

THE HISTORY OF SARAH WELLS HARTLEY



She was born in Sheffield, Yorkshire, England, the 10 of August 1836, first child of Samuel Hartley and Elizabeth Gill. She was 20 years old when they left England to set sail to come to Utah for the Gospel sake.

They sailed from Liverpool with 856 Saints on the ship Horizon under the direction of Edward Martin. The company arrived safely at Boston and reached Iowa City by rail on July 8, 1856. Arrived in Salt Lake City November 30. Edward Martin Handcart Company arrived after extensive suffering. Many emigrants had died in the mountains and the hand carts had to be abandoned as soon as the relief teams from the valley were met. When the Company crossed Florence, Nebraska August 25, it

consisted of 576 persons, 146 handcarts 7 wagons. On October 28 Captain Edward Martin Handcart Company partly buried in the snow was met by Joseph A. Young and two others of the relief party from Salt Lake.

The dear soul Mary Powell Sabin said she saw them when they reached Salt Lake a lot of them were all black all winter from the frostbite they had suffered.

Grandmother (Sarah's Mother) and her two girls walked and pulled their handcarts. Also two children. Josephine was sick all the way with chills, fever and she felt so bad because she had to be hauled by her mother and her sisters. One boy Samuel got lost in the snow storm and was out all night and they looked for him all night. They found him next morning but he lost his leg. He had a wooden leg the rest of his life.

They waded the rivers and streams and their dresses were frozen on them. The men would gather fire wood build a fire along the road and dry their clothes. While they were passing through the Captain would say you will have to straighten up your carts so they would have to throw out there things.

There was a man by the name of Hanks who had a violin along and he would play. They thought it was heavenly music.

There was a man by the name of Richard Soper who became the husband of Sarah W. Hartley. They had two sons, Parley Perry and Charles Soper. Sarah went to Salem in 1862. She got a divorce from Soper and went to keep house for Lyman Curtis. His wife had left him and he had 4 boys. They were married in July 26, 1862 in Salt Lake. They lived in two rooms with 6 boys and she had to cook over a fireplace for many years. The boys at last bought a stove and she weaved cloth and made clothes for the family. She had five girls and one boy all born in Salem Fort and lots of folks stay with her that was going to Salt Lake. She would send fruit to the folks that did not have any. She was always doing something for someone else. Mary Curtis Reed was the first President of the Relief Society. Sarah W. Curtis was first counselor, Lucinda Jackman was the second from 1867 to 1879 and was a teacher 'til her death 12 July 1921.

Her son Parley lost his wife and she took him and his two children and raised them. Parley never married again but lived and took care of his Mother till the end of her life. Her son Charles was killed in a mine at Eureka and her daughter Sarah Lucinda also died before her mother.

When Grandmother left England there was her Mother 3 girls and 3 boys. Samuel (Sarah's Father) did not join the church. Sarah W. Curtis and Matilda Overman did a lot of temple work.

Grandmother died 12 July 1921 at the age of 84.

Her children are

Parley Perry Soper Curtis	Married Clarice Atwood	3 children
Charles Soper Curtis	Married Elizabeth R Stinger	3 children
Sarah Lucinda Curtis	Married Robert Snyder	14 children
Eliza Jane Curtis	Married	11 children
Millecent Curtis	Married Edward J Smith	2 children
Emma Curtis	Married Charles Hanks	2 children
Josephine Matilda Curtis	Died 26 June 1877	
Lyman Asa Curtis	Married Annie Littlewood	8 children

The author of this history is unknown. Retyped by Bette Brown Fuller as written. The only error that has been verified is that

Charles Soper Curtis and Elizabeth R Stinger had 6 children. Florence Curtis Allen, Hazel Eudora Curtis Steele, Clifton Curtis, Albert Curtis, Cecil Curtis Brown. A sixth child, born after Charles' death was adopted by a Eureka, Utah family named Whitlock.

This child, a girl, Naomi Margaret was not united with her birth siblings until only Cecil Curtis Brown remained alive.

Elizabeth's name should be Emily Elizabeth Stinger. The R reflected in her name is incorrect and may be due to the fact her mother divorced John Stinger and married William Brown Rowley.

Information added in () is for clarification only.

SARAH WELLS HARTLEY SOPER CURTIS

LYMAN CURTIS (STEPFATHER OF CHARLES SOPER CURTIS)