

ROBERT CAMPBELL WARDROP

1828 – 1888

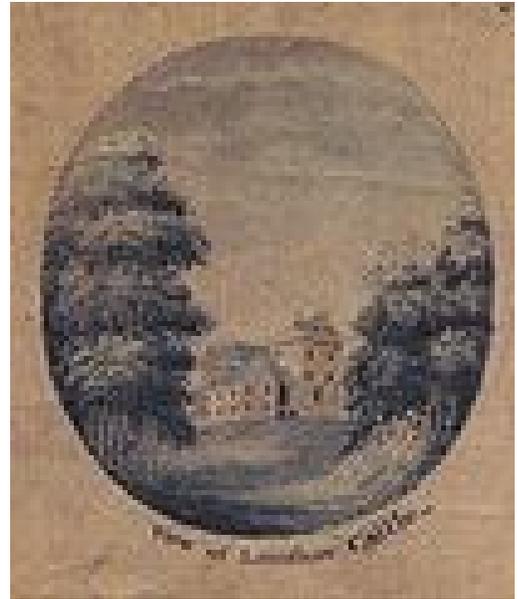


Compiled by
Ellen Claire Weaver Shaeffer
2009

ROBERT CAMPBELL WARDROP

Robert Campbell Wardrop was born the 16th of March 1828 in Stewarton, Ayrshire, Scotland, the son of James Lyle and Catharine Henderson Campbell Wardrop. He was the fourth son in a family of five boys and two girls.

Historical records show that Stewarton has existed since at least the 12th century with various non-historical references to the town dating to the early 11th century. The most famous of these concerns the legend of Mael Colimn the son of Donnchad I of Scotland who appears as a character in William Shakespeare's play Macbeth.



Above: Lainshaw Castle, Stewarton

Left: Stewarton flower, introduced at the Lainshaw estate during Victorian times.

Robert was born into a noble household. The family had been farming the valley of Stewarton as far back as the 15th century. Robert's father, James, was a bonnet manufacturer. In those days they traveled about selling their goods. On one of James' trips he met Catherine Campbell, the daughter of Colen or Colin Campbell and Agnes Henderson, who were of royal Scots descent. When Catherine agreed to become James' wife, she was ostracized by her family.

Their children, including Robert, were well educated. Robert apprenticed as a stone mason. Two of his brothers, James and David also became stone masons.

The gospel of Jesus Christ as preached by the missionaries of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was introduced in Scotland in 1839, first in Glasgow, later in Edinburgh. When Robert heard the message of the Restoration, he quickly accepted it after reading the Book of Mormon.

Robert was baptized into the Church, March 12, 1848, in Edinburgh, Scotland by David Cook, an Elder in Lockegby, Edinburgh. He was ordained to the office of a Teacher on the 17th of May 1848 under the hands of James Watson, the President of the branch at a Lockegby, Edinburgh conference.

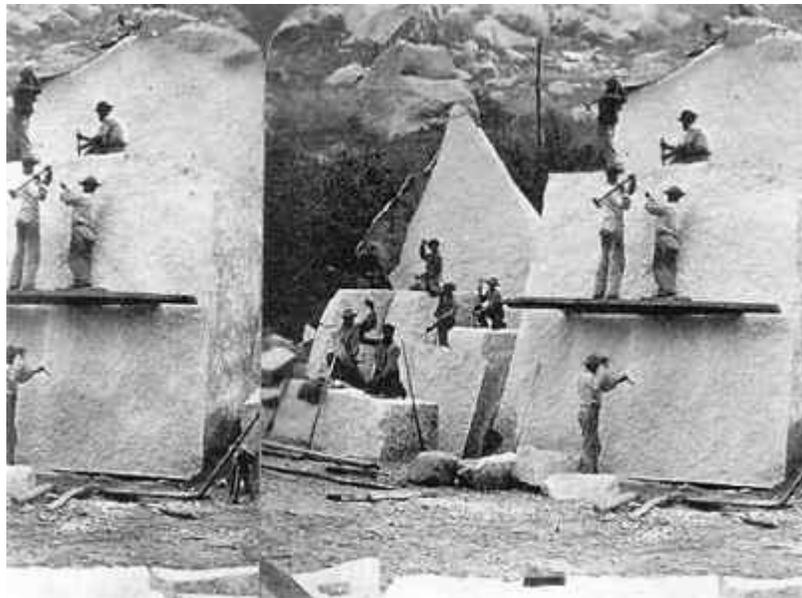
Robert's conversion incurred the wrath of his family who turned him away. However, they gave him enough money to immigrate to Utah. Is it possible that Catherine, who had been cut off from her own family because of her marriage, could now cut off her son because of his new faith? Robert never heard from his mother or father after he left Scotland, but his sister Janet wrote to him once a year with family news. Robert's brother, James, had previously immigrated to America in 1842 and resided in Michigan for some time. Another brother, William, went to India.

Robert left Scotland in January 1849, sailing aboard the ship *Hartley* embarking from Liverpool, England. William Hulme, President of the Latter-day Saints on board the *Hartley* reported the voyage was more like a pleasure excursion, perhaps an exaggeration. "The weather had been so pleasant and the sea and wind so gentle that only one or two rough days had been experienced in the crossing." The *Hartley* docked at New Orleans on April 28th 1849, 54 days after leaving Liverpool.

In Council Bluffs, Iowa he bought a team of oxen, but when he got to Utah, he had to sell them so that he could live.

By 1850 Robert had found employment as a stone cutter.

Right: quarrying the stone for the future Salt Lake temple.



The 1850 federal census enumerated him at age 23 in a household with two other young men, Ira Hillman, 23, also a stone cutter and Lafayette Noe, 19, a wheelwright.



He took part in church activities and was Seventy. Not long after this he met Margaret Owens, an immigrant from Wales.¹ She was employed as a cook for the workers at a construction site. When they got acquainted Robert and Margaret were both amazed and delighted to discover that they had actually sailed on the same ship to cross the ocean, but had not met previously.

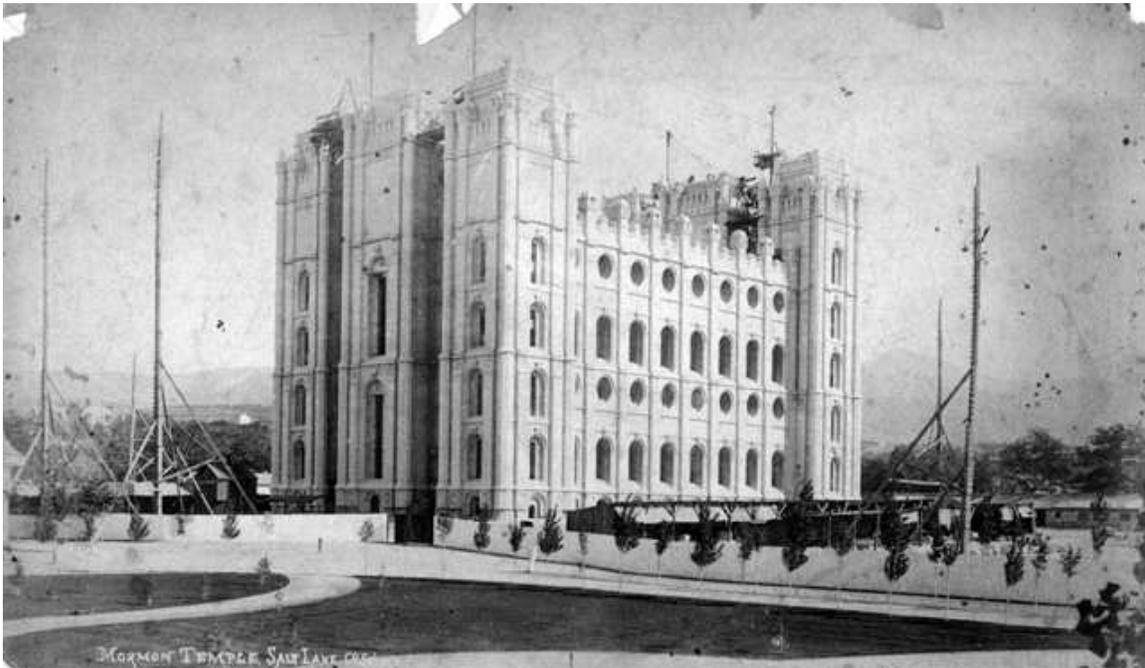
Photo left: Margaret Evans Owens Wardrop

They were married the 3rd of June 1851 in Salt Lake City. They were later sealed in the Endowment House the 13th of August 1854.

Their first five children were born in Salt Lake City: Mary Ellen 1852, Robert 1854 (died aged 8 months), Catherine 1855, Margaret 1857 and Jane 1859.

After the construction began on the Salt Lake temple in 1853 Robert found employment as a skilled stone mason. Later, as a master stone mason, he was responsible for all the stone coping around the doors and windows of the east side of the temple.

Below: Construction of the Salt Lake Temple about 1878



Robert also worked as a stone cutter on the courthouse at Fillmore, Utah.

Margaret and Robert Wardrop were married for three years before Robert took a second wife, a custom then widely practiced in the territory by members of the Mormon faith. The wedding took place in the Endowment House on August 13th 1854, the same date that Robert and his first wife, Margaret, were sealed, in a ceremony that would link them forever in this life and the next.

The second wife's name was Mary Reese Morris, a widow with four children, whose husband, Ebenezer Morris, had died in Wales, prior to her immigration in 1853. Mary and Ebenezer Morris had seven children, three of which died young. They were Margaret, John, David, Joseph Smith, Hyrum, Mormon and Gomer Morris. Her four surviving children immigrated with Mary. She was almost 7 years older than her new husband and her "sister" wife.² Perhaps this marriage more nearly conformed to the ideal of providing for the widows and the fatherless than many of the other polygamous unions among their peers. No mention is made of how Margaret felt about her husband taking a second wife, but it is likely she was consulted prior to the event and granted a consent that may or may not have been reluctant.

The family moved to Brigham City, Utah in late 1859 or early 1860 where a son, William, was born to Margaret and Robert in 1861. The United States federal census of 1860 shows a single household with all 13 family members enumerated. By that time Margaret had given birth to five children, and Mary to three Wardrop children. In their household there were two two-year-olds, two three-year-olds, two four-year-olds, two 8-year-olds and two teenagers!³



The family lived in Brigham City, Utah, for a short time and then moved to Wellsville, Utah in the spring of 1863. Many of the Scottish families had gravitated to Wellsville, and it was known as "Scotch Town" around Cache Valley, Utah.

Robert took up making slates and pencils for the school children of the county from slate he quarried in Harper's Canyon north of Brigham City. They lived in a dugout their first year there, and when Wellsville City was laid out, they moved about seven blocks south into the "New Fort" area. In 1874 Robert built the first log house at the mouth of Wellsville Canyon near Mt. Sterling,⁴ as part of a homestead where he raised hogs and dairy cattle. He also made grindstones and headstones from stone found in Wellsville Canyon. The family assisted him in this endeavor, sandpapering the finish on the stones, slates, and pencils. It was tedious and painstaking work.

The federal census of 1870 indicated that the Wardrops by that time had split into two households, Robert living with Margaret, at least as far as the census was concerned, and Mary as head of her own separate household.

The same arrangement existed in the 1880 census as well.⁵ The latter census indicated that Margaret and Robert Wardrop were living next door to their daughter, Jane Wardrop Duncan and her family. Jane had married Moroni Duncan in 1875 and had two children by 1880.

Robert, the father of 17 children, passed away September 24, 1884 at the age of 60, and was buried in the Wellsville Cemetery.⁶ The cause of his death has not been determined.

Deseret News, Oct. 10, 1888 p. 624, Col. 5 (Family History Library film # 0026603):

Deaths – Wardrop -- On Monday Sept. 24th, 1888 at his residence in Wellsville at the age of 69 years 7 months and 8 days Robert Wardrop; born at Stewarton, Ayrshire, Scotland, and joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in 1848; came to Salt Lake City in the fall of 1849 where he was employed as a stone cutter on the Temple and other public works for some years, when he moved to Cache Valley and engaged in the occupation of farming – Logan Journal

Other data may be obtained from the Early Church Information File.⁷



Mary Morris Wardrop had passed away six months prior to Robert on the 27 of March, 1888. She, too, was buried in the Wellsville Cemetery, predeceased by three of her Morris children and one Wardrop child, Janet Reece Wardrop who died at the age of five in 1862.

The Wardrop family stayed in Wellsville after the death of Robert. Margaret enjoyed her family and her home, kept a tidy house and raised wonderful gardens of flowers and vegetables. However, it must be noted that she and Robert were pre-deceased by several children: Robert died as a 10-month-old infant in 1854, the same age as Owen in 1866. Allen died in 1874 as a 5-year-old, and Rachel died the following year at the same age. Two of Margaret's adult children died before she did: Alice died of diphtheria at age 31 in 1897 and William was killed in Reno, Nevada in 1908 at age 47. It will also be noted that Margaret passed away at the home of her daughter in Salt Lake City April 1st 1913 at the age of 84. She was buried in Wellsville, Cache County, Utah.

Not enough can be said about our amazing pioneer ancestors. The Wardrops were magnificent examples of loving and contributing to the well-being of each other, their communities, their faith—courageous, committed and enduring to the end.

Editor's note: The house in which Margaret Wardrop died is located directly across the street from the home of my daughter, Jo Ellen Shaeffer Killpack at 222 S. 12th East, Salt Lake City, Utah.]



* * * * *

Husband Robert Campbell WARDROP		
Born	16 Mar 1828	Place Stewarton, Ayr, Scotland
Died	24 Sep 1888	Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
Buried	27 Sep 1888	Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
Married	3 Jun 1851	Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah
Husband's father	James Lyle WARDROP	
Husband's mother	Catherine Henderson CAMPBELL	
Wife Margaret Evans OWENS		
Born	26 Feb 1829	Place Llanfrothen, Merioneth, North Wales, Wales
Chr.	1 Mar 1829	Place Festiniog, Merioneth, North Wales, Wales
Died	1 Apr 1913	Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah
Buried		Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
Wife's father	William OWENS	
Wife's mother	Elinore Jones EVANS	
Children List each child in order of birth.		
1	F Mary Ellen WARDROP	
	Born	10 Aug 1852 Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah
	Died	8 Oct 1934 Place Clearfield, Davis, Utah
	Buried	12 Oct 1934 Place Layton Cemetery, Kaysville, Davis, Utah
	Spouse	Henry ROBERTS
	Married	29 Sep 1870 Place Kaysville, Davis, Utah
2	M Robert WARDROP	
	Born	16 Jan 1854 Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah
	Died	27 Oct 1854 Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah
3	F Catherine Owen WARDROP	
	Born	29 Sep 1855 Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah
	Died	16 Mar 1934 Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
	Buried	19 Mar 1934 Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
	Spouse	Levi Clutcher GARRETT
	Married	12 Jan 1875 Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
4	F Margaret WARDROP	
	Born	12 Jul 1857 Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah
	Died	23 Nov 1915 Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah
	Spouse	Henry John TAUFER
	Married	24 Dec 1878 Place
5	F Jane Owens WARDROP	
	Born	7 Apr 1859 Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah
	Chr.	15 Apr 1859 Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah
	Died	6 Jun 1951 Place Raymond, Alberta, Canada
	Buried	9 Jun 1951 Place Raymond, Alberta, Canada
	Spouse	Moroni Pitcon DUNCAN
	Married	1 Feb 1875 Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
6	M William Owen WARDROP	
	Born	22 Jan 1861 Place Brigham City, Box Elder, Utah
	Died	6 Mar 1908 Place Nevada
	Spouse	Grace BENSON
	Married	<1886> Place <Brigham City, Box Elder, Utah>
7	M John Owen WARDROP	
	Born	5 Apr 1863 Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
	Died	12 Jan 1943 Place Fairfield, Camas, Idaho
	Buried	15 Jan 1943 Place Mountain View Cem., Camas, Idaho
	Spouse	Lydia Adelaide BALLARD
	Married	7 Dec 1886 Place Alturas County, Idaho Territory
8	M Owen Owen WARDROP	
	Born	16 Nov 1865 Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
	Died	13 Sep 1866 Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
9	F Alice Elizabeth WARDROP	
	Born	16 Nov 1866 Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
	Died	22 Nov 1897 Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
	Spouse	Simon Harris JONES
	Married	Bef 1895 Place Utah
10	M Allen C. WARDROP	
	Born	20 Feb 1868 Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
	Died	1874 Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
11	F Rachel OWENS WARDROP	
	Born	30 Jun 1870 Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
	Died	30 Dec 1875 Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah

Family Group Record

Husband Robert Campbell WARDROP		
Born	16 Mar 1828	Place Stewarton, Ayr, Scotland
Died	24 Sep 1888	Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
Buried	27 Sep 1888	Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
Married	13 Aug 1854	Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah
Husband's father	James Lyle WARDROP	
Husband's mother	Catherine Henderson CAMPBELL	
Wife Mary Margaret REES OR REECE		
Born	11 Jul 1821	Place Merthyr Tydfil, Glamorganshire, Wales
Died	27 Mar 1888	Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
Buried	30 Mar 1888	Place Wellsville Cem., Wellsvile, Cache, Utah
Wife's father		
Wife's mother		
Children List each child in order of birth.		
1	F Janet Reece WARDROP	
	Born	7 Nov 1855 Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah
	Died	19 Jan 1862 Place
2	M James Reece WARDROP	
	Born	1 Aug 1857 Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah
	Died	4 Jun 1916 Place
	Spouse	Mrs. Sadie B. STODDARD
	Married	Place
3	F Susan Reece WARDROP	
	Born	8 Feb 1859 Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah
	Died	28 Apr 1915 Place
	Spouse	Miles E. CAMPBELL
	Married	Place
4	F Mary Jane Reece WARDROP	
	Born	20 Jan 1861 Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
	Died	1 May 1936 Place
	Spouse	Simon DRAKE
	Married	Place
5	M Colin Campbell WARDROP	
	Born	19 Oct 1862 Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
	Died	Jun 1923 Place
	Spouse	Mable Kirkham REESE
	Married	Place
6	F Agnes REESE WARDROP	
	Born	29 Apr 1864 Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
	Died	22 Jun 1926 Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah
	Buried	26 Jun 1926 Place Brigham City, Box Elder, Utah
	Spouse	Ira Hollis FOWLER
	Married	12 Jan 1883 Place

See photo of Janet's grave marker made by her father, Robert. Most likely he prepared his own grave marker as well.



JANET
Daughter of
Robert & Mary R.
WARDROP
BORN
NOV. 7, 1855.
DIED
JAN. 19, 1862.

WARDROP

ELIZABETH
COOPER
1866 - 1919

STUART

Family Group Record

Page 1 of 1

Husband Ebenezer MORRIS		
Born	3 May 1820	Place Merthyr Tydfil, Glamorgan, Wales
Died	10 May 1852	Place Cwmbach, Aberdeen, Glamorgan, Wales
Buried	12 May 1852	Place
Married	8 Jun 1840	Place South Wales
Husband's father		
Husband's mother		
Wife Mary Margaret REES OR REECE		
Born	11 Jul 1821	Place Merthyr Tydfil, Glamorganshire, Wales
Died	27 Mar 1888	Place Wellsville, Cache, Utah
Buried	30 Mar 1888	Place Wellsville Cem., Wellsville, Cache, Utah
Wife's father		
Wife's mother		
Children List each child in order of birth.		
1	F Margaret MORRIS	
	Born	11 Sep 1839 Place Merthyr Tidfyl, Glamorgan, Wales
	Died	Oct 1917 Place Bountiful, Davis, Utah
	Spouse	Daniel WOOD
	Married	3 Mar 1857 Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah
2	M John MORRIS	
	Born	1842 Place Cwmbach, Aberdeen, Glamorgan, Wales
	Died	10 May 1852 Place Wales
3	M David MORRIS	
	Born	9 Feb 1844 Place Cwmbach, Aberdeen, Glamorgan, Wales
	Died	16 May 1852 Place Wales
4	M Joseph Smith MORRIS	
	Born	11 May 1846 Place Cwmbach, Aberdeen, Glamorgan, Wales
	Died	14 Apr 1910 Place
5	M Hyrum MORRIS	
	Born	9 Feb 1848 Place Cwmbach, Aberdeen, Glamorgan, Wales
6	M Mormon MORRIS	
	Born	2 Jul 1850 Place Cwmbach, Aberdeen, Glamorgan, Wales
	Died	early Place Wales
7	M Gomer MORRIS	
	Born	15 Mar 1852 Place Cwmbach, Aberdeen, Glamorgan, Wales
	Spouse	Louisa Henrietta SHORE
	Married	22 Jul 1876 Place

* * * * *

ENDNOTES:

¹ See *MARGARET EVANS OWENS WARDROP*, Ellen C. Weaver Shaeffer, 2009

² She immigrated to Utah as a widow with four children in the A. M. Harmon Company of 1853. From *Windows of Wellsville*, Wellsville History Committee, 1985, p. 694: "Mary Reese Morris Wardrop was born on 11 July 1822 in Merthyr Tidfil, South Wales, a daughter of David and Margaret Reese. She married Ebenezer Morris on 8 June 1840 in a Parish church in South Wales. Their children were: Margaret, John, David, Joseph Smith, Hyrum, Mormon and Gomer. Ebenezer died on 10 May 1852 in England. She then married Robert Campbell Wardrop... They had three children while living in Salt Lake City, Utah; Janet, James and Susan. They came to Wellsville, Utah in 1863 where three more children were born to them: Mary Jane, Collin, and Agnes. She died on 27 March 1888 in Wellsville of pneumonia and was buried in the Wellsville cemetery."

1880 Federal Census

Page No. 8
 Supervisor's Dist. No. 10
 Enumeration Dist. No. 10

Note A.—The Census Year begins June 1, 1870, and ends May 31, 1880.
 Note B.—All persons will be included in the Enumeration who were living on the 1st day of June, 1880. No others will. Children BORN SINCE June 1, 1880, will be OMITTED. Members of Families who have DIED SINCE June 1, 1880, will be INCLUDED.
 Note C.—Questions Nos. 13, 14, 22 and 23 are not to be asked in respect to persons under 10 years of age.

SCHEDULE I.—Inhabitants in Willsville Precinct, in the County of Cache, State of Utah
 enumerated by me on the 21 day of June, 1880.

No. of Family	Name of Head of Family	Sex	Age	Color	Relationship to Head of Family	Profession, Occupation or Trade of each person, both of age	Marriage				Education	Religion							
							Married	Single	Widow	Divorced		Method	Denomination	Place of Birth of this person	Place of Birth of his father	Place of Birth of his mother			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Mary	W	51		Daughter							Utah	Mo.	Mo.					
	Mary	W	50		Daughter							Utah	Mo.	Mo.					
	W. H. H. H.	W	44		Son							Utah	Mo.	Mo.					
10/11	Mary	W	20		Daughter							Utah	Mo.	Mo.					
	Barbara	W	18		Daughter	Farmer						Mo.	Eng.	Eng.					
	William	W	18		Son	Keefinghouse						Utah	Mo.	Mo.					
	Mary	W	15		Daughter							Utah	Mo.	Mo.					
	P. E. Ely	W	15		Son							Utah	Mo.	Mo.					
11/12	William	W	14		Son	Keefinghouse						Eng.	Eng.	Eng.					
	Mary	W	14		Daughter	Keefinghouse						Eng.	Eng.	Eng.					
	Samuel	W	14		Son	Keefinghouse						Utah	Eng.	Eng.					
	Mary	W	13		Daughter	At School						Utah	Eng.	Eng.					
12/13	Barbara	W	13		Daughter	Farmer						Utah	Eng.	Eng.					
	Joseph	W	13		Son	Keefinghouse						Mo.	Eng.	Eng.					
	Elizabeth	W	13		Daughter							Utah	Mo.	Mo.					
	John	W	13		Son							Utah	Mo.	Mo.					
	William	W	13		Son							Utah	Mo.	Mo.					
	Christina	W	13		Daughter							Utah	Mo.	Mo.					
	Joseph	W	13		Son							Utah	Mo.	Mo.					
13/14	Joseph	W	12		Son	Farmer						Eng.	Eng.	Eng.					
	Ortha	W	12		Daughter	Keefinghouse						Utah	Eng.	Eng.					
	Leah	W	12		Daughter							Utah	Eng.	Eng.					
	Ortha	W	12		Daughter							Utah	Eng.	Eng.					
	Joseph	W	12		Son							Utah	Eng.	Eng.					
	Joseph	W	12		Son							Utah	Eng.	Eng.					
14/15	William	W	11		Son	Farmer						Utah	Eng.	Eng.					
	Elizabeth	W	11		Daughter	Keefinghouse						Utah	Eng.	Eng.					
	William	W	11		Son	Keefinghouse						Utah	Eng.	Eng.					
	Margaret	W	11		Daughter	At School						Utah	Scot.	Scot.					
	Charles	W	11		Son							Utah	Scot.	Scot.					
15/16	Barbara	W	10		Daughter	Farmer						Utah	Scot.	Scot.					
	Elizabeth	W	10		Daughter	Keefinghouse						Mo.	Eng.	Eng.					
	James	W	10		Son							Utah	Scot.	Scot.					
16/17	Barbara	W	9		Daughter	Farmer						Utah	Scot.	Scot.					
	James	W	9		Son	Keefinghouse						Utah	Scot.	Scot.					
	Margaret	W	9		Daughter							Utah	Scot.	Scot.					
	Ellen	W	9		Daughter							Utah	Scot.	Scot.					
17/18	William	W	8		Son	Keefinghouse						Utah	Scot.	Scot.					
	Margaret	W	8		Daughter							Utah	Scot.	Scot.					
	William	W	8		Son	Keefinghouse						Utah	Scot.	Scot.					
	James	W	8		Son	Keefinghouse						Utah	Scot.	Scot.					
17/19	William	W	7		Son	Keefinghouse						Utah	Scot.	Scot.					
	James	W	7		Son	Keefinghouse						Eng.	Eng.	Eng.					
	William	W	7		Son	Keefinghouse						Eng.	Eng.	Eng.					

⁶ Obituary in Deseret News 37; 624 . See Obituary Records Card Catalogue, FHLC #0321172

⁷ Early Church Information File film # 1750723:
 Patriarchal Blessing given 14 June 1865 in Salt Lake City by Patriarch John Smith, Vol. 12, p. 486;
 # 1186;
 also: Ordained 18 Jan 1851 as a Seventy by Ch. Bird (1 c Seventies, p. 129; 18 Quorum)
