

LIFE SKETCH OF:

Julia Ellen Whitehead James

Born 19th of February 1860
Somersetshire, England

J. E. W., dtr of George and Sophia Morris Whitehead, ~~xxxx~~ granddaughter of George and Mary Whitehead, was born on the ~~xxxx~~ 19th day of February 1860, at Somersetshire, England. She was baptized on the 19th day of February 1868 at Bristol, England by Elder Frederick Anderson. Later in the same year, the family moved to Liverpool, England and George whitehead left for America. He di some kind of work on the ship for his fare across the ocean which took three months and all aboard endured many hardships. After my Grandfather left for America, Grandmother found employment so that she and her children, Julia Ellen (my mother), George Morris and Pollycould soon join their father. My Grandmother left for America four ~~month~~ months after grandfather reached America. Mother and the Children also had a long, hard journey. Grandfather met the family and they all joined the Homer Duncan Expedition which brought them across the planes and they arrived in Morgan County in the same year 1868.

The family remained in Morgan County and Grandfather worked on the Railroad, which was being constructed, until it was completed there in 1871 and then the family moved to Ogden Utah, in 1872, on the site now occupied by the Orpheum theatre. At this place Grandfather operated a boot and shoe shop. Mother's brother frank was born at this place and her brother George Morris was accidentally killed at the "old lorn works" In 1877 grandfather was compelled to return to England to settle an estate. He became very ill on the ship ~~x~~ when he was coming back to America and died on the 17th of July 1877 at Ogden, Utah

My grandmother continued to live at the same place in Ogden and it was there that my mother Julia Ellen Whitehead

met William Frances Jones. Mother was only 17 when she and father ~~and~~ and another couple from Ogden journeyed in a covered wagon to St. George, Utah, where they were among the first to be married in the new temple there on the 5th day of September 1877.

Father built a two roomed, shingled roof house on a lot at 27th and wall sts. Ogden, Utah, and it was there that my mother's first child William Henry was born on the 14th day of June 1878, and I, Julia Rosabell, was born there on the 6th of October 1879. This little house still stands there untouched at this writing.

Father and mother were faithful, active latter-day saints. When I was about one month old, father received a call from the church to go on a mission to New Mexico and Arizona. Father and mother accepted the call and so they started on the thousand mile journey with my brother and I in a covered wagon. My mother endured many hardships and privations on the way. We stopped many times where the scattered families lived and asked if mother may give her baby a bath because of the cold weather. Too, father's horses would stray far away while they were finding grass to eat; and when this occurred, we would travel all night especially where water was scarce. We arrived at St. Johns, Arizona on the 20th day of December 1879. This was a small settlement populated mostly with indians and mexicans. We moved into a little log house here and father began to preach the gospel to the indians and spoke ~~their~~ their language fluently. Two brothers and one sister was born here. Joseph Benjiman was born on the 27th day of July 1881 and died on the 4th of March 1883. My father was a carpenter by trade and made the coffin in which my brother was buried in at St. Johns. My brother George Norris was born here on the 4th day of March 1866 and my sister Mary Elizabeth was born on the 1st day of January 1865. The following summer, mother and her family moved to ~~Salinas~~, Wilencia County, New Mexico.

1885

Mother was left alone with here children much of the time during the four years that father preached the gospel in New Mexico. While here Nephi Moroni was born on the 11th of January 1887 and my sister Clara Ellen was born on the 8th of November 1888. When Nephi Moroni was blessed, the man who performed the ordinance knew the name which was going to be given him before my parents gave it to him. Mother always felt that this name was chosen by the Lord. Mother and we children had little to maintain us financially and father ate much parched corn and pine nuts while traveling about.

In 1890, father moved mother and her children to Diaz, Old Mexico where he helped his brother operate a saw mill and preached the gospel. It was here that my sister Sarah Lillian was born on the 30th of June 1890.

Father contracted malaria while in Old Mexico so the church issued a release for his return and he, mother and the seven remaining children went back to Ogden, Utah, and arrived there on the 28th day of December 1891. My sister Eveline Louise was born on the 1st of January 1892.

My grandfather Joseph James built a house for our family at Wilson Lane, about six miles west of Ogden, Utah, where father and the children engaged in farming. Here the family lived for about twenty years and father regained his health considerably. My brothers raised hay and grain and father planted and took care of the garden. In the winter father put up ice and he operated an ice business. While here my mother gave birth to the following children: Florence May was born on the 3th day of November 1894; Pearl Amelia on the 3th of November 1896; Myrtle Ada on the 11th of November 1898; Nellie Alberta on the 11th of August 1900; Alfred Robert on the 23d of January 1902, and Nettie Laura on the 22nd of October 1903. Mary Elizabeth died on the 4th of January 1888 and Nellie Alberta died on the 7th of March 1901 while at Wilson Lane.

In 1910 father moved mother and the family back to Ogden Utah, and they were located in the third ward, and father ~~owned~~ operated an ice and coal business. It was here that my sister Myrtle Ada died on the 24th day of July 1914

Father and mother remained faithful all of the days of their lives and were exemplary in every respect. They used to share with others and never killed a pig without sharing it with their neighbors. Father served as a missionary, ward bishop, supt of Sunday School and was a high councilman when he answered his last call on the 26th of November 1916, which brought to an end a colorful and useful life of service to the church and to his large family.

You will note from this history that my mother Julia Ellen James gave birth to 15 children, ten dtrs and 5 sons. My mother was even tempered and exemplary in every respect and also served the lord all of her days. After all of her children had grown up, she served as president of a Religion class until she became ill. Mother died on the 6th day of April 1925 in her old home in the third ward of Ogden, Utah. Six dtrs and three sons are still living at this writing.

For information I would like to add that it required at least thirty days for my parents to make the return trip in the covered wagon from Ogden to St. George Utah at the time they were married.