

SAMUEL WARD

1829-1894

Samuel Ward was born on September 4, 1829 at Matlock, Derbyshire, England. This was the home of his parents, Robert Ward and Hannah Bowler, as they were both born in Derbyshire and married at Matlock on February 1, 1826. Samuel was the only son in a family for four children. They were Harriet, Emma, Samuel and Eliza.

Little is recorded of Samuel's childhood. His father, Robert, died in 1844 when Samuel was only 14 years old. Mormon missionaries entered his life and introduced the church to him while still in his teens. At the age of 19, on October 15, 1848, he was baptized by Thomas Pointon, Chesterfield Branch, Sheffield Conference. He was ordained a Teacher on March 4, 1851 and an Elder May 23, 1853.

It is not known when Samuel met and fell in love with Ann Slater Bunting. Ann was the daughter of James Bunting and Ann Slater. James died in February of 1837, only 37 years old. He left his wife with four young children (Mary, Sarah Ann, John Slater and Helen) and Ann to be born at Matlock, England on June 6, 1837. She never knew her father.

Perhaps the same missionaries teaching Samuel taught Ann and her family. Between 1848 and 1849, Ann Slater Bunting and all of her children were baptized into the church.

Samuel and Ann were married on August 5, 1855, no doubt in Matlock. Still only newlyweds, they made plans to travel to America to join the Saints.

The emigration of Saints from Europe in 1855 was larger than that of any preceding year, and it was somewhat difficult in the early part of the season. From 1848 to the close of 1855, fifty-nine vessels sailed from Liverpool, England, with organized companies of Latter-day Saints on board. The number of souls in each of these companies ranged all the way from 13 to 573, making a total of 16,592 souls, including a few who went out in miscellaneous ships not named. Applications for passage were received by the agent in Liverpool and when sufficient were on hand a vessel was chartered by him and the intended passengers were notified by circulars, generally printed, containing instructions to them how to proceed, when to be in Liverpool to embark, also stating the price of passage, the amount of provisions allowed, etc. Thus, Samuel and Ann received notification that their vessel, "The Emerald Isle" with Captain G. P. Cornish, was ready for boarding.

The "Emerald Isle" cleared from the port of Liverpool on the 28th and sailed on the 30th of November, 1855, with 350 Saints on board. Counted among these Saints were:

Samuel Ward 26, laborer and Ann Ward, 18

Samuel Ashton 40, laborer and Mary Ashton, 35

(Mary was Ann's oldest sister)

William Young 25, wood turner and Helen Young, 29

(Helen was also Ann's sister)

Ann Bunting 58, widow

Mother of Ann, Mary and Helen

James Bunting, age 4

He may have been the son of John Bunting

During the month long voyage, only a little sickness prevailed on board, except the ordinary sea-sickness. On the 26th of December a heavy sea caused by high winds stove in a part of the bulwark, rent a sail or two, and caused considerable confusion. The same evening two children died. Three couples were married on board. On the 29th of December the "Emerald Isle" arrived at New York and the emigrants were housed at Castle Garden, where some of them remained a few days until they found houses to live in, and the brethren

obtained employment. (Castle Garden, a spacious circular building, capable of accommodating two thousand persons, was a home for all who can content themselves with a bed on the planks.)

Samuel and Ann settled in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania for a short time while Samuel worked in the coal mines. It was here, at Flander Hill that young Emma Ellen was born on September 27, 1857.

The journey to Utah continued. In Ohio, Samuel worked in an iron mine. Young Mary was born October 29, 1859 at Plainsville, Ohio, although her time on earth was short. Pushing a hand-cart across the plains they continued on, beginning their final trek to Utah in the spring of 1860 from Plainsville, Ohio. Samuel and Mary Ashton and their three young children were in their party. Baby Mary died August 31, 1860, aged 10 months at Council Bluffs, Iowa.

They stayed in Salt Lake City for a year, during which time Eliza Ward was born on September 16, 1861. Here they were married in the Endowment House on July 12, 1862 by D. N. Wells. Shortly after, they moved to Kaysville on the Mountain Road (now known as Main Street, of Fruit Heights) where Samuel lived the rest of his life. Two of their close neighbors were Ann's two sisters and families. They were Samuel and Mary Ashton; William and Helen Young.

The town of Kaysville was not a planned settlement; settlers came of their own accord, often because they had friends who had located there. The majority of them were of English descent. By 1850, there were 300 settlers in the valley. The first Kaysville Ward was organized in January 1851.

From the book Kaysville, Our Town, by Carol Ivins Collett, we learn about these men and women. "These were the valiant women who "held the fort" while their men went on missions, rescued stranded pioneers, aided the poor immigrants, or fought the Indians. They bore the children, tended the sick, prepared burial clothes, "made do" with what they had, and even faced starvation with faith and fortitude. They made a home out of a wagon box, a dugout, a log cabin, or one adobe room. Together with their husbands they polished their jewels (...children). It was teamwork in the truest sense. Together they planted, tended, and watered, sometimes with their own tears, the rose that bloomed in the desert."

There were no matches at that time. Fire was started by striking steel on flint, making a spark to light some tinder, or lighting bits of wood kept in a special tinder box. Samuel Ward made sulfur matches which were much appreciated by the settlers. Their family grew in number to ten children, the remaining all born in Kaysville, Utah. They were Alma, (born in March 1863 and lived only a few days), William, Samuel, Ann, James Bunting, (died when only 19 months old), Robert and Hannah.

Prior to the birth of Ann, Samuel received a patriarchal blessing by John Smith in January of 1868. Samuel had the gift of faith. "Look forward the future that you may comprehend through the Spirit that which is for thee. Be thou also of good faith and let thy heart be comforted for the Lord knoweth the integrity of thy heart and whatsoever thou asketh in humility with faith believing shall be granted unto thee..." Life was full of trials for this family. They were very poor. Once Samuel walked from Morgan, through Weber Canyon, to Salt Lake, bought an ax, a sack of flour, and enough factory to make two diapers for a baby that was soon to come, and walked all the way back. The babies had only a minimum of clothes and as one diaper was being used, they would wrap the other around the stove pipe to dry.

In Kaysville they lived in a dirt roofed log house below the ditch from the Day house on the Mountain Road. Robert, #9 child, was born in a long log house and the day he was born there were two pigs hanging in the middle of the room.

Indians used to go along the first bench above their place and Samuel used to feed them and give them a place to stay. When he gave them slices of beef they hung it over a fire on a stick and cooked it. He also gave them dried fruit and meat. Once some of them stopped while an Indian woman went along somewhere to have a baby. As soon as it was born they went on. Samuel told some Indians they could have peaches off a certain

tree, so for years when the peaches were ripe, along came the Indians for their peaches. They would unbutton their buckskin shirts and fill them, then button up again and ride off with their shirts full of peaches.

Samuel had very little schooling but he was a very good writer. He helped build the old Salt Lake Theater, with Brigham Young in charge. When he first came to Utah he made wooden pegs to put soles on shoes.

In 1875-76, Samuel set up his kilns on the Mountain Road (about 350 North) and for almost forty years he and his son Robert supplied this building material to the settlers of the valley. Many of the buildings and houses made of these bricks are still in use, attesting to their quality. Bricks were made much like adobes, in the first phase, but after drying they had to be burned or fired in a kiln, where the intense heat melted and fused the material into a more durable product.

Samuel was a faithful Latter-day Saint. He and his family walked three miles to church every Sunday in all kinds of weather.

Ann was near her mother, Ann Slater Bunting, when she passed away on September 30, 1874 in Kaysville.

Sadly, on January 25, 1875, Sarah died in Kaysville of pneumonia. She was only 36 years of age, and left behind five children, ages 1 through 17. That August, her eldest daughter Emma, married William Henry Chapman. Emma was no doubt a help to her father until moving to Preston in 1882.

Sorrow continued in 1878 with a diphtheria epidemic. William Chapman recalls those days in his life story. "At that time father Ward's family were down with diphthery. I nursed and doctored them for two solid weeks and never had my clothes off or never had any sleep, and when I could sleep it was the hardest thing to get to sleep and when I got to sleep I never woke up for 18 hours. We lost two boys out of the six that were down. They were William Ward, born 7 Feb 1864, and died 11 June 1878, and Samuel Ward, born 20 May 1866, and died 19th of June 1878."

Four years after the death of Samuel's first wife, he married a widow with three small children. Samuel Ward and Catherine Norman Kirkland were married in the Endowment House on April 10, 1879. No doubt the children were in need of a mother's gentle love.

The home on Mountain Road was busier than ever as Samuel and Catherine had children of their own. Sarah Harriet (named for Samuel's sister Harriet Ward) was born on May 31, 1880, followed by George, Norman, Samuel Norman (died as a child), Simeon, Charles and Catherine.

Samuel Ward died on April 20, 1894. The cemetery records state cancer. He is buried next to Ann Bunting Ward in the Kaysville Cemetery. His youngest daughter Catherine was not yet two years of age.

A recent trip to the Kaysville Cemetery uncovered other family members not in the family plot. Samuel Ashton died in 1890 and his wife Mary died in 1900. (Note: The history of Kaysville indicated the many fine qualities of Mary Bunting Ashton. She was a faithful midwife for the town and honored for her valiant support of her husband. Mary went into the business of supplying yeast to the settlers.) Samuel's headstone has fallen and is crumbling. John Bosworth and his wife Sarah Bunting (another sister of Ann's) are also buried close to her.

NOTE: (Something of interest we recently read). The surname Ward has two possible origins - one from the Old English word, guard, and the other from the Middle English word, Marsh.

Once everyone was known by a single name but this led to confusion and so an extra name was adopted. Thus, a man named John, who was a guard, might be known as "John (the) Ward" and William who lived on a marsh as "William of the Ward". The additional name in each case eventually becoming hereditary as a surname.