



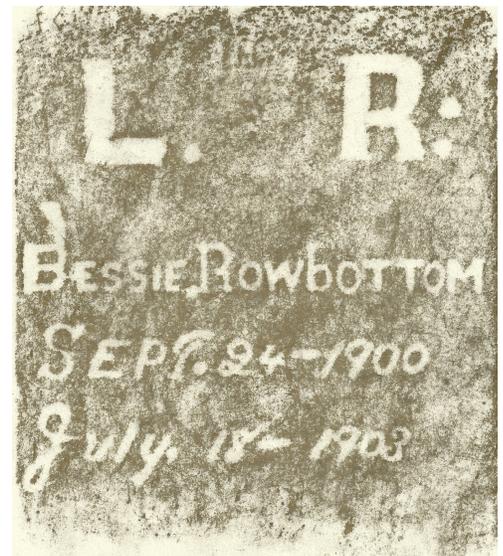
The Face of Fillmore

By Sherry Shepard
December 17, 2014

This week brings a huge thank you to my readers. I had always suspected there were a great many people reading *The Face of Fillmore*, as I am frequently stopped on the streets or in a store with positive comments, but it was not until the last two columns that I had any idea how many. The article about living in a small town brought smiles and telephone calls that really made me feel great. Then the last one about the treasures found in hidden places brought an overwhelming response. Evidently half of the population of Millard County is either related to the Melville's, the Ashman's or the Warner's. I had dozens of phone calls, not to mention the in person comments as I went about my weekly activities. I don't think a day passed the week following the article that there were not at least two or three phone calls.

Jolynn Blodgett – caretaker of the box of pictures – received many, as well. She said, “I so enjoyed your article this week. I thought I'd tell you I have had around 8 to 10 phone calls. The Goddard's caught me in Manti Wednesday evening and said they had heard about the article. I hadn't seen it yet. They came over Thursday and took most of the Melville and Ashman pictures. It was exciting to see them so pleased. Bill found a picture of his grandparents he hadn't seen before. It made my day (and more) to give them to people who feel the same way we do about these treasures. Sarah Ellen Stevens called about the Carling pictures, which I will get to her. I've had to refer some folks to the Goddard's to get copies. Anyway, your article was the key to getting the documents and pictures into family hands. Roy Tomkinson also suggested bringing the pictures to the family history center to see if they could be identified. After sitting in the barn for years, and after 14 years of being in my hands, the pictures are finding new homes. Thank you so much!”

This week I was the recipient of family information which came as a surprise e-mail. A few years ago we visited the grave of my great aunt at the South Gate of Yellowstone National Park. She is the only person buried there. Details of her death were sketchy but I had more of them filled in this week. A first cousin from Logan had spent Thanksgiving in Jackson, Wyoming where he found the new second edition of "Death In Yellowstone -- Accidents and Foolhardiness in the First National Park", by Lee Whittlesey. My cousin said he was quoted on page 310, since he had written to the author to inform him that Bessie was not exactly a "tourist girl", as



the first edition had it. Also quoted, and even better, is the statement of Grandma's sister Mary who was present when the family buried Bessie. This was sent to the author by Earl Felix, who is Mary's grandson.

"We entered Yellowstone National Park on 17 July 1903 by the South entrance and on 18 July 1903 my younger sister Bessie Rowbottom died. My father went to the U.S. Army camp and received permission to bury her in the park. At this time another group of travelers came into our camp and saw that we were getting Bessie ready to be buried. With their help, we made a wooden box and lined it with oil cloth and dressed her in a nice white dress.... A lady from the group sang the song "Little Children Who Love Their Redeemer". Father dedicated the grave. My older brother went back to Almy and retrieved the footstone from the grave of my brother Lorenzo Rowbottom, Jr. and had it made into a head stone for Bessie. After the head stone was placed on her grave we left the park and went on to Calgary."

Thanks to those who are always on the lookout for tidbits of family history that bring our ancestors to life for us and are willing to share them for others to enjoy.