

Laura Jane Arthur Calvert

My grandmother, Laura Jane Arthur Calvert was born of goodly parents, July 25, 1870 at Greenville, Utah

Her Parents were: Benjamin Abel Arthur and Jeannette Easton Arthur.

Records tell us Benjamin Abel Arthur was born in Aberystwyth, Monmouthshire, Wales April 26, 1834 - Was baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Feb. 1853 - was Endowed Nov. 3, 1857 and sealed to Jeannette Easton May 6, 1886. He was baptized by Elder Jasuira Arthur in Aberystwyth Branch, Herefordshire Conference.

Jeannette Easton was born at Colkbridge, ^{Baptized} Lanarkshire, Scotland, on Dec. 7, 1842 into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Feb. of 1857 in Cedar City, Utah, Iron County, Utah Territory by Bishop Henry Leach.

Benjamin Abel Arthur was united in the bonds of matrimony to Jeannette Easton on the 15th of Feb. 1863 by Robert Easton at Greenville Branch, Utah Territory.

The following were Grandma Calvert's mother and sister:

Margaret Ann Arthur - Born Nov. 12, 1863

Mary Jeannette Arthur - Born Sept. 25, 1865

Benjamin Easton Arthur - Born April 16, 1867

Elizabeth Arthur - Born July 2, 1869

Laura Jane Arthur - Born July 25, 1870

Caroline Leguas Arthur - Born July 7, 1873

Sarah Ellen Arthur - Born Dec. 21, 1875

Ida Arthur - Born Mar. 22, 1878

Mabel Arthur - Born Aug. 2, 1880
Robert Christopher Arthur - Born - Aug. 16, 1882

Mary Jeannette and Elizabeth died as a child.
Grandma Calvert died - Aug. 9, 1945
All the children were born in Greenville, Utah
Grandma married William H. Calvert Oct. 26, 1898.
All of their children were born in Greenville, Utah.
To this couple, the following were born:
Jeannette Caroline Calvert - Aug. 29, 1899 (my mother)
Orville Arthur Calvert - Nov. 29, 1901
William Ross Calvert - July 9, 1905
Laura Agnes Calvert - April 19, 1909
Mabel Louise Calvert - Oct. 29, 1912
Bartholomew Calvert - Dec. 23, 1914
Aunt Dorothy passed away this year Jan 23, 1996

I loved my grandmother very much. Through my childhood eyes, she was an ideal to look up to. She was kind, sweet, and as I remember, slow to anger.

She didn't get very far from home in Greenville, no further than Bama, Mexico. And by train to Caliente, Nevada, where she and Grandpa spent some winter with their daughter and families - Laura, Louise and Dorothy.

She was almost ten years older than Grandpa, but as far as I know, their marriage was a happy one. She was taller than Grandpa - Tall and thin. He was a little shorter and on the chunky side.

My mother was very close to Grandpa & Grandma, and visited them most every afternoon.

if only for an hour or so.

I remember Grandpa always wore a foot
apron over her dress on week days. So very
clean, starched and ironed to perfection. She
always wore her hair pulled back from her
face in a bob, and at night let it down
and braided it before going to bed.

Her bed was always made, neat and
beautiful with white bed spread and white
shams, starched and ironed.

Grandpa hauled sand and fine gravel
into the yard & walks, and each day she
swept it away, a little at a time down to
the back door. She was so clean & tidy.

She made the best pies ever, and taught
me to make pie crust. She'd say, "add a little
more shortening to make the crust flaky".
Always using Lard rendered from the pigs
they raised and butchered.

She raised goose berries, currants back of
her house and shared with her family. I can
still remember how I hated to see them in
the hot sun. The goose berries, although sour
to taste, when she made them into a pie, I
thought was the most delicious pie I had ever
eaten. She also had many plants of Kubik and
they raised a large garden for their own use.
They put carrots, potatoes and onions in their
root cellar for winter use, and she bottled
apples, pears and pears they bought from
peddlers who came from Smiths Blaine and
about from house to house peddling them.

They had an Organ in the living room which was also their bed room. Lola Calcut and I loved to pump on the organ and make believe it was real playing. Sometimes we got into little arguments as to how long one could jump out and could play or pretend to play. They gave this Organ to Aunt Martha at Grandpa's death, which she took to Caliente, Nevada, and later gave it to someone who could play it.

Grandma had a flower bin in her kitchen on the North East Wall where she kept flowers and sugar. It had a shaker across the top under the lid. On this she always had sugar cookies or other breads. When ever her grandkids came, she gave us cookies and we could sit on the top of the bin to eat them. We were always welcome in their home.

Grandma's brother Robert, or as we knew him as "Uncle Bob", lived with them after his parents died, as he had never married. He was like ^{them} over.

Hard times were known to this family as well as happy times, but most families were in the same circumstances. Happy to have enough money to feed and cloth their families.

They raised and cared for a large beautiful garden without weeds. I can still see grandpa hoeing and weeding. He did not bend over, but stood upright as he hoed.

One time grandpa and grandma decided to take a trip to Jerry, Utah where a sister Ida & her husband Bill Newman lived.

They had a covered wagon rigged up and they with daughters Nettie (my mother), Dorothy, and Louise, my three brothers and myself went over to Dorris. We camped along the way when night over took us. It took several days to go and come back - We stayed about three days - I think I was about eight years old. I remember the good times and good food we had there - The garden produce was ready and I especially remember the ears of corn, how big they were. On the way back, my brother Dean was running around the Camp fire, and fell into it and burned his arm. Grandma had an old fashioned recipe which helped heal the burn.

As she got older, she fell several times and my brother said she must have broken every bone in her arms and legs at some time. She wouldn't go to the Dr. and just wrapped it tight with white strips of cloth - When her leg was broken, she would go around the house with her brace on a chair, moving it along as she went.

The daughters all came home each Spring and fall and house cleaned her home in her old days - I can remember the fun and laughter at this time taking the rag rug up in the living room, putting fresh straw under the rug and stretching and beating it back again.

Frank and Louise lived with them for awhile. After Clara Lou was born, because Louise had a hard delivery and was ill for sometime and Grandma cared for her and the new baby.

She loved to quilt and had one on in the frame

often, and taught her daughter this beautiful
Art.

When the news from Caliente Nevada came
that her son Arthur had died from a train
accident, grandma never got over this, and
she passed away a few months later - ^{Aug. 9, 1945}

She was very concerned over her grandsons
in World War II and worried over them
like she would her own.

I hope that those who knew grandma will all
send thoughts to this if they so desire, and that
those who did not know her, will know her a
little bit from what I have written.

I know she had a testimony of the Gospel, did her
visiting, teaching regularly and attended church
meeting what she could, and was a good
neighbor to her neighbors -

Bessie Fordham Edwards