

ANN HAMBLIN AND JAMES PITMAN

Ann Hamblin was born 6 June 1824 at Green Farn Cottages, Vagg-End, Coleford, Somerset, England. She started training at a very young age to be a knitter. The children of her day were assigned and trained at an early age, sometimes as young as two years, to learn a trade. On the records she was listed as a Spinster and a Knitter. Her parents were Benjamin Hamblin and Anny Denny (Denning). He is listed as a miner. She married James Pitman on 30 October 1842 in the Coleford Chapel, Kilmersden Parish, Somerset, England. She was baptized 21 July 1866. She died 20 December 1894 in Scofield, Utah.

James Pitman was born 4 May 1819 in Bkaebavon, Monmouthshire, England. He spent his early years in England, and at an early age went to work in the mines. He married Ann Hamblin and they had a family of 8 children. Two children died in infancy--Edith when she was 2 years old and Alice when she was one.

They joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, which was commonly called the Mormon Church, and immigrated to America in September 1877. They had a long, rough journey, being on the ocean for three weeks. When they arrived in Spanish Fork, Utah, without a place to stay, they were offered a bed in a hay stack. This made their son Daniel angry, and it is recalled that he said, "We can sleep in the hay, but not our mother." This was later stated as the reason that their son Daniel never joined the Church.

Their first home was a blacksmith shop in Spanish Fork. James had poor health after coming to America, and in about 1882 he suffered a stroke that left him paralyzed on one side of his body. They moved to Scofield, Utah, to live with their son Daniel, taking their youngest son Meshach with them. In 1884 James suffered a second stroke and died in Scofield, Utah, and was buried in the Spanish Fork Cemetery.

Ann Hamblin Pitman continued to make her home with her son and his wife Mary Ann. At a later date she married a widower, Thomas Rees Williams, who had two small sons. Two of his daughters were married. She was a very religious woman. Her granddaughter Alice said, "She sure was a grand lady."

When Ann's daughter-in-law Amy (John's son) died, leaving him with 5 children, Ann stepped in and was a mother to them. Daniel bought a second home in Winter Quarters and had a little home to the side of it for his mother. The children loved her and she helped Mary Ann with them.

the tabernacle to work and John worked thirty minutes longer than usual. As I was dusting he came running thru the tabernacle calling me. When he found me he said, "Mother is dying." I rushed home with him and found her unconscious. She never gained consciousness. John, Clarence and I watched the night thru and she died quietly at 5 am in the morning of January 24, 1954.

We had a service for her in Rigby January 28 and graveside service in Spanish Fork, Utah, January 29. She was buried beside Father. This is where she always wanted to be. She bought a double headstone years before she passed away.

She was a wonderful mother, always considerate of the other person. She did much good in her life and I love and honor her.

She was five feet four inches tall, had brown yees and dark brown hair and weighed about 167 pounds.

To me she was very beautiful.

Ann Hamblin could not read or write; James could. When she signed birth certificates for their children, she made an X. It was her hope that her children would learn to read and write. She and James struggled to set money aside so their children could be educated. It is recorded that their oldest daughter Ellen could read and write.

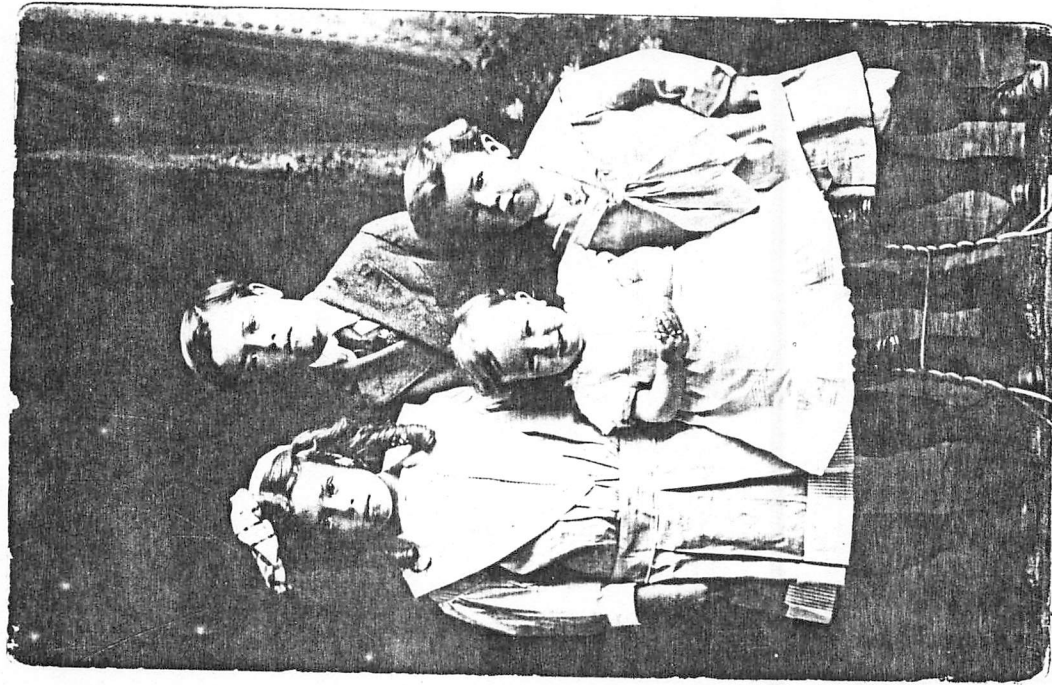
Alice, the granddaughter of Ann Hamblin Pitman, told this story about her. Alice and her friend were sitting on the back bench in Sacrament meeting. They were talking, giggling, and enjoying themselves when Alice saw her grandmother stand up. She walked to the back of the chapel, took hold of Alice's ear, and marched her up to the front seat. They sat down together before she let go of her ear. Alice was very embarrassed and said she tried to be reverent in all meetings after that incident.

Alice said her grandmother was a very religious woman who did a lot of genealogy and temple work. Her records disappeared after her death.

Alice recalled that her eyes were so piercing she could see right through someone.



Mary Ann Pittman Hayes



Mary Ellen, Daniel Le Roy, Clarence Delos
and George William Hayes