

ELIZA CHAPMAN



Eliza Chapman was born March 13, 1815 in Croyden, Cambridge, England to William Chapman and Mary Pentlow. Married Samuel Gadd April 13, 1836. They had nine children: six sons and three daughters.

Died January 24, 1892 in Nephi, Juab, Utah.

Eliza Chapman did not join the church when her husband and three oldest children did. When her husband decided to immigrate to Utah, Eliza decided rather than separate the family she would come with him.

They left Liverpool May 4, 1856 on the ship "Thornton", arrived in New York and then traveled by rail to Iowa City.

Their handcarts weren't ready and they had to wait until some thought it was too late to start. They were assigned to the Willie Handcart Company. The majority voted to go anyway so they left July 15, 1856.

The winter snows came early and they were

caught in the Rocky Mountains with inadequate provisions. Eliza's husband and two sons died due to freezing conditions and starvation.

A rescue team reached them on October 21 and encouraged them forward. Eliza took charge of the family and their meager belonging and continued on with nothing to look forward to, not even having the gospel to comfort her.

They arrived in Salt Lake and when they were able continued on and settled in Nephi. The family gleaned wheat and thrashed it to make flour for bread.

After enduring hardships and sorrows, Eliza embraced the gospel and was baptized.