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A History of The Muir Family,  
Thomas Walter Muir, And  
Isabella Samson Muir

John Sampson Muir

All of father's ancestors as far as known were born at Fordel or Dalgetty Parish, Fifeshire, Scotland. Many names were Muir and Beveridge. His grandfather was Walter Muir and Christian Beveridge was his grandmother. His great-grandfather married Dorothy Beveridge. Father did not know of any relationships except as husbands and wives.

There were so many families by the name of Muir that some word or name was used to tell them apart. The "W" in our record is for what was known as the Walter Muirs, and the "H" for the Habby Soul Muirs. Habby was used instead of Happy.

The Beveridge came from deBeverly and came from France

Walter W. Muir and one of his sons were killed in the coalmines about the first of the year 1832.

Grandfather, John W. Muir, was hurt and lived only 8 months after. Father, at this time, was only 12 years old and went to work in the coalmines. His mother's brothers beat him because he could not do the work they gave him to do.

Father's brother, James in 1834, was sent to the blacksmith shop, and when he got on coal car to ride, he fell off and was killed.

About 1844, Janet H. Muir and her family moved to Dumfermline. She died there in 1846 and is buried there.

Father first heard of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from his brother-in-law, Thomas B. Muir in 1847. He was baptized the same year on 9 March 1848. The ship "Sailor Prince" sailed from Liverpool with 80 LDS on board with Moses Martin, President. Father and all of his sisters and brothers except Jane Muir Strang were on this ship. Jane and her husband came over in 1852.

THOMAS WALTER MUIR crossed the sea on the ship "Sailor Prince" in 1848 (Moses Martin, Captain). Isabell Samson crossed the sea on the ship "Argo" (Jester Clinton, Captain) 1850. They and their son, John S. Muir started from Crescent, Iowa on the 9<sup>h</sup> of June and arrived at Salt Lake on 28 November 1852.

Thomas Walter Muir had long white hair and it curled up on the ends. He always had candy for the grandchildren. His wife had a bad back and used to walk with her hands behind her holding her back. When they came to Utah, Brigham Young gave them a homestead where the Newhouse Hotel now stands (1961). Annie Muir Livingston was born there and because it was such a wet place, Brigham Young moved them to 1<sup>st</sup> South and 5<sup>h</sup> East. They lived there a while and then he found another spot he liked better for them one-fourth of a block on 2<sup>d</sup> Avenue and H Street. They had a little black walnut tree she had brought with her and planted it in front of the house. When Johnston's Army came, grandmother picked it up and put it in a can and took it with her to Provo and kept it there and planted it in front of the home when they came back. It is the biggest tree in Utah. When John and Letitia bought there home, they planted some of the walnuts and today (18 July 1961) there is a very large one in front of the house at 1200 Lake Street.

Thomas Walter Muir worked up the canyon. John S. herded cattle and was good in the mountains and if any sheep or cattle were lost, the owners came to him to find them. One day as John S. and his father were in the head of City Creek Canyon, they were coming home. When they got to city creek, there was a small bridge over the creek and they stopped to get a drink. John was about 14 and he said, "I am going home over the hill and I will beat you home." His father said, "You are tired, come and ride." John started back across the bridge and then he stopped and said, "No, I am going over the hill, " and his father said, "all right then." When he got to the top of Little Valley, he found a small child that was going farther north and he picked it up and took it to his mother on 2<sup>d</sup> Avenue and H Street and asked if she knew whose child it was. She didn't, but as dark was coming on the bells began to ring and members mounted their horses to search for the missing child. There had been a prayer circle previously asking for help in finding the child. John S took the child to John T. Kane to see if he knew who it belonged to and he said they were then holding a prayer circle in the Bishop's building. The child was Heber C. Kimball's grandchild. The mother had gone for the day and left the child in the care of an Indian girl who had let the child get away.

Lizzie Mitchell, a cousin of Isabella Samson Muir, lived in Blair Vie, Scotland. She and her daughter, Katie came to the United States after her husband and other daughter died and they stayed with John S. Muir and his family. They owned hotels in Scotland and were very wealthy. They had friends in California and on the East Coast so they came to America to visit them. Katie met a fellow in California and wanted to get married, but her mother had no one else, as her family was all gone, so Katie went back home with her and later married a Scotch boy.

Thomas Walter Muir and Isabell Samson received their second anointings in the Logan Temple, 15 July 1891.

John Walter Muir and Grace Muir, brother of Thomas Walter Muir received their second annointings 30 January 1903 in the Salt Lake Temple.

## HISTORY OF ISABELLA SAMSON

The name Samson is Norse and my mother told me that she had heard it said that the Samson's name had come from the islands north of Scotland where they had an estate and were well to do.

The first of the Samsons that mother knew anything about was her grandfather. William Samson who was born in Glenisla, Forfarshire, Scotland about 1764. His wife's name was Ann Begg (Glenisla 1768). Mother did not know anything about her grandmother's family or where they came from.

James Samson, father of my mother, was born about 1801, the 3<sup>d</sup> child in the family at Glenisla, Forfarshire, Scotland. He was a forester and carpenter. He married Ann Patterson about 1820, who was born 1800.

Ann Patterson was the daughter of John Patterson (born 1766) and Isabell Anderson (born 1768) Callahill, Parthshire, Scotland. They had 10 children.

Mother was the 3<sup>rd</sup> child (born November 1825) at Glenisla, Forfarshire, Scotland. She was baptized in 1848 in Glenisla, Scotland into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints by Elder Hugh Findley

She left all of her father's family and sailed from Liverpool on Thursday. 10 January. 1850 on the ship "Argo". There were 402 saints on board with Jester Clinton as President of the Company. Mother had charge of Mrs. Robertson who was sick. Elder Clinton told Angus Cannon who told it to me that she kept the ship in an uproar all the way, that she was possessed of evil spirits. Mother had a hard time and was glad when it was over. They arrived at New Orleans on Friday 8 March 1850. She stopped at what was then a known branch of the church called Little Pigeon or Crescent, Iowa or six miles from Council Bluffs, Iowa. The ship was almost lost in the Straits of Florida. It was sailing for some reefs when a bright light seemed to come down from the sky and showed around the ship. Our mother and another girl had slipped unseen up to the deck and they alone saw the light. The Captain was notified in time to save the ship. My father and mother met in 1850. They managed to get an outfit and came to Utah in 1852.