

The History of **MINERAL**

and

METAL **CONCENTRATED**

found in the **MINERAL**

History **Book**

to be 2nd counselor. She served with Eliza K. Johnson and Melinda W. Lamborn until Eliza's death 2 July 1911. Then they remained as counselors when Bessie B. Weston was chosen as president 10 August 1911. Mary Emma Kearl Moffat was appointed as secretary with Carrie Moffat Kearl as her assistant.

The organization of 21 May 1918 shows: Melinda W. Lamborn, president; Merlin E. Kearl and Delinah C. Willis, counselors; Lula B. Kearl, secretary. In 1922 Zettie N. Kearl became a counselor and Kate Johnson Moffat the secretary-treasurer.

We have always found the Relief Society organization the hub of the Mormon community. The sisters are the dependable leaders and workers to aid the Bishopric in spiritual and civic matters. They care for the sick, visit the homes of the bereaved, and are the bulwark of the Welfare Program. In the old days, they acted as mid-wives and practical doctors. They nursed the mothers and cared for the babies. They laid out the dead, made their burial clothes, and covered and lined the home-made caskets. They cleaned and scrubbed the church, raised the flowers, sang with the choir, followed the funeral cortege and waited to lovingly lay the flowers on the newly made mound. And then they went to the homes of the bereaved to serve hot food to the family and visiting friends.

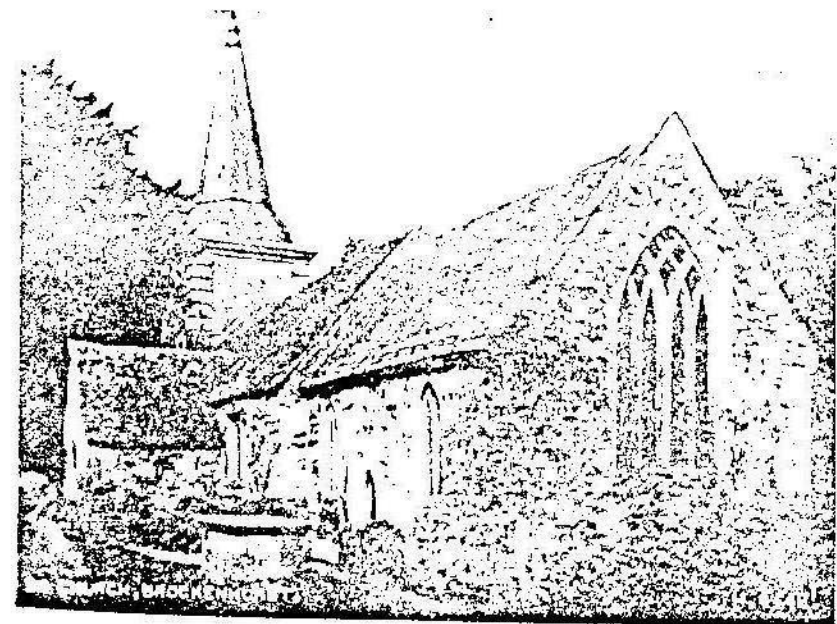
The Kearl women were active Relief Society workers. And if we followed each organization of the church in Laketown and in Bear Lake Stake, or in Cardston, Alberta, Canada, and in all the other communities into which Kearls have spread, we would find James Kearl's descendants filling important positions, donating their time, talents, and earnings, and giving their love, friendship, and loyalty to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

BIOGRAPHY OF JAMES KEARL

James Kearl of Brockenhurst, Hampshire, England was born 12 October 1833 to John and Elizabeth Gates Kearl. The Gates family dated far back



James Kearl, Pioneer Ancestor



Parish Church, Brockenhurst, England

in Hampshire history, especially in the town of Boldre, but the Kearls seem to have been recent newcomers in 1800. The name is spelled with so many variations, however, that at this point, it is difficult to tell just how common it was. There is a family tradition that the family is French, or Norman, extraction and came with William of Normandy in 1066. Just legend! Or, is there truth in it?

This we know: In 1853 James Kearl was young and strong, and decidedly attractive. He was tall and dark and his very blue eyes commanded a second look. His mind was keen and his ambition great. In fact, James Kearl's heirs in great number not only show his strong physique, his dark hair and blue eyes, but his gospel of work. Kearls invariably measure men by their work!

It was natural that James Kearl should be attracted to Ann Burton, also young and strong and ambitious; also rather beautiful with her even features, dark hair and hazel eyes. So this young couple loved and were married in the Brockenhurst Parish Church 18 September 1853. Since both had been baptized in March 1853 by Elder William Budge, L. D. S. Missionary, one wonders if the conversion brought them together, or if their courtship brought him into the church with Ann and her parents?

James worked on the game preserve of the New Forest, a guard and woodsman, as was his father. John Kearl had nine sons and daughters, some of whose descendants are still in Hampshire although the name has disappeared from there. Two sons became London policemen and their families are in London. One son, Alfred, joined the L. D. S. church after James did. He and his wife Caroline Tyler sailed for America in June of 1863. They lived and died in Grantsville, but they had no descendants.

The Burtons and the Kearls, after their long trek to Zion, settled in Grantsville, Utah. James worked hard for the established settlers to acquire a place of his own. His pay was usually food for the family or animals to help him build his own

erds. And build they did, --home, orchards, gardens, fields. They purchased pastures and cows for milking and beef cattle and chickens. Life became relatively promising and prosperous.

In their sixteen years in Grantsville eight children were born to James and Ann Kearl, beginning with Eliza Rachel in 1855. They were Eliza Rachel, James William Burton, Christopher Columbus, Julia Ann, Juliette, David Jasper, Quincey and Manasseh. Julia Ann and Quincey died early and were buried in Grantsville. All others grew to adulthood.

James Kearl acted as a guard in 1856 and 1857 during the Echo Canyon War. In 1861 he returned to Florence, Nebraska with the Ira Eldredge Company to bring in converts. According to the history the companies carried flour back, which they left in specified caches along the road. At Florence they picked up loads of people, carrying as many as fourteen to one wagon. The wagons collected in April and returned in September. Again he made the trip in 1862. Of this company, led by Joseph Horne, one A. H. Hale kept a journal. James Kearl was captain of the night herders. They left Grantsville 14 May 1862 and arrived back in Grantsville Friday 3 October 1862. Mr. Hale records the miles each day, the camps, the almost daily deaths (but does not name the dead, unfortunately).

Alfred Kearl told us of one interesting incident on one of these trips which gives us a facet of his father, James Kearl. About 1885 James took some of his boys with him to conference in Salt Lake City. They traveled from Bear Lake to Bluntsville, Weber, Utah, by wagon. There they left their team with the family of a lady who had crossed the plains in one of the escorted companies. She told this to the boys: "With our company was a girl about my age who did a great deal of grumbling. Nothing was right. She would not walk with the rest of us. We came to a stream, cold and rough, but fordable. We were all asked to wade across. She refused. Your father said he would carry her, which delighted her and irritated us. He did carry her, right to the middle of

the stream. Then he dumped her. We were delighted ones then!"

This fine lady--Alfred could not remember her name--kept the team for Jim Kearl, sent her son to take them to the railroad station in Ogden and met them there when they returned from Salt Lake.

On 24 April 1862, James entered into the practice of polygamy by taking Fanny Martin as a second wife. Fanny was a beautiful, young immigrant girl from Beason, Bedfordshire, England. Only eighteen at the time of her marriage, she became a good wife and mother. Her first child, a son, was born in Grantsville 24 November 1863, was blessed and named Charles by his father, and died when he was three days old. Her other six children were girls, the eldest Annie Elizabeth was the only one born in Grantsville.

In 1869 President Young decided to colonize the south end of Bear Lake. To this time the immigrants had colonized Preston, Idaho, and had traveled through the hills into the north end of Bear Lake where the valley is broad and rich, and had made settlements there, Paris, Idaho, particularly. But the south end had been reserved for the Indians who gathered there to hunt and fish. Now the colonization was delegated to Charles C. Rich. He called the Kearls to go to the south end of the lake and John Martin, brother of Fanny Martin Kearl, and his wife Kate Burton, sister of Ann Burton Kearl, to go to settle Liberty in the north Bear Lake valley.

Ann Kearl was to have a baby in January and Fanny was expecting one in May. They had property to dispose of, and the call had to be accepted immediately in the spring as received if they were to establish shelter and get food for the people and the stock before the winter set in. James Kearl decided to go without the families, but with a new wife. He married Merlin Eastham 12 July 1869 in the Salt Lake Temple and almost immediately thereafter left for Bear Lake.

Merlin Eastham was a talented young girl, with a lovely singing voice and a phenomenal

capacity to get fun out of life. A great teacher, she spent many years in active church work. She became the mother of ten children to whom she was father and mother after the death of James. She was a close friend of Ann's oldest daughter, Eliza Kearn Johnson. They lived neighbors, acted as nurses for each other, worked as president and counselor in the Primary, MIA, and the Relief Society. She was adored by two or three generations of Laketown children.

This young girl left her comfortable home willingly to make the hard journey with her new husband. They settled in Round Valley. Here James Kearn set up a makeshift camp and Merlin cooked for him, George Willis and another hired man who had driven the stock through, while they cut the lush grass for winter feed. After all that was done they would build her a house. She said if the rain did not put out the fire under her dinner, the bugs from the box elder trees fell into the food and spoiled it.

That January Manassch Kearn was born to Ann. James returned to gather up his families. His children Jim and Eliza drove wagons through. They arrived in early April and Fanny gave birth to her second daughter, Ida Fanny, 1 May 1870.

James Kearn began immediately building homes and herds and security for his families. Ann remained in Round Valley until after the birth of her next child, Alfred, in March 1873, then she moved into a new house in Laketown. Fanny remained in Round Valley longer. She and her daughters milked a sizable herd of cows and made butter for sale. Merlin also spent several years in Round Valley before she went to Otter Creek, and she and her family added their labors to the pool of property and stock. The boys herded cows and sheep in the hills west of the settlement, even when they were very small.

During the years that polygamists were harried James Kearn more than once escaped because there were two ways of communication between Round Valley and Laketown. At the Laketown end of one road lived Merlin; on the other lived Ann and

both were sharp watchers and quick reporters, so that he could return to his place in Round Valley ahead of those who would have arrested him.

James Kearn was not a steady church goer; he was a Christian doer. He was active in every community undertaking, --roads, canals, schools, church, or whatever needed cooperative work. His saw mill became an institution in the valley and probably every old building in Laketown was constructed from lumber he or his sons cut. He and George Judd, then owning the place Keith Johnson now owns, built the lower dam on Big Spring. This is just one typical example of his contributions to the community. His generosity and service to his neighbors was heart warming.

With his wholehearted support his wives and children were active in church and in civic work. Two of his sons filled honorable missions; at least three were strong temple workers; daughters and their husbands joined in their contributions to the building of Zion. He was the father of twenty nine children, strong and good builders, everyone. And now his descendants are numerous and worthy bearers of their heritage.

James Kearn loved music. While in Grantsville he purchased a melodeon from passing gold seekers and gave it to Eliza. She learned to play it for him. Many of the other girls played the organ or piano; and several of the boys played in the Laketown band.

James was a stoic in many ways. When a dirty job, or a painful one had to be done, it had to be done and making a fuss merely showed weakness. When a stiff finger made it impossible for him to wear his gloves, he had it amputated. When Jasper cut his foot in the timber, his father sewed it with ordinary sewing thread. When six year old Willis broke his leg, his father placed him on a rocking chair and set it while his mother held him. These things just had to be done. It was not that Jim Kearn was without feelings. Far from it. He was loving and sympathetic by nature. Yet he had to be the untrained doctor and dentist. He was called upon to set broken bones of many, pulled

innumerable teeth with a pair of forceps which his son-in-law, Willis Johnson, inherited. Willis continued to use them until the automobile made it possible for people to seek dentists in Paris, Idaho and Logan, Utah

Merlin, the third wife, spent many years on a ranch at Otter Creek. Henry Hayball, who married Ida Kearn was a teamster on the Otter Creek Ranch. Fanny, the second wife, lived on the ranch in Round Valley and later lived in Paris, Idaho and Garden City, Utah. Long before James's death, he had provided three comfortable homes for his wives in Laketown. Fanny's home was in the mouth of Mill Canyon, later owned by Luther Reed, her son-in-law. Merlin's home stood in the Southeast corner of Laketown. It has since burned but her sons still own the property. Ann continued to run the hotel at its present site. For many years James drove the mail when there were no roads, when mud and mountains and snow blocked his passage. The mail buggy came from the north to the Meadowville Post Office, first, then continued on to Laketown. The father of Joseph S. Moffat Sr., was the postmaster. He had a little store in connection. For eight years before the coming of the railroad to Paris, James' route was from Evanston, Wyoming to Soda Springs, Idaho. For the last four years, Paris was the north end. It was then that Fanny lived in Paris. Part of the time, James sub-let the south end of the route and when his sons grew to manhood they drove for him. Henry Hayball, Frank Bevens and Willis Johnson did much driving for him, also. Many times it was riding, as when the roads were impassable, the mail was carried by horseback.

The first thresher in Laketown was bought by George Weston. It was called the Pittsburg Thresher. James ran the engine or drove the horses that made the power. Two years they took the outfit to Huntsville, Utah where they did threshing for the season. They were widely known for this early thresher and its group of industrious men who worked from daylight to dark, moving from one farm to another. Later a group of farmers in Laketown bought a thresher run by a steam engine,

much to the disgust and amazement of the many fine work horses.

James Kearn bought a sawmill from Mr. Putman in Woodruff, Utah. It is now over 75 years old and still in use. Bishop Grey of Randolph and Bishop Lee of Woodruff were the carpenters who installed it where it now is, on the Alfred Kearn ranch. They made a wooden flume which was not satisfactory, for it leaked and in winter got so iced that working with it was difficult. So after his son, Alfred, returned from his mission in 1898, he drew up plans and had the Salt Lake Hardware make them a pipe to his specifications. It was so accurate that it was installed without much trouble and has given good service ever since. The box that contains the mill wheel is over a spring. Alfred also re-angled the machinery so they had more log space in the building. From 1890 on, the mill was run by the boys. In one order they sawed fifty thousand feet of lumber at \$17 per thousand, delivered for Aquilla Nebeker. The two sons, Alfred and Chris, drove themselves hard to get it done so Chris would have some money for Christmas for his children. They delivered it all as agreed before Christmas, but Mr. Nebeker was unable to pay until later. It shattered Chris' plans for Christmas and he broke down and cried. This lesson helped Alfred to try to pay his bills on time.

James Kearn's sons, Jim and Jasper were real frontier cowpunchers. They rode broncs and broke horses for pay. They rode in the round-ups and knew the cattle men and ranchers from one end of the Bear River to the other; that is, the part in Rich County and Wyoming. Byrd was good in handling stock and horses, but did not go in for bronc busting. Chris and Alfred cared little for horses - they were machine men. Alfred confesses that it was his first exciting ride on the railroad in Soda Spring, Idaho, when the engineer let him ride and blow the whistle that made him always want to be a railroad man. James had the dream of the railroad coming down the hollow west of the ranch, so he used to call it Railroad Hollow. From an early survey all the pioneers expected a line from Paris,

Idaho to Evanston, Wyoming. This never came to pass.

The big, spacious barn of James Kearl, was the town recreational hall for many years. A big room in the loft, reached by a closed-in staircase, was the dance hall, the theater, the opera house and the center of homecomings and farewell parties. James donated this building freely, to all auxiliary organizations, but when the young groups gave a dance after a baseball game or a rabbit hunt, he would charge a small fee to cover the cost of coal for the stove and coal oil for the lamps which provided the light. This was a social center, the stage was often used to serve the refreshment tables, and make bunk beds for the sleeping babies while their parents danced the quadrille or the waltz. After his death, his son, Jasper was in charge of the barn and the old "Kearl Hall" as it was called. Today it still stands, no longer a cultural center but its sides bulging from the hay piled into it from a large opening in the south end.

James Kearl was known as a man of integrity, honest dealings and ambition. He believed in the gospel of work as all pioneers who survived him. He was kindly and loved fine culture as he knew it. He was generous in his community giving. He is the "friend" praised in the book, "The Life of J. Golden Kimball" for brother Kimball lived in Meadowville near to James Kearl in pioneer times and knew him well. James was a man of his word, a builder of roads, dam sites, canals and the community, a strong leader in the general settlement of the southern Bear Lake area.

James Kearl was ill the last years of his life and found it difficult to work as he wished. He was often in such pain that he could scarcely move, and his legs and feet would swell until he couldn't lace his shoes. Yet he rode his horse almost daily to the ranch in Round Valley, even when he could do no more than visit with his daughter-in-law, Lula, Alfred's wife.

Joseph Weston, a stalwart pioneer and early citizen of Laketown paid the following tribute to James Kearl: "Jim Kearl contributed much to the

growth of all these communities, Laketown, Round Valley and Meadowville. The people turned to Jim with every problem of health, of building structures from barns to churches, of maintenance of church and community. He was always willing and able to give his advice, his teams, wagons, machinery and money when needed. I don't know how we could have gotten along without him."

Jim Kearl was a true pioneer--driving and harddriven. He died suddenly 4 October 1902, at his home in Laketown, Utah. He was buried in the Laketown Cemetery. Ann, his first wife, survived him by nineteen years. She also died in her home in Laketown and is buried there. Fanny, the second wife lived over twenty years after his death. She spent her last years in her own home in Logan, and is buried there. Merlin, lived alone for thirty years, then she too was laid to rest in the Laketown Cemetery.

BIOGRAPHY OF ANN BURTON KEARL

When Ann Burton Kearl was baptized and confirmed a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, in 1853, little did she realize the change that this event would bring into her life, and into the lives of her loved ones.

Ann was born in Brockenhurst, Hampshire, England on 22 May 1836, the third child of William and Jane Drodge (Dridge) Burton. One sister and her only brother were older; five sisters were younger. William, her brother, who was six years her senior, did not join the church, or leave his home. He raised a good family there, often telling them how lonesome he felt when his family sailed away to America. Charlotte, the eldest sister, refused to join the Church. Later she migrated with her husband to Belleville, Ontario, Canada. There Ann Kearl visited her only once. So, when Ann's parents became LDS and emigrated, they brought with them only married Ann, and five young daughters: Eliza, Emma, Jane, Kate and Rozena, only six years old.

Very little is known of Ann's life as a young girl at home. We do know that her father was a

posterity that they will remember her noble deeds and her wonderful accomplishments. And her name always will be held as high as her ideals.

The children of James and Fanny were:

Charles	b 24 Nov 1863	Grantsville
	d Nov 1863	
Annie Elizabeth	b 28 June 1866	"
	d 9 Oct 1948	
Ida Fanny	b 1 May 1870	Laketown
	d 27 Apr 1953	
Lillian Estella	b 8 Jan 1873	"
	d 6 Oct 1949	
Priscilla Margaret	b 2 Sept 1875	Round Valley
	d 28 Dec 1946	
Mary Jane	b 1 Jan 1879	"
	d 1 Aug 1945	
Maude Olive	b 26 June 1882	"
	d 26 Oct 1954	

HISTORY OF MERLIN EASTHAM KEARL

Merlin Eastham Kearl was born 6 Nov. 1852 at Masborough, Yorkshire, England. A daughter of John Eastham and Jane Huntington--and one of a family of eleven--of the eleven only six girls survived infancy.

Merlin's parents were born in Lancashire. At an early age, John began working for the railroad. After his marriage he was stationed in Liverpool, where the first two children were born. While they were living at Liverpool Jane met the Mormon Elders and was converted to the Church and baptized in 1839. John also became a member, but not until several years later.

John was transferred to Derbyshire and later to Masborough in Yorkshire. The family lived in comfort since John's salary was more than enough for their needs. The youngest girls Merlin and Lenora went to a dancing school and all of the children attended a private school. They also attended church in the little village. Since Jane felt they should go to any church rather than none. John worked in Rotherhams across the river Don from the village where they lived.

When Merlin was about seven years old her father was asked to go to the West Indies to run the first engine there on the newly completed railroad. However, it would be necessary for him to sign up for a four year job. The pay was good and John felt that at the end of the four years he would be prepared to bring the family to Zion where Jane had longed to be.

So it was decided to move to Leeds where there was a branch of the Church, and here John settled the family to await his return from the Indies. Jane opened her home to the Mormon Elders. President Joseph F. Smith lived with the Eastham family during the three years of his mission. He was quite young at the time, and as he had lost his own mother, he called Jane Mother Eastham during his lifetime, and many times said that next to his immediate family she was dearer to him than anyone living.

The six Eastham girls Emma, Lucy, Catherine, Marentha, Merlin and Lenora were happy in their home and in their affiliation with the church. While John was gone the two eldest, Emma and Lucy, married young men who were converts to the church and emigrated to Utah. They made their home in Grantsville, Tooele County.

When John returned to England in 1864, the family immediately started plans to emigrate. They sailed from Liverpool on the Belle Wood 29 April, 1865, with Wm. H. Shearman as leader and with 636 people aboard. After an uneventful crossing they landed at Castle Gardens, New York 1 May, 1865.

With the other Saints, the Eastham family made their way by rail and boat to the small town of Wyoming, Nebraska, on the bank of the Missouri River, a place where the saints gathered to prepare for the journey westward. Having been told by his daughters, who were already in Utah, that there was need of a store in Grantsville, John had acquired a stock of goods in New York and it was necessary to outfit three wagons to bring the Eastham family and merchandise on to Salt Lake City.

They left the camp July 3rd with about 400 souls, with Elder M. G. Atwood as captain, arriving in Salt Lake City 8 November 1865, two days after Merlin's 13th birthday. In Salt Lake the girls, Emma and Lucy with their husbands James Ratcliff and Andrew Millward, met them and it was a very happy reunion.

The family proceeded to Grantsville where they lived the first winter with the older girls. John and Jane opened a general merchandise store which they kept for many years. They bought a large lot on what is now West Main Street, and in the summer of 1856 built a substantial and, for that period of time, a very modern house. John planted fruit and shade trees and garden. They worked hard and prospered and were active in all church and civic affairs. (Their home is still in use, a testimony to them.)

When Merlin was seventeen she met James Kearl and on the 12th July 1869 a few months before her 18th birthday, she entered into plural marriage with James. She was the third wife. The marriage was performed in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City.

James had been called to help settle the Bear Lake Valley and so Merlin went with him to help prepare homes for the two wives, Ann and Fanny who, for a time, remained in Grantsville with their young families.

When James and Merlin arrived in the Bear Lake Valley they decided to settle in what was at first called Mudtown, now known as Round Valley. There were no neighbors, no fences, plenty of land and water and tall meadow grass ready for cutting, to which job James applied himself--a job which lasted many weeks. During this time they lived, cooked and slept in the open. However it was necessary to harvest feed for the stock which they had driven up from Grantsville.

Before the cold weather came James erected a log cabin which had a dirt roof and floor. But it was shelter and later it was improved and enlarged. Merlin lived in Round Valley about eight years. Here her first four children were born--Edith,

Jeanette, John and George.

During these years neighbors visited back and forth, made their own recreation and, as often as possible, roads and time permitting, went to Laketown where there were more people, a presiding Elder and regular church services.

These were stalwart people, unwavering in their faith and their determination to succeed in what they had been called to do. But the first years were very discouraging. Often the grain crops and gardens were partially destroyed by frost. One year all the grain was frozen, and during the long hard winter people became ill from their diet consisting, for the most part, of fish and milk. Finally a group of men decided to attempt a trip through the mountains to Logan and to bring back as much flour as they could carry on their backs. They had to go on snow shoes and they made the trip to Logan without incident. However as they were returning they were caught in a severe blizzard and had to make camp to avoid being lost and frozen. The blizzard lasted several days. They had no food, so they made a stiff dough of flour and water, wrapped it around sticks and cooked it over the fire. Needless to say when the blizzard abated, much of the flour was gone. This was only one of many incidents which might have discouraged a less hardy people.

James had acquired land on the Otter Creek, a few miles north of Randolph and about 1877 moved Merlin and children there. Ann and Fanny and their families had been settled in Laketown. Here at Otter Creek two more boys were born--Robert and Willis--and here also great tragedy came to the family.

Late one night a man came to their door and asked if he might bring his wife in, she was very ill, and they were strangers traveling through. Merlin had them come in and made them as comfortable as possible. They left the next day, but had stayed long enough to expose the children to the dread disease diphtheria. All of them became ill except Willis who was four months old, and within a week Jeanette and Robert were dead.

It must be remembered that Merlin was alone with her family much of the time since James had to take care of his farm and homes in Round Valley and Laketown. Also there was no regular mail, no phones, no close neighbors. It must have been a very trying time.

However, soon after the death of the children, James moved the family to Laketown and for the first time Merlin was able to settle down and begin to take part in Church and Civic affairs, and have the children in church and school regularly.

Laketown was now a ward with a Bishop and all ward officers and a reasonably good school. Morton and Ethel were born in Laketown. Merlin spent one more winter in Round Valley, during the winter of 1889-1890 and here on Feb. 10, 1890 Chase was born. Grace, the last of the ten children was born in Laketown.

As the years went by Merlin became more anxious to return to Grantsville to see her parents and sisters. Young children, bad roads and the long journey by team and wagon made the problem almost insurmountable. She had been able to go once and see them all before her mother died in 1887. She returned to Grantsville again to see her father just before his death in 1893.

Also as the years went by and the children grew old enough to take care of the home, Merlin went more and more to help with the sick and bereaved. She had suffered the loss of her two young married daughters Edith and Ethel. Edith died Aug. 25, 1896 leaving two boys, Ralph--two years old and Weston, three days old. Ethel died April 26, 1912 leaving two daughters, Norma, almost five years and Edith 1 month old. Somehow one gathers strength to live through these tragedies and perhaps these losses she suffered helped her to understand and sympathize with other people's trouble. She had a natural aptitude for nursing and her sweet and gentle ways and sense of humor made her a welcome soul in every household. For many years, and very often, her cheer and help brightened homes and lightened the load of other women.

Money was not involved in these acts of mercy.

Neighbors helped neighbors. And if in compensation there were a few dollars or a piece of meat, or some vegetables, all well and good. If there was only "Thanks" that was all right, too.

Her services were appreciated, and she was loved. She was rarely spoken of except as Aunt Merlin or Grandma Merlin by anyone, old or young. She had a very special way with children and they loved her. After her own children were married and gone, she opened her house to children of the town for candy pulls and little socials, and they enjoyed most her stories of her childhood and of the early days in Bear Lake. Once a group "cut" school and then not knowing what to do with their freedom went to Aunt Merlin. She gave them canned peaches and cookies, salted with a lecture and sent them home resolved never to cut school again.

During all these years of caring for her own family and for others, she was very active in the church. She was counselor to Harriet Robinson in the very early, if not the first, Primary organization. She taught the first Religion Class. Was Relief Society Counselor for 25 years, under three presidents, Eliza R. Kearl Johnson, Bessie Weston, and Melinda Lamborn. During which time she was also Y. L. M. I. A. president for 7 years, teacher in Sunday School and member of the choir. And when she was seventy years old she accepted the Presidency of the Primary, a position she held for 2 years.

Merlin was a widow for 32 years, James having passed away suddenly the 4th of October 1902.

As she grew older, she was forced, because of her health, to curtail some activities. She spent most of the winter months with Chase and his family in Preston, Idaho, or with Grace and her family in Salt Lake City. But each spring she was anxious to return to her home in Laketown, and her relatives and her good friends old and young. It was always her wish to be in her own home when she passed away.

In June of 1934 she became ill--an illness

which lasted through the summer. So many people came to offer help and refused even a "Thank You" saying, "Why shouldn't we come to help when we think of the hours she spent in service somewhere in the homes of all of us."

"Grandma Merlin" passed quietly away 30th Sept. 1934. An overflow crowd attended her funeral services and one of the lovely things most remembered was the singing of a group of little children as they laid a wreath on her casket. These were children of the children she had helped bring into the world and had taught in Primary and Sunday School.

Grandma Merlin was buried in the Laketown Cemetery, 2nd October 1934.

"That she come back to her pain
Dear God I could not ask,
But only strength each day without her
-cheery presence here
To do my task.

For her warm smile to light my way
Dear God I do not pray
But only courage staunch, and lovely
memories
To light each day,

Year 1963 James and Merlin's descendants
number 254.

JEANETTE AND ROBERT KEARL

Jeanette Kears--Born 29 Oct 1872 at Round Valley, Rich Co., Utah.

She was a daughter of James and Merlin Eastham Kears. She lived her few short years in Round Valley and Otter Creek. She passed away, victim of Diphtheria, at Otter Creek 14 of May 1882. Buried in the Laketown Cemetery.

Robert Kears, son of James and Merlin Eastham Kears, was born at Otter Creek 6 April 1879. He died of Diphtheria at Otter Creek 6th of May, 1882. Buried in the Laketown Cemetery.

KEARL FAMILY CHRONICLE

ALFRED KEARL

"My father James Kears and his wife Ann Burton Kears were both born and raised in Brockenhurst, a little town a few miles from the port of Southampton in the south of England. They were married in 1853 and sailed for Utah early in 1854. Their ship, the Windermere, docked at New Orleans after a hasty voyage in which small pox raged, and my parents lost their first baby, Ellen Kears.

"My grandparents Burton came with my parents. My grandparents had only one son and one daughter older than Mother. These members of the family never did join the church. So they brought with them five daughters younger than Mother. From New Orleans they went up the river to St. Louis, then crossed the plains in wagons. Three of the girls died on the trip. That left only Aunt Kate and Aunt Rose (Rosina), who were just children. They all settled in Grantsville, Utah.

"My parents earned the funds to get their own farm by working for the established settlers. Father dug post holes and ditches. Once he was paid in bran instead of money. Well, they were usually paid in produce, I guess. Anyway, Mother tried to make bread with the bran alone, because she had no white flour. When she turned out the loaves they looked all right, but when she tried to cut them, they just fell apart. There was not enough gluten to hold the dough together. Mother just sat down and "bawled."

"In Grantsville they built their home, planted orchards and garden. They bought pasture and considerable livestock. They had eight children born to them;--two died as babies and are buried there. Father married Aunt Fanny (Fanny Martin) in 1862, and her first baby, the only boy in her family, died when he was three days old. (His father had blessed him, so they must have expected death.)

"But in spite of these troubles, a measure of settled prosperity had blessed the families. The