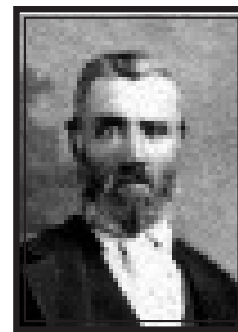


## REDICK (also spelled Reddick) NEWTON ALLRED

Born: 21 February 1822 Tennessee

Age: 34

Rescue Party



Redick Allred, a veteran of the Mormon Battalion, in his own words, “responded to a call upon the brethren to assist them [the handcart companies] ... and on the 7th [of October, 1856] about 50 men and 20 four-horse wagons with 10 ton of flour with other provisions and clothing left the city. I got a pony to ride from William B. Pace. George D. Grant camped at the foot of the big mountain with 10 wagons and I camped at the east foot of the little mountain with 10 wagons.” Thus, Redick was ready and on his way immediately after Brigham Young’s first rescue call on October 5th. On the 8th of October the rescuers encountered a severe storm, almost two weeks before the companies on the plains had their first storm. Redick said “I took cold and it gave me a severe pain in my breast that lasted one month that was almost like takeing my life. ... I suffered much from the pluricy.”

When this first rescue party reached the Continental Divide at South Pass, it was determined that Redick would be left near there on the Sweetwater River, in charge of a supply station or post. More teams were left behind so that they might be prepared to assist when the emigrant parties came through. This would enable the rescue party to travel faster, without the weakened beef cattle slowing them down. It would also allow more space in the wagons for the sick and weak emigrants they were sure to find. Redick recorded, “The 19th [of October], Captain Grant left me in charge of the supplies of flour, beef cattle, 4 wagons, the weak animals and 11 men for guard. I killed the beef cattle and let the meat lay in quarters where it froze and kept well as it was very cold and storming almost every day. We were reinforced by 3 wagons and 6 men loaded with flour.”

Redick was assigned to wait with the extra supplies at South Pass and meet the handcart companies and the rescuers on their way back to Salt Lake. Some of the other rescuers who reached South Pass later, presumed that the handcart pioneers were either dead or had decided to wait out the winter where they were, so they turned around and went back to Salt Lake. They tried to convince Redick to go with them but he was faithful in completing his assignment and waited for the emigrants to arrive.

Captain Grant’s party first met the Willie company on October 21. Grant placed William Kimball in charge of returning with the Willie company while Grant pushed on in search of the Martin, Hodgett, and Hunt companies. William Kimball sent an express rider to get the message to Redick, who recorded his continuing service with these brief entries: “23rd. I recieved an express from Wm. H. Kimball in charge of Capt. Willy’s hand cart company then at stony point forty miles below in a deplorable condition. 24th. I took 6 teams and met them 15 miles below [at Rock Creek] in such a hard west wind that they could not travel facing the drifting snow even if they had been ready for duty. I found some dead & dying laying over the camp in the drifting snow that was being piled in heaps by the gale & buerrying their dead. We set in with the rest to make them as comfortable as posable & remained in camp till next day. 25th. The wagegeons were all filled with the most infirm and we made my camp altho. many did not arrive till late at night. Fifteen were bueried on the ground below & three at my camp. On our return to camp we found one of the men sick with the small-pox and to avoid any further out brake if posable I sent him homeward with one man alone to obtain a Physician. Oct. 26th. Bro. Kimball sent an express to the city for more help as the other companies had not yet been heard of, and went on himself with Capt. Willie’s company leaveing me with a few men (7) to keep up the station till the last train should arrive. Capt Grant had said that he would send me back with the first train, but he sent word by Bro. Wm. Kimball that he would not feel satisfied unless I stoped at the station as their lives depended upon it being kept up.”

Because of this dogged determination to remain at his post, in spite of risks and illness, Redick was called “the Bulldog” by Captain Grant upon his return. Redick wrote: “Capt. Grant got into my Camp on the 17th of Nov. just 30 days since he left me, and saluted me with ‘Hurah for

## (Redick Allred - Page 2)

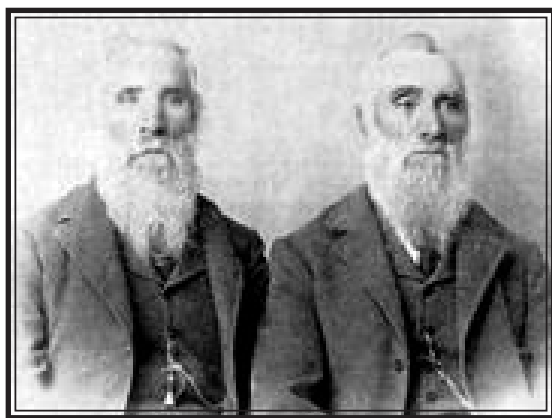
the Bull Dog -- good for a hang on.’” The rested animals and fresh supplies at Redick’s camp were significant in saving the last pioneer companies.

Dan Jones, a fellow rescuer, recorded the following: “I followed the train [Martin company] this day [November 11] to their second encampment and the next day traveled with them. There was much suffering, deaths occurring often. Eph Hanks arrived in camp from the valley and word that some of the teams that had reached South Pass and should have met us here, had turned back towards home and tried to persuade Redick Allred, who was left there with a load of flour, to go back with them. The men who did this might have felt justified; they said it was no use going further, that we had doubtless all perished. I will not mention their names for it was always looked upon by the company as cowardly in the extreme. If this had not occurred, it was the intention of Capt. Grant to have sent someone down to us with a load of flour [at Devil’s Gate]. As it was, by the time any was received, the people were in a starving condition, and could not spare it.”

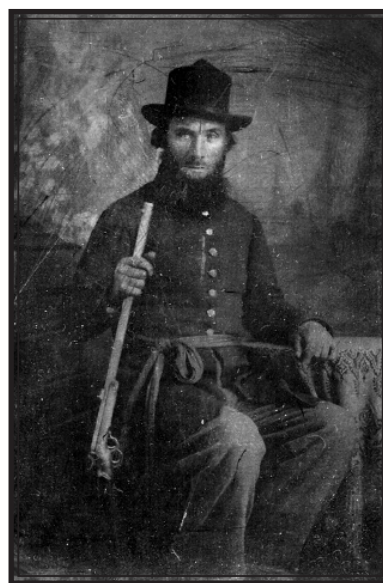
After helping the Willie Company get back on their way, Reddick returned to his station, as instructed, for the next two weeks, where he was again persuaded by rescue teams that came through, to turn back with them. Many of them did turn back, but were met by others who persuaded them to turn back once again and complete their mission. Reddick wrote of this time: “President Young told William Kimball that he did not care if he turned some so quick that it would snap their neck[s]. But I saved my neck by sticking to my post.”

Redick wrote of the circumstances when he was finally able to leave his month-long camp: “The teams having all arrived we were again organized into companies of tens by wagons[,] each 10 taking up a company of 100 as they were organized in their handcarts - my 10 wagons hauling Captain [Peter] Mayo’s Company. All could ride altho much crowded. We then set out for the city with this half starved, half frozen and almost entirely exhausted company of about 500 Saints. But from that time on they did not suffer with hunger or fatigue but all suffered more or less with cold. As well as I was provided I even lost my toenails from frost.”

Sources: Redick Newton Allred Journals, on film at Church History Library. Original diary, located at Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum, is unavailable for viewing due to its fragile condition; *Forty Years Among the Indians* by Daniel W. Jones.



Redick Newton Allred and twin brother,  
Reddin Alexander Allred



Redick Newton Allred  
in Uniform