

Palmyra Historical Society Newsletter

Winter, 2013

Christmas Tree Lighting and Santa Visit
Friday, Nov. 23, Turner Museum, see page 5

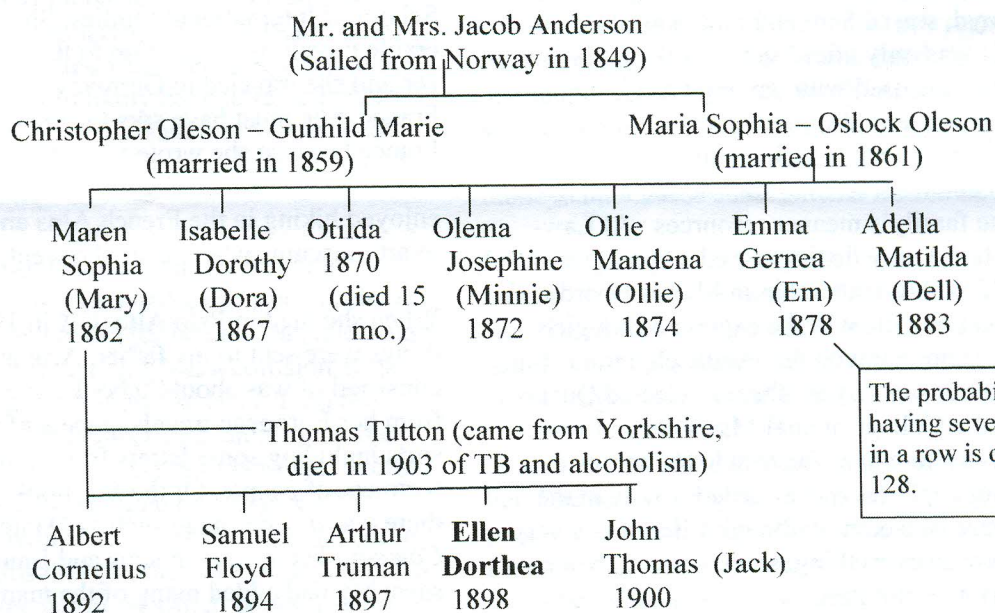


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Ellen Dorthea Tutton, an inspiring and tragic life

By Terry Tutton

Ellen Tutton, born in 1898, was the only daughter of Thomas and Mary Tutton.



Thomas and Mary Tutton lived first in a log cabin that was built by Jacob Anderson and Seamon Saukerson on the east side of Zion Road about a mile north of Hwy. 59. They lived there until 1910 when the family bought the Moses Sleep farm on Hooper Road, just up the hill from Co. Hwy. E and across the road from Zion School. Father Thomas died seven years before they made the move. All the kids went to Mill School that was near the Upper Spring Lake. All the while, the Tutttons lived in the log house, or as they called it, the "Old Place." All five of the kids slept on straw ticks that were in the cabin loft accessible by ladder. Ellen did not sleep in a bed until she was 12 years old.

When the family moved to the 240 acre Sleep farm, since Thomas had died, Mary and 18 year old Albert had a tough time making a go of it. The rest of the kids were too young to be of much help. Think of the daunting task it must have been for Mary and Al to just survive. It is no wonder that all of the

