

against his mother's wishes for them to come as she did not think he would ever write her once he got here. She had torn a corner [off] from a piece of paper and gave [the paper to] him, asking him to write her on this sheet. If the corner of the paper would fit the [torn off] corner of the [sheet] of paper she would know he had actually written it.

On April 13, 1863, David, Bertha and Julia bid farewell to their friends and relatives and sailed on the ship Exelence Tolv for Copenhagen, Denmark, where they remained until April 30. They then sailed for Kiel, German and on to Hamburg where they boarded the steamship Roland and crossed the North Sea to Grimsby, England. There were 600 immigrants, 40 head of steers and several hundred sheep on board. They arrived in England 27 days later, then went to Liverpool by train where they sailed for New York on the ship Antarctic, with John Needham in charge. They were on the ship 49 days and it was necessary for them to stand in line each day to get their drinking water.

They arrived in New York July 10 and were placed in cattle cars and shipped to St. Joseph, MO. In Florence, Nebraska, where they arrived July 25 there were 40 wagons awaiting their arrival. Peter Nebeker had come from Salt Lake City to guide the immigrants. During their long journey they had lost their second child, [Josephine 9 months old] buried while crossing the planes. They arrived in the Salt Lake Valley October 3, lived in Lehi for three years and in 1866 went Franklin, Idaho.

When the first Sunday School on Worm Creek was organized in 1879, David Jensen was the first Superintendent.

He cut a lot of grain for people undoubtedly more than any other man in Franklin. He was restless and decided to see Gentile Valley and Bear Lake Valley before settling down. David and Ole Olsen joined a company going to Bear Lake but decided this place was not for him and he returned to Franklin. Ole decided to settle on the Cub River just south and west of the Franklin Cemetery. David went to Worm Creek and resided on the old homestead.<sup>13</sup>

David cut and stacked hay along the creek the first summer and the following winter the snow was so deep he was unable to find his haystacks. In the spring of 1871 he buil[t] a one room log house with a dirt roof and moved his wives and children there. Later he buil[t] an additional room.

A short time later, Joseph Clayton came to the area and took up 160 acres now owned by Frank Palmer. Wheat was not raised at first as it was felt that it would not grow.

It was soon recognized that water was a necessity for the bench land if the land were to produce. Settlers had begun to come in and it was decided to build a canal that came out of Worm Creek. David surveyed the canal with a spirit level [ubble level] and gave the canal an inch fall per rod [16.5 feet]. The same ditch brought water from Worm Creek and Cub River to Worm Creek Flat until the Glendale reservoir was built.

The Thomas Canal was constructed soon after the Worm Creek Canal and was later named the Lewiston Canal. John Sharp took a contract to build a canal from Birch Springs to the main river and David took a contract to dig through sand rock point. All the work was done by hand as drills, power machines and powder were unknown. Cutting through the sand rock by hand was a slow process but David never complained about hard work.

---

<sup>13</sup> David was the eighteenth (or 17<sup>th</sup>) homesteader in Idaho. Idaho became a state in 1890. See the land application at the back of this narrative.