great comfort for her. No person can bring anything against him but that he is a Mormon and that he is not ashamed of it let him go where he will. You said you would be satisfied if you heard I was married from myself. I am just going to tell you it is a fact I am

married to Susan Trimble and I have one pretty little girl 14 months old. She is a nice child. You wanted to know the truth. I have never told you anything else when I wrote to you but the truth. I expect some people will think I am an awful man. Well they can just think what they have a mind to, it will not alter the concern any. You said you and I were only married for this life. That was truly said. I have got one now a little over that time for this life and all eternity. If we have a mind to be truthful to one another, but if I be called to go and she would not go with me she would place herself in the same fix as you were placed in through not obedience to her husband and she would have to suffer the consequences. Whenever you want to ask me any questions about anything I will answer them truthfully. I am no different nor what I was when I left, only a little better, got another good woman, not 5 or 6 as some speculated I would have. I am not quite that fast. You say you have got sick of men, that may be so. I might have said the same thing but that would do very little for me. I expect you will change your story some time. I would like you to write to me again and give me all particulars and get a copy of the will if you have that respect for me and please send me a Carlisle Journal once in a while. I must conclude at present. Tell Joe to write to me - give my love to your father and mother. I respect her yet and your father for their kindness, and give my daughter a kiss for me. Trimble's all send their kind love to you. Be sure and tell Joe to write me soon.

I remain your affectionate husband.

George Finlinson

P.S. John Trimble is married.

William Jefferson was born to George and Susan the following September. Susan went back to Fillmore for the event. The rest of the nine children were born at Oak City. While Jeff was just a small child an addition was added to the home, which consisted of a large bedroom added to the north. Sam Warren helped haul the adobes. He said that every time he came with a load of adobes that Jeff was "bawling". Later there was added more rooms until it was large enough to accommodate the growing family and visitors who came to town wanting over night accommodations.

The United Order was instituted from May to October of 1874. George Edward was then five years of age. He remembered going to the town square where his father kept accounts, to tell his father to come to dinner. The United Order account books were kept in the family for many years. There were stables for the horses and a Liberty Pole on the square at that time. They branded all the church horses 71. Flora Nielson went to Fillmore at the time Oak Creek was living the United Order and the remark was made that "Oak Creek would soon be going to heaven in a balloon because they were making such strides living the United Order."

George always kept a hired man. Some people wondered how he could afford to keep one but he maintained that the man would double his wages. By careful planning and good management he bought the Morgan place in Leamington, Utah, which was fourteen miles north of Oak Creek and was on the railroad. Jeff went to live in Leamington to take care of the place and later decided to get a place of his own. The rest of the boys worked together for a number of years even after their father passed away and were known as the "Finlinson Brothers". They later bought the Crosby place in Leamington and in about 1900 bought a ranch on Fool Creek Flat from the Lyman Brothers. They managed to get a start in the cattle business and did well with that. George was prominent in public affairs. He was justice of the Peace and was Notary Public. He performed marriages, one was for Ida Pease and her husband and another was for Charlie Rawlinson and one of his wives. The older boys told about peeking through the keyhole and under the door and how they ran and got into bed and pretended to be asleep when their mother came hunting for Joseph's pen. He was a county commissioner for many years, and was a director in the State Bank of Millard County at Fillmore. His transportation to and from the meetings in Fillmore was usually in a cart drawn by a horse. He stayed nights with his good friend George Nixon in Holden, Utah.

He acted as financial as well as other types of advisor for the people of Oak City. He loaned them money in their need and counseled them in their operations. His policies were known to every one in Oak City and most of Millard County and had people followed more of them, they would have been better off. For his practical wisdom he was outstanding. He had a saying, "Push your work, don't let your work push you." He also advised, "If you can't get \$1.00 a day, work for 50 cents, but work. His advice was to go into business and stay in it whether the prices go up or go down. He never "strained a gnat and swallowed a camel." In giving

advice and recommending courses of action, he counseled according to the needs and conditions of the case, taking into consideration what seemed to be the best for all concerned.

After moving to Oak Creek he served as ward clerk for seven years and a counselor in the bishopric for thirty years. He was second counselor to Bishop Platte D. Lyman from 1877 to December 1, 1880, and then was first counselor to Bishop Peter Anderson until May 11, 1907.

In later years George carried the mail from Leamington to Oak City and back. He used a cart drawn by one horse. One of his horses was "Old Spendlove " and another was "Old Mike". He often said how he enjoyed seeing the land he owned as he went back and forth. He was very fond of his eldest Finlinson grandson Esdras, and as soon as Esdras was old enough he took care of his grandfather's horse when he came with the mail. He watered it at the ditch on the corner and then fed it. One of the boy's wives went to Leamington and the Flat to cook for the hay men. George brought the provisions needed in the mail cart each day. The wives in Oak City would provide the provisions. Most of his nights were spent in Leamington. Sometimes he took passengers and charged them 50 cents one way.

Flora Dutson Nielson worked off and on for six years for the Finlinsons. She said that George wrote a letter to a sister in England and told her he owned so many acres of land, a home, a bag of tea, six milk cows and other things. Then he laughed and laughed and said, "They'll think I'm a rich man." One rule he and his family observed was "The things talked about at home were not talked about in public." He said, "If you keep boys at home you have to have something for them to do and a little money to go along with it."

The following is what Sister Flora Nielson had to say regarding the industry, thrift and integrity of George Finlinson and suggested that it might be well for all of his descendants to keep these things in mind and profit by them. "He started from the depths of poverty and through constant and careful planning and consistently following one line of activity, gained a place of independence and plenty. In all his dealings he was honest and business like. He never engaged in a venture that he was not certain he could finish with success. He always paid his debts and his hired help promptly at the end of the week or month according to agreement. Perhaps the outstanding qualities of his business operations were his foresightedness and good management. He never followed a get rich quick policy but laid his plans for a little consistent gain each year and in the course of time accumulated a nice fortune."

George Finlinson passed away at his home in Oak City, Utah, April 12, 1909, at the age of 64 years. The cause of his death was asthma. He was buried in the Oak City cemetery. The following is the obituary that appeared in a Salt Lake paper ---

Oak City
Honored Veteran Called
George Finlinson closes useful career

Special correspondence; Oak City, Millard Co., April 14. George Finlinson, one of Oak City's most esteemed citizens, died April 12. The funeral took place on the 13th. At which the whole town assembled, and also visitors from other places. The speakers were ex-Bishop Peter Anderson, with whom the deceased had been associated in the bishopric for 27 years. Also Elders F. R. Lyman, Christian Overson of Leamington and George Crane of Kanosh, all associates who eulogized the life and character of the deceased.

He was born Jan. 23, 1835, at West Curthwaite, Cumberland, England and was baptized April 1864 and emigrated the same year and came direct to Fillmore, Millard County. He married Susan Trimble in the fall of 1866. The following year he returned to the Missouri River to bring emigrants to Utah. (It will be noted that according to his diary he left Fillmore April 18, 1866 for his second trip across the plains). In 1872 in company with Platte D. Lyman and John Dutson, he was called by the late Thomas Callister to settle upon the then little stream called Oak Creek and he has ever been one of the most active factors in the development of Oak City, which has become one of the choice garden spots in our favored state. Here are left his widow and their six sons, all men of probity and progress. The second son, Joseph is bishop of the ward and also County Superintendent of the district schools, two married daughters also reside here and one is the wife of President Walter C. Lyman of the San Juan Stake. The deceased was from the beginning here the tithing clerk, Notary Public, and general business agent and for many years served as a county commissioner.

A tribute to George Finlinson by Willis J. Lyman: "This man followed the cardinal virtues of honesty, industry and consistency, achieved success financially, raised a family any might be proud of, remained true to his God and religion and died respected and honored by all who knew him."

I was eight years of age at the time of grandfather's death and remember going to the funeral. At the close of the funeral and the mourners were preparing to leave the service I saw my father George Edward Finlinson break down and cry. That was the first time I had ever seen him cry. I didn't see him cry again until he was in his later years of life. I remember that I was crying and Aunt Ann Roper made the remark that I was just crying to show off. I always held that against her. The information gathered to write this history was from Archive Records, my mother Mary C. Finlinson, John Trimble, brother of Susan Trimble Finlinson who knew George Finlinson in England, and Florence V. Dutson Nielson who remembered him from the day he arrived in Fillmore. The Dutsons and Finlinsons lived on the same lot in Fillmore and on the same lot in Oak City and their farms were side by side.

(The original diaries of George Finlinson are in the possession of Richard L. Finlinson, Mesa, Arizona.)

Angie Finlinson Lyman



Front row: Leo, Elizabeth, George, Susan George E., and Ray.

Back row: Margaret Ann, Jefferson, Joseph T., Joshua and Rachel.