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Biographical Sketch

of

Margaret Thornton Wright

Pioneer Year 1853

Born: 4 Jan 1844 in Ayrshire, Scotland

Married: Frederick Wright, 31 Oct 1880

Died: 17 Jul 1908, American Fork, Utah

Margaret Thornton Wright, daughter of William and Mary Kennedy Thornton, was born January 4th, 1844, in Ayrshire, Scotland. She was the seventh child of a family of nine, her father was a weaver by trade. He owned the property he lived on. On which he had a six loom weaver shop and with the help of this two oldest sons made a good living for the family.

He embraced the Gospel in his native land. In the year 1850 with his family consisting of his wife Mary, six sons and one daughter Margaret (the other two daughters having passed away in Scotland) left their native land and came to Zion. Arriving in Utah in 1853, they remained in Salt Lake City for one winter and in the following Spring took up their abode in Cottonwood. From there they moved to Mill Creek in the fall. In 1855 they came to American Fork. Margaret was then eleven years old. She at the age of sixteen, on the 31st of October 1860 was married to Fredrick Wright. To this union thirteen children were born: Fredrick W, Mary Ellen, Samuel, Elizabeth, Margaret Ann, Sarah Jane, James Arthur, Hugh Alexander, Charles Gilbert, Lucy, Addie, Bertha and Joseph.

January 18th, 1908, when Margaret was 64 years old she was left a widow with all the children. Two children, Samuel and Sarah Jane, having preceded the father to the great beyond, eight children were then married – two girls and one boy – Addie, Bertha and Joseph at home.

She was of a quiet humble disposition. She loved her husband and family and labored as only pioneers understand for their comfort. She was handy with her needle which helped her greatly in the clothing of her family. She was an expert in soap making, making candles which was a great assistance in those days. She had splendid control over her children.

She was a faithful teacher in the Relief Society of Am. Fork 1st ward for a number of years and for some time held the positions as Counselor to Sister Elizabeth J. Durrant. She was a loving and faithful wife and mother. True to every trust imposed upon her. Six months lacking a day from her husband's death, she was called to join him July the 17th, 1908 and to meet the reward of a faithful, well spent life.

Her children love her and desire to emulate her example of purity and faith, and they take comfort in the fact that death cannot kill the germ of life.

The spirit that we love
That takes its flight to Father
In sacred realms above
And in the great hereafter
If faithful we remain
We'll live in perfect union
And never part again.