

James Wanlass 1825-1895 and Margaret Nielson Wanlass 1821-1903

Gleaned from research and family tidbits put together to form a history-time line of this unique couple
by Alona S. Perkes.

We start the story of James Wanlass/Wanless of Scotland, differently than most, as his origins are currently still a mystery, we refer to him as 'James Wanlass, the orphan'.

Legend #1 James Wanlass was left on a doorstep of a foundling home, which had a large windmill, as a infant/very young child lying in a basket. He was dressed in fancy clothing and a fine-quality blanket, there was also a note which stated that he/they could no longer care for him. His parents could never be located. The name Wanlass means Windmill in Scotland, The finders (identity unknown) chose the name Wanlass for his last name, because of the windlass where he was found. (Statement/writing/notes of Parent/Reliable Relative, Edith E. Bush Southwick, great granddaughter.) So, (the speculation went) he must have been from some upper-class people. (JWanless Southwick).

Legend #2 (which came from some other branch of the family): James's family (named Wanless) was journeying from northern England into Scotland when they had a tragic traffic accident. James was just an infant at the time. His mother was killed in the accident. His distraught father (or maybe injured or even dead?) could not care for his baby boy, so the child was put in the care of others (orphanage?). There may have been older siblings involved. Whether they went to an orphanage or stayed with the father was not known. (JWanless Southwick).

According to the "Surnames of Scotland" by George F. Black, the surnames "Wanlace and Wanless are names peculiar to Northumberland (Guppy)", which is part of England, just southeast of Scotland. That fits with legend #2. (JWanless Southwick).

Thus we start the story of James Wanlass.....differently. When James received his Temple endowments at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Endowment House in Salt Lake City, Thursday October 10, 1878, he stated: "James Wanlass, When born: He thinks Sept. 1825; County, Edinburgh, Scotland; when Baptized: 22 Dec. 1850, Parents names: Knows nothing about". (LDS Temple/Endowment House Records, 183408, page 2, line 6).

The day James celebrated as 'his birthday' throughout his life was **Sept 25th 1825**. He understood that his parents were visiting Scotland with all their children when his mother was killed in some kind of accident and his father perhaps later remarried. (JWanless Southwick).

James consistently gave the location of Midlothian as his birth/residence county:

1841 Midlothian, Inveresk - Census taken June 7th - age 15 (Actual 15 years, 8 months, 13 days)

1847 East Lothina, Haddington, Marriage - Aug 6, 1825 - age '22' (Actual 21 years 10 months, 12 days)

1850 Midlothian, Edinburgh - baptism into Church of Jesus Christ of LDS, birth stated: ' **25.9.1825** '

1851 Midlothian, Edinburgh, Census taken 30 March - age 25 - (Actual 25 years, 6 months, 5 days)

1855 Midlothian, Musselburgh - Janet's birth in April 6th, age '29' (Actual 29 years 6 months 12 days)

1861 Midlothian, Newton - Census taken April 7th, age 35 (Actual 35 years, 6 months, 13 days)

(Newton NE of Edinburgh, 2 miles from Dalkeith, and just over 6 miles from Edinburgh)

1871 Midlothian, Edinburgh, Census taken April 2nd - age 45 - (Actual 45 years 6 months, 6 days)

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1874 Midlothian, Edinburgh - LDS Endowments on Oct 1878 - birth given as **Sept 1825**

'Edinburgh' was listed 5 out of 9 locations, all of Midlothian, Scotland

All years add up to his birth year as being 1825. - All within 18 miles of Edinburgh

James stated "He was raised in an orphanage and when he got older, he ran away from the orphanage and a family by the name of Ramsey housed him and took care of him for a while". The logical orphanage for him to be raised in did not keep records of the children who dwelled there. James always felt he was English by birth, rather than Scottish (as he often told his granddaughter, Edith Elizabeth Wanlass Bush.)

James was always a coal miner....as a youth he likely crawled through the tunnels to haul out the coal, graduating through the coal mining advancements. It appears that the 1841 census verifies this.

1841 Census Scotland (7 June (15 yrs upwards, round down to nearest 5 years, in 5 yr increments)), Inveresk-Midlothian, Scotland, 1841 Census, Piece SCT 184/689, ED 5, Folio 5, page 3, Address: Whitehill.

Blythe, Helen, female, 70, pauper, born Midlothian

Snadden, Elizabeth, female, 55, pauper, born Midlothian

Snadden, Thomas, male, 15, Coal Miner, born Midlothian

Snadden, George, male, 13, Coal miner, born Midlothian

Winles, James, male, 15, Coal Miner, not born in census county.

This "James Winles" is the right age (15), with the right occupation (Coal Miner), in the right place (Midlothian area). He's also living with a family that is not his own, so he could be an orphan. The family has 3 young boys (including him) and they are all "coal miners." It would make sense for him to find a place to live with fellow coal miners of his own age. (J. Wanless Southwick)(Right age to be born in 1826)

We assume that James continued with his coal mining work during the days, getting little formal education. He grew and developed into a young man, and developed a love for the Lord.

How James met Margaret Neilson (also a coal miner) we can only speculate. In time Margaret captured James' heart. They fell in love...and decided to marry. Surely there was rejoicing in the Neilson household.

1847 Aug 6th, Wandless & Neilson Married (note age, just before James' birthday = 1825)

James Wandless, Collier at Beatties Row and Margaret Neilson, residing there, daughter of the deceased Andrew Nielson, collier there, were proclaimed 27th, June & 4th, & 11th July, and married 6th August 1847. James was 22, Margaret 26. (Scotland, East Lothian, Haddington, Tranent, 1067862 Tranent Parish, County of Haddington, page 429/430)(Fiche# 6901915. batch M11722-8 Ser # 00742-6)

Now it is time to learn more about the new wife and love of James before we continue their story.

1821 4 Jan, "Margaret Nielson was born to Andrew, a coalier, and Elizabeth Ingles at Pearlstone, MidLothian, Scotland on 4 January 1821 and was christened 25 Feb. 1821 at Tranent, Haddington, East Lothian in Scotland". (Scotland, East Lothian, Haddington, Tranent, 1067861 Old parochial Register, 1819-54 Item 4. pg 16 & Fiche 6901914 Tranent, E-Loth, Scotland 1611-1854) (LDS Temple/Endowment House Records, 183408, page 1, line 25. Film 183408, page 1, line 25).

We find her with her family in the 1841 census:

1841 Census Scotland/British Isles, Tranent, Haddington, Scotland, ED #11, film 1042820, Beaties Row, house, page 2.

Andrew Neilson, 61, Coal M, born in Scotland same county

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...Elizabeth Neilson, 58, born in Scotland, NOT same county
...James, 22, Coal M, born in Scotland same county
...Margaret, 20, Coal M, born in Scotland same county
...Alexander, 18, Coal M, born in Scotland same county
...Archibald Young 9, born in Scotland same county
...John Gulland, 4, born in Scotland, NOT same county

Continuing the story as a couple:

James was about 5 foot 9 inches tall, A very quiet man, without as heavy of an Scottish brogue as his wife Margaret. He educated himself by going to night school, and would recall stories of the mill at Muirkirt, Scotland where he attended church. [Muirkirt is about 50 miles from Edinburgh. There was the Iron Works since 1787 and Collieries from 1799 and as James was a miner/ironworker and in those days they moved around a lot to find work](JWSouthwick). Because James worked as an iron worker and had very bad asthma, he grew a beard to help protect his throat from the cold air.

Margaret, was 5 feet 6-7 inches tall and was heavier in her younger years than older. She spoke with a very brogue Scots accent and one had to listen very hard, in order to really understand what she was talking about. She would reach out to anyone who came to see her, a very calm lady.

1847 Aug 9 Their first child was born: "Wanlass, James, son of James Wanlass, collier, Beatties Row and Margaret Neilson his spouse, born 9 August 1846 and baptized Feb. 3, 1847". (Scotland, East Lothian, Haddington, Tranent, #889488 Item 1, Tranent Free Church records 1843-1888.)

1848 Jun 8, A daughter arrived, "Wanles, Elizabeth, daughter of James Wanles, collier, Beatties Row and Margaret Neilson his spouse, born 8th Jun. 1848 and baptyed July 15, 1848" (Scotland, East Lothian, Haddington, Tranent, #889488 Item 1, Tranent Free Church records 1843-1888.)

1850 Apr 22, Jane Adamson Wanless was born at Dophsket, Tranent, Scotland. "Wanless, Jane, daughter of James Wanlass, Collier, Beatties Row and Margaret Neilson his spouse, born 22 April and babtzed 23 June 1850". (Scotland, East Lothian, Haddington, Tranent, #889488 Item 1, Tranent Free Church records 1843-1888)

Exactly when or by whom the family was introduced to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, is not known, but it didn't take James long to recognize this new religion as true and he was converted to the gospel.

1850 Dec 22, James was baptized at the Tranent branch 'Immersied and confirmed' by El. Wm Duncan, as Rec March 1st 1852 a member of Tranent ward of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints; James Wanlass, born 26 Sept. 1825 at Edinburgh, Scotland, a miner, baptized 22.12.1850 35 Bathville Rows Near Armadale Linlithgowshire, Scotland (104149 Bathgate Branch LDS church Records)

1851 Feb 15. Margaret was baptized 'Immersied by Pt John Smith, Confirmed by El Thos Neil, Rec March 1st 1852' (into the Tranent Branch). (LDS Church Ward/Branch Records, Film # 104149 Bathgate Branch & 104156 LDS Tranent Branch Records, E-Lothian, Scotland. Recorded May 1853 by R. C. Robinson Page 183, line 90)

1851 Census Scotland/British Isles, Newbattle, Edinburgh, ED #7, April 3, 1851 Census film #1042530, House # 14 at Barly Knowe, No 67.

James Wanlass, Head, Married, age 25, Coal Miner, born Midlothian, Edinburgh

...Margt Wanlass, Wife, Married, age 28, born Haddington, Tranent

...James Wanlass, son, age 4, born Haddington, Tranent

...Elisabeth, daur. Age 2, born Haddington, Tranent

...Jane Adams Wanlass, daur. Age 11 months, born Haddington, Tranent.

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1851 Nov 15, Margaret, a new daughter and their 4th child, was born while living at Newbattle. (LDS Church Ward/Branch Records, 104149 Early to 1868 LDS Bathgate Branch Records, pg 67, 68)

1852 Mar 1, The family LDS Ward records were received into the Tranent Branch of the LDS church. (Branch records, #026,585, #026,585, #415,456, #1,750,723, 0104149)

1853 May, James was listed as the 'Branch President' of the Bathgate Branch. (104149 Record of members, page 31) Perhaps this is why it was stated that James became 'a lay minister' in one of the churches thereabout. He did become a keeper of the LDS Branch records for the precinct where he lived, so he evidently was trusted in church/government affairs in the area.

1853 Aug 21, Another daughter was born (she would be baptized at age 11): 'Christina Wanlass, born 21.8.1853, Linlithgow, Scotland, spinster, baptized 22.3.1868' (LDS Church Ward/Branch Records, 104149 Early to 1868 LDS Bathgate Branch Records, , pg 67, 68)

1855 6 Apr. Daughter #5 arrived; "Wanlass, Janet, born at North Street, Bathgate, law (lawful) dtr of James, a coal miner, 29 years of age, born at Musselburgh. They (the parents) were married at Beattie's Row, Tranent parrish, 1 boy & 5 girls living, the mother Margaret Neilson her 6th, child, she was 31 yrs of age, born in Tranent parish". (Compiled by Christina H (Hunter) Romerill, Bathgate, Linlithgow, pg 28-1, 6 James Wanlass the father signed the register with very good handwriting.)

1857 April 17-26 , Finally another son, Andrew, was born at North Street, in Bathgate but sadly only lived 9 days before he died. (Scotland, West Lothian, Bathgate, 6900556, Bathgate, W-Lothian, Scotland 1672-1875).

1857 Aug 25, James was ordained a Teacher in the LDS Church Aug. 25, 1857 (026,585).

James and Margaret, as a couple, were quite poor, but humble and very hospitable, often sacrificing their necessities for the comfort and benefit of the Elders in that land, even to the extent of selling some of their comforts that they might feed them.

1858 Feb 26, Robina Baird was born also at North Street, at Bathgate, then died just one month later on Mar 29 1859 at Armadale.(6900556, Bathgate, W-Lothian, Scotland 1672-1875 & Compiled by Christina H (Hunter) Romerill, Deaths, page 53-3)

1860 Feb 5, Helen was born at Armadale, Linlithgow, Scotland.(Scotland, West Lothian, Bathgate, 0280526 Parish of Bathgate, Linlithgow, Scotland)

1861 Census Scotland/British Isles, Bathgate, Linlithgow, Scotland, 1861 Census, District 12, Film # 103919, No. of schedule:63, No. 45 Bathville Row.

Windlass, James, Head, Mar. 35, Coal Miner, born Mid Lothian, Newton*, 3 children ages 3-15 attending school, number of rooms with 1 or more windows; 2

...Margaret, wife, mar. 37, born East Lothian, Tranent

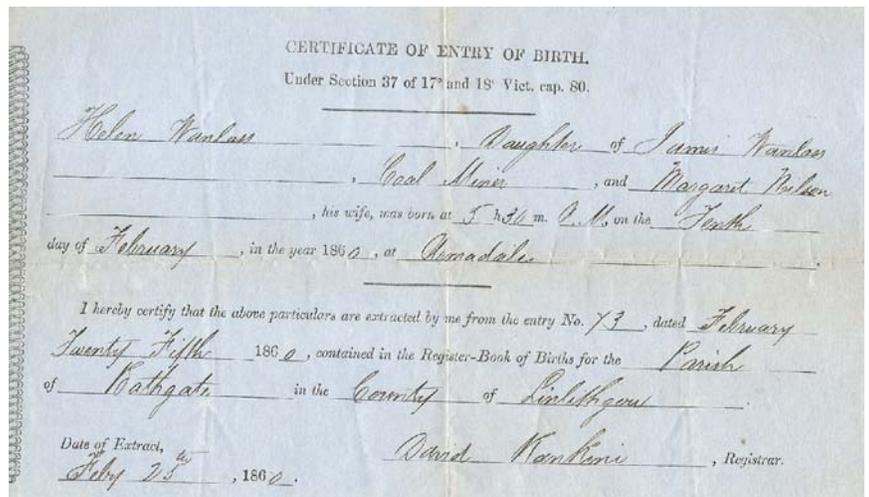
...James, son, unmarried, 14, born East Lothian, Tranent

...Elizabeth, daur, unmarried, 12, scholar, born East Lothian, Tranent

...Jane A., daur, unmarried, 10, scholar, born East Lothian, Tranent

...Margaret, daur, unmarried, 9, scholar, born Mid Lothian, Newbattle

...Christina, daur, unmarried, 7, born Linlithgow, Bathgate



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...Janet, daur, unmarried, 6, born Linlithgow, Bathgate

...Helen, daur, unmarried, 1, born Linlithgow, Bathgate

*Newton is a Parish NE of Edinburghshire, 2 miles from Dalkeith, and just over 6 miles from Edinburgh.

1862 Apr 20, Twins arrived: a son and daughter, Andrew and Robina, at Bathville Row, Bathgate, sadly, both died the same day. (6900556, Bathgate, W-Lothian, Scotland 1672-1875.).

1864 March 26, Alexander was born at Bathgate (Fiche 6900556, Bathgate, W-Lothian, Scotland 1672-1875).

1866 Nov 5, The last of the children was born at Bathgate, and they chose the name of Joseph for him. (6900556, Bathgate, W-Lothian, Scotland 1672-1875)

1868 LDS Church Ward/Branch Records, (104149 Early-1868 LDS Bathgate Branch Records, pg 67, 68.)

James Wanlass, Senr: Born, 25.9.1825, Edinburgh; Kingdom, Scotland, miner, Baptized, 22.12.1850

Remarks: 35 Bathville Rows, Near Armadale, Lintlithgow Shire, Scotland

...Margret Wanlass born 1.1822, Haddington, Scotland, wife, baptized: 15.2.1851

...James Wanlass: 9.8.1846, Haddington, Scotland, Children, Miner, baptized 1.10.1854

...Elisabeth Wanlass, born 8.6.1848, Haddington, Scotland, spinster, baptized 18.5.1857

...Jane A. Wanlass, born 20.4.1850, Haddington, Scotland, spinster, baptized 15.5.1866

...Margret, born 15.11.1851, Edinburgh, Scotland, spinster, baptized 15.5.1866

...Christina Wanlass, born 21.8.1853, Linlithgow, Scotland, spinster, baptized 22.3.1868

...Janet Wanlass, born 6.4.1855, Linlithgow, Scotland, spinster, baptized 22.3.1868

...Helen Wanlass, born 10.2.1860, Linlithgow, Scotland, Spinster, baptized 22.3.1868

...Alexander Wanlass, born 26.3.1864, Linlithgow, Scotland

...Joseph Wanlass, born 5.11.1866, Linlithgow, Scotland.

1871 Census Scotland/British Isles, Armadale County, District Armadale, Linlithgow, Civil Parish, Bathgate, #0104110, ED #1, page 17. Schedule# 76, Gordon L. Street

James Wanlass, head, mar. 45, Coal & Iron Stone Miner, born Mid Lothian, Edinburgh, Number of children from 5-13 attending school or educated in home: 2, Rooms with one or more windows: 2.

...Margaret, Wanlass, Wife, Mar. 43, born East Lothian, Tranent

...James, Wanlass, son, Unm, 24, Coal & Iron Stone Miner, born East Lothian, Tranent

...Janet, Wanlass, Daur. Unm. 15, born Linlithgow, Bathgate

...Helen Wanlass, Daur, 14, Scholar, born Linlithgow, Armadale

...Alexander Wanlass, son, 6, Scholar, born Linlithgow, Armadale

...Joseph Wanlass, son, 4, born Linlithgow, Armadale

1873 Dec 31st, While living at Betties Row, Armadale, a great celebration occurred among the family when TWO daughters chose to marry on the same day. Elizabeth age 25, chose to marry William Wilson, 23 yrs, bach, miner, Muirkirk, law[ful] son of David Wilson, a miner & mother Christina Pellans. While Margaret, age 22, chose to marry James Stark, 23 yrs, and a pipe layer, the son of Mathey & Janet Dowie Stark. (Neither couple would emigrate).

True to the Church call to gather to Zion and after much planning and working together they earned enough money to send 4 of the family to Zion/SLC. Plans were made, Margaret would follow later when enough money was earned for transportation.

1874 24 Jun, Thus 4 Wanlass members departed Liverpool, England, on the Ship 'Idaho'

WANLASS, Alexander S. Idaho1874 Note:"Child" (EECI).

WANLASS, Helen A. Idaho1874 Note: "Child" (EECI).

WANLASS, James Idaho1874 Note: "Father" (EECI).

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WANLASS, Jean A. Idaho 1874 Note: "Child" (EECI).

LDS Immigrants: 810 Church Leader: Peter C. Carstenson

Date of Arrival: 6 Jul 1874 Port of Arrival: New York, New York

Source(s): BMR, Book #1041, pp. 337-342 (FHL #025,692); Customs #709 (FHL #175,747); SMR, 1874 (FHL #025,696)

Notes: "DEPARTURE OF THE THIRD COMPANY. -- On Wednesday afternoon, the 24th instant, the third company of this season's emigrating Saints took their departure from these shores, in the steamship Idaho, Captain Forsyth. There were 810 souls of the Saints on board: 700 from the Scandinavian Mission and 110 from England and Wales. The company was placed under the charge of Elder P. C. Carstenson, assisted by Elders George F. Gibbs and John Clark. There were eight returning missionaries on board, whose names are as follows: P. C. Carstenson, George F. Gibbs, John Clark, C. F. Schade, P. C. Christenson, M. Neilson, John Mendenhall and James Hanson . . ."

"Wed. 24. [June 1874] -- The steamship Idaho sailed from Liverpool, England, with 806 Saints (about 700 Scandinavian and 110 British), in charge of P. C. Carstensen. The company arrived at New York July 6th, and at Salt Lake City July 15th." <CC, p.92>

". . . A company of Scandinavian emigrants bound for Zion, numbering 703 souls, sailed from Copenhagen, June 18, 1874, together with five returning elders, namely, Peter C. Carstensen, Christian F. Schade, Peter C. Christensen, Mathias B. Nilsson and Jens Hansen. The first company of 517 souls left by the steamer 'Milo' and arrived safely in Hull, England, Monday, June 22nd, in the forenoon and the same day were taken by rail to Liverpool. Another company of 186 souls, in charge of Elder Christian F. Schade, left on the steamer 'Humber' and had a hard voyage across the North Sea on account of rough weather, for which reason the captain ordered a lot of cattle to be thrown overboard; but the ship arrived nevertheless safely at Hull on the 22nd in the evening, and on the following day the emigrants arrived by train in Liverpool, where all the Scandinavian Saints, together with a number of other emigrants, went on board the steamer 'Idaho,' which sailed from Liverpool on Wednesday afternoon June 24th. There were 810 Saints on board and about 300 other emigrants, who occupied the forepart of the ship. Elder Peter C. Carstensen was appointed leader of the company with Elders John Clark and George F. Gibbs as his assistants. With the exception of one stormy day, the weather was favorable all the way. On that day the waves rolled like mountains, and a mighty wave rushed over the deck, and (the hatchway happening to be open) a great volume of water went down below, so that mess boxes, baskets and the like were seen floating about, while the passengers were forced into the bunks till the water was pumped out. A remarkable calm was observed among the Saints on that occasion, while the opposite was the case with the other passengers, who were badly frightened. Captain Forsyth, relating the occurrence on the following morning at the breakfast table, said that he went down to the people in the forepart to allay their fears, as they were crying aloud, 'Lost, we are lost!' But after he had assured them that there was no danger, because there were too many 'Mormons' aboard for the ship to be harmed, order and quiet was restored. A Catholic priest, who was present, took exception to this statement, but the captain said that he had now for 18 years conveyed the 'Mormons' safely across the Atlantic, and he had never heard of the loss of any ship carrying 'Mormons.' On the 6th of July the company arrived safely in New York and on the following day proceeded by rail from Jersey City westward, arriving in Ogden and Salt Lake City, all safe, on the 15th of July. Two children had died of measles on the journey. . . ."

<HSM, pp.219-20>.

1874 July 15th, James arrived in SL City with 3 of their children: Alexander abt 10, Helen A., abt 14, Jane A., abt 24.

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1874 Dec. 3, James Wanlass was received into the Salt Lake City 16th, Ward. (Film 026585, Record of Members 1877-1900 Salt Lake City 16th Ward, Book A, page 4, line 2)

Back in Scotland, after almost 2 years of working in the mines and saving each coin, the working family members acquired enough funds to send Margaret and the youngest to Zion.

1876 May 24, Leaving Liverpool on the ship "Nevada" and arrived in New York on June 5th after 12 days at sea with 131 other emigrants.

WANLASS, Margaret, <1824>, Nevada 1876 Age:52 Origin: Glasgow Conference, Note:BMR, p. 40; "Mother" (EECI); Destination: Ogden;

WANLASS, Joseph, <1869>, Nevada 1876 Age:7 Origin: Glasgow Conference Note:BMR, p.40; "Son" (EECI); Destination: Ogden.

LDS Immigrants:117 Church Leader: John Woodhouse

Date of Arrival:5 Jun 1876 Port of Arrival: New York, New York

Source(s):BMR, Book #1042, pp. 37-42 (FHL #025,693); Customs #478 (FHL #175,760)

Notes:"DEPARTURE OF THE FIRST COMPANY. -- Our first company of this year's emigration, numbering 117 souls, and five returning missionaries, left Liverpool on Guion & Co's steamship Nevada, on Wednesday, May 24th, at 11:30 a.m., under the presidency of Elder John Woodhouse. The Saints on board were generally in good health and excellent spirits. We cordially wish them a safe and pleasant journey. RETURNING MISSIONARIES. -- Elders John Woodhouse, Edward Hanham, Robert Hogg and William Nelson are returning with the first company." <MS, 38:22 (May 29, 1876), p.346>

"Wed. 24. [May 1876] -- The steamship Nevada sailed from Liverpool, England, with 131 Saints, in charge of John Woodhouse. The company arrived at New York June 5th, and at Salt Lake City June 14th."

1876 June 14, James and Margaret were reunited once again at SLCity, the family almost complete in the USA.

1877 Jun 13th After working in the mines one more year, the last of the single members of the family; son James 28, and sister Christina, 23, had earned enough money to cross the ocean on the ship Wyoming, departing at Liverpool

WANLESS, James, <1849>, Wyoming1877, Age, 28, Origin: Glasgow, Note: BMR, p. 72

WANLESS, Christina, <1854>, Wyoming1877, Age:23, Origin: Glasgow

LDS Immigrants:186 Church Leader: David K. Udall

Date of Arrival:23 Jun 1877 Port of Arrival: New York, New York

Source(s):BMR, Book #1042, pp. 71-80 (FHL #025,693); Customs #570 (FHL #295,773)

Notes:"EMIGRATION. -- The steamship Wyoming left Liverpool on the 13th instant, as announced, having the first company of Saints aboard, numbering some 186 souls, this included returning elders, D. K. Udall, (who was appointed in charge of the company) and A. Galloway, and William Stokes, who were appointed as his assistants; there was as well several returning visitors, including Brother and Sister Whitehead of Ogden; Sister Thorne and Brother Maddison, of Salt Lake City; also brothers Steele, Tracy, Proctor, and Sister H. Cropton, of American Fork, Utah; on the point of starting everyone seemed in good spirits, anticipating a pleasant voyage, and trip by rail to the association of friends and relatives in the valleys of the mountains. May the blessing of our Father surround them with propitious conditions, give them peace and patience, and extend to them his spirit on their arrival in Utah, that they may devote themselves to the building of his kingdom and Zion on the earth."

<MS, 39:25 (June 18, 1877), p. 394>

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"Wed. 13. -- [June 1877] -- The steamship Wyoming sailed from Liverpool, England, with 186 Saints, in charge of David K. Udall. The company arrived at New York June 23rd, and at Salt Lake City July 3rd." <CC, p.98>.

1877 July 3, James and Christina arrived in SLC, the day before the July 4th celebrations. What a way for the family to celebrate being reunited after 2 years separation!

1878 March 11, James was 'received' into the 5th Quorum of Elders, which was part of the 15th LDS Ward of SLC, which was organized November 22, 1877.

1878 Oct 10, The great day arrived when James and Margaret went to the Endowment house and received their 'gift from the Lord'. On James' Endowment records he states he thinks he was born at Edinburgh Scotland, this differs from what he stated at the birth of his Daughter Janet where he stated it was Musselburgh. (LDS Temple/Endowment House Records, 183408, page 1 line 25 and page 2, line 6).

1879-1880 SLC Directory, James listed as a miner living on the south side of 1st South between 6th & 7th West Streets in SLC. This is within the boundaries of the SLC 15th LDS Ward. That part of town was a 'working-class ghetto' that took shape in the area near and west of the railroad tracks, according to a history of SL City

1879 Sept 24, Christina fell in love and married John Hunter, son of John & Margaret Allan Hunter, in Ogden Utah.

1880 Jan 10, Helen fell in love with Adam Lampert (son of John and Ann Lampert) and they married at Ogden.

1880 census has been extensively searched for Utah and surrounding states. Salt Lake City searched with no listing of James or Margaret Wanlass in any various spellings, including searching for single children's given names, in all of the USA. According to the obituary, James 'resided continually in SLC' after his immigration until his death, therefore it is assumed that they were missed being enumerated. However, Margaret said her immigration destination was Ogden, Helen got married at Ogden..so.....

James would never have his picture taken, the only one in existence is one with James as an old man and where his eyes are closed. Someone had to sneak up on him to take the picture unaware.

Sad and happy news reached the SLC family as they learned that on - **1882 Nov 27**, Daughter Janet (who never married and remained in England) died 2 days after giving birth to a baby boy, George Hogg Wanlass. George was given into the care of Janet's sister, Elizabeth (who was now 5 months pregnant) and with her husband, William Wilson, along with their existing 6 children. (The Wilson's would raise George to adulthood) This undoubtedly was hard for Margaret & James to be so far away in this time of sorrow.



Margaret N. Wanlass



James Wanlass 1826-1895

1884; Listing in SLC was: Wanless James, Miner, 266 W Sixth South (which is on the northern boundary of the SLC 5th LDS Ward. (SLC Utah Gazetteer page 599 (979.225E4u).

1889 Dec 31, On the last day of the year, Alexander married Jane Dyet, daughter of Alexander & Jane Clukey Dyet, in SLC. (Marriage License, Salt Lake CO, Utah fiche # 6052848). They lived in SLC 5th Ward, residing at 538 West 7th South, Alexander became a mail carrier.

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1891 May 11, James was ordained to the office of a Seventy (a church position) by Jacob Gates (James Wanlass notation)

1893 April, At the time of the Salt Lake City temple dedication by Wilford Woodruff, son James' family was visiting Margaret who was still living in SLC and young Margaret (who was her namesake), broke some cookies up and James was upset because he didn't like to see her waste food. His mother said, "Leave the wee thing alone because she din't come to see me very often, and if she doesn't want to eat the cookies, we will feed them to ghe dog." She lived in Salt Lake City just a block and half away from her son Alex (who was a mail carrier) and kept her small house spotlessly clean.

At this time James noticed that his mother needed a pair of shoes and he said that he was going to get her a pair of heavy shoes that would last. Edith said "James you are not going to put heavy shoes on your mother's feet. We have got to go get her a nice, dainty pair of shoes, a pair of shoes that she can step lightly around in." They went to the store and James bought dainty shoes, took them to his mother who was dubious, claiming that they would not wear like the heavier ones would. Edith said, "No, but the wear you get out of them will be dainty wear, and it will be footwear that will not make you tired."

1895 Oct 8th, A horrible day for Margaret...her husband of 48 years died. James' obituary stated he had resided in Salt Lake City ever since he emigrated from Scotland. He was 71 years old.

"Wanlass - In the Fifth Ward Salt Lake City at 2:30 a.m. Oct. 8th, 1895, James Wanlass aged 71 years. The deceased was a native of Scotland where he embraced the Gospel forty five years ago. He emigrated to this county in July 1874 and resided in city continually. He was always an earnest advocate of the truth and died as he had lived, a faithful Latter-day Saint. He leaves a wife and eight children and a numerous number of grand children to mourn his death. Funeral services will be held in the fifth Ward meeting house on Thursday, Oct. 17th, at 1 o'clock p.m. Millennial Star please copy".

Obituary/Funeral program or Book/Newspaper article, Deseret News, Wed. Oct. 9, 1895, page 5.

1895 Oct 10th, Burial at Salt Lake City Cemetery, 'W542 Wanless, J., born 00/00/0000 location Unknown, died 10/10/1895 Salt Lake City, Utah, buried 10/10/1895 Int.# 20729, plot S-15-3-E-1'. (off Center Street)

1896 Jun 26, Margaret endured another sad day when her daughter Helen W. Lampert, died from heart disease, in Ogden, Utah, leaving behind 5 young children between ages 7-16.

1896 Polks, Salt Lake City Directory page 707 (979.225E4p), lists the Wanlass family.

Wanlass James, died Oct. 8, '95, age 70.

Wanless Alexander, lab, res 936 W 9th South

1897 April 20, The last of their children married, Joseph married Rachel Kirkham, daughter of George and Mary Kirkham, in Salt Lake City.

1900 Census USA (1 June), Salt Lake City, June 4th, Super dist 274, ED 14, sheet 4, line 27, film #1241684.

#58, Wanlass, Margaret, head, white, female, born Jan. 1823, 77 years old, widow, mother of 13 children 7 living, self and parents born Scotland, Came to USA 1876, been here 23 years. Can Read, Can write, speaks English. rents home, on 7th South, house #550, living alone.

At a general conference time just prior to her death, James came from Wyoming to visit his mother, Margaret., where he usually stayed. The family had arranged to have a lady live in with her, to take care of her in the last years of her life, however, this particular time James found that she hadn't been eating well.. When James arrived he found that they had put their food stuff in a cupboard and that the top was locked and the bottom was locked, and she couldn't get at any food between meals, and she didn't get very much at the meals. The cupboard was one of those large ones with tall doors on the top, and two shorter ones on the bottom. Yet this lady seemed to have plenty of food to feed the friends that came to call on

James Wanlass 1825-1895 and Margaret Nielson Wanlass1821-1903

her. Well, 'father' (James) went to the neighbors and borrowed a hammer. He came back and sent those locks flying in every direction. He told the woman who had been engaged to take care of Margaret to get out and he hardly gave her time to get her clothes. He reported her to the Church because she was a LDS woman.(Margaret W Schmith)

1903 July 26, Margaret Wanless died at age 84 yrs, 6 mo, 1 day at 6th South #535 W. SLC, female, white, widow. Born Tunent Scot, father Nelson, mother Nelson. Died from old age, physician name A. Wanlass & J. E. Taylor, Undertaker J. E. Taylor, buried July 27th, 1903 in SLC. Resident of SLC 27 years. (LDS Church Ward/Branch Records, 026,545 pg 216, # 8174).

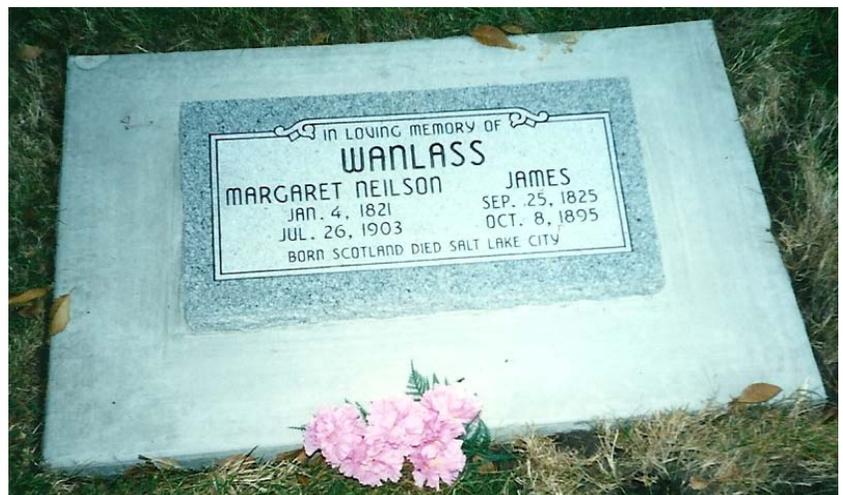
1903 July 26, Margaret Wanlass, July 26, 1903, residence 535 W. 6th, South, 27 years in country, Female, white, Scotch. 84 years. 6 months 1 day. Cause of death - old age. A widow. born Tranent, Scotland. Last place of residence - Salt Lake City. Informary - M. R. Stewart - Health comm. (Coroners Records, 485535 Register of Death at SLC Book A 1897-1905 page 127 #5202 report #77. film #485535 Register of Death at SLC Book A 1897-1905 page 127 #5202 report #77)

Both James and Margaret are buried in plot S-15-3-East, just off Center Street.

From 1903 to 2001 there was not a headstone to mark their final resting place. Family members joined together and obtained a marker for this great couple.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
WANLASS

MARGARET NEILSON JAMES
JAN. 4, 1821 SEP. 25, 1825
JUL. 26, 1903 OCT. 8, 1895
BORN SCOTLAND DIED SALT LAKE CITY.



By parents/same plot:



Alexander Wanlass Sr Family
Headstone by parent's SLC plot.

Known buried there as 'Family'

Alexander	1864-1921	Plot S15 3 E 3:
Jane D (in child birth)	1867-1907	Plot S 15 3 E 4
Wilford	1900-1900	Plot S 15 3 E ½
Clarence Joseph	1907-1907	Plot S 15 3 3E

James Wanlass 1825-1895 and Margaret Nielson Wanlass 1821-1903

James & Margaret Nielson Wanlass's family

James	born 1846	married Edith E Fowkes 1882	died 1921 at Chapin, Idaho
Elizabeth,	born 1848	married William Wilson 1873	died 1921 at Muirkirk, Scotland
Jane A,	born 1850	married William Thompson	died 1920 at Wilson, Utah
Margaret	born 1851	married James Stark	died 1907 at Edinburg, Scotland
Christina	born 1853	married John Hunter & Robert A Hunter	died 1934 at Ogden, Utah
Janet	born 1855		died 1882 at Edinburg, Scotland
Andrew	born 1857		died 1857 at Scotland
Robina B	born 1858		died 1859 at Scotland
Helen	born 1860	married John A Lampert	died 1896 in Ogden, Utah
Robina	born 1862	twin	died 1862 at Scotland
Andrew	born 1862	twin	died 1862 at Scotland
Alexander	born 1864	married Jane Dyet	died 1921 at SLC Utah
Joseph	born 1866	married Rachel Kirkham	died 1947 at Monroe, Utah