

HISTORY of THOMAS HENRY NOTT, JR. (1869)
and AGNES KILPATRICK McDONALD (1871)

TOM'S CHILDHOOD:

Thomas Henry Nott, Jr. was born in Bristol, Herefordshire, England, on 14 August 1869, the first-born son of Thomas Henry Nott and Sarah Ann Brown. He had eight brothers and sisters, seven of whom lived to maturity.

Tom's father was a candlemaker by profession. He had converted to the LDS faith before his marriage, but his mother didn't become a Mormon until 1873 after they had emigrated to Utah.

He and brother Henry William emigrated with their parents to the Great Salt Lake Valley in July of 1872 on the ss. "Manhattan," arriving on in Salt Lake on August 21st.

His father then went in the grocery business. They lived in a small white cottage on 5th Avenue and D Street until 1889 when Tom, Jr. was 20.

Around this time he met a young woman named Agnes Kilpatrick McDonald. They fell in love and married on September 30, 1891.

For a further account of Tom, Jr.'s childhood, see "History of Thomas Henry Nott, Sr. (1846) and Sarah Ann Brown (1845)."

AGNES' CHILDHOOD:

Agnes Kilpatrick McDonald was born on 6 August 1871, at Salt Lake City, the only-surviving daughter of polygamist John Kilpatrick McDonald and his third wife, Harriet Zelnora Marsden. Her father's first wife had died, and his second wife was Agnes' grandmother, Sarah Johnson Marsden. His fourth wife was Agnes' Aunt Clara (her mother's sister).

At the time of her birth, Agnes' mother was 17 years old. Her father was 74! A baby sister Sarah had died one day after birth just a year before Agnes was born. Then a brother, Alexander, arrived in July of 1873, but died 20 days later.

On 31, August 1874, Agnes' father had a fatal accident when Agnes was just three years old. John was working on a haystack at his residence and slipped from the stack. He fell on a coal shed, then fell to the ground. He died two days later, leaving three widows.

Two years after John McDonald died, Agnes' mother remarried at age 22. She wed Welcome Chapman, a widower with two daughters. Welcome and Harriet had one child, Welcome, Jr., but the baby lived only five days due to premature birth. Agnes' stepfather Welcome was a stone cutter and worked for years on the Salt Lake Temple. Agnes and her half sisters recalled spending wonderful hours watching Welcome carve the beautiful points around the sun stones. They lived for many years at 37 South 4th East in Salt Lake. Then Welcome was called to go to St. Johns, Arizona along with other Saints to help settle difficulties there between the Mexicans and the Mormons.

On 5 May 1884 the Chapmans packed up their family and belongings in a mule-drawn wagon donated by their ward. Welcome's two daughters and Aggie had become very close and shared many adventures during the six-week trek. Grandma Sarah Ann Brown brought them each a big doll with beautiful hair and a wax face. The first night they camped at Point of the Mountain south Salt Lake and saw their first deer. They traveled through Kanab and crossed the Colorado River, finally arriving in St. Johns in the middle of June where Welcome worked in a sawmill there.

A tragedy occurred in late fall of that year. While Zelnora was milking a cow, another cow hooked her. She lay very ill for ten weeks, never to recover. On 23 December she died and was buried on Christmas Eve Day, being only 30 years of age. (Agnes was 13 at the time.)

After her mother's death, Agnes lived with Willard and Mary Farr and their family. They promised if they ever went back to Salt Lake to visit their people they would take Aggie to visit her grandmother and Aunt Clara. On a trip to LDS Conference, the Farris did so. Such a fuss was made for Agnes to remain in Salt Lake, that the Farris finally agreed and returned to Arizona without her. Until her marriage Agnes lived in Salt Lake with these widows.

Several years later, on 30 September 1891, Agnes Kilpatrick McDonald married Thomas Henry Nott, Jr. in Salt Lake City. She was 20 and he was 22.

**MARRIAGE OF THOMAS HENRY NOTT, JR.
and AGNES KILPATRICK McDONALD**

Tom and Aggie became the parents of seven children, all born in Salt Lake City. A short synopsis of their family follows:

Elsie Marie born 1892; married Marr Dixon Simons (1 child); then married Arly Call George in 1917 (9 children)
Harold William born 1893; died at birth
Thomas Henry (twin) born 1895; married Flora Alberna Sadler in 1915
(2 children)
Donald Marsden (twin) born 1895; married Myrtle Densley in 1916
(4 children)
John Johnson born 1898; died at birth
Alta Ann born 1900; married Lester Sheridan Robbins in 1921
(1 child)
AGNES SARAH born 1901; married EVAN TIMOTHY in 1923 (5 children);
then married Edward Elias Mansfield in 1949 (no children)

Thomas Henry Nott, Jr. owned a shoe store jointly with John Vincent (the Vincent Nott Shoe Store on Main and 1st South in Salt Lake). He traveled infrequently to California to obtain new stock for the store.

Tom was kidded about being "the aristocrat of the family." He was always immaculately clean and well groomed. He was a lover of fine horses and kept pedigreed Brown Leghorn chickens. He also bought two beautiful peacocks while a teenager, which he kept the remainder of his life. A family legend has been handed down to the effect that at the time of Tom's death these peacocks flew up on Tom's window sill and screeched so loudly they had to be removed. After Tom's burial, they found the two birds on his grave at Salt Lake Cemetery.

Agnes was a sweet natured woman, loved by everyone. She was especially kind to children, a fine cook, and relished the role of "Mother." It was difficult for her to become the wife of a man whose mother was an absolutely immaculate housekeeper. She could never live up to her mother-in-law's standard of "clean." But what Agnes lacked as a housekeeper was more than made up by her extraordinary talent as a seamstress. She sewed for everyone and became so proficient that several theatre companies hired her to create their costumes.

After daughter Elsie was born in 1892 their next child Harold died at birth in 1893; then came twin boys Thomas Henry and Donald in 1895. Another baby, John, also died at birth in 1898; then daughter Alta was born in 1900. The birth of daughter Agnes in 1901 ended in tragedy. Mother Aggie, age 30, began hemorrhaging and died shortly thereafter.

The four older children, plus baby Agnes and father Tom, moved into the senior Notts' home. Several of Tom Jr.'s brothers and sisters weren't yet married and also lived at home: Ernest, 21; Florence, 19; and Vi, 17, making a total of 11 sharing the small house on 10th East. Vi had to quit work to help Grandmother Nott with all the little ones.

In March of 1906 Tom Jr. went on a fishing trip and caught pneumonia. On March 30 he lay on a couch in the parlor and asked to be helped to the piano. He played his favorite piece, "Hearts and Flowers," then asked to be put back to bed. Very soon thereafter he died, being only 36 years of age, leaving five young children orphaned. Elsie was 13, the twins were nearly 11, Alta was six, and Agnes was 4-1/2. Tom Jr. had \$10,000 in Woodmen of the World life insurance, which assisted grandparents Tom, Sr. and Sarah Ann in raising their son's children.

After Tom, Jr.'s death in 1906, Grandmother Sarah Ann suffered a severe physical and mental setback and, on her doctor's recommendation, was sent to California to rest and recuperate. Agnes Sarah, then 4-1/2 years old, was sent to live with her Uncle Harry (Henry) and Aunt Zina's and their 9-month old baby Ernest.

But she was only there a short time because once again tragedy befell this family -- Zina died in February of 1907 giving birth to her second child. The baby also succumbed. Grandmother Sarah Ann was called back from California and Agnes once again moved back to her grandparents' home, along with Harry and little Ernest. Now there were 13 around the dinner table each night!

Agnes Sarah never knew her mother and lost her father before reaching age five. Throughout her childhood she was told by several that she had killed her mother and admitted that she always felt great guilt and loneliness. She only attended school until the 8th grade at Bryant Jr. High because she was needed at home to help her grandmother.

The oldest daughter, Elsie, worked as a cashier in her grandpa's grocery store and married at age 22 to Mari Simons. She was deserted six months later while pregnant. After baby Ruth was born she divorced and later married Arley George and had 9 other children. She died in 1991 at age 98.

The twins, Thomas Henry (Harry) and Donald had to quit school early due to being thrown out of the Nott household by their grandfather. It seems they snuck in late at night after a date, having missed the last midnight trolley home. They were told to gather their clothes and leave! They both became butchers and lived together in a room downtown while in their teens.

Harry married Alberna Sadler in 1915 and they moved to California and parented two children. Harry went into the grocery business; then had a butcher shop in Vallejo, California. He died at Clear Lake at age 73.

Donald married Myrtle Densley in 1916. They had four children, but the second (Allen) died at age 1-1/2. Don worked in California and Salt Lake as a butcher. He crafted beautiful violins as a hobby. He died at age 90.

Of note was Christmas Day in 1917 when Tom's sister Sarah Ann had the whole Nott family over for a traditional Christmas dinner. At this time there was a flu epidemic and at this party some of the members of the family became ill, and the whole house, with all the various Nott families, had to be quarantined at Sarah Ann's house. Beds were set up in every room of the house until the quarantine was over. What a party!

Alta Ann married Lester Robbins and had a stillborn child in 1922 after suffering a paralyzing stroke. Another child, Beverly, was born in 1923, but Alta couldn't care for the baby and she was raised by others. Alta lived with sisters Elsie and Agnes for short periods and then was hospitalized at Provo. Tragically, she died in 1934 after scalding in a tub of hot water. She was only 33 years old.

For an account of the married life of Agnes Sarah, see "History of Agnes Sarah Nott and Evan Timothy."