

## John Cummings

From the original Sexton Records:

Name: John Cumming

Age: 4y; 9m; 3d

Son of George & Jane Cumming

Deceased: Oct.11, 1846

Disease: Chill fever

Birth Place: Orlin Township, In

Birth Date: Jan 13, 1845

No. of Grave: 24

Name of deceased: John Cummings

Birth Date: Jan. 13, 1842

Death Date: Oct. 11, 1846

Cause of Death: Chill Fever

Burial Place: Grave #24 Cutler's Park

Father's Name: George Washington Cummings

Mother's Maiden Name: Phebe Jane Fergeson

Which Winter Quarters Ward or Iowa Branch was the family: Winter Quarters 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward

Where was the family in the 1850 U. S. Census? Pottawattamie County, Iowa, house 64, page 68

Which Pioneer wagon train took the family west? Isaac Bullock Company, left Kanesville (present Counsel Bluffs), Iowa in 1852 and arrived between Sep. 21 and Oct. 3 1852.

Any interesting facts or stories that might have been submitted.

-His siblings were Charles, James, Cornelius, Harriet, Angeline, George, Phebe, Reuben, Franklin, Ezra, Leander, Roy, and Julia. The last seven were born after his death.

-Less than a month after John's death his little brother George died on November 9<sup>th</sup> at Winter Quarters and was buried in Cutler's Park grave #56. Their sister Harriet died the following spring and was buried near them in grave #140.

-His father, George, was a Private in the Mormon Battalion. He was 35, had black hair and black eyes. He was 5 foot 9 inches tall. He designed the yellow and blue flag that the battalion carried. He was detached to accompany the sick to Fort Pueblo in Colorado. (Pension File); (Larson, Mormon Battalion, 51.);

-Jane, his mother, was the first baptized into the church in 1841 and George, her husband, was baptized the next year.

-George worked as a black smith in the Nauvoo area.

-The family moved to Nauvoo and lived there about three years until the saints were forced to flee.

-The family helped settle Millville, Utah.

-Phebe, while living in Nauvoo faced down a mob with a musket in hand. They told her to leave the house as they were going to burn it down. She told them, "I will kill the first man who tries to burn this house." At the time she was pregnant and alone with her 11-year-old son, Charles. Later their house was burned but Charles was able to hide the cow so she was not taken.

-Young Charles helped dig the graves for his two brothers and sister who died at Winter Quarters.

-While living in Nephi, Utah George was called to be a Pony Express Rider. During one ride a pistol accidentally discharged and the ball was never extracted from his thigh. After this Charles, now 18, took over George's Pony Express duties.

-In 1854 Indian hostilities increased in the Nephi area. George was shot with an Indian arrow and during the following hand to hand combat he killed the Indian with his butcher knife.

-In 1860 the family settled in the cooler lands of Cache Valley. The following year George and Phebe were sealed in Salt Lake City in the Endowment House. (Life Sketch of Pheobe Jane Cummings, compiled by Wynona Cummings Hill and written by Craig A. Hill.)

-Phebe was the first counselor in the first relief society in the Millville Ward. Twelve of her fourteen children proceeded her in death. (from the writing of Phebe Jane F. Cummings)