

—**ELIZABETH ADELAIDE HOOPES ALLEN**—
1847-1889

ELIZABETH ADELAIDE HOOPES ALLEN was one of the first babies born in a covered wagon during the time her LDS parents were being driven from their home in Missouri. Her early life was filled with trials and tribulations as experienced by thousands of faithful saints. Her father was a shoemaker and her mother a very refined lady of great faith and energy. While living near St. Joseph, Missouri her father worked at burning charcoal and was very prosperous. Her mother's health was poor. Her father was counseled to join the saints at Florence, Nebraska and prepare to immigrate to Utah but he did not heed the counsel. Soon after a non-Mormon family was burned in their home and the Mormons were accused of committing the deed. After much controversy, her father and a Brother Lincoln were taken to prison by the sheriff for protection from the mob. They remained there ten months and were proved innocent and were released. The family was reduced to a state of poverty as all his accumulated wealth was spent for lawyer's fees. Her mother made willow baskets for the children to sell which made them a living.

While crossing the plains, Elizabeth was given the responsibility to care for the children, especially the baby. The other children drove the loose cattle. One of the cows had a calf which took all of the milk. The Hoopes family was given permission to tie the calf up at night so they could have the milk in the morning for the children. No one offered to catch the calf, so Elizabeth Adelaide undertook the task. She got the rope around the neck and the calf began to run. It pulled her through the slough brush, and rough places before she lost her grip. Help was necessary before she got the calf tied.

After their arrival in Salt Lake City in 1857, they moved to Bountiful and then on to Cache Valley where she helped her father herd the sheep and cattle and helped with the general outside work.

When 17 years of age she met Charles Hopkins Allen. He was courting her girlfriend, Belinda Bair. Belinda was Elizabeth's luncheon guest one day and arrived wearing a very fancy bonnet. After much teasing she admitted she had made arrangements for Charles to see her home. Elizabeth playfully hid the prize bonnet when she saw Charles coming. In the turmoil and nonsense during the search for the bonnet it fell from its hiding place from behind the door. Elizabeth snatched it up and ran, but Charles and his whip were too fast for her. He later told her that he fell in love with her the day he wrapped his whip around her. Although he was 17 years old her senior she seemed to share his feelings and

consented to be his wife. Their first five children, all boys, were born while they lived in Richmond, Utah. Five other children, four girls and a boy, were born in Cove, Utah.

During this period the Indians were still uncontrolled. On one occasion when her husband was away getting wood, an Indian buck came and demanded food. She was not of a nervous nature and she prepared him something to eat. While doing so she noticed his gaze was riveted on a rifle on the wall. As he started for the gun she gave him an unexpected forceful shove which landed him outside the kitchen door attached by a blanket to a nail. In spite of his humiliation he admired her bravery and he left without any more trouble.

Elizabeth Adelaide was very friendly and her doors were always open to welcome friends and relatives. She promoted the spirit of home entertainment for keeping children under the family roof and possessed the spirit of "Home Evening" long before the prophet of the Lord recommended it throughout the Church. She was a very capable woman being able to do anything from knitting stockings to butchering pigs. She was handy with the spinning wheel and the loom and was very active in church activities.

When the call came to go to Arizona, she readily agreed as her husband was suffering from rheumatism. Brother Elijah learned of its climatic values while a member of the Mormon battalion going through that region. On the 13 Nov. 1882 they entered what is now Mesa, Arizona. She endured many hardships pioneering in that area, particularly a smallpox epidemic and childbirth. When the last of her fourteen children was born 13 Nov. 1889, Elizabeth Adelaide died. She gave her life to give life to another. Her unlimited faith, courage, and charity influenced the many people she met. Her entire life was devoted to the service of others but she never neglected her devoted husband and loving children. Her last request was that her tithing be paid on some butter she sold so she might be squared with her tithing.

(From Ancestors and Descendants of Andrew Lee and Clarinda Knapp Allen; compiled by Gerald R. Fuller; edited by Esther Fuller Dial; Published by The Andrew Lee Allen Family Organization. Elizabeth Adelaide Hoopes Allen, page 107-108)