

# *History of Mary Elizabeth Warner Wood*

by Nora Carter Wood

Wellington Wood Sr.'s Second wife

Mary Elizabeth Warner Wood was the daughter of pioneer parents William and Mary Reynolds Warner. She was born at St. Louis, Missouri on March 21, 1854. The family consisting of parents, James and Susan children, had crossed the ocean from England and located at St. Louis to prepare for the journey across the plains. It was life beginning at a time when hardships had to be endured for the Gospel's sake, and although it was some time before she realized such difficulties; she did her share, when old enough, and took part in all phases of pioneer life, in the early days of Spanish Fork.



*Mary Warner Wood  
Wellington Wood Sr.'s wife  
(also 2nd wife)*

She came to Utah in the fall of 1857. She received the common schooling at the time with Silas Hillman as teacher. Reading, writing, arithmetic and spelling being taught with a lack of books.

She learned gleaning, spinning, knitting, weaving and other pioneer work from her mother. She also learned the basic parts of carpet weaving.

Salt raising bread and sour dough bread were used, and they gathered saleratus to use for soda.

For washing purposes in the early days, wood-ashes were used to soften the water. To color cloth, sage brush, copious and lingo blue.

Mary and Susan were close companions and shared together.

Clothing, cakes and molasses candy were their Christmas presents. Later honey candy was a treat, it was some time before sugar candy was made. Calico dresses were the common wearing apparel.

The young people enjoyed home parties such as sewing and quilting parties, and the violin furnished the music for dances.

Due to the lack of bottles and cans, wild berries as well as later home grown fruits were dried for winter use. Fish and meat were dried before the fireplaces.

Mary was short and slim, she weighed ninety pounds when a young woman. She was quiet and retiring in her disposition. To know her true value one had to be accompanied with her home life. She taught honesty and truth by example, she endured hardships and had courage and strength as well as being thrifty and industrious. She was a good neighbor.

Mary Warner married Wellington Wood, Feb 4, 1874 in the Endowment House. She was the mother of five children born in Spanish Fork, Utah. William D. Born Jan 1, 1857, James Morris born Sept 7, 1877, Mary D. Born March 16, 1880, Geneva born April 3, 1882, Amos born Oct 2, 1884. William died when 4 years and 8 months. The others reared families. Morris filled a mission to Somoa, and Amos to East Central States. Following Susan's death Mary reared her sisters children with her own. Giving them love and care as her own. They loved and respected her.

Mary served with Louise Pace as a Relief Society teacher in the Spanish Fork 2<sup>nd</sup> ward until rheumatism disabled her.

Her husband Wellington died March 24, 1920. She took care of the place and enjoyed good health. When winter set in the children took care of her in their homes and she was well cared for.



Abbie Wood

Rheumatism became quite serious and her health and it lasted for seven months. She made the statement she "I won't die until someone else went before and on Jan 13, 1924, Abbie Wood Wightman died and on Jan 16, three days later Mary died.

She lived a good life and set a good example for her posterity.

News paper article, no date listed or paper name.

Another Death.

Died in Spanish Fork. Friday morning, August 27, 1892 of child bed fever, Susannah Wood, beloved wife of Wellington Wood, Sister Wood was the daughter of William and Mary Warner and was born in Lincolnshire, England, August 21, 1852. Her parents left England when she was but fourteen months old immigrating to this country. They stopped three years in St. Louis and then came to Utah, reaching here during the Johnson Army trouble. They located in Spanish Fork where they have since resided. The disease was taken with a spell of sickness in February, with a spell



of sickness in February, 1890, from the effects of which she never fully recovered. We sympathize with the bereaved family and relatives hoping that our Heavenly Father will give them strength to bear the burden of their grief.

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MRS. MARY WOOD DIES OF BRIGHT DISEASE

Mrs. Mary Warner Wood, pioneer of Spanish Fork, died at her home last night at 9 o'clock of Bright's Disease, after an illness of about seven months. Funeral services will be held at the Second Ward Meetinghouse Saturday at 1 p.m.

Mrs. Wood was the daughter of William Warner and Mary Reynolds and was born in St. Louis, Missouri, March 21, 1854, while the family was on the way from their home in England to Utah. She is survived by the following children: J. Morris Wood, Mrs. Charles W. Stewart, Mrs. William I. Huff and Amos Wood all of Spanish Fork and the following children of her sister, Susan Wood, Wellington Wood, Jr., Mrs. Nora Carter and Mrs. Lettie Nielsen.

After the death of her sister about 30 years ago, she assumed the duties of mother to both families, and took care of them so well that few people knew which were her children and which were those of her sister. She is also survived by one brother, James Warner and one sister, Mrs. Don C. Markham.

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