

Francis Thornbury Dunnington Miller

Francis “Frank” Thornbury Dunnington Miller was born 5 April 1849 in Portland, Callaway, Missouri. He was the third of seven children of Joseph Alexander Miller and Emily Elizabeth Dunnington. In 1850, the family was living in Callaway, Callaway, Missouri.¹ By 1860 they had moved to City of Mexico, Audrain, Missouri; where his father was a hotel keeper.² On the 1870 census, Frank was a store clerk, living with his brother Joseph and his family in Chillicothe City, Livingston, Missouri.³

By 1880, Frank was working as a lumber dealer in Silver Reef, Washington, Utah Territory.⁴ He married Jessie Ellisa Johnson in 1880 in St George, Washington, Utah Territory. She was the daughter of Joseph Ellis Johnson, a businessman with interests in St George and Silver Reef. She died a year later in Tempe, Arizona Territory.⁵ Frank moved to Arizona Territory before 1885, when he married Hannah Pederson in 1885 in Phoenix, Maricopa, Arizona.⁶ They had six children, one of whom died as a child.⁷

By 1890, they were living in Mesa City, Maricopa, Arizona Territory.⁸ Frank was the proprietor of the Mesa Fruit Store⁹ and the stage company which picked up passengers at the store.¹⁰ In 1893, the family had a near miss when they were poisoned by homemade ice cream from a party at their grandmother Peterson’s home. The doctor was finally able to counteract the poison which was determined to be a sulphide of zinc from the ice cream freezer.¹¹

In 1893, Frank was given power of attorney by the Goldfield Townsite Company to attend to the property sales.¹² The next year he sold his stage line to A L Fisher and became the superintendent of the Phoenix & Globe stage line at Mesa.¹³ In 1898, the family relocated to St David, Cochise, Arizona Territory.¹⁴ On the 1900 census, Frank was a farmer, living with his wife and five children in Benson Precinct, Cochise, Arizona Territory.¹⁵

Frank patented land near Saint David in 1909.¹⁶ He lived there¹⁷ until his death of a cerebral hemorrhage on 28 March 1921 in Saint David. He was buried in the Saint David Cemetery. Hannah lived in Saint David until her death in 1935. She was near Frank in the Saint David Cemetery.¹⁸

¹ United States Census, 1850.

² United States Census, 1860.

³ United States Census, 1870.

⁴ United States Census, 1880.

⁵ *Salt Lake Herald*, 22 December 1880, p. 3.

⁶ Arizona County Marriages, 1871-1964.

⁷ *Familysearch.org*

⁸ *Arizona Republic*, 18 November 1890, p. 4.

⁹ *Arizona Republic*, 11 January 1891, p. 4.

¹⁰ *Arizona Republic*, 23 April 1892, p. 4; 8 November 1892, p. 5; 4 June 1893, p. 3; 6 September 1894, p. 2.

¹¹ *Arizona Republic*, 4 June 1893, p. 3.

¹² *Arizona Republic*, 18 August 1893, p. 2.

¹³ *Arizona Republic*, 6 February 1894, p. 4; 10 May 1894, p. 3; 6 November 1894, p. 7.

¹⁴ *Weekly Republican*, 27 October 1898, p. 2.

¹⁵ United States Census, 1900.

¹⁶ *TheLandpatents.com*

¹⁷ United States Census, 1910, 1920.

¹⁸ Arizona Deaths, 1870-1951.



FRANCIS THORNBERRY DUNNINGTON MILLER

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(Image from the *Arizona Republic*, 19 October 1893, p. 2)



Family of Frank and Hannah Miller (image from *FamilySearch.org*)



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