

Mary Ann Chadwick Hull



Mary Ann Chadwick Hull daughter of Joseph Chadwick and Mary Whitehead and wife of Robert McClellan Hull, was born the twenty second of January 1844, at Oldham Lancaster England. She had black hair and very bright, dark eyes; her height was about five feet and she never weighed over 170 pounds; before her marriage she weighed but 110 pounds.

She had a vivid picture of various experiences she had throughout her life, beginning with her childhood days in England, when her Grandmother took care of her and a cousin, William Whitehead. When William would tease the Grandmother; she would strike him over the head with a cloth.

Mary Ann was just five years of age when she left England with her parents. While on board the ship, she became terribly ill and wanted nothing but a potato, finally one was secured from a lady who had two potatoes in her trunk; taking them to America. It seems to have been just the right bit of food, the sick child needed and now she says, "Never shall I forget how good that baked potato tasted."

They landed in New York after a nine weeks voyage on the "Samuel Curling" sailing vessel. The family moved to New Mines Pennsylvania in 1849 and remained there ten years before coming on to Utah.

While living in New Mines, she and her sister Sarah had to walk three miles to school. One day the teacher whipped Sarah, (for not having a lesson

prepared) until she dropped bleeding at his feet. Mary Ann carried the child home; that was their last day of school there.

She had many varied experiences while she was in Pennsylvania. At one time a drunken woman set fire to her home and burned herself and five of her six children to death. One of the children; a young man stood in an upper story window preparing to jump as he held a five year old brother in his arms; before jumping however, the people called to him to throw his brother to them; but he was too excited to understand and the child was soon enveloped in flames and the people below were powerless. The screams of the child were terrible. A few days later Mary Ann asked the young man why he left his brother there to die in the flames. In reply he threw a large stone at her and some one found her later bleeding and unconscious by the roadside. The large scar made by the cut of the stone was always very distinct on her forehead.

At the age of eight she was baptized by Elder Woolford in a Creek near Minersville Pennsylvania.

She remembered President John Taylor standing up in meeting and saying to a brother, who was very wealthy and owed the Chadwick family money. "I want you to sell your property, take Sister Chadwick and her family along with your family and go to Utah. If you do not do so you will lose everything you have in this world and have to be helped by the Church to get to Utah." Every word that Elder Taylor spoke came true, for he did not heed the warning.

Mary Ann did what she could to help the family along by looking after other people's children, doing housework and helping her mother with boarders.

She had a sweetheart, Tommy Thomas, who did not want her to go to Utah. He tried always to persuade her not to leave Pennsylvania. At one time his sister Margaretta overheard him and his friends plotting to keep Mary Ann there, but through the friendship of this girl she was saved from something more terrible than death to her. She later named one of her daughters after this friend Margaretta.

While on the boat coming from St. Louis, Missouri to Omaha, she became acquainted with a young man. He would buy her mother fruit and fresh water; she soon found out that he wanted her for his wife. He promised her that if she would marry him when they reached Florence, he would buy cattle and wagons for her brothers and family, also all the food that money could buy for them while crossing the plains. He would do this providing she would go on to California with him if he did not like Utah. A family council was held and all decided that she could not sacrifice her religion for their comfort. She was thankful that she abided by family council.

The Chadwick family expected to travel with the Robinson Hand Cart Company of which the son Benjamin was pilot but on account of the mother being ill when this company was ready to leave; the two brothers bought a yoke of oxen so that the mother might ride and come with the John Smith Company. Mary Ann however, started with the Hand Cart Company, but after traveling with them ten miles or more, her brother and her returned to Florence (Winter Quarters) so that she could care for her mother and young brother. She was very much disappointed because she had made many friends in the Hand Cart Company with whom she wished to travel. However a successful journey was made later.

While crossing the Plains, their food consisted mostly of bread and bacon; occasionally someone would kill a buffalo and divide the meat among the company. They felt very fortunate when they could find some wild goose-berries to gather, they were cleaned, cooked and eaten without sugar. At all times there was a scarcity of food and water. Many times the members of the company drank rain water taken from pools found in the dents made by buffalo hoofs. There was a green scum over the water which had to be taken off before drinking.

Just before camping for the night the young people would gather their aprons full of buffalo chips to be used as fuel for cooking the evening meal.

When the company had been out on the Plains for about two weeks, their cattle went on a wild

stampede. The cattle began their wild rush just before camping time; the screams of the women and children along with the smashing up of several wagons were sounds most terrible to hear.

After the company had been traveling for about seven weeks, Mary Ann was stricken with Sun Stroke and lay unconscious for some time. She was allowed to ride for three days – the first and only ride she had during the entire journey. She carried her brother, Adam, on her back most of the way across the Plains.

Each night Captain Smith called the company together for singing and prayer. Occasionally the young people were allowed to dance to the tune of a violin and accordion which were in the company.

The Indians along the way were very troublesome and in order to keep peace the travelers were forced to give them freely of their scanty food supply. As the company traveled along messages concerning the welfare of the Hand Cart Company (whom her two brothers were with) which was traveling just ahead were found written on rocks or buffalo skulls.

While the company was crossing Green River a nephew of Captain Smith's was accidentally shot. When Captain Smith and Doctor Measer took him to Salt Lake for treatment, they reported to the authorities of the church the condition of the company and their need of food. Mary Ann's brother Benjamin met them up Emigration Canyon with a generous supply of good food.

After arriving in Utah, the Chadwick family including the Mother, Mary Ann, three brothers and a sister-in-law Sarah, moved to the father's home, south and west of the Slaterville meeting house. Mary Ann stayed there a month then went to Franklin in the early fall of 1860 where she stayed for two months with her father, then walked back to Ogden.

Early in the spring of 1861, she and her brother Adam left Mill Creek headed for Franklin in company with William Whitehead. They rode to Church Ranch, south of Logan, then they were put in charge of a man who was supposed to be going through to Franklin that night, but he camped for the

night just north of Smithfield. Mary Ann sat up in the front of his wagon all night with her brother in her arms trying to keep him warm. The next morning when the man went to get his oxen they started north. They got lost up the High Creek road, & didn't find South Fields until ten-9-clock that day. They were very hungry, not having had anything but a piece of bread to eat since they left Ogden nearly two days before. Adam was crying for something to eat so when Mary Ann saw some men working in the fields she asked the first man they came to if he could give her brother a piece of bread, he did so and insisted that she also eat a slice. Later she said, "Never in my life have I tasted anything that tasted like that salt rising bread and butter did that morning." Her brother was so weak and tired, that she left him to come home with the men at night and she walked on into Franklin. She never left that vicinity again after the spring of 1861, except on visits and they were very few.

She did housework at Mr. Stalker's at one time, working eleven weeks for enough linsey to make one dress. She also worked for Mr. Mendenhall for six weeks during this time, she fed sheep and did housework for one dollar a week.

Judging from her early pictures and the complimentary things her friends said about her, Mary Ann must have been a very attractive girl, with her English complexion, big brown eyes and rosy cheeks. No wonder she had so many proposals of marriage being a good girl too.

In the spring of 1862 under the influence of some of the leading men at Franklin and also her mother she went to Salt Lake where she was to be married to Mr. Stalker as his third wife. Fortunately when they arrived in Salt Lake the Endowment house was closed for a short time. Mary Ann felt that this was an answer to her prayers for she had pleaded in vain with her Mother who insisted that she marry Mr. Stalker. Relief came to her in answer to her prayer pleading that something might come to prevent her marriage to this man. The next spring she married Robert M. Hull, the man she wanted when she first met him at Franklin in 1860.

They were married at her Mothers home the first of June 1863 by Bishop Preston Thomas. She is the mother of ten children; three of which died in infancy, also one girl, age 19 yeas and a married son Robert McClellan Junior.

The newly married couples were called to Salt Lake at different time to get their endowments. Mary Ann and her husband were called in the fall of 1865; While there, Sister Eliza R. Snow gave her a blessing and promised that she would have a daughter who would grow up to womanhood which was a great comfort to her as she had buried her first two children.

Her time was well spent in many activities, some of them were wool picking, spinning, knitting gleaning wheat, braiding straw for hats and caring for her family. She also made trips to the canyons to gather haws, service berry and wild gooseberry for their winter fruit. Starch for food and clothes was made from potato. Her social activities were the Sacrament Meetings, dancing and spinning bees; she and Bell Smith were considered the two best spinners of yarn. Often they would make eight skeins a day each, while six were considered a good days work.



Handwork of M A Hull

She was always a good Church worker. In 1868 she was selected as a teacher in the first Relief Society organization in Franklin. She was appointed Pres. Of the Worm Creek Branch which was organized May 1878. Sisters Molen and Barber from the Cache

Stake visited this organization a few times. She was set apart for this work by Pres. Elizabeth Fox (it was customary at that time for women to set women apart for different offices.)

In the spring of 1868 she with her husband and one child (Annie) located the tract of land held by T.D. Alder at the present time (1930) in Preston 1st Ward. This land was jumped by Allen Tatum, a Revolutionary Soldier. They then bought claims of several people, who held ten acre plots, the present location of Whitney. They built a two roomed house and lived on this place in the summers and at Franklin generally in the winter for seven years. It was in this house her seventh child was born in 1876.

Next they gave a big gray horse and some money to Sarah E. Head in the year 1876 for her claim on a plot of land across the creek. On this place they built a four room house which was the best looking place around these parts at that time. It was made of logs, covered with lumber and painted pink.



In the spring of 1891, while in Blackfoot on his way north, Robert Hull, husband of Mary Ann Chadwick, was killed by a drunken Indian, making her a widow, which she remained for the rest of her life. Before her death in 1937, she put three sons through college and sent one on two missions, the other two each on one. Of her three daughters, she had each of them learn dressmaking which was considered a necessity at that time. She often said, "I have never expected

any help from State or Church which I am proud to say."

On October 3, 1937 she passed away at the home of her daughter, Martha, in Logan, Utah. She was buried in Franklin, Idaho, beside her husband. She was loved by everyone, and always happy and cheery as a young school girl at all times.

The following is written by her daughter Margaretta Hull Rallison.

1885

My Mother (Mary Ann Hull) was very much grieved over the loss of her daughter, Annie, she could not find comfort or know why such a beautiful promising young girl should be taken and especially with her other troubles. That of being deprived of the help and companionship of Father (who was in the underground on account of having two wives) and it was also just two months before her last child was born. One night, about four months after Sisters death, a dram in the form of a Vision was given her. She saw a large room just filled with young women, they were all dressed in white. They were all looking eagerly toward a platform, or a place higher than where they sat, as tho they were expecting someone. Mother also looked in the same direction and in walked her daughter (Annie) very slowly to the pulpit. She began to speak to these young women, while she was speaking a man she knew, came up and stood by Annies side.