

Revised by Emmeline C. McKay, Weston, Idaho, Jan 1974

Joseph Chatterton was son of James Chatterton and Elizabeth Crofts, He was born in Darfield, Yorkshire, England 28 August, 1850. He was the first child in the family born in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. His mother joined the church 13 Oct 1848 and his father was baptized 19 Nov 1848. He was called "the little Red-headed Mormon".

He went to school very little, none over a year and a half. His main school was Sunday School of which he was a regular attendant. He couldn't go to school very much because schooling was expensive and they were poor. They had a large family, there were eleven (11) in all, as follows: Sarah, James, William Thomas, John, Arthur Richard, Joseph, Hyrum James, Mary Crofts, Heber Chase, Willard Lorenzo, Wilford. James, Arthur Richard, and Willard Lorenzo died young, as babies.

The only relatives Joseph can remember are his grandmother, Hannah Crofts, a dear little old lady, and his Uncle Dick, (Richard) a cab driver in Sheffield, Yorks, England.

Joseph's father, James Chatterton, had the occupation of "Miller". This is the occupation given on the birth certificate of all his children, but on Joseph's birth certificate, he was mentioned as a "Corn Miller". Joseph's father, James, died when Joseph was nineteen (19) years old, on 12 Mar 1869. After his father's death his mother met a Mr. John Ellieworth who was going to America. She was so religious, and wanted to come to America, and she had so much trust in her Heavenly Father, she sent her three children, Heber, Mary, and Wilford, who was eight (8) years of age, over to Utah with Mr. Ellieworth and his daughter. Joseph had been working the coal mines previous to this. He worried so about the children that he took a boat from England a month later, to America. He sailed to America from Liverpool, England on the ship "Manhattan" 22 September 1869.

On October 13th, when the ship was in Mid-ocean, there was an equinox storm. The people thought the ship was going to sink. There was a great commotion aboard. Some people were praying, some singing, some dancing, some cursing, and some crying. The life-coats were loosed so if it was necessary they could be used. In the end the ship pulled through to safety.



Joseph landed in Ogden, Utah, October 22, 1869. He came on to Richmond, Utah, and found all the children safe with his brother, William Thomas. Mary had gone out to do housework and Joseph helped William get out his winter's wood out of the canyon. Joseph needed work so he went to Bishop Merrill, who was later the Apostle Merrill, and asked him for work because William couldn't keep all the children, so Bishop Merrill got him work at Monson's. Mr. Monson was a carpenter. Joseph was an apprentice boy. He stayed with Monson's four years.

At the end of two years, Joseph's mother and Hyrum James came over from England. This was all their family now, they had all emigrated to America, and were happy to be together again. Sarah had come about 1862 and William came in August 1863. Elizabeth and her son Hyrum James sailed on the ship "Wyoming" 21 June 1871. The cost of their passage was twenty-five pounds and eighteen shillings.

Mr. Ellieworth, who had been the cow-herder for Richmond, took cold and died with pneumonia. He had been an important person in their lives, and had shown he was very trust-worthy.

In the spring of 1872, Joseph went to Franklin, Idaho to do some work on the Church House. While he stayed there he went to the dances quite often. He and Edmund Buckley played for them. He played an accordion. One night David Jensen and he didn't have any girls to take to the dance, so a friend told them he would find them one. He took them down to Joseph Stoness's Place. He lived in Doby Town then (the south part of Franklin), down by the depot. On the way their friend told them about the girls. He said that one of the girls was short and the other tall. Naturally they thought that the tall one was the oldest and the short one the youngest, so they agreed that David would take the oldest and Joseph the younger. They were taking the girls unsight and unseem. When they got there the girls agreed to go so the taller, which was the younger, walked out with David and the short one, which was the oldest, walked out with Joseph. They went to the dance and all had a very good time. Something seemed to tell Joseph that this girl was to be his wife. They planned to be married the next fall, but Joseph's mother was going to Ogden to live with her daughter, Sarah, and he didn't want to go back to Mon -