

A Brief History of Jane Morgan Price



Jane Morgan, dark hair, heavy dark eyebrows, not very tall and dark of skin. This must be somewhat of what she looked like because those of the family I have seen have these same features so they are recognized as belonging to the same family. Jane Morgan, born the daughter of John Morgan and Margaret Lewelyn, 28 January, 1810 at Merthyr Tydfil, Glamorganshire, South Wales.

Jane married Jeremiah Price of Kellegory, Radnorshire, South Wales. To them were born eleven children, Jane, Margaret, Josiah, David, Sarah Ann, John, Isaac, Jemima, and the twins Mary and Martha.

The childhood of Jane I do not recall hearing anything about. The first stories I recall are the ones Sarah Ann, my grandmother told me. "Ah," She would say, "Mother hated to see me leave to come to America and Zion." Then she would retell the story of the parting and voyage across the ocean. That is her history and is apart from the history of Jane, except we know that she must have been afraid to have Sarah, a child of nine and Josiah, a young man, go so far away from home and just maybe she would never see them again.

The home in Rhymney, Monmouthshire, South Wales, was a two story brick house built close to the walk and street. It had long narrow windows, and the door opened directly onto the walk.

I always thought of Great Grandmother as being very clean as the stories told me of the way she scrubbed the floor with sand that made the boards so very white and smooth. She lost the eldest child while scrubbing one day. The cow had got out of the pasture or pen and a neighbor hurried in to tell her and she hurried out to care for it and left the scrubbing pail on the floor and when she returned she found the baby, Jane, had fell in and was drowned.

When a young girl, Jane was apprenticed to a dressmaker and hatmaker. She was so quick with her hands, and she learned the trade easily, she was soon given work to do for money.

Jane married Jeremiah Price at the age of eighteen. At the time of their conversion to the Latter-Day-Saints Church her husband was a

overseer at some coal mine near by. They owned some property around the home in Rhymney and were considered quit well off.

Jeremiah was a Methodist before the elders came to their home, and converted them to Mormonism in about 1852. He and the family, except Margaret, who was married and David who had been killed in a mine accident were baptized in the night. As soon as it was learned they belonged to the Mormons he was discharged from the mine and the decision was made to send Sarah and Josiah to Zion with some Saints and Elders that were coming.

Jane would help the family finances by buying cloth or hats at the market in Bristol and other larger towns and cities where she would place them in the home and sell them out.

She grieved a lot when Sarah and Josiah left and was ill for some time afterward. She was not fully converted to Mormonism but complied with her husbands wishes and was baptized with the rest.

The rest of the family sailed on the ship Chimborazo in the spring of 1855. While crossing she had another trial of faith. One of the children was carrying Mary up the ladder of the ship to the upper deck and dropped her, killing her and she had to be buried at sea.

When they arrive in Utah, they were sent to North Ogden and that winter spent there proved another hardship. Food was scarce and Jane dug and gathered bulbs to eat. Her husband was ill with rheumatism he had contracted while working on a canal before crossing the plains and was invalid most of the time.

In 1860 she lost her husband, he being drowned while crossing Payson Lake on the ice in the early spring. She and the family returned to North Ogden and tried farming. This sort of work she knew nothing about. They went from there to Henderson Creek near Malad then to Malad City. In about 1879 she went to Elkhorn, north of Malad,

to live with her son John till he married after which Jane came back and lived with Sarah Ann in North Ogden.

During these years she and some of the family joined the Josephites. She also had rheumatism very bad and had to take laudanum until it had become a habit with her. However she became determined to break the habit and did. She was rebaptized to the L.D.S. Church while living with Sarah Ann, her testimony having strengthened. Later she went to live with Jemima Coleman, a daughter, who lived in Star valley and later moved to Canada, she going with them. She died there at the age of 96 in the year of 1904.

The loss of the child and husband, also the hardships, hunger, and the sickness were very great ordeals and it is not a wonder she lost faith. Especially having left home and property that was a source of a good livelihood. The stories of our fathers do not always have these choice words "but their faith was greater than their hardships," but ones heart goes out to them and all they endured as we can understand why they were overcome. I bow in reverence to her having been tried in so many ways and finally too win out. I hope some day to meet her and tell her I am grateful.

By a G Granddaughter, Myrtle C. Swainston.
From stories told by Sarah Ann Price Godfrey and Jemima Godfrey Campbell.

History #28
C:\Documents and Settings\Jones\My Documents\FAMILY HISTORY\Jones FH\001-031\028.wpd