

Rial Easter Allen

1791 - 1865

Rial Allen was the second son, third child of Samuel Allen, Revolutionary War soldier, and his wife, Nancy Easter. He was born in North Carolina, probably in Orange County (the county in which his father Samuel Allen married and where he lived previous to his removal to Chester, South Carolina). His son, Andrew Jackson Allen and his son James Henry Allen record in their family records that he was born in 1791.

Margaret Evins, daughter of John Evins and Mary (Margaret) Moore, was born in Knox County, Tennessee in 1784 according to these same two records. According to these records, Margaret was between six and seven years his senior. This was not too unusual after a great war like the Revolution when marriageable men were not very plentiful and many women took husbands much younger than themselves. It was evidently so in the case as recorded in his own son's journal. (Page 20 marriage book one, Pulaski County, Kentucky, Rial and Peggy Evins, 21 October 1806 by Thomas Hill.)

When Rial was sixteen years of age, his father, Samuel Allen with the Adams, Easters, Warrens, and others left Chester, South Carolina and traveled north to Kentucky to make their home. This migration was made to follow game north. Game was beginning to become very scarce in the Carolinas and early pioneers of that time, depending greatly upon deer and other game for their livelihood, began to follow it toward the north where the woods were more dense and the game more plentiful. Here, near Somerset, Kentucky Samuel Adams built a

home in a beautiful valley where Rial and his sister and brother were reared.

Rial bought a place some two miles from his father's original place and it was here that his children were born. His wife died 17 September 1843 and is buried at Waitsboro, Kentucky. He never married again, went to Missouri with his children when they made up their minds to go as pioneers to that state. He settled in Savannah, Andrew County, Missouri. He prided himself in his thoroughbred stock and none surpassed him in raising high grade cattle horses. These were his delight and up to the time of his death in 1865 he possessed the finest stock in the vicinity.

Five of his children had embraced the gospel of the Latter-day Saints. It was a source of much grief to him that they would desire to go further west and pioneer an unknown waste when where such prosperous farms in Missouri. Andrew Jackson, his youngest son [and youngest daughter, Martha], went with the pioneers to Utah in 1847. Rial offered Andrew Jackson Allen \$600 cash if he would return to St. Joseph, Missouri.

Rial made a home for his daughter Elizabeth and her husband, Sprankle Synder. He spent his last days with this couple who were childless. He built a fine new home in 1862. This home was not quite completed when on the 30th of May of that same year James and Lewis started on their journey west to join the Saints. Grandfather Rial Allen was not a big man but stood very straight. He was of medium weight, not very heavy. He was of medium complexion and at this date was getting gray. He had blue eyes, was of a kindly disposition and gentle in his ways. Of his sons, James was most like him in build and disposition.

By Maud B. Allen from Allen: Seven Generations of Allens by Maud B.
Allen pages 20-21

Rial Easter Allen died September 26, 1865 in Savannah Missouri and is
buried at St. Joseph, Missouri.