

SARAH CLOWER (CLEWER)

from Donald L. Haynie

SARAH CLOWER (or CLEWER), a daughter of Josiah Clower (or Clewer) and Mary Marson, was born October 6, 1815, in Foleshill, Warwickshire, England. She was christened November 5, 1815, in Saint Lawrence Church, Foleshill, Warwickshire, England.

On November 28, 1841, she was married to Zackariah Jaques, in Foleshill, Warwickshire, England. To this union were born five children, all of them being born in Foleshill, Warwickshire, England, except for Mary Ann, the oldest, who was born in Coventry, Warwickshire, England, and who died as an infant.

Mary Ann Jaques	1838
Mary Maria Jaques	November 5, 1842
Sarah Ann Jaques	April 22, 1845
Josiah Jaques	March 4, 1848
Hannah Maria Jaques	February 18, 1850

Zackariah and Sarah were average people, being very good and industrious. They heard the Gospel preached by the early Elders of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints who had been sent to England for that purpose. The date they were baptized as members of the Church is not known. However, in 1852, Zackariah left England for America where he expected to find work as an engine winder, to earn the money required for passage for the rest of the family.

Zackariah arrived in St. Louis, Missouri, where he found work. It was at this time that cholera, a dreadful disease, was raging throughout the frontier country. Zackariah contracted the disease and died, leaving Sarah and their four living children in England, to make their own way.

Sarah was determined she would go to America. She was a very industrious woman and was gifted with making ends meet. She went to work in the factories weaving cloth. Her children were taught to work and were sent to school as they became old enough.

For eleven years, the family struggled to make and to save. Sarah began to put money into the Perpetual Emigration Fund which had been set up by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to help people save for their voyage to America. Finally, the day came when Sarah had enough saved to have her heart's desire come true, but, when she took her savings book to the Church headquarters in England, she found she had not been given credit for all she had put into it. But, in time, this was corrected, so they were able to leave for America.

In 1863, Sarah and her four children set sail for America on one of the old sailing vessels, the "Brooklyn." The voyage was difficult and the passengers on the ship were very crowded, and there was much sickness on board. Scarlet fever broke out and many were stricken with this disease, Hannah, Sarah's daughter, being one of them. Hannah was very ill and it appeared that she would not survive. At this time, the captain of the ship believed it would be better to throw Hannah overboard since she was not going to get well anyway. But Sarah would not listen to this. She had great faith. She fasted and prayed, and, because of her prayers and the prayers of the other Saints on board ship, Hannah's life was spared.

The "Brooklyn" put the family ashore at New York City, where they boarded a train which they rode to its terminus at Omaha, Nebraska. At Florence, near Omaha, the family was met by wagons and ox teams sent by President Brigham Young. These were the "down and back" wagon trains, on one of which Hannah's future husband, Samuel Jackson, was an ox team driver. It was a successful trip across the plains to Salt Lake City, and cost one hundred dollars per person. The trip was difficult and long, but the family was blessed and arrived safely in Salt Lake City.

From Salt Lake City, they were sent to Nephi, as were many of their company, to settle and make their new home. Here, they began a life so different from the one they had left in England. But, Sarah was not to give up. She and her children pitched in and began to make a home for themselves.

On March 10, 1883, Sarah Clower (or Clewer) Jaques died in Nephi, Juab County, Utah, where she was buried on March 12, 1883.