

CHAPTER III

NATHANIEL & SOPHIA

IN

WYOMING

Congress created The Wyoming Territory separate from the Dakota Territory in 1868, with Cheyenne named the Capitol. In the Treaty of Fort Laramie signed the same year, several tribes were assigned land in Wyoming Territory, Dakota Territory, and Montana. Besides the reservations, the treaties agreed that all that part of Wyoming lying north and west of the Powder River and east of the summit of the Big Horn Mountains was to be "Unceded Indian Territory" for a hunting ground for all the tribes. The Bozeman Trail and the forts built near it were closed, and the U.S. Army abandoned Forts Reno, Phil Kearney and C. F. Smith in August, 1868. It was further stipulated that no whites could settle in this area, or cross the territory without permission of the Indians. This meant that the northeastern part of Wyoming was opened later than other areas in the Territory for white settlement. The only white men who ventured into this area were occasional trappers/mountain men who took a squaw for a wife and lived with the Indians. There were very few deaths on either side caused by Indian fights until 1874 when gold was discovered in the Black Hills. The pressure to open this area to mining led to conflict, and on June 25, 1876, The Battle of The Little Big Horn which resulted in the defeat and death of General Custer and his men, marked the beginning of the end for the Indians. The site of the battle is about fifty miles north of Dayton, Wyoming, where the Huntingtons settled five years later.

Charles Rawlings, a pioneer banker and rancher in the Ranchester and Dayton, Wyoming, area, wrote a memoir, *Our Neck O' The Woods* which has been an invaluable resource in reconstructing the development of the area where the Huntingtons settled. Mr. Rawlings interviewed many of the "old-timers" about the early history of the Dayton and Ranchester settlements, and wrote quite a complete account of this era. He makes mention of the Huntington family settling on the south side of the Tongue River in 1882 and lists family members in chapters about later years. Other references for the historical facts are listed in the bibliography at the end.

The government now allowed travel on The Bozeman Trail, so word was getting out that this area in the northeastern Wyoming Territory was opening up for settlement. Rawlings notes that the fact that it was 280 miles from the nearest railroad, and still surrounded by Indians, meant that there were no great numbers of white settlers for several years. By 1879 freighter traffic started over the Bozeman Trail, and soon a few settlers began to appear. The first post office in the area was established in 1879 at Bingham, about half-way between Dayton and Ranchester. By 1880 the mail service expanded to stage service and this led to some of the first cultivation of crops to raise corn and oats to feed the stage and freight teams. The population of the Wyoming Territory in 1880 was 20,789. On May 10, 1881, Johnson County, originally known as Pease County, located to the northeast of the Big Horn Mountains, was organized.

According to Rawlings, "To many white people, an Indian was not to be trusted. In 1880, the Custer battle had only been four years before, and stories of Indian raids were fresh in the minds of respective settlers. So those who did bring their families and little herds of livestock into Our-Neck-O-The-Woods in the early 80's were just as hardy and brave and resourceful, and probably even more so, than the ones who settled the southern part of the state 20 years before."

Nathaniel and Hallam J. came to Wyoming before the rest of the family arrived. Evidently they came to obtain land, secure water rights and perhaps build a house. Water-right records from 1881

show that Hallam was developing a ditch known as the Burr Ditch from the South Fork of the Tongue River. Nathaniel and Hallam are found on another 1881 record of the Huntington Ditch, from Smith's Creek which runs into the South Fork of the Tongue River. There is also a record of a homestead in Hallam's name for 160 acres in section 6. See the illustrations for a map. The Homestead Act of 1862 gave 160 acres (a quarter mile square) for living on the land for five years and improving it.

Hallam J. applied for the first brand in April of 1882. It could be assumed that Nathaniel went back to Jamestown Kansas to get the rest of the family and that is why Hallam J. applied for the brand. His first application is dated February 1, 1882. This application was denied-- it was the three fourths--a number 3 over the number 4. He applied again on the 26th of March, 1882, changing the number to 3/4 with a slash and this was accepted by the brand committee on April 21, 1882. The application reads: 3/4. Three fourths. Horses brand on left shoulder and vented on right. Cattle branded on left hip and vented on right hip. A copy of the record of the applications are included in the illustrations.

While it is not known exactly what route the family traveled on their way from Kansas to Wyoming, they came by wagon. It is likely they came north into Nebraska, then journeyed west, turning north again on the stage and freight trail to the Tongue River. In the newspaper interview with Sophia, which was published in 1932, she talked of traveling west with a wagon and I believe either she or the interviewer became a bit confused at this point. He states that she made the trip to Wyoming with her parents and this could not be true as the area was not open to white settlers at that time. What she probably said was that her family made this trip and he missed the fact that it was her husband and children. She does describe traveling by wagon, taking with them their household belongings, some milk cows, a few pigs and some chickens. Milk that was turned into a large cream can each day churned into butter by the rocking of the wagon on the bumpy trail across the plains: the milk was fed to little pigs until they outgrew the box they were in and had to be sold before the party reached Sheridan County (this is another error as it was Johnson County until 1888). A copy of this article is in the illustrations. I assume the family made similar journeys when they moved from Indiana to Minnesota, Minnesota to Iowa and Iowa to Kansas.

Sophia recorded in her Bible that they arrived at their new home on the Tongue River in June, 1882. This statement would suggest that there was a house built by Nathaniel and Hallam, as the area had been open for settlement such a short time, it would have been unlikely that there were any structures on their land. At this time, Nathaniel was 54, Sophia 42, Hallam J. 23, Cecil 15, Harry 13, and Roy 7. They were now in an area with land available for Nathaniel and Sophia, and their four sons.

The government survey had been working in northern Wyoming and finished establishing section corners in the Dayton area in 1882. Land Deed records show that Nathaniel owned land in sections 1 and 6. In October of that year Nathaniel filed for enough water from the Tongue River to fill the Huntington Ditch running through his property. This water was to be in the amount of 2000 inches.

Much of the property owned by Hallam and Nathaniel is now part of the present IXL Ranch. The owner of the ranch, Jack Elbogen gave us a tour of the area. He showed us what remained of an old homestead that he had heard was owned by a German family. From the land records we think it was one of the original Huntington homestead sites. All that remained were some chunks of stone and lilac bushes. This area is very close to what is now Dayton, Wyoming.

According to Rawlings, a flour mill was installed by George Beck about 10 miles from the Dayton area in 1882. This meant the settlers could raise a small amount of their own wheat and get flour for

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the next year instead of depending on the freight wagons or hauling it themselves from Rock Creek on the Union Pacific 280 miles away. There were commercial enterprises started in Dayton by the end of 1882. Henry Baker put up a good size building on the Broadwell tract and stocked it with groceries and other supplies and this became known as the Baker Store. There was a sawmill in Smith Creek Canyon and a lime kiln on the Mock homestead. The first post office was established at the Baker Store and a restaurant was opened in a building nearby. The selection of the name for the postoffice was decided by drawing slips of paper from a hat. A young homesteader, Joseph Dayton Thron, had put his middle name in the hat and this was the name drawn.

In 1883 Dayton had a stage each way every day and a livery barn and blacksmith shop were built. Rawlings states that a big and favorable change for the area was the completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad line up the Yellowstone Valley as far as Junction City at the mouth of the Big Horn River. Freight could now be shipped there and freighted about 100 miles to the Dayton community. Times could be hard for the early settlers since they did not have many things to market. In '83 a steer had to be at least four years old to bring \$50 dollars and the settlement was so new that none of the ranchers had steers that old. The lumber business was good as there was big demand for building in Sheridan, freighters hauled a few oats to the railroad at Fort Custer (formerly Junction City) and brought back merchandise, machinery, etc. on the return trip. Rawlings states that nearly everything needed was raised in the valley, but there were a few necessities that had to be shipped in such as salt, sugar, Arbuckle coffee, tobacco, whiskey and clothing. Most of the settlers relied on wild game for meat and were skilled hunters. As cash was sometimes scarce, some of them gathered spent bullets from the rifle ranges at Fort Custer and Fort McKinnie to melt and mold into new bullets to fit their own guns. At this time the nearest doctors were at Fort Custer or Fort McKinnie, about 65 miles away.

On February, 1884, Hallam, 25, married Linna (Linnie) Clarinda Thorn 21, who was born in Syracuse, New York.

Rawlings states that by 1885 the Tongue River Valley was all taken up, either as homesteads or "desert claims". In 1886 the Northwestern Railroad reached the eastern border of Wyoming Territory and this would have opened the area for more shipments of goods into the area and perhaps for the shipment of beef to the East.

In August of 1886, Nathaniel filed another water right for "Burr Ditch" in 2nd Judicial Court in Johnson County. On October 27th, 1886, more land was purchased by Sohpia from Mary M. Morrow in sections 1 and 4. Cecil 19, was a signator as "witness" and present at the closing. The deed was then recorded on July 5, 1887.

The winter of 1886-87 was a hard time for ranchers in Wyoming. An early spring blizzard brought disaster to cattle ranches and contributed to the bankruptcy of many stockmen. Rawlings explains that the big cattle companies were the hardest hit as they let their cattle roam freely in wide areas without protection or hands to take care of them. Those with smaller ranches were able to take better care of their stock. It is probable that the Huntington operation had only moderate losses, but would have endured through this very difficult time. In the summer of '87, a coal mine opened up in the

area and one could purchase all the coal that could be hauled on a wagon with a two-horse team for \$1. This put an end to much of the wood chopping, and most of the ranchers were ready for the long cold winter.

Nathaniel was elected to the House of Representatives of The Wyoming Territory November 2, 1886, as a Democrat from Johnson County. At this time Johnson County included what is now both Johnson County and Sheridan County, so it would have been very large. At this time the legislative assembly members were elected fourteen months before the assembly convened on the second Tuesday of January in even years. For this service the members of the legislative assemblies received a compensation of four dollars a day during the sessions and three dollars for every twenty miles traveled in going to and returning from sessions. On today's highways it is 360 miles from Dayton to Cheyenne, I don't have the milage for that time. In 1886 the Wyoming Central Railroad was completed to Douglas. They may have traveled by stage, buggy, or wagon, south to that point. Members tried for many years to increase the amount of compensation, but this was controlled by the United States Congress. As Nathaniel was elected to serve as Speaker of The House for the 1888 session, he would have received an extra six dollars a day during his term. By the 1886 election, apportionment of Representative Districts had increased to eight, and Johnson County, the Fifth District, elected two members. Nathaniel received the most votes with 855 from twenty precincts.

A picture of the Legislature and of Nathaniel alone was obtained from the Wyoming Archives and is included with the illustrations. A copy of this picture hangs in the Wyoming Capitol Building. In 1888 the tenth Territorial Legislative Assembly had twenty four members in the House, twelve members in Council, and was the first to utilize the new Capitol Building. The act was passed to build the capitol (not to exceed \$150,000) in 1886. There were ten Republicans and fourteen Democrats in the House.

Nathaniel resigned as Speaker of the House on January 25, 1888 because of illness. He retained his seat until his death, February 14, 1888. As there were no death certificates issued in Wyoming at that time, the only information available is what was reported in the newspapers at the time. *The Cheyenne Sun* published an obituary on February 15, 1888, that states he had been ill for two weeks at the Inter-Ocean Hotel. *The Cheyenne Daily Leader* included the information that he had died of pneumonia. Both papers also had lengthy articles about the Legislature's resolutions concerning their adjournment and decision to attend the funeral as one body, and articles about the funeral.

The stories about his illness and the obituaries from the two Cheyenne papers are revealing. While the language is in the style of that time and seems quite "flowery" at times, there are some conclusions we can reach from them. There are some discrepancies and rather obvious mistakes in both newspapers--but most of the information has been verified in my research and has been very helpful. As the copies of these stories could not be reproduced my transcriptions of these stories are included .

As Sophia attended the funeral, she was in Cheyenne when Nathaniel died. She was undoubtedly the major source for the information in the obituaries. As she was in a very emotional state, and as she may have been misquoted or misinterpreted, there are mistakes. Both papers list three surviving sons, and as Hallam was married with his own home it should have read "living at home", as we know there were four sons. Sophia's Bible and the Huntington books list Nathaniel's birth date as September 12, 1828, so he was probably 59. If Minnesota and Iowa were considered part of The West, the statement that he spent forty years in the West was right, but the impression given in both

stories is that he came out in gold rush days and stayed. There is substantial evidence that he was in Indiana from 1858 to the early 1870's, so some of the story has to be discounted, but most of it is true. He did practice law in Hudson, LaPorte County, he was obviously a well respected man as his appointment to office in Iowa and his election to the House of Representatives in Wyoming would verify. The statement about his having the finest horses in Wyoming on his horse ranch is also interesting and raises the question that in addition to farming, he may have raised horses in Indiana, Minnesota and Iowa.

The fact that he was elected Speaker is testament to his ability to relate to his colleagues and quickly earn their trust. Even taking into account the fact that some of the statements about his personality and character that were probably made by his colleagues are perhaps too effusive, they convey the fact that he was considered open and friendly, educated, intelligent and a strong leader.

The story in *The Cheyenne Daily Leader* the day after his death, in Legislative News, states that he was very popular with his associates and a warm personal friendship had been formed between the gentleman from Johnson County and the other members of the house. As he is referred to in both papers as Nat, he must have used that name more often than his full name Nathaniel.

A month after his death, the territorial legislature, with Democrats in control of the lower house and Republicans the upper house, sent to Washington a petition for statehood. Discussion of this action undoubtedly started while he was Speaker of the House. In the same session the legislature created Sheridan County from the northern section of Johnson County which also must have been discussed while he was still the Speaker.

At the time of Nathaniel's death Sophia was 47, Hallam 28, Cecil 20, Harry 18, and Roy 12. Sophia inherited the Homestead property which was 160 acres in Sections 31 and 32, but the Will was not probated for two years.

Cecil was hired as a school teacher at Shell Creek in the fall of 1887. Shell Creek was at that time part of Johnson County. Many years later he would tell the story about being the first teacher in the Big Horn Basin. More details are included in the chapter about Cecil. He returned home after receiving news of Nathaniel's death, but returned to the Shell Creek area in the spring of 1888 to assess for Johnson County. He had an exciting time on the trip back to the Dayton area which is described in his biography included in the Chapter of his life.

Medical care came to the Dayton area in 1888. Dr. George Simpson and his future wife, Dr. Elizabeth McNutt, both homesteaded across the river from where the Bingham Post Office had been located. They later married and moved to Sheridan. Rawlings states that at this time Dayton now had two general stores, two livery barns, two saloons, two restaurants, a blacksmith shop and a hotel, and there were five schools in the area. By this time the most desirable land in the area had been filed on. Nearly all the land in the area with year round streams was under homestead or desert filings. Everyone in the area seemed to be busy and had plenty to eat, but cattle prices were low and there was not much market for grain. He continues: "Everybody was just sort of getting along when word came from the Big Horns that gold had been found in the Bald Mountain district. As there had been many rumors about gold discoveries before, people didn't take much stock in this story. However it seemed that everyone from Sheridan and many from Buffalo and Big Horn headed for Bald Mountain." This increased traffic through Dayton and business with all the Dayton merchants picked up tremendously.

In 1889, Roy (14) filed for two brands from Parkman in Sheridan County, one a boot and the other the number 35. A third brand was filed by the Huntington Brothers which was the number 75.

Records show that Sophia mortgaged three parcels of land for \$500 with semi-annual payments at 8.5 % interest to Alfred T. Bacon of Weld County, Colorado in May of 1890. Nathaniel's will was probated in July of that year. The appraised values for the Estate were Land: \$1,000, and Personal Property: \$258. In December that same year Sophia mortgaged the original Homestead property for \$100 with semi-annual payments at 10% interest to A. S Burrows.

Hallam and his wife Linna also mortgaged his original Homestead property and 1/2 his water rights to E.A. Whitney for \$500 in February, 1890. In 1891, Hallam now 32, received his Land Patent and Homestead Certificate on his original Homestead filed in 1881. A copy of this and the other land and water records are at the end of this chapter.

On July 10, 1890, Wyoming became the 44th State. Wyoming had been a Territory for twenty years. Also in 1890, a new school was built by the residents of Five Mile Flat. The Rawlings book lists Harry and Roy Huntington as students at that time. Harry would have been 21 and Roy 15. In November the Burlington Missouri River Railroad reached Newcastle, Wyoming, from Alliance, Nebraska.

Rawlings explains that at this time most of the small ranchers now held their own roundups in the spring and fall. After the fall roundup, they would make the long trip of over 100 miles, trailing their beef to the Northern Pacific Railroad where it was loaded at some station between Custer and Miles City, Montana, and shipped to an Eastern market. This was a long, slow trip, but the grass was abundant and there was so much territory and so few settlers between the Dayton area and the railroad, that the cattle would put on weight as they were slowly grazed and arrived at the shipping point heavier than when they left their own range. Rawlings continues: "This was about the time our own first crop of cowboys reached maturity and who were teenagers when they arrived in Our-Neck-O-The -Woods five or ten years before. They had learned the hard way, by experience, to handle livestock."

By August 1891, the Burlington Railroad reached Gillette, Wyoming, the new town that was named after the chief engineer Edward Gillette, who selected the route for the railroad as it crept westward. The railroad men tried to purchase land near Dayton to continue there before turning north into Montana, but the owner, Henry Baker refused to sell just a parcel, and the route was laid out east at Parkman. Rawlings explains that the need for ties for the railroad brought a large logging operation to the area west of Dayton on the Big Horn Mountains. This was the nearest place to get timber for railroad ties in a distance of over 400 miles. A long flume was built to float the ties down to the Tongue River and then to Ranchester. The railroad company contracted for 1,600,000 ties by the fall of 1893.

In 1892, Cecil, now 25, purchased 320 acres of land in Sections 3 and 10. In October of the same year he filed for water from the Harrison Ditch.

In 1893, Sophia sold 3 parcels of land purchased in 1886 including water rights to the Huntington-Ketchum Ditch, in Sections 31 and 32 to Victor and John Milward for \$3,013. Records show that the mortgages on this land were paid and released. Rawlings states that the Milward brothers arrived in the Dayton area from England in 1892, and continues:"In the spring of '93, the Milward Brothers purchased the Huntington Ranch located on the south side of the river and a short distance above

Dayton. In a few years Jack bought his brother Victor out and this was the start of the well-known IXL Dude Ranch that Jack developed during the next few years." Jack Milward purchased the brand from Captain Grissel who had originated the brand, standing for "9th Lancers", which was his former regiment in the English Army. He had established his ranch north across the river from the Huntingtons in 1882, the same year Nathaniel and his family arrived from Kansas.

The Huntington Genealogy Memoir published in 1915, states that Hallam J. moved to Washington State after his father's death, and in 1893 he was admitted to the bar and authorized to practice in all the courts of the State. At this time he would have been 34 years old. This information is confusing as there is evidence that all of his children were born in Wyoming, the youngest Merrill was born in 1903 at Cody, and he owned land and advertised his law practice in Parkman in 1898. He also owned land in Park County later. Perhaps he moved to Washington temporarily.

The A.S. Burrows mortgage given to Sophia in 1890 was released in January of 1894. In June that year, a permit was filed with the State of Wyoming Engineer's Office to construct the Huntington Reservoir on Sections 3 and 10, owned by Cecil. This permit was not approved and Sophia filed for a new permit in April that year.

Cecil and Ellen Morley were married October 25, 1894 at her father's home in Buchanan, Michigan. The invitation states that they would be at home after November 25, in Parkman, Wyoming. At the time of their marriage Cecil was 27 years old and Ellen was 22. A copy of their wedding invitation and a picture are included in the illustrations in the Chapter about Cecil. Cecil's biography explains that Ella was a teacher at the school just a mile from the Huntington ranch near Dayton.

The town of Parkman was platted in 1894 by the Lincoln Land Company and this was a site chosen by the new railroad for a town site as it was far enough from the Indian Reservation to have a saloon or two. Rawlings explains that it was named for the Parkman Divide. The first passenger train passed through Ranchester and Parkman in the late fall of 1894. A depot was built at Parkman where it was necessary to have an agent, as it was found that all trains needed a helper engine to climb Parkman Hill from either side. According to Rawlings a couple of helper engines were kept at Parkman so they could go down on either side to meet trains coming from either way and double-head up the hill. In the summer of 1895 one of the ranchers in the area put cattle to graze on the Big Horn Mountains and others joined in the practice by 1898. The Huntington brothers may have been in this group. In 1896 Dr. A.T. Taggart who had been with the McShane Company tie operation moved from the mountains to Parkman as there were many on ranches in the area.

In February of 1897 the Big Horn National Forest was created by Presidential proclamation and was under the supervision of the Department of Interior. This probably affected the access the ranchers had to graze their cattle on what was now government land.

Rawlings explains that by 1898 there were two general stores in Parkman. There was an operator on duty at all times at the railroad and an agent on duty during the day, as there was a lot of local freight to unload for the people of Parkman. The railroad built a "Y" at Parkman so the helper locomotives could be turned around. A two stall roundhouse was built to shelter the engines and a hostler had to stay at Parkman to take care of the engines while they were in the roundhouse. Two engine crews, consisting of an engineer and a fireman each, lived at Parkman to operate the helper engines.

In early 1898, N.M. Neeves started a newspaper in Dayton which was published every Wednesday. One advertiser was H. J. Huntington, attorney at law, of Parkman, Wyoming. This would have been Hallam Joseph.

Henry (Harry) Mortimer Huntington 28, married Jennie Dick Pegg also 28, in Denver, Colorado on January 20, 1898. A letter from Harry Huntington to his wife written on the back of an extra edition of the Dyea Alaska newspaper, is dated April 1897. I believe he must have meant to write April 7, 1898 as the newspaper was dated April 3, 1898. While the letter describes the terrible effects of a snowslide and gives some details of life in Alaska, it does not tell us exactly what he was doing there. According to Dorothy Huntington Harris he went to Alaska because of the gold rush there. This would suggest that he was prospecting for gold, although he could have been working as a surveyor. It is not known when he returned to Wyoming from Alaska, nor is it known if he found any gold. He and Jennie appear on the 1900 census in Sheridan County.

John Roy Huntington 22, married Martha Elissa Hyatt 24, in Denver, Colorado, on March 9, 1898.

Ellen and Cecil borrowed \$300 from the Bank of Commerce in Sheridan, Wyoming to purchase 160 acres from the US Government in Section 27 in 1899. A water right on Section 34 for the appropriation of water from Crystal Spring, a tributary of Amsden Creek, a tributary of the Tongue River, was filed in Ellen's name the same year. The same year, J. Roy applied for the Three Five Brand and the Boot Brand in Parkman, Sheridan County. The Huntington Brothers also applied for the Seven Five Brand in Parkman that year.

THE NEW CENTURY

Sophia filed for a water right on Section 34 for water from the Excelsior Ditch a tributary of Amsden Creek, a tributary of the Tongue River in 1900. This water right was surveyed by her son, Harry M. Huntington.

Cecil applied for the Lazy JB Connected brand in 1901 in Dayton, Sheridan County. Tragedy struck the family early that year. Ellen died on February 7th. No certain cause of death can be found. The issue of the Sheridan Enterprise at that time is missing so no obituary has been found. According to Dorothy Huntington Harris, she heard the story that Ellen had choked to death and that this was so traumatic for her father Cecil, he was motivated to earn a degree in Osteopathy. More information is included in the Chapter about Cecil. Her grave in the Dayton Cemetery is marked by an unusual obelisk with the inscription:

**TO LIVE IN THE HEARTS
OF THOSE WE LEAVE
BEHIND IS NOT TO DIE.
THINK OF HER AS THE SAME,
I SAY
SHE IS NOT DEAD, SHE IS
JUST AWAY**

The mortgage on the the 160 acres that Ellen and Cecil purchased in 1899 was paid in full and released in April of 1901. Rawlings states that the Huntington land on Twin creek was sold in 1901.

While the exact details are not known of the whereabouts of all the family members for the next few years, there are land transactions and other events to give a general picture.

The ad in the Dayton newspaper in 1898 by Hallam J. places him in the area at that time. The Federal Census of 1900 showed all the family in Sheridan County with the exception of Hallam J. and his family. Either they had moved west to Park County, or perhaps were in Washington State and returned to Wyoming before 1903. They were in the Cody area by 1903 as their youngest child was born there. They purchased 160 acres in Big Horn County that is now in Park County, June 9th, 1904. This property was in Sections 9 and 10, in Township 55N Range 103W, quite near Dead Indian Hill. For many years there were scars on the west side of Dead Indian Hill caused by the Huntington's wagons dragging large logs behind them to slow them on the steep descent. Ted Huntington (E.O.) often pointed out this feature, and explained that as there was no road at the time some of the family settled there, this was the only way to keep the wagons from going down the hill too fast and crashing. The scars on the hillside are almost grown over with trees and brush ninety years later in 1999. There is a photograph of this area with the illustrations. Wylie Sherwin in his *Recollections* describes how he and his father used logs to slow wagons on a steep descent coming down the Big Horn Mountains and this may be the method that Ted meant. " There was no timber on top of the mountains but we had cut two short, stout, pieces about twelve ft. long, on the way up and brought them with us. So now we took the back wheels off and put the logs over the front axle, one on each side and under the back axle, lashed them securely, loaded the wheels inside and then with dad mounted on one of the team horses and me with my saddle rope fastened on the rear to help hold back, we started down. It was a rough trip and about a mile down that hill, but we made it."

As the last land record for Hallam J. in Wyoming is dated 1904 they moved to Washington State sometime after 1904. Information given by his grandson Gary Merrill indicates they lived in Yakima, Washington, before settling in Southern California, then in later years in Northern California.

Cecil states in his biography that he decided to move to Iowa to earn a degree in Osetopathy in 1903. He opened a practice in Jamestown in 1905 and stayed there until 1909 when he married Eva Calkins and moved to the Crooked Creek Ranch in Big Horn County, Wyoming. The family moved to the Southfork of The Shoshone River in 1920, they then lived south of the Town of Cody and in 1928 Cecil purchased a home in the Original Town of Cody. Later the family lived on the Northfork. Cecil and Eva lived in Warren, Arizona in the late 1940's and early 1950's. Eva died June 30, 1950.

Harry M. and Jennie stayed in the Dayton area, at least for several years. There is a record of a water right for The Lone Spring Ditch filed by Jennie in 1903. Harry also owned land in Montana near the location of the Battle of the Big Horn, not far north of the Wyoming border. Harry was the Sheridan County Surveyor in 1907. He was elected to the Tenth Legislature, Wyoming House of Representatives, as a Republican from Sheridan County in 1909. A picture of him with the other House members is with the illustrations. He ran later for the Senate, but was defeated. He applied for a brand in Big Horn County in 1909, so was probably running cattle with Roy near Crooked Creek. He was Sheridan City Engineer in 1918 and was appointed to the Public Utilities Board by Governor Robert Carey. He also was appointed to the State Board of Equalization by Governor Frank C. Emerson in 1927 although he was living in San Diego by this time. Copies of his letters

to the Governors are included in the Chapter about him. It is not known exactly when he moved to California.

In 1904, John Roy took the 3/4 Brand in Big Horn County that had been originally filed by Hallam J. in Sheridan County. A land record in 1906 shows a purchase by Mattie E. Huntington for Lot 15, Block 23, The Town of Cody from The Lincoln Land Company, of the State of Nebraska. They owned property in what is now the Powell, Wyoming area in 1912. He purchased this land from the U.S. Government and received a Patent signed by President William H. Taft dated August 19, 1912. *The Huntington Memoirs* states that he was in the stock and livery business in Powell, Wyoming, and that he and his wife were members of the Congregational Church. Roy also owned property northeast of Lovell on Crooked Creek, with some of the property in Carbon County, Montana, and another part in Big Horn County in Wyoming. He sold some of the property on Crooked Creek to George Sherwin in September 1909. There were at least two ranches where the Huntingtons lived on Crooked Creek in 1910. Roy's Homestead Patent on Paint Creek in the Sunlight Basin was granted and signed by President Calvin Coolidge on April 12, 1926. Roy and Mattie purchased Lots 9, 10, and 11 in Block 3, the town of Cody in 1928. He also owned property on Crandall Creek. The last land record found for he and Mattie was a Warranty Deed filed giving 1/2 interest in Portions of Sections 8 and 9 T56N, on November 1930. Roy had purchased this property from Park County on May 7th, 1930. They eventually moved to San Diego, California, but the date that he moved is not known at this time.

Sophia appears in pictures taken at Crooked Creek dated 1908 by Cecil. Sophia is listed on the 1910 Sheridan County Census as living with Harry M. and his wife Jennie.

Sophia married William Hitchcox at Concordia, Kansas, July 5, 1911. In the newspaper account it is stated that she was well known in the area having made her home for some time with her son, Dr. Huntington, leaving here for Wyoming some four years ago. This would mean she was back in Wyoming in 1907, but there is no record of where she lived. She may have spent time with each of the three sons in the area before returning to Kansas.

There is a picture of the house where she and Mr. Hitchcox lived in Jamestown, a copy of the marriage certificate and a newspaper story about the wedding with the illustrations in Chapter IV. Mr. Hitchcox died January 13, 1915 at Jamestown. Although no obituary was found, there is a news story about his birthday celebration which must have occurred shortly before his death. In the *Biographical History Of Cloud County* by Mrs. E.F. Hollibaugh, published in 1903, William Hitchcox and his family are listed as being among the prosperous representative citizens of their locality. He is also described as one of the most genial and highly respected citizens of Jamestown who served as treasurer of his township and was a member of the school board for several years.

As Sophia's grandchildren, (Cecil's children) Mildred Ellen Huntington and Cecil Burton Huntington lived with her in Jamestown while they attended High School, and Cecil Burton was living with her when he enlisted in the Marines in 1917, we know that she was still in that area after Mr. Hitchcox died.

Sophia eventually moved to California where she lived with her sons Hallam J. in San Bernadino and Harry M. in the San Diego area. The San Diego newspaper story places her in San Diego living with Harry M. in 1932. Hallam's great granddaughter Kathleen Crismier states that her mother Evelyn (Nat's daughter) had talked about living on the same property with Hallam, Sophia and Cecil in the San Bernardino area. She described Sophia as a very cultured lady with a fine singing voice.

After moving to California Sophia visited Wyoming from time to time, and in the middle 30's when I was a young child, she was a very stately and dignified woman. In her last year she lived with her granddaughter Maude Huntington Gaines, the daughter of Hallam J., in Potter Valley, California. She died October 20, 1939, at the age of 98 years and 11 months. The obituary which appeared in the *Ukiah Republican* October 25, 1939, has the name Hitchcox misspelled. It states that she was the oldest person in Mendocino County and one of the oldest in the state at the time of her death. It continues: "Mrs. Hitchcock had retained all of her faculties with the exception of eyesight failing and up to four years ago insisted on living alone and did her own cooking and housework. At that time she lived with her son in San Bernardino, or rather had a nice cottage adjoining his home, and previous to this lived with another son in Wyoming." The funeral services were under auspices of the Christian Science Society. She was cremated at the Chapel of the Chimes, Santa Rosa, California.

Cecil's son Ted (Edward Olney) Huntington had purchased the Lovell and Cowley newspapers in 1926, and lived in Lovell, Wyoming, until his death in 1954. He and his family were the only members of the Huntington family who remained in Wyoming after Cecil and his other children moved out of the state.