

# *Life Sketches of Mary Reynolds and William Warner*

written by Elisha WARNER, son of James WARNER



James Warner came to Utah with his mother and two sisters, after a three year stop in St. Louis, the father having come on ahead as a teamster for another emigrating company. His parents were William Warner and Mary Reynolds Warner, who had accepted the latter-day faith in their native England and emigrated to America for the purpose of identifying themselves with the main body of the church.

My paternal grandfather, William Warner, was a son of James Constable Warner and Suzannah Fox, and was born 24 Apr 1826, in Gosberton, Lincolnshire, England. The country around the place of birth was mostly low, marshy land, suitable for farming only when drained and then diked to keep the tide waters of the North Sea from overflowing the crops. In this difficult terrain, William Warner learned, while growing to manhood, to labor hard in order to produce a livelihood from the soil. This training benefitted him greatly in later years, although in the arid West the problem was scarcity of water, rather than the over supply with which he had struggled in Lincolnshire.

Mary Reynolds Warner, my paternal grandmother, was born 17 Feb 1822, at Surfleet, Lincolnshire, England, and was, therefore, a little more than four years older than my grandfather. Surfleet, was a little village on the banks of a small stream. It was near the shore of the North Sea and gates were placed in the stream to keep the tide from drawing all the water out as it receded. The fields were green and beautiful as they were in most parts of England. Mary, was a daughter of John Skinner Reynolds and Ann Long. She was the seventh child in a family of nine children, four girls and five boys. Her parents were born in Gosberton, but the records indicate that all the children were born in Surfleet.

Because of the water and green fields that surrounded the birthplace of my grandmother, large numbers of geese were raised there. According to John H. Hayes of Spanish Fork, who visited Surfleet while on a mission, it was a place where geese were raised in herds; and when they came toward you with their mouths open, it made an uncanny feeling come over you. As a child, Mary watched the geese for her parents, and one day while driving the geese, one bit her on the arm, leaving a scar which remained throughout her life.

She had very little chance of obtaining an education by attending school, and as a consequence never learned to read or write. Perhaps because of the lack of schooling, she developed a wonderful memory. She carried, by memory, accounts of her dealings with other people and later in life, when she became a weaver of cloth and carpets it seemed almost impossible for a person to remember so much. She could remember the width of each carpet she made, the colors and stripes, the number of threads missed in the reed of the loom, the full price of the carpet and the time or times the payments were made.

Mary Reynolds became acquainted with William Warner, son of James Constable Warner and Susannah Fox. Their friendship ripened into love and they were married, 18 May 1848 in the Parish Church of Surfleet "according to the rites and ceremonies of the Established Church" by J. Wilson, who sign himself as "incumbent."

They made their first home at Gosberton, where William and Mary heard the gospel preached, and where they joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She was baptized 15 Mar 1852, and her husband was baptized the next day. Mary's mother was baptized 31 Dec 1852 and her father on 30 Mar 1853, but they never came to America.

The home in Gosberton, which was said to belong to Mary, was sold to get money to bring the family to America. It would appear from this, that their oldest child, my father, James Warner, was born in Gosberton, but I have a statement in his handwriting that he was born in Surfleet. Whether he is in error, or whether Mary went back to the home of her parents to give birth to her firstborn, does not appear in any other record in my possession. William and Mary, with two children, James, born 7 Apr 1851 and Susannah, born 21 Aug 1852, set sail for America 21 Oct 1852.

In spite of the fact as recited in his letter, that work was plentiful in St. Louis, and that he seemed entirely happy with their life there, William did not consider St. Louis as a permanent residence. The eyes of the little family were set westward and they were constantly looking forward to the time when they could get to Salt Lake City, and join with other converts from all over the world. Consequently, early in 1854, William contracted to drive a team in a company of emigrants headed for Utah, although at the time his wife was about to give birth to a third child, and their financial affairs were in a very precarious condition.

It seemed that the roseate picture of conditions in Salt Lake Valley painted by those who had been there was so bright that it seemed an easy matter to procure enough means there to bring the rest of the family to Zion once William arrived. So, assuring his wife that he would soon send for her and the children, the husband and father mounted the wagon, waved good-bye to his little family and set out for the valleys of the mountains.

But, as is often the case, things are not just what a preliminary view would indicate. William, did not find work in Salt Lake City, at least, not work which paid him more than what was absolutely necessary to maintain himself, so he was unable to send money back to Missouri to his family. He heard that work was to be had in a new settlement called Spanish Fork, so he

and a friend, Edward Creer, set out on foot for Spanish Fork, sixty miles away, with one pancake between them as provisions for the journey.

Meanwhile, in St. Louis, Mary Reynolds Warner gave birth to her third child, a baby girl, whom she named Mary.

No word and no money was received from her husband, and the mother and three little children were reduced almost to starvation. She made a livelihood for herself and her children and succeeded in buying a wagon and three oxen, also provisions and clothing to well fill the wagon in preparation for a continuation of her journey to Utah.

Among other things, she found employment in a hotel. One day while performing her duties as chambermaid she passed a door where a room was being fumigated. A man had recently died there from the dreadful disease, smallpox. She shuddered as she passed to think of it; and she always felt that she carried the disease to her children, because they took it some days later and James, the oldest, almost choked to death from its effects.

While working at this hotel she met a school teacher, who proved to be a very good friend. The teacher saw what a hard time Mary was having and advised her to go down to the kitchen and ask for the food that was left over after each meal. This she did, and the food she received from the hotel was a great help in feeding herself and her children.

By the spring of 1857, she had saved enough for her team of three oxen, wagon and provisions for the trip westward. When Mary and her children arrived in Salt Lake City, she sent word to William at Spanish Fork. The word reached him at the home of Stephen Markham where he was working at the time. William walked back to Salt Lake City and accompanied Mary and her children to Spanish Fork, which was to be their home throughout the remainder of their lives.

Upon arrival at her new home, Mary discovered that William had taken unto himself another wife in accordance with the principle of polygamy. Her name was Ann David, a daughter of Morgan David, a Welsh immigrant who was one of the early pioneers of Spanish Fork.

William procured land in the west fields and appeared to be a successful farmer, for he provided well for the needs of his two families, ten children by Ann David and four by Mary Reynolds.

The wagons and oxen which Mary brought from St. Louis, were traded for land, and good use was made also of the provisions and clothing. As thread was scarce, it became necessary to unravel some of the cloth for thread for sewing.

At one time she did nearly all the weaving in Spanish Fork. It seemed as though the sound of the loom had become music to her and she had to have it going all the time. It may be also that hard work was necessary for her to be able to forget some of the hardships and

disappointments that had been part of her life. When she was not well, one of the children or grandchildren had to weave for her to keep her contented. In fact, a carpet was on the loom in the process of manufacture when her final sickness came upon her. At that time she was living at the home of her oldest child, James Warner, my father.

I well remember her loom, her industry, and above all, her thrift. She had a horror of wasting anything. Her favorite saying was “waste not, want not,” an axiom which had been one of the guiding principles of her life. Grandmother could card wool, spin yarn, make candles and soap, and do all the other different kinds of work connected with pioneer life. During the late summer and early autumn days she would take the children and go out into the fields, after the wheat had been hauled off the land, and glean the heads of grain that had been overlooked. One summer she gleaned enough wheat to supply the family with their bread for a whole year. She required each of the children to gather forty handfuls of heads before they were allowed to play. She also gleaned enough wheat to buy one of the early Charter Oak stoves, which cost her ninety dollars.

She was very religious. She loved to have her children read to her from the scripture and other good books, and she was a regular attendant at the sacrament meeting and other meetings of the church. From memory and correspondence, she gathered all the names of her dead relatives she could get at the time, and hired Thomas and Ann Hughes Hall to do the temple work for them in the St. George temple in 1882.

Mary Reynolds Warner was so independent that she became fearful that she might live longer than she would be able to work and care for herself, and she was active until very near the date of her death which occurred at the home of her youngest daughter, Sarah Markham on 2 Sep 1896. Her husband died nearly three years previously on 28 Jan 1894.

After the death of my grandfather, William Warner, it was found that he had departed entirely from the old English custom of leaving the bulk of his estate, which was considerable, to his oldest son, or even to the children of his first wife, and left practically all of his land to the children of the second wife, dividing a small four-acre tract among the children of his first wife, Mary. This unfair division of the property was taken by my father to be a personal insult to his mother, who had sacrificed all that she held dear for her husband.

Exurpts taken from the book “A Country Printer” pg I -10 by Elisha Warner. An original copy is at the SLC Family History Library. (Cathie has a copy of this book)

## *Mary Reynolds Warner*

Birth Date: 17 Feb 1822, Surfleet, Lincoln, England  
Death: 2 Sep 1896, Spanish Fork, Utah Co., Utah  
Parents: John S. Reynolds, Ann Long  
Pioneer: Sept 1857, Wagon Train Company  
Spouse: William Warner  
Married: 18 May 1848, Surfleet, Lincoln, England  
Death: SP: 28 Jan 1894, Spanish Fork, Utah Co., Utah  
Children:

Harriet, 1849 (died as an infant)  
James, 7 April 1851  
Susannah, 21 Aug 1852  
Mary Elizabeth, 21 Mar 1854  
Sarah Ann, 18 Aug 1858

Mary was the seventh child of a family of nine children, four girls and five boys. Her parents were born in Gosberton, Lincolnshire, England; but the children were born in Surfleet, Lincoln, England and were also christened there.

Mary Reynolds was born on February 17, 1822 at Surfleet, Lincoln, England. Surfleet was a village on the banks of a small stream or river. It was near the ocean, and gates were placed in the streams to keep the tide from drawing all the water out as it receded. The fields were green and beautiful as in most parts of the towns in England.

Mary married William Warner, May 18, 1848, Surfleet, Lincoln, England.

Mary sailed on October 25, 1853, on the ship "Clara Wheeler" with William and their two children; James and Susanna, from Liverpool to New Orleans and by river barge to St. Louis, Missouri, arriving on December 10, 1853. Mary Elizabeth was born three months later. William drove a wagon West for Orson Hyde (William Fields Company, 1854); Mary stayed in St. Louis, Missouri.

Mary worked hard cleaning rooms at a hotel, washing and ironing clothes for wealthy town folks, making and selling lye soap, and weaving and selling rugs. It took her three years to earn enough money to buy a wagon and two oxen for the trip to Utah. A friend loaned her a third ox to change off with her team. With the agreement that she would return the ox or pay for it when he arrived in Utah. She, with her three young children, drove the wagon to Utah in a company just ahead of Johnston's Army, arriving in late September, 1857.

After she joined her husband in Spanish Fork, Utah, the three oxen and wagon were traded for land. William had taken a plural wife, Ann David, which was difficult for Mary to accept. When her friend arrived the next year and asked for his ox, Mary, who was known for her honesty, worked personally to earn the forty dollars needed to pay for the borrowed ox.

Mary was very ambitious and industrious; carding wool, spinning yarn, making candles and soap, gleaning wheat, etc., but her greatest work was weaving rugs. At one time, she did nearly all the weaving in Spanish Fork.

Though uneducated, she was noted for her sharp wit and keen memory and kept all of her accounts in her mind and was seldom challenged on any item. The sound of the loom was music to her and she had it going constantly. A carpet was in the loom until she took sick and died.

This story is taken from the Daughters of Utah Pioneers book volume 4 pages 3263-3264.

## *William Warner & Mary Reynolds Warner*

Mary Reynolds was the daughter of John Skinner Reynolds and Ann Long. Mary was the seventh child of a family of nine children, four girls and five boys. Her parents were born in Gosberton, Lincolnshire, England; but the children were born in Surfleet, Lincoln, England and were also christened there, their record is as follows:

Joseph Reynolds christened 24 June 1811; James christened 22 May 1813; was buried 4 August 1813. Ann Reynolds christened 14 August 1814; buried 15 July 1834. John christened 19 May 1816; died 1850. William christened 20 or 26 June 1817; buried 19 February 1843. Sarah born 1820; died 1828. Mary born 17 February, christened 24 February 1822. George Reynolds christened 21 November 1824 and Harriet christened 18 January 1828; buried 2 March 1828.

Mary Reynolds was born 17 February 1822 at Surfleet, Lincoln, England. Surfleet was a village on the banks of a small stream or river. It was near the ocean and gates were placed in the streams to keep the tide from drawing all the water out as it receded. The fields were green and beautiful as in most parts of towns of England.

Because of the water and green fields, large numbers of geese were raised there. According to John H. Hayes of Spanish Fork, who visited in Surfleet while on a mission; it was a place where geese were raised in herds; and when they came toward you with their mouths open, it made an uncanny feeling come over you. As a child, Mary watched the geese for her parents to keep them from going astray. One day while driving the geese, one bit her on the arm leaving a scar which remained throughout her life.

She had little, if any, chance of gaining an education by attending school. Perhaps through the lack of schooling, she developed a wonderful memory. She carried, by memory, accounts of her dealings with other people and later in life when she became a weaver of cloth and carpets; it seemed almost impossible for a person to remember so much. She could remember the width of each carpet, the colors and stripes, the number of thread missed in the reed or the loom the full price of the carpet and at what time the payments were made. This would burden the mind of anyone who was wasting most of the time.

Mary Reynolds became acquainted with William Warner, son of James Warner and Susannah Fox. Their friendship ripened into love and they were married, 18 May 1848, at Surfleet, and lived in Gosberton, Lincoln, England.

William and Mary heard the Gospel preached in England and joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints there. She was baptized Monday, 15 March 1852 and her husband was baptized the next day. Mary's mother was baptized 31 December 1852, and her father the 30 March 1853 but they never came to America.

The home, which was said to have belonged to Mary, was sold to get money to bring the family to America. William and Mary, with two children, James, born 7 April 1851 and Susannah born 21 August 1852, both born in Gosberton, set sail for America, 25 October 1853. James was 2 ½ years old and Susan 14 months old when they set sail for the long journey. A letter written by Willam Warner tells of their experience.

St. Louis, Missouri  
16 January, 1854

After some little delay, I at last thought to fulfill my promise I made to you before we left. We sailed form Liverpool on the 25, October 1853 and arrived at New Orleans on the 27 of November making the passage a 5 week and 2 day. It is true we had some bad weather, pleasant but at times, but as a general thing, we had a good passage.

We left New Orleans the first of December and arrived in this city on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Our youngest child (Susan) was sickly all the way over, caused by teething, but since we have arrived here, she is improving fast. My wife, myself and the boy are quite well and had a very healthy passage, very little sea sickness at all.

I was very fortunate to get employment the day after my arrival in the city. I am working for two of the Brethren, who have a contract to cut sewers or drains in the streets of the city. My wages is a dollar a day, worth 4 shillings 2 pence English money, or 25 shillings a week. I like my employ and employers very much and so far as I have seen of this country. I like it very much.

It has been a very fine winter here, upon the whole, but the weather is now very stormy. The frost is so intense, so that we do not average above three days a week, but we are in hopes of it breaking up soon; then our work will be regular as there is a great deal of work going on.

In the spring and summer time, a great many buildings are in process, which will proceed just as the frost breaks up. Besides a great many foundations and other public work which will make employment plentiful this spring. Just now, it is the dullest season for work in the year, but I would have plenty of work as soon as the weather permits. Give my love to Sisters Brighton, Mager and Mucklow. Tell Sister Brighton and Brother James, I would like to see them here in the spring. I think they would do well here.

My wife is in good spirits and is very glad she is here, so far on her way to Zion. She sends her love to her father and mother hopes they will stand fast in their integrity.

Give my love to all the Brethren and Sisters unitedly. Tell them that crossing the seas is not so bad as reported to be, and as for St. Louis being such a place for making Saints apostatize, I do not see any need for it. There is nothing here to make me apostatize.

A man may live cheap here if he wishes, or he may spend as much money as he likes. Liquors are very cheap here and many there are who nevertheless spend more money for it than

they have been used to in the old country and as a natural consequence by drinking too much ardent spirits, they drown out the spirit of God, get into darkness of mind and begin to dispute the validity of principles they once read to be true.

I believe, brethren, this is one great cause of many falling away. I have heard no great preaching but plain, simple principles such as we could understand, when we were three days baptized. You have the elements of progression among you in England, as great as any you will meet till you arrive at Salt Lake Valley.

House rent and fuel are more costly than in England, but articles of provisions are as a general thing much cheaper. Flour is about \$6.00 a barrel or one pound 1¢ shillings per stone; fresh meat three cents per pound retail, but can buy it cheaper by the carcass. Pig heads two cents per pound, and sheep heads given you for taking them away from the slaughter house. I bought thirty pounds of meat for 2 shillings 6 pence. Groceries such as sugar and coffee are cheap from 16 or 20 pounds for a dollar. Coffee 20 pounds to the dollar, tea about the same as in England. Butter is about 25 to 30 cents a pound; potatoes not good, about 50 cents a bushel. These are winter prices but are a little more favorable in the summer.

I am well satisfied with what I have done and have no desire to come home again. Give my love to all inquiring friends.

William Warner

While they were living in St. Louis, Missouri, a daughter was born, Mary Elizabeth, born 21 March 1854. In 1854, William Warner had a chance to drive a team in an Independent Company to pay for his passage to Utah. William Fields was Captain of the company and the team belonged to Orson Hyde. He took advantage of this opportunity of crossing the plains to prepare for his wife and children to come later. William reached Salt Lake Valley, 25 September 1854. He made his home with Edward Greer until February 1855, then lived with Stephen Markham.

Mary was left with three small children, and with but little money to care for them. She had a hard time providing for them. At first, she could not get work and she was so discouraged she would have given up, had it not been for her faith in the Gospel. She suffered hunger but she finally got work. She worked very hard, doing washing and ironing; besides caring for her children. Mary would go out and get the clothes, wash and iron them, and then return them.

One day while performing her duty, she passed a door in the hotel, where a room was being fumigated. A man had died there from the dreaded disease small-pox. She shuddered as she passed to think of it; and she always felt that she carried the disease to her children, because they took it some days later and James almost choked to death.

While working at this hotel, she met a lady school teacher, who proved to be a very good friend. The teacher saw what a hard time Mary was having and advised her to go down to the

kitchen and ask for the food that was left over each meal. This she did and it was given her which was a great help to her.

By 1857, she had saved enough to buy a wagon and three oxen; also provisions and clothing to well fill the wagon. The two oxen were put on the wagon and the other ox on another wagon with an ox that belonged to a man who, with his family, was also leaving for Utah with the same company. After they started, the man had to go back so he allowed Mary to come on with his ox with the understanding she should pay for it, if he ever should get to Utah.

The company arrived in Utah in September 1857, just ahead of the Johnston's Army. While crossing the plains, they could sometimes see the soldiers coming behind them.

William Warner located in Spanish Fork, Utah. Mary, sent word she had arrived. The word was sent to him at Stephen Markham's, where he was working and he walked to Salt Lake and took her back to Spanish Fork with him. She lived there from this time on throughout her life.

The wagons and oxen were traded for land. The provisions and clothing were made use of, as they were much needed. Thread was scarce and some of the cloth was unraveled to use as thread for sewing.

Another child, Sarah Ann was born 18 August 1858, Spanish Fork, Utah. She was the youngest child of William and Mary Warner; and became the wife of Bishop William Don C. Markham, also of Spanish Fork.

The man who had allowed Mary to bring his ox, finally arrived in Utah. He wrote to her, asking if she could send him the money for it. She told her husband, but in his busy time he overlooked. Another letter came; she went to work to earn the forty dollars, the price of the ox. She wove carpets and did washings until she had the money and sent it to the man.

Once busy at this kind of work, she kept on; as she was very ambitious and industrious. At one time, she did nearly all the weaving in Spanish Fork. It seemed as if the sound of the loom had become music to her and she had to have it going all the time. When she was not well; one of the children or grandchildren had to weave for her to keep her contented. In fact, a carpet was in the loom until she took sick and died.

Mary could card wool, spin yarn, make candles and soap and do all the different kinds of work connected with pioneer life. During the early summer and early autumn days she would take the children and go out in the fields, after the wheat had been hauled off the land and glean the heads of wheat. One summer she gleaned enough wheat for their bread for the whole year. Each of the children must gather forty hands full of wheat head before they could play.

Mary also gleaned enough wheat to buy one of the early Charter Oak Stoves, which cost her ninety dollars. She was very religious. She loved to have her grandchildren read to her for good books and was a regular attendant at Sacrament meetings.

From memory and correspondence, she gathers all the names of her dead relatives she could get at that time, and hired Thomas and Ann Huges Hall to do the temple work in the Saint George Temple in 1882.

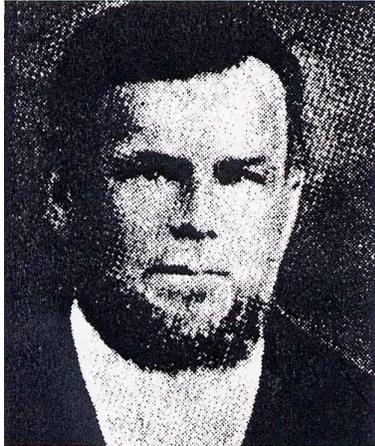
29 August 1894, two years before her death, she had her children sealed to their parents in the Salt Lake Temple. Mary Reynolds Warner was so independent, she feared that she might live longer than she could work and care for herself. She was helpless only a short time.

She died 2 September 1896 at the age of 74 years, and is buried in the Spanish Fork City Cemetery.

She filled a wonderful mission, always on hand to do anything and everything that was required of her.

The following was found in a book "A Country Printer" pg 1-10 by Elisha Warner. An Original copy is at the SLC Family History Library. (Cathie, has a copy of the book) This is full context, where the other story, file name: Mary Reynolds, William Warner is a summary of this story.

## *William Warner*



*William Warner*

William Warner was born near Gosberton, Lincolnshire, England, 24 April 1826. He was the son of James Constable Warner and Susannah Fox. The family consisted of four sons and one daughter, of which William was the youngest. His mother died when he was two years old. His two older brothers went to sea and became sea captains. William and James Jr. stayed at home.

After the death of his mother, his father married a widow with seven children. His father was considered well-to-do in those days, for a working man. He owned his home and some land. William's stepmother was so strict, that while very young, he and his brother James left home and went to work for farmers.

William Warner married Mary Reynolds of Surfleet, Lincolnshire, England, May 18, 1848. They heard the Gospel and were converted. Mary was baptized 15 March 1852 by George Tipler, confirmed 16 March 1852 by Edward Phenix. William was baptized 16 March 1852 by Moses Thurston and confirmed by George Tipler 16 March 1852. They decided to sell their property and come to Zion. When the buyers found out they were Mormons, they refused to pay the value of the property. Finally they practically gave their property away and set sail for America with their two children, James and Susannah. Their first child, Harriet, born 1849, had died before they left England. They emigrated 13 October 1853. When they arrived in St. Louis, Missouri, their money was all gone and it was necessary for William to find work. He secured employment in a smelter. This didn't prove very successful, for he got lead poisoning and had to quit.

He got a chance to work his way to Salt Lake City, Utah, by driving a team for Orson Hyde in the Independence Co. with William Fields as captain and drove a team for Orson Hyde to pay his passage. They left 1 May 1854. His wife could not go with him, because she had just six weeks previously on 29 March 1854 given birth to her fourth child. Mary Elizabeth. She stayed in St. Louis to wait for him to send for her and the children. She never heard from him.

While crossing the plains William Warner and William Creer became good companions. They arrived in Salt Lake City 25 September 1854. He made his home with Edward Creer and family until February 1855, when he and William Creer walked to Spanish Fork. It is told as a fact that Mother Creer took the last flour in her bin and made flapjacks for them to eat on their journey.



*Ann David Harris Warner*

Upon arriving in Spanish Fork they found employment with Stephen Markham, helping him on his farm. It was during the two years that William Warner worked on the Markham farm that he met, courted and married Ann David Harris the fall of 1856. She had been married to David Harris and they had two daughters. Her husband had gone to the goldfields and had not returned. Ann, was the daughter of Elizabeth Bowen and Morgan David.

In September 1857 while he was working for Stephen Markham, William received word that his wife and three children, whom he had not written to nor heard from for three years, had arrived in Salt Lake City. William was cutting hay down by the lake, but he walked to Salt Lake City and got his family. They came back to Spanish Fork and spent the rest of their lives there.

William Warner served as home guard in the Black Hawk War, as city policeman, and general manager of the water. He was road supervisor for seventeen years, helping survey the first road up Spanish Fork Canyon. He took an active part in building up the community in which he lived.

He was deprived of going to school, but had a good education for those days. He was a good reader and knew the definition of almost any word.

He was noted for being one of the best men with a scythe and for plowing the straightest furrow. He was a man with a very quiet and retiring disposition and never sought a public office.

While walking on the street one day William Warner was stricken with a paralytic stroke which deprived him of his speech and the use of an arm for three years. Although in this condition, he was very patient and uncomplaining.

He was a devoted husband, a kind father and a faithful Latter-day Saint. He died 28 January 1894 and was buried in Spanish Fork Cemetery. At the time of his death he held the office of Seventy. His children by his first wife Mary are: Harriet, born 1849 and died very young; James, born 7 April 1851; Susannah, born 21 August 1852; Mary Elizabeth, born 29 March 1854 in St. Louis; and Sarah Ann, born 18 August 1858 in Spanish Fork, Utah. Children of his second wife Ann were: William D., Morgan D., Ann, George, Martha, John F., Emma, Rachael, Thomas and Alfred.

## *Mary Reynolds Warner*



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William and Mary heard the Gospel preached in England and joined The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints there. She was baptized Monday, 15 March 1852 by George Tipler

and her husband was baptized the next day by Edward Phenix. Mary's mother Ann was baptized 31 December 1852, and her father John on 30 March 1853, but they never came to America. Williams Father was also baptized 8 April 1854 and later emigrated to Utah in the first handcart company at age 60.

The home which was said to have belonged to Mary, was sold to get money to bring the family to America. William and Mary set sail for America on 13<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup> October 1853, with their two children, James and Susannah. James was born 7 April 1851 and Susannah was born 21 August 1852, both in Gosberton. Their first child, Harriet, was born in 1849, but died young. James was 21/2 years old and Susannah 14 months old when they set sail for the long journey. The voyage lasted five weeks. They arrived in New Orleans 27 November and had joined the body of Saints in St. Louis by 10 December. Their funds now exhausted, they stopped to accumulate the money necessary to continue to the Salt Lake Valley.

A letter written by William Warner to the "folks" back home in England tells of their experiences:

St. Louis, Missouri  
January 16, 1854

After some delay, I at last thought to fulfill my promise I made to you before we left. We sailed from Liverpool on the 25th October 1853 and arrived in New Orleans on the 27 of November, making the passage in five weeks and one day. It is true we had some bad weather, pleasant between times, but as a general thing, we had a good passage.

We left New Orleans on the first of December and arrived in St. Louis on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Our youngest child (Susan) was sickly all the way over, owing to teething, but since we have been here, she is improving fast. My wife, myself and the boy are quite well and had a very healthy passage, very little sea sickness at all.

I was fortunate to get employment the day after my arrival in the city. I am working for two of the Brethren, who have a contract to cut sewers or drains in the streets of the city. My wages is a dollar a day, worth 4 shillings 2 pence English money, or 25 shillings a week. I like my employ and employers very much and so far as I have seen of this country. I like it very much.

It has been a very fine winter here, upon the whole, but the weather is now very stormy. The frost is so intense, so that we do not average above three days a week, but we are in hopes of it breaking up soon; then our work will be regular as there is a great deal of work going on.

In the spring and summer time, a great many buildings are in process, which will proceed just as the frost break up. Besides a great many foundations and other public work which will make employment plentiful this spring. Just now, it is the dullest season for work in the year, but I would have plenty of work as soon as the weather permits. Give my love to Brother James, I would like to see them here in two spring. I think they would do well here.

My wife is in good spirits and is very glad that she is here, so far on her way to Zion. She sends her love to her father and mother and hopes they will stand fast in their integrity.

Give my love to all the Brethren and Sisters unitedly. Tell them that crossing the seas is not so bad as reported to be, and as for St. Louis being such a place for making Saints apostatize, I do not see any need of it. There is nothing here to make me apostatize.

A man may live cheap here if he wishes, or he may spend as much money as he likes. Liquors are very cheap here and many there are who nevertheless spend more money for it than they have been used to in the old country and as a natural consequence by drinking too much ardent spirits, they drown out the spirit of God, get into darkness of mind and begin to dispute the validity of principles they once read to be true.

I believe, brethren, this is one great cause of many falling away. I have heard no great preaching to stumble anyone, not great mysteries unfolded for anyone to break their necks over, but plain simple principles such as we could all understand when we were 3 days baptized. You have the elements of progression among you in England, as great as any you will meet till you arrive at Salt Lake Valley.

House rent and fuel are more costly than in England, but articles of provision are as a general thing, much cheaper. Flour is about six dollars a barrel or 1 pound 10 shillings per stone. Fresh meat 3 cents per pound retail, but can buy it cheaper by the carcass. Pigs heads 2 cents a pound and sheep heads given you for taking them away from the slaughter house. I bought thirty pounds of meat for 2 shillings, 6 pence. Groceries, such as sugar and coffee are cheap, from sixteen to twenty pounds for a dollar. Coffee, ten pounds to the dollar, tea about the same as in England. Butter twenty five to thirty cents a pound; potatoes not good, about fifty cents a bushel. These are winter prices, but are a little more favorable in the summer.

I am well satisfied with what I have done. No desire to come home again. Give my love to all inquiring friends.

Signed: William Warner

After spending about six weeks on the ocean, they landed and came as far inland at St. Louis, Missouri, William worked in a smelter. While they were living in St. Louis, Missouri, a daughter was born, Mary Elizabeth, born 29 March 1854.

In May 1854, William Warner had a chance to drive a team in an Independent Company to pay for his passage to Utah. William Fields was Captain of the company and the team belonged to Orson Hyde. He took advantage of this opportunity of crossing the plains to prepare for his wife and children to come later. William reached Salt Lake Valley, 25 September 1854. He made his home with Edward Creer until February 1855, then lived with Stephen Markham.

Mary was left with three small children, and with but little money to care for them. She had a hard time providing for them. At first, she could not get work and she was so discouraged she would have given up, had it not been for her faith in the gospel. She suffered hunger but she

finally got work. She worked very hard, doing washing and ironing, besides caring for her children. Mary would go out and get the clothes, wash and iron them, and then return them.

One day while performing her duty, she passed a door in the hotel, where a room was being fumigated. A man had died there from the dreaded disease smallpox. She shuddered as she passed to think of it; and she always felt that she carried the disease to her children; because they took it some days later and James almost choked to death.

While working at this hotel, she met a lady school teacher, who proved to be a very good friend. The teacher saw what a hard time Mary was having and advised her to go down to the kitchen and ask for the food that was left over each meal. This she did and it was given her, which was a great help to her.

By 1857 she had saved enough to buy a wagon and three oxen; also provisions and clothing to fill the wagon. The two oxen were put on the wagon and the other ox on another wagon with an ox that belonged to a man who, with his family, was also leaving for Utah with the same company. After they started, the man had to go back so he allowed Mary to come on with his ox with the understanding she should pay for it, if he ever should get to Utah.

The company arrived in Utah in September 1857, just ahead of Johnston's Army. While crossing the plains, they could sometimes see the soldiers coming behind them.

William Warner located in Spanish Fork, Utah. Mary sent word she had arrived. The word was sent to him at Stephen Markham's, where he was working, and he walked to Salt Lake and took her back to Spanish Fork with him. She lived there from this time on throughout her life.

The wagons and oxen were traded for land. The provisions and clothing were made use of, as they were much needed. Thread was scarce and some of the cloth was unraveled to use as thread for sewing.

Another child, Sarah Ann, was born 18 August 1858, in Spanish Fork. She was the youngest child of William and Mary Warner; and became the wife of Bishop William Don C. Markham, also of Spanish Fork.

The man who had allowed Mary to bring his ox finally arrived in Utah. He wrote to her, asking if she could send him the money for it. She told her husband, but in his busy time he overlooked it. Another letter came; so she went to work to earn the forty dollars, the price of the ox. She wove carpets and did washing until she had the money and sent it to the man.

Once busy at this kind of work, she kept on, as she was very ambitious and industrious. At one time, she did nearly all the weaving in Spanish Fork. It seemed as if the sound of the loom had become music to her and she had to have it going all the time. When she was not well, one of her children or grandchildren had to weave for her to keep her contented. In fact, a carpet was in the loom until she took sick and died.

Mary could card wool, spin yarn, make candles and soap and do all the different kinds of work connected with pioneer life.

During the early summer and early autumn days she would take the children and go out in the fields, after the wheat had been hauled off the land and glean the heads of wheat. One summer she gleaned enough wheat for their bread for the whole year. Each of the children had to gather forty handfuls of wheat before they could play.

Mary also gleaned enough wheat to buy one of the early Charter Oak stoves, which cost her ninety dollars.

She was very religious. She loved to have her grandchildren read to her from good books and regularly attended Sacrament meetings.

From memory and correspondence, she gathered all the names of her dead relatives she could get at that time, and hired Thomas and Ann Hughes Hall to do the temple work in the St. George Temple in 1882.

On 29 August 1894, two years before her death, she had her children sealed to their parents in the Salt Lake Temple. Mary Reynolds Warner was so independent, she feared she might live longer than she could work and care for herself. She was helpless only a short time.

She died 2 September 1896 at the age of 74 years, and is buried in the Spanish Fork City cemetery.

She filled a wonderful mission, always on hand to do anything and everything that was required of her.

## *James Constable Warner*

Our earliest known ancestor of which we have any positive record is John Warner, my great-great grandfather. His name appears in the Alford, Lincolnshire, England, records, where he and Susannah Constable, daughter of James and Elizabeth (possibly Snowden) Constable, were married in St. Wilfrid's Church 6 June 1786.

Thomas Warner and his wife Anne appear in the Alford records just prior to this date, and seem to be the right age to have been his parents. They had three daughters named in the Alford records:

1. Elizabeth Warner christened 29 July, 1772
2. Mary Warner christened 29 March 1775
3. Esther Warner christened 3 November 1780

My great-great-grandfather, John Warner, born in 1765, as he was 68 on the date of his death 20 November 1833, fits into the above family very well. The names of the children of Thomas and Anne Warner indicate a relationship when compared to the children of John Warner. John and Susannah's eldest daughter was named Elizabeth for her maternal grandmother; the second daughter Anne for the wife of Thomas; the first son Thomas after the Thomas named above; the second son John after his father; and the third son James Constable, my great grandfather, for his maternal grandfather.

James Constable Warner was born 11 September 1795 in Spalding, Lincolnshire, England, and was christened 27 January 1796 in the Spalding Parish Church. He was a laborer, earning his living as a farmer. He married Susannah Fox, who died in 1828 in Gosberton, Lincolnshire, England, two years after my grandfather. William Warner, was born. Children of James Constable and Susannah were: John born about 1818; George about 1820; James born 12 August 1822; Mary born 5 April 1824; William Warner, my grandfather, born 24 April 1826.

James Constable Warner, married second 27 February 1828, Elizabeth Gratex, widow of John Kettle and mother of seven children. He married third Ann Miller, who with her daughter Sarah Jane Bradley came to Utah with him, and were sealed to him; so Sarah Jane was his adopted daughter. Sarah Jane married William Warner's friend, William Creer and they raised a fine Spanish Fork family.

They were all members of the Seas End branch, of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints at the time they were preparing to emigrate. The date shown for emigration is 14 April 1856. James C. Warner was ordained to the office of Priest 27 December 1855 by his stepson John Kettle, and to the office of Elder 20 February 1856 by William J. Smith. After he arrived in Utah he was ordained a High Priest in 1856 by Zebedee Coltrin.

The immigrant file shows that James Constable Warner, his wife Ann Miller, her daughter Sarah Jane Bradley, the Kettle family and Thomas Eldridge and John Rasdell, who married Kettle daughters came to America in the ship Samuel Curling, clearing the harbor at Liverpool 18 April and sailing for Boston 19 April 1856. On 22 May 1856 the pilot boarded the ship; light winds prevented docking until daylight of the 23<sup>rd</sup> when the tug Enoch Train came alongside and towed the ship to Boston Quarantine Grounds. On the 24<sup>th</sup> they concluded a contract with the railway to take about 400 to Iowa; direct fare \$11.00, under 14 half fare, under 6 free; \$3.50 per hundredweight for freight. To leave Monday at 11 a.m. Got the privilege from the ever kind captain to remain on board until that time. (Taken from diary of Dan Jones.)

The James Constable Warner family were in that group of saints who made history, being in the first handcart company to cross the plains. They left Iowa City, Iowa, on 9 June 1856, the first in this trial to help the saints gather to Zion. Two hundred seventy-three people backed out. Seven of the men were heads of families. The rest were women and children. Twelve died along the way, during the months of travel. Two hundred twenty-eight men, women and children arrived in Salt Lake City 26 September 1856, having proven the feasibility of the plan (Edmond Ellsworth diary). John Kettle kept a diary of the journey, of which I have a copy.

James Constable Warner and Ann Miller and their daughter Sarah Jane settled in Spanish Fork where his son William Warner lived.

On 8 March 1862 William Warner and his two wives, Mary Reynolds and Ann David, James Constable and Ann Miller Warner received their endowments in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City, Utah. Mary Reynolds and Ann David were sealed to William Warner, and Ann Miller Warner was sealed to James Constable Warner. Sarah Jane Bradley Warner was sealed to parents James Constable Warner and Ann Miller Warner the same day.

Father's sister Susannah, born 21 August 1852 at Gosberton, England, married 10 July 1871 to Wellington Wood Sr. born 17 August 1841 at Royal Oak, Michigan. They were the parents of nine children. five of which lived to be adults: Wellington, Saphrona. Nora, Lettie and Abbie. Susannah died 26 August 1892.

Father's sister Mary Elizabeth was born 29 March 1854 at St. Louis, Missouri, and married Wellington Wood Sr. as his second wife, 2 February 1874. They were the parents of five children, four of whom lived to be adults: Morris, Mary Dorcas, Geneva and Amos. They all lived together and very few people knew which mother the children belonged to. Mary died 24 March 1920.

Father's youngest sister, Sarah Ann Warner, born 18 August 1858 at Spanish Fork, Utah, married 27 June 1877 to William Don Carlos Markham who was born 6 January 1855 at Spanish Fork, Utah, son of Stephen and Ann Curtis Markham. They were the parents of twelve children, all born in Spanish Fork, Utah. He died 9 May 1908 and she died 26 January 1925, both at Spanish Fork, Utah. Their children are: Mary Warner Markham born 25 January 1879, died 28 May 1958; Sarah Ann Markham born 21 May 1880, died 3 September 1939; William Don Carlos born 27 December 1881, died 21 May 1882; Bertha Maretta Markham born 15 April 1883, died 23 January 1961. Effie Markham born 11 January 1889; Lucy Markham born 15 October 1890, died 31 March 1891; Otella Julina Markham born 17 January 1892; Joseph Wilford Markham born 29 January 1894; George Reynolds Markham born 20 April 1896; Ora Christeena Markham born 13 March 1899; Vernecia Markham born 31 October 1901.

In compiling this brief history, I have tried to get all the information as nearly correct as I can. I have got information from several sources: when two or more sources gave different information about the same subject matter, I tried to search out the correct information. In the first place I have used my personal knowledge, and several times checked that with other printed information. Then I have used information written by my sister Tressa Warner Yates, and by Nora Wood Carter, a cousin of mine who compiled a great deal of genealogy. Another cousin, Rose Paterson Markham, was very close to Grandma Paterson because she lived just across the road from her for many years and undoubtedly learned much about our Paterson grandparents. I received much information from Agnes Markham Wood and some of the other great-grandchildren. I read some information written by another granddaughter, Rebecca Jarvis Frost. I read a compilation of the Warner family by Jessie Lenord Warner, which shed some light on the early members of the Warners. Most of this history was about his father's family, and his

grandfather John F. Warner. I received a great deal of information from my brother Elisha and the histories that he has written. I appreciate his writing very much.

*Diary of our Journey, John Kettle, James Constable Warner and Families*

- 23 April 1856: The breeze freshens and we are going first rate, but there are some sick all day and night. Going about 10 knots an hour.
- 24 April 1856: The wind still blowing and all in bed. At night the tins rolling to and fro. Ship going about 12 knots.
- 25 April 1856: A fine breeze, all really about the decks. We saw two ships and sea running high, but we were not afraid for we know the Lord is with us. We have singing and music aboard.
- 26 April 1856: We still had a fine breeze and most of them began to revive. Judith was sick on the 23<sup>rd</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup>. All our people have been sick, some not bad. We went along with a strong breeze and we saw 2 ships. They were running with sails reefed, while we were going with royals set.
- 27 April 1856: A fine morning with a gentle breeze, Judith is better in the afternoon. Stormy and tins jump about.
- 28 April 1856: Strong breeze. Saw a ship. A child died. A fine night. On the 20<sup>th</sup> day we were organized into wards, eleven, and we have prayers every night; and preaching on deck on Sunday. We know that we have been blessed of the Lord. We are pretty thick in the ship, about 625 adults. Child buried. A very stormy night.
- 29 April 1856: Stormy, west wind. A child died. The Lord's mercy is great towards us, always. We have some noble men aboard and the Lord hears our prayers at this time. We are about one part of the way. Head wind and very stormy.
- 30 April 1856: Stormy with a head wind. I have the ague, and Judith is sick. The sea is breaking over and to see the pots turning over and the stink; They are not all saints with us.
- 1 May 1856: Favorable wind, going about ten knots an hour. A stormy night.
- 2 May 1856: Rainy morning, fair wind afternoon. Head wind, sea very rough and a stormy night.
- 3 May 1856: Storm carried away main topsail. Tins and boxes jump about. Preaching in the afternoon for the Priesthood.
- 4 May 1856: Was a pleasant day. Pleasant sailing. Preaching on deck and taking Sacrament. We are happy on the sea but some begin to be impatient. The Lord is merciful to us on the sea as well as the land.
- 5 May 1856: Head wind and sea rough.
- 6 May 1856: The wind more favorable: at night saw pigs. I was ill all day. Stormy at night.
- 7 May 1856: Fair wind, saw some little fishes. Rainy morning. Day clear with a good wind.

- 8 May 1856: Fine morning and sea rough. Saw 3 ships and sea rolling high. But you see we are not afraid for the Lord is with us on the "Samuel Curling." We get on pretty well considering being so many of us (3 deaths and 2 births) About 725 in all on the ship.
- 9 May 1856: Fine with a fair wind. Got all our bedding on deck. You would like to have seen us. Sometimes we are apt to get angry, but we try to keep well. We are now on the banks of Newfoundland. I think all were on deck, it was so fine.
- 10 May 1856: Fine with a fair wind. Going about 5 miles an hour. Began to make tent cloth covers.
- 11 May 1856: Day, fine morning with a fair wind. Going along about 4 or 5 miles an hour. Breeze fresh. Going about 12 knots an hour.
- 12 May 1856: Stormy. Saw a ship and a brig still on the banks.
- 13 May 1856: Head wind. All glad. I thought of you. 800 miles from Boston. Breeze fresh. Fair wind.
- 14 May 1856: Fair wind. Saw some ships and some fish. It was a find day. Judith better. Children bad. We thought of you.
- 15 May 1856: Fair wind. Going ahead.
- 16 May 1856: Fine breeze, washing; dead calm.
- 17 May 1856: West wind and washing, the washing was hung all over from one end to the other and also a fine night.
- 18 May 1856: Fine day with a fair wind. Preaching on deck. We have some good courses. President Jones and Elders Oakley and Grant are all good men.
- 19 May 1856: Fair wind
- 20 May 1856: Fair wind, going on first rate.
- 21 May 1856: Day foggy, can see nothing.
- 22 May 1856: Cleared up, making land.
- 23 May 1856: Fine morning, steamer came to meet us and tow us into Boston, and we went ashore, posted letters and looked about.
- 24 May 1856: Got some of our boxes out and took them to the station.
- 25 May 1856: Went into town again and saw some fine houses. Boston is a grand place, different to your Boston; and great place for trade all over.
- 26 May 1856: Got the remainder of our things away, and went to the train to see the beautiful splendor; we were in a fine bustle to get started.
- 27 May 1856: At 12:30 arrived at Albany; next morning at 7 o'clock change train. Fine and busy. Started at 4 o'clock.
- 28 May 1856: Went by Syracuse at 10 o'clock. Got to Rochester at 5 o'clock. Started at 7 o'clock and got to Buffalo at 12. Left at 4 o'clock and went on our way again.
- 29 May 1856: Arrived at Cleveland at 7 o'clock; started again at 9. Rainy morning; arrived at Chicago, started at 8 at night; went all night and at 9 o'clock next morning, breakfast. Passed Elkie (Probably Elkhart).
- 30 May 1856: We passed many stations but not knowing what they call them. We passed at Sheffield at 11 o'clock at night.

- 31 May 1856: Began to prepare for our journey; change luggage, start again. At 2 o'clock at Rock Island. Cross the Mississippi River for Davenport, Iowa; then for Iowa City; then for the Camp ground.
- 2 June 1856: Stopped one week.
- 9 June 1856: Start on our journey; 5 miles; lost the cattle. From June 11 to the 29<sup>th</sup> of June we sent about 10 miles a day. Sent a letter home. About the 25<sup>th</sup> of June, 1856 reach Winter Quarters.
- 8 July 1856: Went to the Bluffs on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Started from the camp.
- 17 July 1856: Went about 3 miles. Camp again.
- 20 July 1856: Reach Elkhorn.
- 21, 22, 23, 24 July 1856: Celebration Camp at 12 o'clock and spent the afternoon in washing and other things.
- 25-26 July 1856: Cross the river. A great storm. Henry Walker struck by lightning and his wife and 2 more hurt. All well then. For it is the work of the Lord.
- 27 July 1856: Killed an ox. Travel hard all week.
- 29 July 1856: Meet some California (Emigrants).
- 2 August 1856: Saw some buffaloes. Cross 2 rivers and then camp.
- 3 August 1856: Hunting for buffalo.
- 5 August 1856: In good health. Camped at Rattlesnake Creek.
- 16 August 1856: At Wolf Creek. In good health, and about lost sight of the buffaloes. After that passed Ash Hollow Creek and Chumney Rock.
- 24 August 1856: We lay 30 miles for Fort Laramie
- 25 August 1856: Saw a camp of Indians.
- 26 August 1856: Came to Fort Laramie. Post a letter. Ill all week.
- 31 August 1856: Reach Deer Creek. Meet the wagons from the valley.
- 1 September 1856: Lay still
- 2 & 3 Sept 1856: Travel Hard.
- 4 September 1856: Travel 26 miles.
- 5 September 1856: Rain and snow all day.
- 6 September 1856: Lost the cattle. Looking all day, for them.
- 7 September 1856: Travel 22 miles. Camp at Sweet Water. A man died after the long and tedious journey of 5 months and 12 days.

We reached Salt Lake Valley and were received with glad hearts and rejoicing.

Diary kept by John Kettle.