

LDS Biography of Charles Henry Crow

Crow, Charles Henry, a prominent Elder in the Eleventh Ward, Salt Lake City, was born Aug. 18, 1830, in Alvechurch, Worcestershire, England. His father dying when he was a boy, necessitated his starting to work at an early age. At seventeen he was apprenticed to a harness and collar maker, and he followed that business through life. Dec. 26, 1853, he married Mary Sharp. Three weeks later (Jan. 16, 1854) he was baptized a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the doctrines there of having been taught to him by a fellow workman the late Thomas Lloyd of Wellsville, Cache county. Shortly after this his wife also was baptized, they belonged to the Birmingham conference. He was ordained a Priest and labored as a local missionary. Feb. 14, 1856, together with his wife, he sailed from Liverpool in the ship "Caravan", their destination being Utah, but they remained in Brooklyn and New York City about three years. While here he was ordained an Elder, and labored as a teacher among the Saints in the New York branch of the Church. In May, 1859, he left New York City for Utah, and arrived in Salt Lake City 1 September 1859, after driving one of the late Judge Alexander Pyper's ox-teams across the plains. This company was in the charge of Bishop Frederick Kesler. In 1864 he opened a harness shop in Salt Lake City, and subsequently he entered into partnership with Daniel Seegmiller, whom he had baptized in New York and who had been his fellow workman in a harness establishment in that city. Later he went into business with Henry Bowring. Soon after his arrival in Utah he located in the Eleventh Ward, Salt Lake City, which was his home

until his death. Soldiers who were located at Fort Douglas frequently were guilty of disturbing the peace and robbing the gardens of vegetables and fruits. The people and their possessions needed protection, and for many years special police were on guard. For a great many years he was captain of the Eleventh Ward Special Police, a body of men who risked many dangers at the hands of reckless characters, and who did service for many years without thought of monetary reward. In 1866 he went to Sanpete county as a lieutenant under Captain Andrew Burt in the expedition against the Indians. Afterwards he served as captain of the second company, third regiment of infantry, of the Nauvoo Legion. In a civil capacity he was constable in Salt Lake City for sixteen years, as a special policeman he was active in raids against liquor and gambling houses and houses of prostitution, and also served as a member of the city council from the fifth precinct, being appointed to the position made vacant by the death of Judge Alexander Pyper. He had the confidence of the leaders of the Church, and was a trusted guard to Pres. Brigham Young and John Taylor. He was a president of the 22nd quorum of Seventy for a number of years, and later he acted in the same capacity in the 57th quorum. This position he held until the time of his death, which occurred at his home in Salt Lake City, 27 December 1900. Elder Crow was the father of twelve children, six of whom died in early youth, two being buried in England, two in Brooklyn, and two in Salt Lake City. His wife and six sons survived him.