

The following is from the records of Dave Hill (son of Earl's sister Vivian)

"While still living in Hawkstone, Elijah's daughter Zella met and married Andrew Jones who was a Methodist minister. Andrew and Zella took leave of their families and Andrew became the pastor of the old Methodist Church in Fairmont Minnesota, U.S.A. About 1890, Zella's brother Edwin followed to Fairmont to find a home with his sister and brother-in-law and make himself a new life in a new country.

In the town of Neenah Wisconsin, Martius Pope married Mary Smith and had five children. The youngest child was Kittie Alice, my grandmother. At the age of four, about 1871, she came with her family by covered wagon to establish what was to become the old Pope homestead just east of the town of Triumph Minnesota.

Mary Pope was a school teacher and Kittie, following in her mother's footsteps became one of the earliest teachers in what was to be called the "old home district". Her father helped organize the Methodist church in Triumph in which Kittie was very active.

Triumph is not very far from Fairmont, and with all of them being Methodists and active in the church, I'm sure it had to be through the church that Kittie met Ed Kendall.

Ed had become a contractor and when he and Kittie were married on Aug 18 1895, they built their own house in Triumph, which by the way, was still just as they left it the last time I was there.

Ed had much to do with building the town of Triumph. Later on he became the rural mail carrier, a job he held for twenty-eight years.

What would Minnesota have been like when Ed Kendall arrived there, or when Kitty arrived some twenty years before him? Well, if the reader is old enough to remember the old television series "Little House on the Prairies", you will have some idea. That series was taken from the stories of Laura Ingels, who wrote about her family's life and times in the wilds of unsettled Minnesota. The early episodes dealt with getting along with the Indians and went through the building of a town called Walnut Grove. These stories were mostly true and the towns mentioned in the series, Walnut Grove, Sleepy-Eye and New Ulm are all just down the road from Triumph. The time frame for the series would have been just about the time when Kittie and her family arrived."