

# Mary Boyes Harper Time Line

*by Ken Blaylock, November 2006*

12 May 1850 – Birth, Salt Lake City, to Elizabeth Taylor Boyes and George Boyes, who farmed for a living in Big Cottonwood. She was the second child of Elizabeth and George. Their first child Agnes, who was only 1 or 2 years-old, had died the previous month. Mary became the oldest living child of George and Elizabeth. They lived in a small adobe house on the farm, until later when a bigger home was built and the adobe house was turned into a granary. (There was also a Salt Lake home.)

14 May 1850 – Edward, the twin brother of Mary, died 2 days after their birth, bringing sorrow again to Mary's mother.

1855 – The Endowment House became available for temple ordinances. The first temple, St. George, would not be available until 1877. Mary would have her ordinances performed in the Endowment House.



Mar–May 1858 – The saints filled their homes with straw and moved south to avoid Johnson's Army. By mid-May the move was complete. The saints were poor due to grasshoppers eating crops. But the intent was to burn homes and property rather than let the US government take it from them.

September 1858 – The family returned home, and found a volunteer crop of grain ready to harvest. The harvest overflowed the granary and the boy's room in the new house was also filled. "Flax was raised on Elizabeth's farm and thread was spun from it. Elizabeth's daughters, Elizabeth and Sarah Leonora did most of that spinning. The girls made their own dresses and wore them until the skirt was thin at the back, when back was turned to front and the dress used as a school dress, and a new Sunday one made" (Elizabeth Taylor Boyes life sketch).

28 May 1858 – Mary was 8 years-old when her 2 ½ year-old sister Rachel died.

20 March 1859 – Mary's father became a counselor in the Bishopric and remained in that position throughout Mary's growing up years. Elizabeth was the Relief Society President and later the counselor up until 1900.

28 April 1861 – Mary was 10 years-old when she was baptized.

11 November 1861 – Mary was 11 years-old when her 10 month old brother George Jr. died.

1862 – Morrill Act, first anti-polygamy law was passed. Pressure was being placed on Church members to discontinue the practice.



**George Boyes Home, Holladay UT**

<http://www.softcom.net/users/paulandsteph/gboyes/homepage.html#elizabeth>

26 October 1866 – Mary was married to Charles Alfred Harper Jr. in Salt Lake City. Mary was 16 and Charles was 18. Two days after their marriage, Charles was endowed in the Endowment House.

Summer 1867 – Grasshoppers destroyed the crops.

14 September 1867 – Mary was endowed in the Endowment House. In this same year the walls of the Salt Lake Temple now reached ground level after having to reset new foundation stones.

1867 – There was a movement to revitalize the Relief Society when Mary was 17 years-old.

1868 – ZCMI was created in Salt Lake City and would become central to Mary in the purchase of goods.

10 May 1869 – The railroads met at Promontory Summit, two days before Mary's 19<sup>th</sup> birthday. This was a time of great excitement in the nation and especially in Utah. It is likely Mary would have felt some of this excitement. From 1860 through 1870 Salt Lake City experienced tremendous growth—growing from 8,200 to 12,800. From Mary's birth she witnessed the desert blossom as a rose.

22 Aug 1870 – Mary and Charles were sealed in the Endowment House.

9 May 1871 – Charles Alfred Harper Jr. was born at Big Cottonwood, UT. He lived only 9 months.

1872 – Moved to Southern Utah to help in pioneering, returned after a short time there. (C. A. Harper Jr. Life Sketch)

1 December 1872 – George Boyes Harper was born at Levan, Juab County, Utah. He lived to age 14 and died on 14 Sep 1886. (C. A. Harper Jr. Life Sketch)

1 August 1874 – Mary's father, George Boyes, died at Salt Lake City, UT.

7 December 1874 – Mary Harper was born at Big Cottonwood, UT. She lived a full life.

1877 – Moved to Randolph where Charles worked in a saw mill and shingle mill, possibly with his brother Harvey. (C. A. Harper Jr. Life Sketch)

4 March 1877 – Joseph Boyes Harper was born at Randolph, Rich, UT. He lived a full life and died in Holladay, UT.

1878 – Moved back to Holladay, Utah and purchased a 50 acre homestead. Mary and Charles lived here the rest of their lives. (C. A. Harper Jr. Life Sketch)

3 March 1879 – Lavina Harper was born at Holliday, UT. She lived a full life.

15 June 1881 – Edwin Boyes Harper was born at Big Cottonwood, UT. He lived a full life.

27 December 1883 – John Harper was born at Big Cottonwood, UT. He lived almost two months.

13 February 1884 – Newborn son, John Harper, died.

14 April 1885 – William Harper was born at Holladay, UT. He lived a full life.

14 September 1886 – Son George Harper died at age 14.

14 Jun 1887 – James Harper was born and died on the same day.

1890 – Charles left on a mission to the Sandwich Islands. He was not able to stay the full term due to climate problems. (C. A. Harper Jr. Life Sketch)

*At some point Mary became the president of the Relief Society and served for many years in that calling. She was also a school teacher. (C. A. Harper Jr. Life Sketch)*

29 May 1890 – Elizabeth Harper was born at Big Cottonwood, UT and lived 3 years.

14 May 1893 – Chester Harper was born at Big Cottonwood, UT and died the same day.

6 April 1893 – Salt Lake Temple was dedicated.

2 June 1893 – Daughter Elizabeth Harper died at age 3.

4 January 1896 – Utah became a state.

7 September 1898 – Daughter, Mary Harper was married to Albert Marchant in the Salt Lake Temple and endowed on the same day.

24 April 1900 – Father-in-Law, Charles Alfred Harper Sr., died at Holladay, UT.

4 June 1900 – 23 year-old Son, Joseph Boyes Harper was endowed in the Salt Lake Temple.

11 February 1903 – Daughter Lavina Harper was endowed.

9 July 1903 – Mother-in-law, Lavina Wollerton Dilworth Harper died at Rexburg ID, and was buried at Holladay, UT.

23 September 1903 – Daughter Lavina Harper married Jesse Tilton Moses Jr. in the Salt Lake Temple.

19 May 1909 – William Harper was endowed at age 24.

31 July 1909 – Mother, Elizabeth Taylor Boyes, died at Salt Lake City, UT.

24 November 1910 – Died at age 60 in Big Cottonwood, UT. She was survived by her husband Charles Alfred Harper Jr., and 5 of her 11 children Mary, Joseph, Lavina, Edwin, and William.