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Biographical Sketch

of

Charlotte Wood Greenwood

by Ella Able

Pioneer Year 1861

Sailed on the Underwriter

Captain Job Pingree Company

Born 7 Nov 1851 in Suckley, Worcestershire, England

Married William Houghton Greenwood 31 Oct in Salt Lake

Endowment House

Died 11 Jul 1936 in American Fork, Utah

Buried 15 Jul 1936 at the American Fork Cemetery

Charlotte Wood Greenwood, daughter of Richard and Charlotte Bishop Wood was born at Suckley, Worchester, England, November 7, 1850. She was the sixth child in a family of seven. She had four brothers and two sisters.

Her father followed the occupation of gardener. Her parents heard the truth carried to Suckley by Missionaries, and they both had become members of the church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints previous to Charlotte's birth.

She well remembered how she loved to attend Sunday School with her mother, as a little tot. She held in her possession a Testament and Bible combined that she received at the age of seven for her faithful attendance at Sunday School. At this age she learned the following beautiful poem, "The Rose" which has always remained with her:

*How fair is the rose, what a beautiful flower,
The glory of April and May,
When its leaves are all dead, and fine colors are lost,
Still how sweet a perfume it will yield.*

*Then I'll not be proud of my youth or my beauty,
Since both of them wither and fade,
But gain a good name by doing by duty,
Which will scent like a rose when I'm dead.*

She was left motherless at the age of seven, and with her younger sister, Annie, went to live with Aunt Jane Wood who had no children of her own. Her aunt's home was a home for the missionaries, as her parent's home had been.

She was baptized a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, in a brook with ice all around, on December 5, 1859, by Brother Israel Bale and confirmed by Elder Charles W. Penrose.

The two sisters, Charlotte and Annie, in company of their Aunt Jane, left England in the year 1861 to come to America, where they could be with the Saints of God. They left four brothers and one sister

with their father in the native land. Aunt Jane's husband had died two years previous.

After a six weeks voyage they crossed the ocean in the sailing vessel "Underwriter."

They came across the plains in Captain Job Pingree's pioneer company.

Her Aunt Jane purchased an ox team and cow to make the journey. The cow furnishing the milk while on the journey.

They had a man accompany them, to drive the team, but he took sick and had to be left behind. That left Aunt Jane and cousin to drive the remaining distance.

They arrived in American Fork, Utah, in Sept. of the same year, where she has always resided. Here she and her sister worked out almost continuously, earning their own living passing thru the experiences incident to pioneer life, but her sweet optimistic spirit in her Heavenly Father, which has characterized her whole life, made her happy in the performance of her labor.

Well does she remember gleaning wheat, thrashing it, and waiting for a wind to thoroughly cleanse it, then taking it to a store to purchase material for a calico dress at 75 cents a yard.

Here she met her life's companion, William Houghton Greenwood, the third son of William and Alice Houghton Greenwood, a sturdy Latter Day Saint who, too, had left their home in England for the Gospel's sake.

They were married in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City, October 31, 1870, by Elder Joseph F. Smith. Through this union, ten children were born. Seven sons and three daughters. Her husband died Dec. 20, 1928 and six weeks later, her daughter Mary Ellen Howes passed away, leaving three sons, which was a great sorrow to all.

Charlotte was a help mate in every deed to her husband, doing all she could in supporting and rearing her large family. She learned the art of soap and candle making.

She has been noted for her knitting of stocking, for so many. Hundreds of yards of lace has she knit and crocheted to sell, to help in supporting the needs of her children and home.

Notwithstanding, all the labors and duties of home, she made time and took a great deal of pleasure in her labors in the church.

She was a member of the choir for many years under the leadership of Brother Ebenezer Hunter. She joined the first organization of the Sunday School with Brother William Paxman as Supt. And Isaac Abel assistant.

She was also a counselor in the Primary and a member of the First Relief Society, under the organization of Sister Mary S. Hindley, President.

She was a Relief Society teacher with Sister Margaretta King and Elizabeth Cullan for many years.

When the American Fork Wards were divided she was chosen in the presidency of the First Ward Relief Society, as second counselor, to Sister Orpha Robinson, President, and Elizabeth Durrant as first counselor. In this capacity she labored for seven years. Elizabeth Durrant succeeded Sister Robinson and she was first counselor to Sister Durrant for a period of six years, and at Sister Durrant's release she was chosen as president Feb. 16, 1911. This position she held for eight years, making a total of 21 years of service to the First ward Presidency of Relief Society. She was released on account of failing health.

Her life of faithfulness helped her to bear her trouble uncomplainingly, for her faith in her Heavenly Father, which has always been her support, brought his blessings and comfort to her. Her great aim has been to live the life of a Latter Day Saint. It has been her heart's desire that her children should do the same, that she could truly realize the promise, "That for me and my household we will serve the Lord."

Her joy has been in making others happy, kind and conscientious, ever willing to smooth the pillow of the sick and

comfort those in sorrow. She could truly mourn with those that mourn and rejoice with those that rejoice.

We rejoice in having her still with us, and thankful that she is still endowed as she has been throughout her life with the sweet spirit of cheerfulness, which has been a lever to her soul, softening the clouds of adversity and radiating sunshine to those around her.

May we, as her offspring, follow her worthy example and merit hereafter, the blessings of our Heavenly Father.

She has, at the present time, Seven sons and three daughters were born to them. At the present time seven children, twenty-three grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren living.

[December 20, 1928, her husband was called from her. Six weeks later her second daughter, Mary Ellen Howes, passed away and on June 29, 1934, her eldest son, William Richard died. She died Saturday, July 11, 1936 at American Fork and was buried Wednesday, July 15, 1936 at the American Fork Cemetery.]