

JAMES WARD

James Ward, son of Sarah Ward and William Spanswick, was born June 12, 1840 in Pewsey, Wiltshire, England. His mother widowed when he was two years old moved to Denzis, the capitol of Wiltshire in 1847. She later married William Spackman and by him had the following five children:

Ellen	born	Aug. 22, 1848
John	"	Aug. 27, 1849
Annie	"	May 25, 1852
Georgina	"	Sept. 30, 1855
Jane	"	Sept. 8, 1857

At the age of nine James was apprenticed by his grandfather Ward to a Mr. Job Cliff. Evidently, from this time on James had to make his own way in the world. Long hours of hard work and scanty meals provided him must have been a trial of great magnitude to such a young lad. On many, many mornings he would be so overcome with hunger that he would eat the lunch he carried, which had been provided for noontime. He would eat it soon after breakfast and then have to go without food until evening.

He came through his apprenticeship with a deep love for farming which he demonstrated after coming to Utah.

Having had only one and one-half days of formal schooling he found himself somewhat handicapped when he became employed in a new line of work. His assignment was to make deliveries to sixteen different places. He was unable to read the list given to him. But he overcame the difficulty by hiring a boy to read the names and their respective bills and also to direct him to unfamiliar addresses. In this way he was able to complete that first assignment.

During the intervening years before coming to America he worked at several different jobs. For four years he was employed as a trusted servant. He gained so much favor in the sight of this employer he was made overseer of several other servants. At a later date he hired out doing two men's work for only thirty cents per week.

At about the time the Crimean war broke out he went to work at the Market Brewery. He was in charge there until March 1, 1861. At that time the brewery had an output of 2000 barrels per day. Although wages in the "Old Country" were low, he frugally saved his earnings and made plans to leave England with others who were going to the West Indies. About that time a series of events transpired which completely changed the course of his life.

Harriet Brown, daughter of John Brown and Harriet Kundy, seemed destined to enter the scene at this particular time. She was a maiden from West Lavington, Wiltshire, England who had admired him very much. She gave him an invitation to attend an L.D.S. meeting which was to be held in one of the homes in that vicinity. He was favorably impressed with the message presented by the Mormon speakers. After the meeting a social was held and refreshments were served. As Miss Brown waited upon him and gave him a second helping of desert, he received the powerful impressin that this girl would someday become his wife. She, at that time, was already engaged to be married.

James cancelled his plans to go to the West Indies. On the sixth day of August 1856 he was baptized and confirmed by Mr. William Jefferies. Neither time nor circumstance could diminish James Ward's respect and admiration for Harriet Brown. After that eventful meeting he did not see her again until he met her at an L.D.S. Conference two years later. He told her he would take her to Zion if she would marry a good Mormon man. (Meaning - himself). Harriet's father would not immediately consent to the marriage. In spite of all the difficulties he was encountering, James could not lose faith in that memorable impression he had received concerning her. Eventually his unwavering faith was rewarded. Their wedding day arrived March 1st, 1861. To pay respect and the highest tribute possible to his bride, he hired the bells to ring out the announcement of their marriage. One month and seven days later they ventured forth on the longest trip of their lives - westward bound for America. And even

farther west to Zion.

On the 23rd. day of April 1861 they set sail from Liverpool, with a company of converts, under the direction of Miles Anderson and Charles W. Penrose. The voyage was made in an old sailing vessel, "The Underwriter". After 29 days on the ocean they docked at New York on May 22nd. 1861. From there they proceeded on to Omaha, Nebraska. James Ward had paid passage on the ship for a family of nine. He had been promised that he would be reimbursed sometime after they reached America. The promise was never kept.

The wards arrived in Florence, Nebraska. It was a stormy night. No shelter was available. When daylight came they were able to house themselves in an old blacksmith shop. Here they resided until they resumed their journey westward.

While in Omaha James bought a bolt of linen toweling which he planned to take to his new home. It was eventually used to make him a suit. As he reminisced, he often spoke of it in a jocular manner, saying, "It was the best Palm Beach suit you ever saw."

On one occasion he and William Winley went down to the boat to get a herd of oxen. A cyclone came up and caused them to lose their way and the animals as well. They never did find the oxen.

Before James Ward reached his destination in the Great Salt Lake Valley he became very sick with mountain fever. He barely escaped death during that illness.

The rigors of that pioneer trek over stretches of endless prairie and lofty mountains were as keenly felt by Mrs. Ward as they were by her husband - perhaps more so. The two did not cross the plains together. He hired out with the Croftin Brothers who were in chagrin of building the first Transcontinental Telegraph Line. This afforded him employment as he traveled toward his destination. He made arrangements for his wife, who would become a mother in December, to make the journey with a family coming to Utah. He paid for her transportation to the valley. But because of some misunderstanding, she had to walk the entire distance.

Her children well remember her account of the difficulties she encountered. One in particular: crossing streams. As the wagon approached the bank she would get a firm grip on the back of the wagon-box, and then swing her feet up under it in an attempt to keep out of the water. Many of the streams were so deep that she could not keep out of the water and would have to continue on in her wet clothing.

After approximately three months of separation and tribulation the two were reunited. James arrived in the Salt Lake Valley later than Harriet did, but in time to meet her at the L.D.S. Conference in October 1861. What a heart ache it was to learn of the tribulation she had endured since their parting. Even at the first sight of her he was aware of it.

The immediate problem confronting them now was: where to make a new home. They gave some consideration to settling in West Jordan. Mrs. Ward had been staying with some friends by the name of Smuin. They lived in Ogden. The young couple decided to begin this new life together near these people. Bishop Smuin owned some land in the Mound Fort area. The Ward's made their home in the vicinity of 12th street, west of Washington avenue, approximately where the Weber County Fire Department buildings are located at the present time. (June 6, 1957)

In most inclement weather, on Dec 20, 1861, Mrs. Ward gave birth to their first child, Jane. It was during a rainy period. We have been told that it rained 21 days without stopping. Their crude shelter could not withstand the downpour. It was impossible to keep a fire going. Not an available thing could keep the rain from soaking the bed, bedclothes, mother, and baby. Not a dry thread could be had for their comfort or protection. It was only through the blessings and the goodness of the Lord that the two survived. Through His power and some assistance from an Indian Chief the little family was able to endure through that first trying winter in Zion.

Later they made their home at Five Points. The location was just north of the Am Shaw property, at approximately

Fourth or Fifth street on the East side of Washington ave. The children and grandchildren of this courageous couple will never forget their parent's account of the effort put forth to keep house with practically none of the necessities of life. A provision box served as a table. Mr. Ward made clay bowls which were sometimes used to hold milk given to them by their generous, good neighbor, Am Shaw. These improvised dishes could not last long. The milk would seep through and the bowls would crumble to pieces. The one kettle they owned had to serve many purposes. They were very grateful when a neighbor gave them an old stove. It was badly worn, in need of repairs, but with some fixing, Mr. Ward was able to prolong its days of usefulness.

When President Taylor put up a mill at Riverdale, corded wool was made available to the settlers. Mrs. Ward would gather yellow wild flowers and extract the juice from the petals so that she might have a little dye to brighten up and add to the variety of color of yarn she spun. The one finished article so often talked about by members of the family, was a dress with its black, yellow, and white stripes. When it was finished "...it was so stiff it could stand alone."

The first money they received after arriving in Utah was used to send a letter to their folks back in England. This money came to them in 1863 from soldiers whom they had entertained. These soldiers were en route to Montana.

Mr. Ward's property at Five Points consisted of approximately ten acres. Because of the clay content of the soil the land was not very productive. He, therefore, disposed of it in exchange for a yolk of cattle, an old cow that "... could do well on willows", and \$20.00 in gold dust. He also received a calf in payment for mowing a field by hand with a scythe. With these possessions he planned to go to the Bear Lake area, but Mrs. Ward became seriously ill with typhoid fever. Being unable to travel with her in that condition they rented an Indian "Wick-i-up" where they stayed until she recovered.

July 18, 1863 their second child, Elizabeth was born. By this time they had moved to the John Holmes property

in North Ogden. It was located a bit North in the area of what is now 1700 North. They had previously rented a farm in North Ogden, and knew that the soil there was more productive than theirs at Five Points. March 19, 1894 they moved farther North and purchased an eleven acre tract of land. A part of this is located at 2190 North 400 East and is presently owned by George Simmons. In addition it included a strip north of his property. Mr. Ward erected a log house on the site where the Simmons' home now stands. This log house was the birthplace of the Ward's next five children, all boys: James, William, John, Albert, & Cyrus.

In addition to farming James Ward was engaged in brickmaking. He contracted the building of several homes in the community. Some, for example, were: the large Standard house in Pleasant view, later destroyed by fire; the two-story house on Washington ave. owned by the late Clarence Barker; the Dick Smith house, now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzo Ward. He also helped in the erection of practically every church and school building in the vicinity for over fifty years. During the time that he was engaged in brick-making he employed six or eight men. Many of these were given board and room in his home.

James Ward held many positions of trust and honor among the people and assisted in building roads, canals, & water ditches, and in reclaiming the barren lands. He joined General West in 1862 and remained Captain of the militia until 1868 to assure protection from the Indians. He was justice of the peace for two terms. He was North Ogden's first supervisor and acted in this capacity for three years. For four years he took charge of the North Ogden canal without pay. However, some of the men did help him with some of his own work. For one year, commencing in 1876, he did some contract work for the Union Pacific Co. building grade with his ox team in preparation for the laying of the railroad track.

Although James Ward was busily engaged in civic affairs he found time to give service in a Church capacity. He and his good wife came to Zion for their religion and they never lost sight of that fact. They were remarried in the Old Endowment House March 16, 1864. They put forth conscientious effort to rear their eleven children with wisdom and understanding and to instill in them a love for the

Gospel. By their own lives they taught them the importance of complying with Church standards. Time was set aside for reading the Bible - each evening. Mrs. Ward was a good reader. She not only read the Bible. She read the newspaper to her husband and helped him with his belated scholastic learning.

Through all things Harriet stood by James, her husband. She was a wonderful helpmate! To her children she was an ideal mother. She had her share of hard work and sacrifice. She did more than her share of making the family what it was.

All of the children, except Myrum who died at the age of seven, were married in the temple. Four of their sons served in bishoprics. Three of them filled missions for the L.D.S. Church and filled positions of trust and honor.

James Ward was called to and served in the following positions in the Church:

- March 28, 1869 - ordained a seventy by Jepp G. Folkman.
- Dec. 30, 1877 - 1st. asst. to F. W. Allis in north Ogden Sunday School. (Acted as assist. to David Garner also).
- July 9, 1882 - Coun. to Thomas Wallace in bishopric
- Aug. 18, 1895 - Succeeded Thomas Wallace as bishop
- Patriarch in Ogden Stake until death Nov. 23, 1928

Harriet passed away at her home in north Ogden Mar. 7, 1902. On Apr. 16, 1905 James Ward married Mrs. Frances Cooley Campbell. For a short time the couple resided in the south part of the two-story brick house that replaced the log cabin here-to-fore mentioned. Lorenzo and Mary married May 7, 1902 lived in the north side of the brick house. James and Frances moved from here to the site, now 2600N 556E, north Ogden. where they resided the remainder of their lives. Frances was a good wife and companion to James. She made his children and grandchildren welcome and in return was loved by all.

After retiring James Ward spent considerable time caring for his flower and vegetable gardens. He also

he also devoted much time visiting with the young and the old who greatly enjoyed his company. He had a unique way of cheering up the down-hearted; of imparting bits of wisdom to his listeners; and of bringing blessings to the sick. He was never known to stay away purposely from any household because of sickness there. On the contrary He would go in where no one else would go, but never contracted the disease to which he had exposed himself. Two outstanding examples of this were: the time when Jane Alvord had diphtheria and the other, when his oldest son, Jim was working with Joe Rhodes, Will Stevens, and Will Love who were building a railroad near the Portniff River.

The following is a quote from one of James Ward's children: "A fever epidemic broke out in the Portniff River area. The people died like flies. They were rolled up in blankets and buried at night. The conditions were so bad they could not get a doctor to even go near. Poor old dad walked miles to get to that camp where the sick were dying. He lay on a quilt outside and helped bury the dead. He was not concerned about himself and he never contracted the disease."

In order that this sketch might give a better description of the personality and character of James Ward the following impressions are included:

Fredrick Marker, who succeeded him as Bishop and also worked with him in the bishopric, had this to say (Sep. '56):

"James Ward had about as much faith as anyone I was acquainted with. He was very sincere and spent a great deal of time working in the Church all the time I knew him.

"While he did not have any schooling education, he had read all four standard church works. I never did know him when he lacked knowledge of the Gospel. He had right ideas all the time about principles of the Gospel. After one Conference meeting an educated brother came up and tore into the speaker about a certain doctrine he had mentioned. Bishop Ward defended the speaker in the statement he had made. The brother finding fault said, 'Now Bishop Ward, if it is right, you prove it from the scriptures.' Bishop Ward said, 'Brother _____, you go and find it. Its a

poor tub that can't stand on its own bottom.'

"Brother Ward was a great observer. He observed things in ways lots of men wouldn't. He had wonderful judgment of different people's character. He had not gone to school but he had an education equal to those who went through college. He had experience in practical life & in Church affairs. He studied these experiences and gained wisdom from them.

"He was more like a father to me. He helped me in so many ways! He came to me one day soon after I was made bishop and said, 'Now you are bishop and in the public eye. People will criticize you. Be like a tallowed rag. (You can kick a tallowed rag, throw it, and it will come back in its original shape). Do what is right.' He would observe what I was doing, wait until I was alone, and then come up and help me. When I had difficulties he would give me this advice: 'Let them work at it.'

"Brother Ward came to my home at different times for several years and gave me advice when we really needed it. When I was called on my second mission, Della and I were in the process of packing. Bishop Ward came in the house. We went on packing. He said, 'You sit down here. I have a blessing for you.' He blessed me with so many things that came true literally."

Speaking of his experiences in the mission field Fredrick Barker said that on many occasions he spoke under the influence of the Spirit beyond his natural ability. So great was that influence that there was not a dry eye in the audience. He was able to quote scripture word for word and give the correct chapter and verse. None of this was possible when he was not assisted by the Spirit. In fact, it was impossible for him to memorize correctly. "This testimony," he said, "impressed me greatly, and has done."

Fredrick Barker had a goiter from the time he was a boy. It was worse some times than it was others. It became so bad that Dr. Edward Rich advised him to go California for a year, go to bed, and get ready for an operation. Dr. Rich said, "Maybe you will get

better and maybe not." Soon after this Dr. J. Dwight Harding gave him a thorough examination and told him the same thing that Dr. Rich had done. In addition Dr. Harding advised him to deed his property to his wife because he might not recover. Mr. Barker checked with a third doctor, Joseph R. Morrell who made a similar statement:

One day soon after, Bishop Ward stopped outside the Barker fence and told Fredrick that he would like him to come to the Ward home on a certain day at a certain hour. When that time arrived Mr. Barker made no effort to get ready. After some urging on the part of sister Barker she "...brought the truck around and took him to the Ward residence." When they arrived they discovered that eleven patriarchs and Elder Nicholas G. Smith were there holding a meeting. Sister Barker went into one of the other rooms and visited with Sister Ward. Fredrick was invited to take an easy chair in the living room where the meeting was being held. To him the meeting seemed to be lasting forever. Finally, just before its closing, Bishop Ward told the men assembled that it was not Mr. Barker's fault that he had come; that he, Bishop Ward had wanted the brethren to unite their faith so that Fredrick might receive a blessing, "Because he is beyond doctors help." Levi J. Taylor anointed him. Pres. Smith sealed the anointing in as few words as possible and said, "I promise you, in the name of Jesus Christ, that you will become entirely well."

Mr. Barker went home and poured his medicine down the sink. In a few months there was a decided change in his condition. In a year's time he was a well man.

Because of having exaltheimic goiter he had previously been considered a risk by the insurance company. After this miraculous healing he again applied for insurance. The examining doctor Dr. Caldwell from Salt Lake City, remembered Mr. Barker's case and said, "I am not here to be made a fool of." But, rechecking found no symptoms of goiter. He then took out his pencil and wanted to know what Mr. Barker had done to effect the complete cure.

When James Ward was stricken down in the street with a stroke that eventually brought about his death, it was Fred-

rick Barker who found him. He was returning home from the store. He said, "Farther down I thought it was some old clothes lying in a heap." Mr. Ward was carried to his home and laid upon the couch. It was thought that he would pass away immediately. When he regained consciousness he saw Mr. Barker and said to him, "Bishop Barker, what is the matter with me? Why am I in this shape?" When he was told to lie down, assured that he would be alright, he looked at his fingernails and said, "You can't fool me! Thank the Lord I don't have to live much longer." And said Fredrick Barker, "He had so much faith in the hereafter and the condition he would be in, he welcomed it! He was sure he was going to a better condition than the one here."

Nephi James Brown, a nephew who also worked with James Ward in the bishopric, made this statement (Feb. 13, 1957) :

"My first impressions of Uncle James Ward were received more than sixty years ago when as a small boy I was visiting Aunt Harriet Ward. Their home was a large two-story brick house located not far from our old home on the east side of Washington Ave. exactly on the spot where Bishop George F. Simmons' home is now standing. Aunt Harriet very graciously showed me through their spacious home including the upstairs, and gave me a piece of rhubarb pie and made me feel very much at home. Uncle James came in & in his good natured way said, "So this is James, Aunt Liza's boy, who was named after me." I'll always remember his merry chuckle as he greeted me and got better acquainted. His jovial, congenial, and happy; without doubt one of the best natured men who ever lived. From that day on as long as he lived he always called me James.

"He had a very fine orchard with a choice variety of sweet apples, plums, green-gages, peaches, pears, etc. I know because from time to time he or Aunt Harriet gave me a sample of them.

"He had a large hay barn, horse stable, cow stable, and corral which was fun just to go through. I watched the men threshing time at his place, and once in a while I had a drink of fresh cider from his cider press.

"He and John Woodfield owned a large, lush pasture of 120 acres located west towards Harrisville between the canning factory lane and Alvord's lane. Together they had a herd of about forty dairy cows which were driven in one herd, alternately, down the above mentioned lanes, back and forth to pasture. Time and again I watched them pass our place.

"Uncle James was a wonderful farmer, and his well fertilized land produced some marvelous crops.

"He and Aunt Haarrriet had a very fine family of eight sons and three daughters - all industrious, capable and willing workers.

"When I called at Bishop Ward's home in my early teens to pay tithing he gave me some very excellent advice and teaching concerning the Gospel. He called me to be president of the North Ogden Deacon's Quorum and advised us to hold extra meetings at our homes, which we did with lasting beneficial results.

"I owe much to the advice and counsel of this great man during the years just prior to my being called on a mission to England. He had a friendly handshake, a kindly smile, a sincerity of purpose and a warmth of personality that carried over into my life for good.

"I felt greatly honored when in Oct. 1910 he asked me to be counsellor in the North Ogden Bishopric with him when I was only twenty three years old and two months before I returned from my mission to London.

"I became intimately acquainted with him and can testify that he was a great character, a man of rare judgment, a keen and accurate judge of human nature, with a faith as firm as the Wasatch Range and a testimony of the Gospel as strong and everlasting as eternity itself.

"He had a fine sense of humor and a merry spontaneous laugh that was contagious and exhilarating; there was no place in his mind, his make-up or his nature for gloominess, grouchiness, or pessimism.

"He had a forward looking outlook on life, constructive and uplifting, and productive of peace of mind. He did not graduate from college or from high school or even grade school, the structure of his language was sometimes faulty but he was as well educated in the things of life that really count.

"He was endowed by nature with the ability to see clearly through a given situation, and pass effective good judgment thereon. He had a good sense of propriety, and a native inborn ability to get along with people; to make and keep friends and to retain their respect and esteem.

"He possessed a driving force that got results and got things done. When he took one of his brethren with him to the office of President Joseph R. Smith in Salt Lake to ask for funds for the completion of the new Annex to the meeting house in North Ogden he told President Smith in plain and simple language that they had come to 'Camp and Board' with him until their request for money was approved. Needless to say their request was granted.

"During his long administration as Bishop of North Ogden Ward many improvements were made and much lasting good was accomplished. Many missionaries were sent out to various parts of the world during that time. He constantly looked after the poor and the needy and the sick, and exercised great faith in his administrations to the sick for their recovery.

"He was tender in his feelings and sympathetic in his nature. I shall always remember the deep emotion he manifested when he called on me at the Power Co.'s office to tell me of the death of his grandson, Ivan Ward, who died in the mission field in Australia.

"He was a champion for the welfare of young people. He encouraged them to go to high school and college, realizing full well his own lack of higher learning. He was an ardent sponsor of home-dramatics, dancing, baseball, basketball and always took a keen interest in the North Ogden basket ball team's winning the Church Men's tournament at the Deseret Gymnasium in Salt Lake. He attended lots of basket ball games when he was past seventy and was an enthusiastic fan until he was eighty years old.

"Bishop Ward was very friendly to my father and mother and to all our family. He endured the hardships of pioneer life without murmur. He was strong physically and as a rule enjoyed very good health.

"He attributed much of his success in life to the undying faithfulness and constant devotion and cooperation of his wife, Aunt Harriet. He also received much help and attention after Aunt Harriet died from his second wife, Frances Cooly Campbell, who was the widow of Hezekiah Campbell.

"In his position as Patriarch he gave many blessings and encouraged many people. I greatly appreciate the patriarchal blessing he gave me which is full of comfort and promise.

"Bishop Ward lived great and will long be remembered. He left an honored name in the community and in the church, and I feel certain he is receiving a rich and everlasting reward in the Great Beyond for his noble life."

130813