

# Utah Pioneer Woman Dies In Laketown

## Funeral For Mrs. Mer- lin Kearl Set For Tuesday

Merlin Eastham Kearl of Laketown, mother of Chase Kearl of Preston, Franklin county, agricultural agent, died at her home Sunday morning at 3 o'clock. She was the last surviving child of John and Jane Huntington Eastham of Grantsville. She would have been 82 years of age November 6.

Born in England on November 6, 1852 she became a convert to the L.D.S. church together with her parents and five sisters through the missionary labors of the late President Joseph F. Smith and others. The family moved to Utah in the fall of 1865, settling in Grantsville. It was there she met and married James Kearl. Although but 17-years-old she accompanied her husband to Bear Lake valley where he had been called by President Brigham Young to colonize.

"Grandma Kearl," as she was affectionately known in Laketown, was a woman of outstanding characteristics of fine quality. She was beloved by all for her untiring work in the various organizations in the ward and in her interest in the sick. As a primary worker she labored for more than 30 years as a counsellor to the president and later as head of the organization. It was through her activity that the first carlata was presented in Laketown. She had also served as a counsellor in the ward Relief society, teacher in the Sunday school, and for seven years president of the Y.L.M.I.A.

Six of her ten children survive her as do 50 grand children and 15 great grandchildren. Her children are George and John Kearl of Cardston, Canada; Will E. and Marlon Kearl of Laketown, Chase Kearl of Preston, and Mrs. Grace Lamborn of Salt Lake City.

Funeral services will be held at the Laketown ward on Tuesday at 2 p. m.