

Hannah Maria Cook was born 22 Oct.1834 at Cheltenham, Glouscestershire, England, to Joseph and Hannah Maria Le Chevalier Cook. Her parents were married 11 Oct. 1831 in Charlton Kings, Glous. England. Hannah's father was Peter LeChevalier. Joseph was a gardener. His parents are not now known.

I don't know the conditions that the Cooks lived in, but for most common people of England at that time conditions were very poor. Most people lived in small crowded homes, that were often damp and cold. They had very little food to eat, not much variety. A lot of their food consisted of thin gruel or porridge. Most children had to work out to help supplement the family income. Most children began work by age 10 or 12, often by age 8. They worked long hours, often from 4 a m to 8 pm. Sometimes they walked long distances and had very little to eat as they worked.

Hannah was called Ann by her family, so after this I will refer to her as Ann. Her mother was usually called Maria. Ann had a younger sister, Catherine Mansell born in June, 1837. She had a brother, Joseph Peter, born in 1841. It is possible that she had two sisters younger, who died in infancy. A family record by Kate Hamblin listed a Jane born 1841-1844. I got a death record for a Hannah Maria Le Chevalier Cook who died 9 March, 1845, aged 3 months. Her father was Joseph and Hannah Maria Cook signed, with an x, the certificate.

In the 1841 Census Joseph was listed as a gardener, Maria was the mother, children were Ann6, Catherine, 3 and Peter was 6 months. Ann was baptized into the LDS or Mormon Church 30 Oct.1848 by John Thurmer. She was 16 then I wish we knew the story of her conversion. I wonder if she was working out as a servant then. Her sister Catherine was baptized 21 April, 1851, by William Kerby. She was about 14.

In the 1851 Census I couldn't find the family listed together, but I found an Ann Cook, 17, born in Cheltenham, who was a servant in the household of John and Hannah Mathews. A niece of the Mathews was listed as a teacher and there were 5 boys, ages 8 and 9, also in the household who were listed as pupils. Ann and another girl were listed as servants.

An Anna Maria Cook, 45, Married, born Tetbury, was listed as a servant in a home, and a Catherine Cook, 14, was listed as a servant and a nurse in another household. I feel that these are our family. I couldn't find Joseph Cook on the census for 1851. The mother Maria, was baptized 28 January, 1854. She and her 3 children left Cheltenham in March, 1854 for Liverpool to Emigrate to the United States and to Zion or Utah. They left Liverpool April 8, 1854 on the Marshfield. Hannah Maria was listed as a regular passenger, which meant that she didn't come through the Perpetual Emigration Fund. I would think that her husband had died by then, but so far I have found no record of his death.

I would like here to include a letter written by a man who was also a passenger on the Marshfield. He describes the trip across the ocean very well.

"My Dear Brother William--I hail with joy this privilege of acquainting you of our arrival at New Orleans this morning, (May 29,

1854) after a passage of 51 days from Liverpool, and I rejoice in having to say that our voyage has been more like an excursion from London to Margate, or Herne Bay, than a voyage across the vast Atlantic. I presume that I shall be perfectly safe in saying that a more pleasant, healthy, and happy voyage had never been known in the history of transatlantic emigration, for, although we had a few days' seasickness, we have been free from disease. with but one exception--Orson William Neild, son of a brother Neild from the Oldham Branch of the Manchester Conference, and who died on Sunday night, 23rd April, aged five months. As regarding myself and family, I might say we have been first rate. Jane has been a little poorly a day or two, and William was seasick one day. I had an attack twice of my old complaint, which brought me to an anchor one day, but all that is nothing. We are well now, and in first rate spirits, thanks to our heavenly Father.

"Well, now for some information which may be useful to you as you come along. As regards provisions, they have been of the best quality. I have been greatly deceived both in quantity and quality, both have been so very good. I brought one cwt. of biscuits one third would have been enough. Half the bacon would have been plenty.....although the pork seem small per week, yet in a family, and in there warm latitudes, it is really more than you can use. I brought a quarter cwt of flour; I could have used half as much more, for if you have flour you can have soft bread every day. The cooking arrangements are very good, the company is divided into 8 wards, and each has its turn or use of the galley alternately during the day, which makes the wards differ in their dinner times, but all goes on well.

"A few red herring and a good supply of potatoes are very acceptable. The potatoes relish the pork. The pork was very good;some we have had as good as you would buy in the shops in Liverpool.

" I have found your little barrel very useful. In hot weather we have had frequent showers of rain, which has supplied us plentifully for washing our clothes. Some baking powders, and carbonate of soda, and sherbet, are very useful, also some mustard, lime-juice, plums, currants, caraway seeds, spices for puddings, pickles, and a few pounds of sugar. Be sure to bring some preserves, and you may reckon upon having tarts all the voyage, which are very nice in these hot latitudes, for it is hot and no mistake. Our only bed-covering is a sheet and that is soon kicked off when we are in bed.

"Well, now a word about our Church government on board, for I presume you wish to know all. Elder William Taylor is our President, and a first rate fellow he is--a better man, and one who feels for more for the interests of the Saints, I never met with in my experience. I thank God I have the happiness of his acquaintance and friendship. Elder Gilbert Clements, another most excellent man, is one Counselor, and your humble servant is the other. As I said before, the whole company is divided into 8 wards, or you may call them Branches of our Conference. Each ward had its president. Four wards on the starboard side were under my superintendence, those on the other side were under Elder Clements'. President Taylor was over the whole. We have had occasionally our council meetings, and sometimes to try offenders,

for you must understand that offenses will come. You will be astonished to see the wickedness of some men and women calling themselves Saints, when they are, like us, thrown into close quarters. Let no Saints attempt to gather, unless they are fully determined to love God, and work righteousness. All our company are not such. I have learned and seen more of the feelings and dispositions of the human heart in this short voyage than in the whole course of my previous life. O, how precious are wisdom and patience. But, upon the whole, we believe a better company of "Mormons" never crossed these seas.

"Now for something about our ship and her officers. Our ship, if I know anything about ships, is about as good a one, for strength, ventilation, and every other qualification, as ever crossed these waters. Our Captain is a perfect gentleman, in the fullest sense of the expression; he had been a captain in his ship, a father and friend to his passengers. May God bless him. The mates and seaman have behaved with great kindness to all. I can truly say before God, that while I have been on board I have been treated like a gentleman by the captain, officers, and crew. Two of the crew--the carpenter and a sailor, are going with us to Zion. They have been engaged as teamsters by some of the passengers, and will be baptized after leaving the ship. It is not prudent to baptize seamen on board--it has been proved that they sometimes get baptized on board merely to assist in their designs upon the honor of our sisters. We might have baptized all our crew, mates and all, but our President was too old for them. We have had two marriages and two births on board.

"From your affectionate brother, Thomas F. Fisher."
This was quite long but, but described the conditions of the ship so well that I thought I should use it.
I don't know if the Cooks had so much to eat as did Brother Fisher.

After reading about the conditions on board the ship in other articles I thought how terrible they were. Conditions they had in England sometimes were much worse than the life on board ship for the most part, with the exception possibly of the sea sickness which everyone suffered at one time or another.

Once on board ship we can see from this letter that things were very well organized. They had watchmen day and night before the ships left the port to keep unauthorized persons from going down in the hatchways. Most passengers boarded the ship as soon as they arrived in Liverpool to save expenses of board and to be protected being robbed by "sharpies" on shore.

Passengers arose about 5 or 6 am, cleaned their portions of the berths, throwing the rubbish overboard. Each ward met and had prayers. They then had breakfast and went about their various duties. During the days they had many things to occupy their time. There were classes taught. Non English speaking people learned some English and some who spoke English learned some of other languages. School classes were taught for the children. Returning missionaries would tell of their experiences. Time was used wisely. Sometimes other passengers or crew were taught the Gospel. About 8 or 9 pm they met again for prayers and retired for the night.

There were 4 to 6 persons assigned to berths (rooms) which were 6 feet square. The beds were 6' by 18". Two people may share a berth (bed) 6' by 3'. If two strangers shared a berth two planks, 18" high had to be put between them, With so many passengers, sometimes up to 800 passengers to a ship, rules were sometimes broken.

Since 1852 single men, 14 and over had to stay in the forepart of the ship.

The berths were dark and crowded, sometimes damp. During a storm the baggage, cooking and eating utensils would be scattered about; food might be spilled. The hatchways were steep and narrow. Storms caused a great deal of seasickness. This caused a great terrible smell in the berths. The emigrants were to clean their berths daily but when they were seasick they were unable to do so. Conditions would become almost unbearable at times like this. Usually once a week the crew would scrub the whole living quarters and the passengers could go up on deck while it was done. A typical weeks menu might be rice on Monday, Tuesday, oatmeal, Wednesday, pork and potatoes and then it would be repeated again. They were lucky if they had some extra food of their own to put with it. Infants and small children were the worst off because the food was often too coarse for their systems and often caused problems for them.

The average trip took about 7 weeks to New Orleans, La. When they went to Ports in the east the trip was about 5 weeks. On the 7 week trips the water would often become bad. Arrangements were made ahead of time for wagons and provisions for the emigrants. Money was sent ahead of time so these could be purchased and be ready on time.

When the Marshfield reached the coast of the USA it had to be towed up the Mississippi River 30 miles to New Orleans before it docked. The first 30 miles of the river was muddy, with swamps and rushes on either side of the river. There soon began to be small plantations and then larger ones beside the river.

The Ship was met at New Orleans by Wm. A. Empey the Church Agent assigned to them and a few other ships. He arranged for the steam-boat passage to St. Louis, MO. on up the Mississippi River. Emigrants were warned not to eat too much fresh fruit, vegetables and meat after having had ship fare so long. They were also warned of swindlers on shore who might take advantage of them when they went ashore.

The Marshfield Arrived in New Orleans, La. 29May, 1854. Wm. Empey got passage for them on the James Robb steamer. The passage was \$2.25 for adults and half that for children. For those under three it was free.

The trip up the Mississippi River on the James Robb took about 2 weeks. From the ship they could see plains, plantations, gardens, tropical fruit trees. They saw Black slaves working the fields and ports. These scenes must have been very interesting to the Saints. Some scenes were very different than they had seen before. Also seeing land after being on the ocean for so long must have seen a

wonderful sight. Bluffs could be seen overhanging the river in places. The Mississippi River is wide and very crooked. It bordered along at least 6 states. The land must have seemed endless to those people who came from tiny England.

When they got to St. Louis, Mo. many people were crowded into rooms to stay until they could leave there. Many died from Malaria and from Cholera. These Saints were not used to the heat and dampness and mosquitoes which carried the Malaria. Brother Empey was hard put to find enough coffins for those who died from several ships which came that spring. I don't know how many died from the Marshfield. A few did, I know. I wonder if this is what happened to Hannah Maria Cook, the mother, as I have found no other record of her after she arrived in New Orleans.

Peter Cook stayed in St. Louis. It was over twenty years later before Ann and Joseph Peter contacted each other.

When they got to St. Louis prices had gone up from \$! per capita to \$3-\$5 for passage on to Kansas City, Mo. It was then known as West Port. There is where the Saints started their westward trip in wagon trains. Fares for baggage and freight on wagons had gone up also. There were many going West because of the Gold Rush besides the Saints who were going that a shortage was caused. The higher prices caused the ordinary passenger to rely some on the Perpetual Emigration Fund for help in getting their outfits to travel in. Because of these conditions they were later leaving for Utah than usual.

In 1852 the outfitting place for those going West was changed from Keokuk, Iowa to Westport, now part of Kansas City, Mo. The Marshfield Emigrants sailed up the Missouri River in three steamboats, across the state of Missouri. They arrived in Westport about June 17th.

There were 43 wagons in the William A. Empey Company. They left June 30 or July 1st. They arrived 24 October, 1854. The weather had remained good for them.

The Saints were to take what tools of their professions with them that they could, and books, thread, needles cloth if possible. They were to take flour, sugar, beans, rice, bacon, dried fruit, salt, vinegar, soap, cornmeal with them, as much as possible. Some of them may have had a little milk from the cows they were taking with them. They may have had some wild game to eat once in a while. Even though they didn't have much, for some it was more than they had had back in their poverty in England.

What an experience this must have been for those who came from such a small country as England. They had crossed the wide Atlantic ocean, traveled by steamboat up the Mississippi River, crossed Missouri, also by steamboat on a river. Now they crossed miles and miles of brush and grass covered plains, crossed numerous streams and rivers, crossed hills and finally the mountains. The land must have seemed endless to them. How happy they must have been to finally reach the Great Salt Lake Valley at last.

They had been about ten weeks coming across the land. The covered wagon beds were 12 feet long and 3'4" wide. There were

usually ten people assigned to a wagon, and one tent for that many, sometimes there would be two tents for every 6 or 8 people. The Cooks must have been assigned to another family. Most of them walked all the way. They walked through miles of sand and dust, hot, dry winds, and rain. Their hands, faces and feet became chapped and sore. They had to wade streams and rivers, gather buffalo chips for fuel for fires to cook their suppers. Before the Cooks arrived in the Valley the nights must have been getting quite cold.

Evenings were spent in fixing meals, eating, singing and dancing. They had to have some good experiences to keep them going, besides their great faith. The landscape and climate surely was different from what they had left. The vastness in itself must have seemed great to them. How happy they must have been when they finally climbed the mountain where they could look down on the great valley and realize that their journey was almost over.

I don't know where the Cooks spent that first winter, probably in Salt Lake City. The next year on May 28, 1855 Ann married Edwin Hamblin in Tooele, Utah. I wish we knew how they met.

They didn't stay in Tooele very long because their first child was born in Brigham City 13 Feb. 1856. Brigham City was settled in 1851. It is about 60 miles Northwest of Salt City. It is said that Edwin Hamblin planted the first peach trees in Brigham City.

The Hamblins moved further North to Wellsville, in Cache Valley. It was settled in 1856. Edwin and Ann had another son, Isaiah, who was born in Wellsville 7Nov. 1857. In 1858 with Johnson's Army on the way to Utah the Saints moved South of Salt Lake City. Straw was put in each home, with man staying there to light the houses on fire. The Saints were determined that their homes were not going to be taken away from them again as they had been several times before. The Army marched peacefully through the Valley, leaving everything untouched.

The people then returned home. I don't know if the Hamblins returned then, for they received a call to settle in Southern Utah. Edwin's brother, Jacob had been called to work with making peace with the Indians in Southern Utah. William and Oscar Hamblin had gone there too. They all helped settle Santa Clara, 4 years before St. George was settled. The red soil was rich, the climate was milder. Santa Clara Valley was narrow so many farms were small. Some were above and some were below the settlement. Most homes there were of adobe. A few were of rock or were frame houses. Jacob Hamblin was appointed Mission President there in 1857. Ann's first daughter, Hannah Maria was born in Santa Clara 12Dec. 1859. She must have been named for her mother and grandmother. The 1860 Census record gives the Hamlin's home as Mt. Meadows, which isn't to far from Santa Clara.

The family next moved to Pinto where they stayed for several years. Pinto is located about 42 miles Northeast of St. George, Utah. It is 300 miles from Salt Lake City. Pinto is also in a narrow valley along the Pinto Creek. Pinto became a Ward in 1867. A rock meetinghouse was built there. Edwin possibly help to build it.

While they were living in Pinto four children were born to the Hamblins. They are Catherine Mansell, 1 Nov. 1861, Sarah Ann, born 1 August, 1863; Josephine, born 9 November, 1864; and Joseph Peter, born 28 Nov. 1866.

Jacob Hamblin had a ranch and a small settlement was made near it which was called Hamblin. In the Hebron Ward Records it lists with the family of Edwin and Ann a son born to them, Hyrum, who was born June 1, 1868 at Ft. Hamblin. This son died 2 Dec. 1868. This is the only record I've found of this son. The only thing left of Hamblin is a small cemetery. Hamblin was located 5 miles west of Pinto. It was 6,000 feet above sea level and very cold and windy. Another daughter Emma, was born to the Hamblins 18 Dec. 1869 in Gunlock, Utah. Gunlock was first settled by William H. Hamblin in 1857. He was well known as Gunlock Will because he was such a good marksman and hunter and was good at repairing guns. Gunlock was 15 miles northwest of Santa Clara.

Just imagine moving that many times with a large family and moving with covered wagons for transportation. Animals would have to be taken along also. After coming to Southern Utah the moves weren't quite so far, but still would have been a big undertaking. With each move a new home would have to be built, ditches dug, land cleared, corrals built, gardens planted, and always the threat of Indian uprisings. They always tried to be friendly with the Indians, but it didn't always work.

Edwin and Ann made a trip to Salt Lake in the fall of 1862 to be sealed for eternity in the Salt Lake Endowment House. This must have been quite a trip for them then, but they didn't have such a large family then.

The 1870 Census listed their address as Mt. Meadows, which is also in the same general area.

In about 1871 the family moved to Clover Valley, Nevada. (It was later named Barclay, but still known as Clover Valley). There were 12 to 15 other families there. It was a very isolated place, being 80 miles northwest of St. George, Utah and at least 30 miles from the nearest town in Nevada. Again some of their neighbors were Indians.

Edwin's brother, William Haines was to testify in a Silver mine litigation. Before his testimony was given someone poisoned him. When he realized what had happened he tried to get to Clover valley where his wife was. He was very ill, and died after reaching Clover Valley, 8 May, 1872. He is buried there.

Two months after William's death, Ann had a baby boy born 8 July, 1872. He was named William Haines, for this uncle.

On August 6, 1873 the Hamblins had another daughter, Mary Ellen. According to the Hebron Ward records they had another son, Parley Parker Pratt Hamblin. He was born 27 June, 1877. He died the same day. Clover Valley was a Branch of Hebron Ward.

Ann's sister Catherine married Peter Sinclair. They lived in Salt Lake City. Ann and Catherine corresponded with each other. Ann also wrote to a Sarah Wheeler who was from Cheltenham. Ann

wrote for a cousin, Emily Wakefield in Cheltenham. Emily sent the letter to Joseph Peter who was still in St. Louis, Mo. He got the letter on 13 Feb. 1875 and answered it the next day. This was the first they had been in touch with each other since they had parted in St. Louis in 1854. By this time Catherine had died. Joseph had been in St. Louis all this time except 4 years during the Civil War when he was in the South. Later he spent some time in Colorado, but moved back to St. Louis. He married Louisa Smith in 1875. They had at least four children, three who died as infants. Ann sent their daughter Annie some money for a Christmas present when she was a few months old. Ann and Joseph Peter corresponded until 1883. He may have died then.

Life must have been hard for Ann, moving around so much and taking care of such a big family. They had to be fairly well self-sustaining. They had to make their own cloth and clothing, soap,, butter and cheese. Gardens has to be raised and food preserved. Washings were an all day job, or longer.

In Clover Valley school and church meetings were held first in homes and later a school house was built where all meetings were held.

Ann's daughter Hannah married Thomas Logan 27 May, 1883. Obed Edwin was married to Margaret Adair 19 July, 1883.

Ann died 15 March 1884 in Clover Valley. She is buried there. On her headstone it reads" Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." This is a special tribute to her. She had truly dedicated her life to the Lord, had joined His Church, came from England across the Atlantic ocean, rode up the mighty Mississippi River, and then up the Missouri river, crossed the plains and climbed the Rocky mountains, and helped settle many new places in Utah and finally settled in Nevada. She was only 49 years old when she died. She had lived a lot in those years and had endured much for the sake of the Gospel and for her family. This was compiled by Ila Vee Hamblin Larsen, great granddaughter of Hannah "Ann" Maria Cook Hamblin