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Biographical Sketch

of

William Chadwick

by Ada C. Baker

Pioneer Year 1869

Born 7 Dec. 1847 in Liverpool, Lancashire, England

William Chadwick was born in Liverpool, Lancashire, England, on December 7, 1847. He was the sixth child of a family of nine. His parents, John and Elizabeth Tomlinson Chadwick, were industrious people who kept several shops as business, and by their honest dealing prospered rapidly. It was the custom of the Episcopalian church to christen their children the same name, until he or she lived to carry the name, therefore, there were three Johns and two Alices born to this family as follows: The first child, a daughter named Alice, died an infant. The second, a son named John, died at one year. The third and fourth were girls, Elizabeth and Alice. The fifth was another son who was given the name of John, but died at the age of eighteen months. Then William, the subject of this sketch was born, the seventh and eighth were named James and Thomas, and then another who was christened John.

These people were devout and godfearing, and when the message of Mormonism was carried to England by the missionaries, William's father felt that this was the right religion and from then embraced the L.D.S. faith. When the family made it known that they were staunch believers of this religion, their persecution began – their English relatives disowned them and their customers and friends were bitter against them and ignored them in a social way, consequently their business decreased and finally their shops had to be closed.

But all these reverses were not strong enough to change the belief of these good people and the desire to become Latter-day-saints was greater than any financial hardships that could come to them, so for a time, the mother did washing for the missionaries as they were very strict about their laundry. Soon all the family that were of age were baptized as members of Mormon belief, and they made preparations to sail to America. On August 29, 1869, with his parents and brothers and sisters, William Chadwick set sail from Liverpool on the steamship Minnesota. They were eighteen days on the ocean, landing September 17, 1869. They were accompanied by fellow-passengers, John Farrington and his sister who were dear friends of the Chadwick family. When they came to Ogden they were met by George Taylor who had been to Utah six years. They went to

Salt Lake City and spent the first night at the Murdock home, where the New House Hotel now stands. The next day the family traveled by ox team to American Fork and made their home in one log room on the lot where Mrs. Summerville now lives.