

## Warren Campbell<sup>1</sup>

(Written by Nephi James Brown, Mary Elize White  
Campbell's Half Brother)

Warren Campbell, son of Solomon and Lavina Campbell was born at Providence, Utah, March 31, 1861. In the Spring of 1851, his father with his uncles Jonathan and Samuel Campbell together with Thomas Dunn, Lemuel Malory, John Riddle, Benjamin Cazier, Newton D. Hall, Asa Rice, Ira Rice, Franklin G. Clifford, Enock Burns, David Garner, and Noah Brimhall AND their families effected the first permanent settlement at North Ogden.<sup>2</sup> Solomon's log house was among the first to be built in our historic town, and he was the father of the first white child born in North Ogden. Warren was one of twelve children. They were: Joel, Mary and Benoni (twins), Charlotte, Willie, Lemuel, David, Warren, Mercy, Miranda, Delightful, Rosenah, and Welcome. Warren was ambitious and full of energy and did his full share in helping his pioneer parents obtain a living for their large family. He had little formal education, but, by his own efforts obtained a good practical education. He was, during his adult life, a constant reader, well informed on current events, and an accurate record keeper of business and farming operations. Warren remembered that one of his first pairs of trousers was made by his mother from a seamless bag with the stripes running up the sides. He was very proud of them. He also told of going to dances with other boys and taking turns with them in wearing and dancing in the two or three pairs of shoes that were jointly owned by the members of the entire group. The floor was too rough to dance in just their socks, so they had to wait their turn to wear a pair of the shoes. One wonders how the shoes fit. He was fortunate to have a father who was skilled in handling tools, who made many articles of furniture for the home, and a mother who was an exceptionally good seamstress and knitter.

One Christmas Eve his mother remained up after the family had gone to bed and made molasses candy and cookies for them as a Christmas treat. These were the only "extras" they had for the day, but they didn't seem to mind as this was as much or more than most of their playmates had. What a far cry from the three, four or five gorgeous, shining toys and presents each, that many pampered children of today receive and who sometimes are not too sincerely grateful for all the things their parents lavish upon them. Children should be taught to appreciate values by being made to earn some things for themselves so as not to take for granted the many things their parents do for them. Scarcely anything is more damaging to wholesome character than the sin of ingratitude, while genuine appreciation is marvelous.

For a time, Warren helped his father with the operation of a sawmill up in Ogden Valley. He recounted one thrilling experience he had. He had started after logs and was sitting on the front part

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<sup>1</sup>Nephi James Brown, His Kindred and His Friends, Written by Nephi James Brown, 1963, pages 184-187. (Nephi Brown is a half brother to Warren's wife - Mary Elize White)

<sup>2</sup>Refer to "A History of North Ogden: Beginning to 1985, Published 1986, Copy Right - North Ogden City. (Additional History of North Ogden, and Warren, Mary Campbell and family

of the running gear of the wagon when all of a sudden the back part became uncoupled scaring the horses so that they ran away. Warren was bounced off the running gear and dragged for some distance but providentially he received no serious injury. As Warren grew older he hauled freight from Corinne, Utah, to the mines in Montana. Fred Cazier furnished the wagon and team of six or eight horses for half of the pay. It required skill to drive eight horses on a large freight wagon. On one trip he hauled a huge load of dynamite, for which he received \$600.00. With his share of \$300.00 he bought a stove, food and clothing for his father's family. He also hauled lumber from Ogden Valley down over the rough road to Ogden. For a time, Warren rented the farm of Jonathan Campbell for a share of the crops, and at one time he rented a part of Elize Brown White Brown's farm on a share-crop basis. He was a good farmer, an untiring worker, and was willing to work early and late. He had good mechanical ability and was very skilled in handling horses. Warren was strong and vigorous and had great endurance.

He held his sweetheart, Mary White, in very high esteem and treated her with the greatest of courtesy and consideration. They were married November 15, 1884, and received their endowments and were married for eternity in the Logan Temple on June 23, 1886. All during their married life he bestowed his affection upon Mary and treated her kindly, doing everything for her that he reasonably could do.

Cutting logs and sawing them into lumber for the two room frame house he built in North Ogden was no small task. Then pioneering the farm he bought in Liberty required a lot of real hard work and careful planning to make a success of it. In the growing season and at harvest time it was a matter of working from daylight until dark a good deal of the time. Quite often he had to tend irrigation water on alfalfa, grain or potatoes at night. The days were sometimes hot, but the nights were always cool and pleasant. At first he had to borrow some money and later some more money in connection with buying his land. I (Nephi Brown) heard him say he paid Sadie Randall twelve percent interest on money and to some others he paid more than 12%. He was undaunted in his purpose to own a good farm and paid his debts as soon as possible. It was a happy day for him and his family when they completed building the nice new five room frame house located in a grove of trees he had previously planted. A spring of cold water was nearby.

Warren was very skillful, energetic and industrious. He did his own horse shoeing and repaired his own machinery. Everything about his place was neat and in good repair. He built a large tight barn with stable room for his several horses and many cows. He had a certain place for all his tools and equipment and everything was kept in its place. He made many of the play things for his children including a very fine hand sled which lasted them for many years, and they always had a large swing and teeter-totter.

He hauled produce from his farms to Ogden by team and wagon; a distance of eighteen miles. The round trip required a start near daylight and a return home after dark. During these years in Liberty they had good times and some not so good. Once when they had three children he hauled a load of wheat to Ogden to sell it or exchange it for living necessities and a few toys for the children for Christmas. He only succeeded in selling enough to buy handkerchiefs for the two girls and a pocket knife for the boy. The rest of the load he hauled back home. While cash was often scarce in their home, they always had the things necessary for their comfort. Warren was a good provider.

He always had a large bin of flour. He home-cured meat from hogs, steers, and poultry that he raised on the farm. Each fall a large vegetable pit was filled with potatoes, carrots, cabbage, parsnips, turnips etc. that were raised in their garden, and their cellar was well stocked with hundreds of quarts various kinds of fruit that Mary had canned. Much of the children's clothing was home-made, but was plentiful and warm. The shoes of both parents and children were usually kept in repair by Warren himself.

For about six weeks during the Summer of 1903 when I (Nephi Brown) was sixteen years old I worked for Warren and his farm in Liberty, hauling hay and doing work, but I greatly enjoyed my stay at his home. I proved that Mary was a wonderful cook. Warren Campbell was a good disciplinarian; he was kind, but absolutely firm. His word was law, and his children knew it. A certain expression of firmness in his face told the story. If they demurred a little, all he had to do was to raise his fore-finger and they obeyed. This was a great lesson in respect for parental authority.

He was spiritually minded. While in Liberty he served as first counselor to Joseph Southwick in the M.I.A. and as a ward teacher, and served faithfully and well for some time as Second Counselor to Bishop Joseph E. Ward. When he entered the bishopric the Ward owed \$300.00 balance on the Weber Academy; the Bishopric paid it out of their own pockets, and again after their new meeting house had been constructed, they paid off the final balance personally, so that the new chapel could be dedicated.

On the farm Warren was a tremendous worker. As a great woodsman, he knew exceptionally well how to handle the ax. Also, he was a good fisherman and a good neighbor. Warren was impulsive and dramatic. Once when he and Mary had decided they wanted a door cut through a certain wall between two rooms, he immediately got his ax and in a few minutes had the hole cut through, ready for framing a place to hang the door. He took delight in buying things for his family, and surprising them. Once he bought an organ without their knowledge and brought it home much to their pleasure and enjoyment.

About 1906 his health started to fail and the doctor advised him to move to a somewhat lower altitude and to do less strenuous work. So accordingly, on March 5th of that year they moved back to North Ogden, having purchased the home of Lorin Campbell, just a block from where his father had settled in 1851. He sold fifty five acres of the Liberty farm to his son, Delbert. This included the home. He sold the balance of the farm to Edward Hill. He was at that time comfortably well off and free from debt.

For a short time he worked for wages at the Harrisville Brick Plant and at the North Ogden Packing House. He then bought the Briggs farm and soon after the Cyrus Ward place. These with the home place, which was planted to fruit trees, kept him busy. He modernized his home, kept a good driving team, and after that had good automobiles.

He loved his family and provided well for them. One Christmas Eve a neighbor dressed as Santa Claus called at Warren's home. He heard Donald ask for a blackboard, so as not to disappoint the boy, Warren drove to Ogden after 9:00pm and bought it. He entered wholeheartedly into the spirit of things, and always spoke with great conviction. Some of his favorite sayings were: "Good fences

make good neighbors," "a real man's word is always as good as his bond," "anyone can make money, but it takes a wise man to spend it," "Waste not, want not." Warren played the violin well by ear, and his family and friends enjoyed very much hearing him play the old time favorites. He always loved good music.

In July 1918, his doctor told him he had diabetes. From then on he suffered greatly with this disease. In May 1926, in the Dee Hospital, he had one of his legs amputated. He never recovered, and September 6, 1926, passed away.

Warren was an outspoken, dominant character, and everyone knew exactly where he stood. He was a man of honesty, industry, honor, integrity and sound judgment. His faith in the divinity of the restored gospel was unshakable, and his testimony genuine. I (Nephi Brown) feel sure that with his beloved Mary, he will receive a great reward, a crown of glory, exaltation and eternal life.