

DUP AF Book 2 page 391

Biographical Sketch

of

Mary Shuttleworth Wild

by Maude Shelley Wild, daughter-in-law

Pioneer Year 1859

Sailed on the May Flower

Born 18 Mar 1832 in Ramsbottom, Lancashire, England

Married in 1854 to Joseph Wild

Mary Shuttleworth was the daughter of William Shuttleworth and Mariam Reese. She was born in the quaint old town of Ramsbottom, Lancashire, England, March 18, 1832. She was the second child in a family of three daughters. Her sisters were Sarah and Ann.

As a child she received very little education. Her father died when she about eleven years old, and at that tender age she, with her older sister, Sarah, were sent to the cotton mill to help support her mother and baby sister. Life in Ramsbottom was typical of all English villages; work, the main objective, all must labor to sustain a mere existence, in factory, mines and docks, men and women, old and young with their small children were forced to labor for a mere pittance. The home life was one of the family meeting together night and morning, oft too tired to be very good company to each other; yet, with it all they studied their Bible and hardly a person could not be found who could not repeat chapter after chapter of this good book. In this way preparing their selves from the oft stirring of their souls for more spiritual knowledge. So it was with Mary Shuttleworth, and her Mother and two sisters. They were prepared for the message the Latter Day Saints Missionaries brought to them and they were baptized members of the Church in 1856.

In the year 1854 she was married to Joseph Wild, a young man from Bury; Bury was about four miles from her home. How they met and their courtship days, we have no knowledge. Yet, we their descendants thrill to feel the attachment that drew these two noble children of God together, and gave to us our noble heritage of good English parentage with its solid, courageous, and enduring qualities.

The supreme joy of motherhood came to her in her first married year, when Algernon was born Christmas Day, 1854. But the little fellow had not come to stay; for when he was a little over three months old he passed on and is buried in Ramsbottom.

Soon after the little ones death her husband had an excellent chance to emigrate to America. They were so anxious to gather to the Church of Jesus Christ in the land of Zion, that he accepted the offer, leaving his wife with her mother and promising to send for them both as soon as he had earned sufficient to pay their passage.

Mary Shuttleworth's Mother, although 86 years of age, had one great desire left in her life she wanted to accomplish, and that was to see the Prophet of the Lord, Brigham Young, and lay her body down to rest among the saints of God in the Valleys of the Mountains. This she did, for she passed away six months after arriving here, and is buried in Salt Lake City.

They crossed the Atlantic Ocean in the sailing vessel "May Flower" and were nine weeks making the voyage.

She met her husband in Boston, and went with him to Lawrence, Mas., where he had work. They remained here until the Spring of 1859, when they were able to make their way west, arriving in Salt Lake City, August 16, 1859. Here they located on a farm belonging to Brigham Young in the south east part of the valley, on what was known as Mountain Dell" now East Mill Creek or Sugar House.

We will pause here and relate a little incident that happened in the life of Mary Wild, when they were crossing the great, wide American plains. Her and a young woman companion, while walking, had discovered some wild berries and as the ox teams traveled so slowly, they decided they could pick a nice lot of berries and catch up with the train easily; not withstanding all members of the company had been warned and advised not to lag too far behind as there was always danger of lurking Indians or wild beasts. So intent were they in picking berries, they sensed no danger until they heard a shout; on looking up, discovered a group of Indians on horseback racing toward them from one direction, and a group of men from the wagon train, also horseback racing toward them. Startled, the women started running toward the wagon train.

The men reached them first and then chased the Indians into the hills.

Mary Wild and her mother were the only ones of their family to come to Utah, one sister remaining in England and the other sister coming as far as Boston and remaining there.

Between 1864 and 1865 they moved to American Fork, Utah County, Utah, where her husband became interested in civic and church affairs and she with her child rearing and church duties.

She was a very happy mother. Each child that came to her was welcomed at her bosom. The one thing that helped her to be a wonderful mother was that she was a Latter Day Saints and understood her partnership with God in creating bodies to house His spirit children.

How she loved to see her husband, sons, and daughters grow and the gratitude that filled her heart when these loved ones of hers were ordained to the position of the Priesthood. How she had studied, thought and prayed for her own to sense the wonder, the power and the glory of receiving power delegated from God. How hard she labored to teach them to magnify their calling, faithfully fulfill their obligations and do all, to the best of the ability, every duty connected with his office. So it is no wonder, her husband accepted a mission and honorably and faithfully performed.

Her husband left May 7, 1880 for his mission to Great Britain. While he was gone her sons, Joseph, Edwin, Moroni, Alma and Walter built two rooms more to her home, making a comfortable home of [blank] rooms. This token of thoughtfulness she appreciated very much and it made her very happy.

Her unselfish disposition, her love of seeing her own obedient to the Gospel's teachings qualified her to give unto her husband a sister wife, and to live in harmony and share equally with her. The sincere devotion between Mary Wild and

Hannah Binns Wild was proof of two noble souls. We today love and hallow their memory.

To know Mary Wild you never forgot her, her kind smile, her loving handclasp and her tender understanding made her a lovely mother and companion to her son's wives and they never tired of them doing thoughtful things for her. At one time three of them went over to her home, while she had gone to Salt Lake City to attend conference, and did all her spring house cleaning. It was the day when straw was used under the carpets. The night she was expected home they were there and had supper ready.

The minute she stepped upon the carpet, the crackling of the fresh straw told her what had been done and she exclaimed, "O my girls have done all my cleaning for me." Her sweet smile and her thankful caress told how much she appreciated it.

She was the mother of nine children: Algernon Albert born December 25, 1854. Joseph Shuttleworth born October 2, 1860 and died 1928. Edwin James born August 24, 1862 and died 1930. Moroni Alma born February 10, 1865, at this writing (1939) still living. John Thomas born April 15, 1866 and died March 27, 1881. Mary Miriam born August 19, 1868 and died August 4, 1869. Heber Daniel born April 15, 1870 and still living. Sarah Eliza born June 16, 1873 and died June 16, 1898. Walter James born March 21, 1875.

Five sons were living, also her husband, at the time she was called home January 13, 1902. The other four children had preceded her in death.

Her family and all who knew her felt that this world was made better thru her living in it. She was a devoted wife and helpmate to her husband, a loving, patient mother and a woman who took delight in seeing everybody happy.

She kept her kindly ways somehow
With peace like perfume on her brow.
She kept her faith in human good.
Her clean belief in womanhood,

She sowed her love with lavish hand,
In every corner of the land.

She taught us by her life serene.
What faith and hope and love could mean,
The claims of common brotherhood,
That riches are not always good,
She lived among us calm and wise,
and looked at life with kindness.

(This History was prepared by Walter James Wild, her son, And Maude Shelley Wild, her daughter-in-law, and given in the Adams Camp of Daughters of Utah Pioneers January 12, 1939.)