
Story Of The Life Of Grandmother Mary Ann Stockdale Carter Martin

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Mary Ann Stockdale Carter Martin was born March 6, 1805 at Penryn, Cornwall County, England, the daughter of William and Avis Francis Stockdale. Not much is known of her early life, nor of her family. Two brothers and a sister are the only ones listed in her record. No records were kept in those early days, and it is hard to obtain records only from cemeteries and early-day Churches.

Mary Ann was married in 1830 at Devonshire England, to Edwin Carter. He was a stone mason. From this union there were five children born, namely; Edwin, William, Ellen, Jane, and Mary Ann Carter.

Grandmother was always a hard-working woman. Her description was, height 5 foot 6 inches, weight about 165 lbs, beautiful black wavy hair, and blue eyes. She must have been a strong healthy girl, and led a normal life. Her husband worked in a Stone quarry and was accidentally killed on June 10, 1842. This was a terrible shock to his wife. She was left without support, except what she could earn, to keep her children, the eldest child was ten years, the youngest one year. She did most any kind of work, such as washing ironing, cleaning and mending, also sewing and darning. Her hair lay in deep waves on her head. It was a shiny black, and hung long below her waist. She had it cut off and sold it to buy food for her family. She accepted the Gospel in her native land and was baptized at Ledbury, England in 1651. She married again, a man by the name of James Martin, but this marriage was not successful. The husband was a good worker, but most of his wages were spent in drink. The little son Jimmie was a delicate child, so the other children divided the nicest food with him, because they could eat more common food, and his appetite was poor. Mary lived her religion sincerely, paying her tithing to her visiting teachers. Her husband did not approve of this very much. Her two oldest sons, now grown to young men, decided they could not live at home under the abuse of their stepfather. One day they said, "Mother, we cannot stand it any longer. We are going away." The poor Mother protested, but without avail. With aching heart she packed their few clothes. She never saw them again. They went to Australia, it is supposed, and years after she heard they came back to the old home to find she had left. They went back to Australia or America. Her second husband died and she was alone again, but her heart was set on going to Zion. She worked hard and saved all she could for that purpose. At last she had saved enough to take herself and four children and sail to America. She left Liverpool early in the year of 1654 on the ship Thornton, with a company of Saints. This ship was an old sailing vessel and at that time it took three months to cross the ocean from England to New York. Being wintertime, great storms came up, drifting the ship off her course, and then fire broke out. The Saints were ordered below and the doors locked. They could hear the sailors walking back and forth working hard to save the ship from burning up and sinking. After hours of anxious waiting the people were called on deck and the captain thanked them for obeying orders. Finally they landed at Castle Gardens, N. Y. Mary lived in New York City five years working and earning money to go on to Zion. Two daughters, Jane and Mary Ann came on two years before the Mother. At last, in 1861, she started on the 3000-mile trip to Utah. The railroad had extended 2000 miles into the West. She came by rail to Florence, with her daughter Ellen and son-in-law, William Bone, and son Jimmie. William Bone was lame so he could not walk, so Mary Ann bought a wagon with two yoke of oxen, and Ellen and William rode in the wagon while the Mother pulled or pushed a handcart, with provisions and Jimmie. She was only allowed 80 lbs in the cart. Mary Ann walked every mile of the 1000 miles over burning hot desert into Salt Lake City. She had accomplished her dearest hope. She met her two daughters in Kaysville. Now she sold her oxen and wagon and bought cattle and put her money into cattle with her son James Martin. They bought them a home in Harrisville, now known as North Ogden. James married and raised a large family. He became Bishop of Harrisville Ward and served as Bishop many years. His Mother Mary Ann lived with him until she was 91 years. She suffered with Typhoid Fever at the age

of 90 years. She recovered, but it impaired her memory. At 91 years she went to live with her daughter, Jane Robbins, at Stone, Idaho, remaining with Jane the balance of her life. She was not sick or bedfast, until the last few days. She passed peacefully away on May 20, 1898 at the advanced age of 93 years and 2 months. They laid her away in the Cemetery at Snowville, Utah. She left a large posterity which is scattered thru the States of Utah, Idaho, Montana, Washington, Nevada, Washington D. C. and Tennessee.