

Genealogy of Merlin Eastham Kearn

My Grandfathers name on my fathers side was Rodger Eastham. Born about 1797 at Ribchester, Lancashire (England). Died May 9th 1876. His wife was Margrett Ogden Eastham Born about 1797 at Ribchester Lancashire England. Died Dec. 24th 1850.

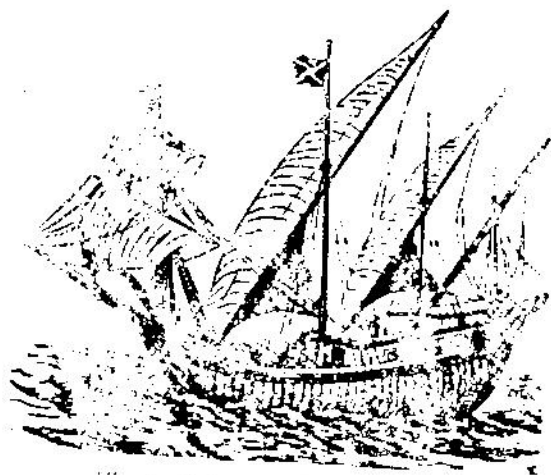
My Grandfathers name on my mothers side is John Huntington born about 1786.

My Grandmother on my mothers side was Jeannette Holden Huntington born about 1790 in Lancashire England. Died about 1847 at Preston, Lancashire England.

My fathers name is John Eastham born Feb 2, 1820 at Ribchester, Lancashire. Died Dec. 13, 1893 at Grantsville Tooele Co. Utah America.

My mothers name is Jane Huntington Eastham born March 22, 1816 at Cordale Lancashire England. Died June 22, 1889 at Grantsville Tooele Co Utah America.

All the above have been endowed and sealed in the temples of the Lord.



*Belle Wood
April 29, 1865 - May 31*

John and Jane Huntington Easthams childrens names are:

Emma Jane Eastham
 Edith Eastham, Died when a baby
 Lucina Eastham
 Evaline Eastham, Died when a baby
 Cathrine Curtis Eastham
 Marentha Althera Eastham
 Merlin Eastham
 Leonora Eastham
 Jane Eastham, Died when a baby
 John Henry Eastham, Died when a baby
 Fetsy Ellen Eastham, Died when a baby

My sister Emma Jane Eastham married James Ratcliffe.

My sister Louisa Eastham married Andrew Millward.

My sister Cathrine Curtis Eastham married Edward Millward.

My sister Marentha Althera Eastham married James Stoddart.

I Merlin Eastham married James Kearl.

My sister Leonora Eastham married Hyrum Harrison Severe.

James Kearls and his wife Merlin Eastham Kearls children:

Boys

John Henry Kearl born in Rich Co. Bear Lake Utah Sept. 17, 1874.
 George Kearl born in same place Aug. 25, 1876.
 Robert Kearl born same place April 6, 1879. Died May 6, 1882.
 Willis Ellsworth Kearl born same place Jan. 29, 1882.
 Morton Kearl born in same place March 11, 1885.
 Chase Kearl born in same place Feb. 10, 1890.

Girls

Merlin Edith Kearl born in same place Aug. 24, 1870. Died Aug. 25, 1896. Was married to William Hodges. Had two sons, William Falch Hodges born Dec. 16, 1894, and John Weston Hodges born Aug. 22, 1896.
 Jeanette Kearl born in same place Oct. 29, 1872. Died May 14, 1882.
 Jane Ethel Kearl born same place Jan. 5, 1887. Died April 24, 1912. Was married to Thomas Clifford Weston. Had two daughters, Norma Kearl Weston born May 17, 1907, and Edith Kearl Weston born March 26, 1912, and was blessed by her Grandfather George Weston when 8 days old.
 Grace Kearl born in same place Feb. 19, 1892. Was married to George Edwin Lamborn.

My boys married

John Henry Kearl married Lilly Gibbons, daughter of Joseph Gibbons and wife Merry Weston Gibbons.
 George Kearl married Fose Enders.
 Willis Ellsworth Kearl married Bertha Lamborn, daughter of Edwin G. Lamborn and wife Melinda Weston Lamborn.

Morton Kears married Caroline E. Moffat, daughter of Joseph Smith Moffat and Lois Gunn Moffat.

My son Chase married Hazel Loveless of Provo, Utah Co. Utah.

Names of my Grandchildren:

Merlin Ediths children:

William Ralph Hodges
John Weston Hodges

John Henry Kearls Children:

Thelma Kears

George Kearls children:

Arzinto Lucille born March 20, 1909
Lawrence George born July 28 1910
Russell Goldie born Nov. 21, 1911
Adaline born Sept. 19, 1913
Merlin Katherine born Feb. 5, 1916
Freeman Duce born April 10, 1918
Eldon Eastham born Jan. 26, 1920
Harold Anders born Dec. 10, 1922
Rose Norreen born May 26, 1925
Edward Lamont born May 9, 1928
June Ruth born April 1, 1932

Willis Ellsworth Kearls children:

Elden Lambert Kears born June 15, 1910
Aretha Kears born March 17, 1912
Paul Eastham Kears born Sept. 14, 1914
Nelda Kears born March 23, 1927
Etnel R. Kears born March 7, 1920
Wilma Kears born Dec. 13, 1921
Joannette Kears born Nov. 5, 1924
Willis Gordon Kears born May 11, 1927

Morton Kearls children:

Lois Winnefred born Nov. 17, 1906
Delbert born Oct 14, 1908
Rotheray born Nov 10, 1910
Allison born Nov 9, 1912
Noel born Dec. 1914
Mildred
Leou
Kathleen

Jane Ethel Kears Westons children:

Norma Kears Weston born May 17, 1907
Edith Kears Weston born March 26, 1912

Sketch of Life of Marlin Eastham Kearn

I was born in the village of Masbro near Rotherham six miles from Sheffield Yorkshire England on the 6th of November 1852. My fathers name being John Eastham son of Rodger Eastham and wife Margret Ogden. My mothers name was Jane Huntington Eastham daughter of John Huntington and wife Jeanette Holden.

When I was seven years old my father moved his family to the city of Leeds in Yorkshire. My father and mother joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints years before I was born.

We lived in Leeds and took care of the Elders who came as missionaries into that part of the country. President Joseph F. Smith being among them. In 1865 I was baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints by Elder Thomas B. Marsh being then 12 years old. On the 29th of April 1867 we emigrated to America sailing in the old sailing vessel Belle Wood. We had a remarkably good voyage across the ocean arriving at Castle Gardens, New York the last day of May having been just a month in the sea.

We had a good time on the ship with no sickness to speak of. One old Lady died and a little baby. They were buried in the sea which seemed a very sad thing to me tho I was only a little girl.

After being in New York a day or two we started on our journey through the states by rail and steamer and after traveling on the Missouri river a while we were put off the steamer at a little place called Wyoming seven miles from what is now Nebraska City but at that time there were only a very few houses there.

At Wyoming there was a hotel, store, and store house all our baggage was just dumped on the bank of the river. We had to get it away from there the best way we could.

We camped there nine weeks waiting for our oxen and wagons. There were some very bad thunder storms. During the storms we had to all crowd into the cave. Then when the storms would be over we would get out into the sunshine again and take up our out door life. There was a Danish company of saints camped about a mile from us and they had no shelter whatever but it was wonderful how happy they were every night we could hear them singing the old hymns.

When the brethren came from Omaha with the wagons and cattle we commenced to get ready to start on our journey across the plains for Utah and what lots of fun and mishaps we had getting the wild cattle yoked up and hitched to the wagons. Some of the oxen would run and break a wagon tongue or do some other damage but at last we were ready to start.

It rained the day we started out and the roads were almost impassable but we were glad we were on the move as every day we travelled if it was only a few miles brought us a little nearer home we thought. I have often thought what courage our fathers and mother had to attempt such a journey especially never having seen such teams and wagons and knowing nothing about handling them. However, in a day or two it cleared up and our oxen quieted down a bit. We had no sickness to speak of tho I had mountain fever but not very bad. I remember there was a young boy in our company who had dropsy and someone had told him smoking was a cure and I can remember how he cried when he commenced to use the tobacco I oftentimes wondered if he got better or not and in regard to sickness I will state that mother was a very sickly woman for years before we left England and we were afraid she wouldn't be able to stand the journey but she had faith to start on the long journey in fact if mother hadn't been the prime mover in the undertaking we would have never

come to Utah however mother wasn't sick and hour on shipboard and had better health all the way than she had had in years.

In journeying across the plains we passed quite close to fort Kearney and three of the soldiers traveled with us for a day or two then had to walk back. They were very well behaved boys but were homesick and homesick.

We had a pretty good time crossing the plains. I think our Captains name was Willen Atwood his surname was Atwood. I know we had no one die in our train and never saw an indian at all but when we arrived at fort Larimie we had word not to camp there as the Indians had raided the Danish train the night before and carried off the wife of one of that company and shot seven arrows into her husband. They never got the woman back. If I remember right the fort was about three miles from the road. There were soldiers at the fort but didn't get to the train in time to do any good. We travelled all that night and the children were quite frightened but we were never molested by anything.

We arrived in Salt Lake City November 7th 1865 having been nearly seven months on the journey. I passed my 13th birthday the day (Nov. 6) before we arrived in Salt Lake City. We went to live in Grantsville where I had two sisters (living there Mrs. Emma Jane Eastham Batchliffe and Mrs. Louisa Eastham Willard) who had immigrated from England to Utah three years previously. We used to have good times in those days although the most of the people were poor not many having cook stoves even and our meetings and dance halls were lighted by tallow candles made by ourselves. In the early fall there would be a dance given and everybody paid for their ticket with candles and the people brought enough to last the winter and we used to dance all night with an intermission for supper.

On July 12th 1869 I was married to James Kearl of Grantsville in the Endowment house in Salt Lake City and in August of the same year left Grantsville for Bear Lake my husband having been called there to help settle up that part of the country. We arrived in Round Valley August 29th 1869. We had the usual experiences common to all settlers in a new country. We suffered from cold and hunger quite often as the frost and grasshoppers took the most of our crops. However, we stayed with it and President Taylor on one of his visits blessed the land and said the climate should change for the better and so it has. For years now we have raised good grain and considerable fruit.

So now I am 61 years old. Mother of ten children, 6 boys and four girls, one boy and three girls have died and two of my boys are living in Cardston Canada and the rest here. In October 1912 my youngest son, Chase, went on a mission to the northern states returning in April 1915. I held an office in every auxiliary organization in the church, was chosen one of the first teachers in religion class at its organization in our ward (Laketown Rich Co.) receiving my license from President Woodruff also was President of Y.L.M.A. also counselor and teacher in Primary, teacher and 2nd counselor in Relief Society and teacher in Sunday School. In Oct. 1916 I was made president of the Laketown Primary Association and in 19__ was put in as 2nd counselor in Relief Society to Sister Eliza Rachel Johnson, President. July 11th 1907 set apart by Bishop C.H. Robinson was set apart as 2nd counselor to Mrs. Fessie Parker Weston, President August 10, 1911 was chosen as 1st counselor to Mrs. Millanda Weston Larkorn, President May 1915.

My father was a locomotive engineer. He was sent by the English Government to run on the first railroad in the East Indies.

Laketown Nov 30th 1925

I thought I would tell of my trip to Cardston Canada to see my two boys John and George and their families. John's family consists of wife and 12 children 9 boys and 3 girls the boys names are Clifford, Weston, Knowlton, Delmar, Jack, Keith, and Grant, the other two being dead. Girls names are Thelma, Fella, and Pheobe. George's family consists of wife and 9* children 5 boys 4 girls Laurence, Russell, Eldon, Harold, girls names, Arminio, Lucille, Adaline, Merlin, and Rose Norreen. All of them are bright and good looking children. I had a splendid time though a little late in the year to see the country at its best. Thousands of acres of wheat to be threshed. It was cut in August but the weather was too wet to get it dry enough to thresh the worst fall for storms they had ever had since my boys have been there. The people there seem to be trying to live their religion there as well or better than we do here. They have splendid schools and entertainments all as up to date as we have here. There are two wards in Cardston Temple Tabernacle 2 meetinghouses besides grade school and high school and amusement halls. I spent my 73rd birthday 6th of November with my boys and their families. I had a good time with relatives and friends and to know my boys John George and Chase were considered worthy and did work in the temple while I was there that pleased me best of all.

*Two more children were born to George and RoseMarie. Their names are Edward Lamont Kearl and June Ruth Kearl.

Further notes by Adaline Kears

Sixty-two years have elapsed since grandmother Merlin Kears wrote about her visit to Canada and how important it was to her. I'm certain that it was equally important to my father George, my mother Rose Marie and we children of the two families. For years we children had prayed that some time she would visit us. So when she did come with Uncle Chase it was really special. She was small and lively with a quick wit and a sparkle that belied her years. We all loved her from the start. Even the townspeople found her captivating and charming. She was a bit hunched with age and had small features and spoke in cultured tones. I remember vividly seeing her mend tiny white wool baby stockings for my mother's baby Rose Norreen. She darned them so neatly. On her 73rd birthday we celebrated it with a program at home. Uncle Chase sang beautifully ("That Little Mother of Mine"). There seemed to be such a close bond between mother and son.

"That Little Mother of Mine" will now be sung and we will dedicate it to the memory of Uncle Chase and Grandmother Merlin Eastham Kears.