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Biographical Sketch

of

Edward Conder

and his wife

Helen Pierce Conder

Written by Lizzie Conder Earl

Pioneer Year 1850

Born 19 Nov. 1826 in Wadden, Cambridgeshire, England

Married date ____ place ____

Died date ____ place ____

Buried date ____ place ____

Edward Conder son of Edward and Deborah Matthews Conder was born in Wadden Cambridgeshire England November 19. 1826. While a babe his mother died and his father married again. His stepmother was very kind to him. At an early age he went to work for a man named William Pierce.

When the humble missionaries with their messages of Salvation came to the home town of William Pierce and family. Edward, with them, was convinced of its truthfulness and so embraced the Gospel of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. A singular thing happened in the life of William Pierce, just before joining the Church. His people being strong Catholics One night in a dream he was told that the truth would be made known to him. That following day he met two Latter Day Saints Missionaries (Heber C. Kimball and Willard Richards). They were in the act of washing the rotten eggs, with which they had been showered, from their clothing, and they explained the Gospel to him. He felt after the dream he had received, that this was indeed the truth. It took more than this to convince his wife. She was inclined to be bitter toward the Latter Day Saints. Till one evening the spirit of the, Lord was so greatly manifested in the meeting of the Latter Day Saints, held in their home that she arose to her feet and spoke in tongues. This was a testimony to her of its truthfulness.

In the year 1843, the family moved to St. Louis, Missouri. Edward went with them. In St. Louis in the year 1846, Edward was married to Helen Pierce. (Daughter of William Pierce and Sarah Wyman Pierce.) She was born in Woden, Cambridgeshire, England, on December 19, 1826. She was the second child of the family. While still in St. Louis a sad thing happened. William Pierce was drowned in the Grave River. The river was a branch of the Mississippi River. At this time Edward and Helen had two children born to them William and John Spencer.

In the year 1850, they left for the land of Zion, in Edward Hunts Co. They were on the plains six weeks. They arrived in the Salt Lake Valley in the fall of that year (October 13, 1850). They remained in Salt Lake about, one year, where their first daughter, Elizabeth was

born. They moved to American Fork, Utah where they made their home.

Their happy family was blessed with ten children: William, John Spencer, Elizabeth, Edward, Mary Ann,. Erma, Rachel, Ruth, Hermina and Deborah.

His occupation was mostly farming and freighting. He loved the great out-door life and courageously met the hardships incident to Pioneer life. This his wife shared.

His wife was an expert with a needle and this proved a blessing with her large family. She learned to do well those things that our pioneer mothers were forced to do, that of soap making, making of candles etc. and she was indeed proud to see her husband dressed in a suit made of home made cloth that she had spun out of home grown wool. She was not only a mother to her own large family but to three others as well, who were left without a mother's care and whom she raised as her own, to manhood. (William and Charles Pierce, children of her brother and Sidney Phillip, also years of care she gave to her granddaughter, Sadie after the death of her own daughter, (Hermina). Proving her unselfish spirit. She gave to her husband, sister Sarah Shelley Conder to be her sister wife. Their lives together for many years proved their devotion and love.

Dec. 18th 1885 in Am. Fork, Utah, at the age of 59 he was called from them by death. Leaving, by his passing a vacancy of love and devotion that could never be filled. He died a faithful Latter Day Saint, holding the office of High Priest at the time his death.

A little over eight years later in Am. Fork Feb. second 1894, she too was called to join him and to meet a reward of a well spent life.

We, as the offspring of such as they, we hope to honor them by our lives of kindness, love, devotion and service.