**History of Jane Smith**

**2nd Child of George William Smith and Catherine Wooten**

**Written by Clinton R Gurney January 2016 (Great Grandson of Jane)**

Jane was born Oct. 4, 1848 in Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire, England. Eaton Bray is in a rural area of gently rolling hills about 100 miles north and slightly west of London. The Area is still today lightly populated.

George William Smith married Catherine Wooten on Dec. 21, 1845. He was 22 and she was 17. Jane was their second child of 11 children. Sobrina was born April 29, 1847. So the two sisters were just a year apart. George Smith, was baptized into the Mormon Church on Oct. 29, 1848, just 3 weeks after Jane’s birth. Her Mother was not baptized until Dec. 15, 1848. George’s brother Thomas X Smith and his wife Margaret (Gurney) Smith were baptized in April 1849 and another brother, Reuben joined in May 1849. There was a Branch of the Church in Eaton Bray.

As a side note, it is interesting to me as a Gurney that my Gurney ancestors come from Whipsnade, Bedfordshire, England which is less than 5 miles from Eaton Bray. My great grandfather, William Gurney, joined the Church March 1, 1853 at age 18. William must have attended the Eaton Bray Branch as there was no branch of the Church in Whipsnade. In a small branch he would certainly have been well acquainted with the Smith and Wooten families. Margaret Gurney could have been a distant cousin to William. We have not found her in the William Gurney line going back several generations.

George and Catherine’s third child, Maria Elizabeth, was born Sep 18, 1852, but only lived two weeks. Their fourth child, Marlon Lehi, was born March 8, 1854 and died the same day. These family tragedies must have been extremely difficult for the parents, but also hard for Jane and Sobrina.

George and Thomas were the only children of 8 siblings who emigrated to Utah. Jane sailed from Liverpool with her family on April 24, 1854 on the ship Clara Wheeler. They were on the ocean for 70 days arriving in New Orleans July 3. They transferred their goods to another boat which took them up the Mississippi River to Keokuk, Iowa, just 15 miles south of Nauvoo. They arrived on July 17 which was too late in the season to attempt the rest of the Journey to Salt Lake. It’s not recorded what the family did for that year or how they traveled from Keokuk to the wagon trailhead. It is recorded that they left by wagon train on Aug 4, 1855 from Mormon Grove near Atchison, Kansas in a company headed by Milo Andrus. They arrived in the Salt Lake Valley Oct. 22, 1855. Jane’s baby sister Annie Merintha was born on the plains at Devils Gate, Wyoming September 28, 1854. Jane was 6 years old when she made this long journey. For her it must have been exciting yet extremely difficult. For her Mother it must have been particularly hard, as she was pregnant and delivered her baby on the plains, still one month from Salt Lake Valley.

Being a geography nut, I carefully researched the journey west that Jane made. It is most likely the family journeyed from Keokuk Iowa to Mormon Grove Kansas by boat down the Mississippi River to St Louis and the Missouri River west to Atchison, Kansas where they embarked. Atchison is about 45 miles north of Kansas City and 20 miles south of St. Joseph, Missouri. Mormon Grove was 4.5 miles west of Atchison. Atchison was a new thriving city formed in 1855 shortly after the Kansas Territory was opened for homesteading. The Church secured 160 acres at the place which became known as Mormon Grove. It was an excellent embarking point at this time for the Saints because of its close proximity to the port of Atchison. There was plentiful fresh water, good grazing land, and rich soil for planting. They could gather needed supplies from the nearby port city, yet it was far enough away to avoid the problems inherent in a port city. 2041 people and 337 wagons left Mormon Grove for Zion in 1855. However, only one company of 97 left in 1856. Most immigrants were then going directly by rail from the East Coast to Florence, Nebraska, which is just north of present-day Omaha.

The route from Mormon Grove went northwest and across northern Kansas through towns of Horton, Seneca, across the Big Blue River at Marysville, and to Hollenberg and the Little Blue River. It then follows the Little Blue River into Nebraska northwest to Ft. Kearney, where they joined the original Mormon Trail which they followed all the way to Zion. This same trail was used a few years later by the Pony Express.

Jane’s family settled immediately in Farmington when she was 7 years old. As far as we know all of her childhood was spent there on a farm. Her parents bore more children in Farmington, which Jane must have helped raise, particularly in her teen and young adult years. Official records show that she was baptized a member of the Church in 1856 and according to the 1860 Census was living with her family in Farmington.

The July 1870 Census shows the Smith Family still in Farmington but Jane was not. The Census shows her living with the James Cummings family in the Salt Lake 10th Ward area as a “Domestic Servant”. Jane’s parents heeded a call to go to the Muddy River Valley near Mesquite Nevada in the Fall of 1870. In the “History of George W Smith” it says that Jane did not go with the family to Nevada because she had been married for a time. This Census information would suggest otherwise. It may be possible that she was engaged to be married at the time the family left. Or it may have been that she had gone to the big city to be on her own.

I was very curious to find out more about James Cummings, particularly whether or not he was a good member of the Church. The information led me to an unexpected finding that this family was related to the man who became Jane’s first husband.

James Cummings was 50 years old and well-to-do. He was a faithful member of the Church. He joined the Church in Maine when he was 18 years old, emigrated to Nauvoo in 1841, was endowed in the Nauvoo Temple, married Annette in 1845, went west with the Saints, served several missions to Mississippi, Illinois, and England, and took plural wives in 1851 and 1853. He first had a tailor shop on Main Street which must have been very successful. The 1860 Census records his home in the 14th Ward of Salt Lake City was worth $4,000 and he had other resources worth $6000. Sometime after 1860 he became the Superintendent of the Deseret Woolen Mill at the mouth of Parleys Canyon, which was owned by Brigham Young. The 1870 Census shows he lived at two different households. The first was with his first wife and where Jane Smith resided. This shows his personal wealth at $8,000 and his home $6,000 which must have been a large home. The second residence was in Sugar House at the Woolen Mill. It indicates that this residence is valued at $40,000. Residing here were the families of his 2nd and 3rd wives. What was most interesting to me is that a son of his second wife was named Marlow Livesy Cummings (1855-1934 . KWC2-4NH). Why would the Cummings use the name Livesy? I found that his second wife, Hannah Topham (1825-1885 . L8W8-2YL) Cumming’s mother was a Livesey. Bingo!!

Jane married Joseph Livesey sometime between 1870 and 1872. It makes sense to me that Jane was likely introduced to her future husband by the Cummings Family. It may have gone like this. Hannah Topham Livesey’s nephew had recently come from England to Utah to work. James Cummings suggested to his wife that he had a pretty girl working for him and they should meet each other. This is pure speculation on my part, but the known facts and the timing make this a very plausible story.

No records have been found about Jane’s marriage, or about Joseph Livesey, except for his death record. Family Search records show that he was born in England 28 Dec. 1834 to William Livsey and Mary Makin Livsey. (*Note that I question the correctness of this lineage. The Tophams and Liveseys associated with James Cummings all came from “Leeds, Yorkshire England. William and Mary Livsey lived far from this location. This needs more research.)* Joseph was 14 years older than Jane. He is not found in the 1870 Census, and must have come to Utah after July 1870.

Jane and Josephs’ first child, Annie Viola, was born in Sandy Utah February 21, 1873. In that time period Sandy was an integral part of the exciting new silver mining industry. Smelters had recently been built there to refine and process the ore from the Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons and from Bingham Canyon and Lark. Before 1870, there were only a handful of farms in Sandy. It is recorded that *on September 6, 1871, Utah Southern Railroad reached Sandy. Two smelters were built at Sandy, near the railroad tracks; one of them was the Saturn Silver Smelter, the largest in the territory, with a capacity of 50 tons per day.* *(Reeder, pages 116, 117)* Another railroad line was begun at this time period from Sandy to the Granite Quarries in Little Cottonwood Canyon. Joseph may have worked in the smelters or building the railways or in the mines. It is very likely that he came to Utah because of the silver mining boom. Why else would the baby have been born in Sandy?

The young couple probably enjoyed their first few years of marriage with a new baby girl and life was great. Then suddenly disaster hits Jane when her husband dies on September 4, 1874 due to the effects of a lightning strike, which is recorded in the Salt Lake Cemetery Death Records. Complicating this grief is the fact that she was one month pregnant with her second child, Josephine May, who is my grandmother. Josephine was born May 6, 1875. Can you imagine the grief she must have felt? No husband to support her, a 19-month old toddler to care for, and pregnant. Such a circumstance would have been very difficult today, but in 1874 it would have been much harder.

Jane made a terribly difficult decision in this time period to give her firstborn, Annie Viola, to the Fredrick and Sarah Bawden Wootton Couple. Fredrick was Jane’s uncle and she must have known the couple well. Fredrick was Catherine’s (Jane’s Mother) little brother. He was just 4 years older than Jane and Sarah was 5 years younger than Jane. This couple were married April 24, 1871 and had a child, Wallace, who was born and deceased in 1872. They had no more children until 1893 when their only other child Wallace Fredrick was born. I believe the adoption of Annie Viola was a blessing for them and a relief to Jane in her difficult situation. I have been told by a Wooton ancestor that Annie Viola did not find out she was adopted until late in her life.

By 1874 Jane’s parents had returned from the Muddy River and St George and moved to South Cottonwood. They were probably not in a situation to support Jane at this crucial time. According to my grandmother, Josephine May, her mother had to sweep floors of taverns in order to earn money after her husband died.

The next confirmed event in Jane’s life is the birth of her third child, Beatrice Clemens, born 26 January 1878 in Salt Lake City. The Father is a Mr. Clemens. Nothing is known about him including his first name, except that he was born in Northern Ireland, which Beatrice as an adult indicates in a later census. We can assume Jane was married to Mr. Clemens, but not for long. The June 1880 Census shows Jane living in South Cottonwood as the wife of Thomas Markham. They have two children, Josephine (5) and Beatrice (2). The Census entry before is the George W Smith family. The couple was probably living on the Smith Farm in an adjacent structure. Jane was pregnant with Georgie Irene Markham who was born 29 October 1880. The Census shows Thomas Markham was 49 and Jane 31. She seemed to be attracted to older men. Markham’s profession was listed as “Traveling Agent”.

The next event in Jane’s life is another sad one in my view. In late 1880 or 1881 she left Utah for San Francisco with her husband, 2-year old Beatrice, and the new Baby, leaving our grandmother, Josephine May (age 5) behind. As far as we know Jane never saw her daughters Josephine and Annie Viola again. Josephine was left with a Hudson Family who cared for her kindly until she was 9 years old.

We know almost nothing about Jane’s life from 1880 to her death April 13, 1913. The 1900 Census shows her living in San Francisco with a family as a widow and domestic servant. The San Francisco Funeral Home Record indicates some interesting points:

1. The name is Jane M Smith. I presume the M stands for Markham, but it is interesting that she retained the name “Smith” as her surname.
2. Her address was 658A 6th Avenue, Richmond. Richmond is a district within San Francisco. This may have been the home of Rollo and Beatrice Delamater, she living with them. There is a picture in the Powerpoint Presentation of this address today.
3. Funeral expenses were secured by her daughter, Beatrice C Delamater.
4. Occupation widowed
5. Cause of Death Myocardites which is inflammation of the heart muscle which can cause heart failure.
6. Her birthdate was shown as 4 October 1845 which is 3 years off.

She was actually 64, not 67.

1. Religion is listed as “Protestant”. There is no indication that Jane was active in the Mormon Church while she lived in San Francisco. Beatrice and Georgie Irene were not baptized. The declaration of Protestant would have been made by Beatrice. Either Jane had attended a protestant church or Beatrice just assumed Mormons were protestants.
2. The funeral was held two days later at her residence.
3. She is buried in the Woodlawn Cemetery in South San Francisco.

* The Obituary in full is as follows:

**“Smith** -At rest in this city April 13, 1913. Jane M, loving Mother of Mrs. R C Delamater, Mrs. Steven Gallyer, Mrs. T C Kendrick, and the late Georgia Irene Markham. native of England, aged 67 years 8 months and 9 days. Friends and acquaintances are respectfully invited to attend the funeral services today (Tuesday) at 2pm, at her late residence 658A Sixth Avenue (Richmond District). Internment Woodlawn Cemetery, by automobile”

It is interesting to note that Beatrice was aware of the spouses whom her sisters had married. This would indicate that Jane had corresponded with someone in Utah. Most likely this would have been one or more of her sibblings, or it could have been with her Uncle Fredrick.

It is also apparent from the statement, “the late Georgia Irene Markham”, that she had already passed before 1913. She also apparently had not married, since the surname used is Markham. Of course she may have died in her childhood. I have been unsuccessful finding her in the 1900 Census when Georgia Irene would have been 19 years old. However, the 1900 Census shows under Jennie Smith (which I am convinced is she) that she has 4 children and 4 are living. This would lead us to believe that Georgie died in her 20s or early 30s.

It would be interesting to know how Jane felt about her membership in the LDS Church. She was certainly born of goodly parents. However at some point she became inactive. The men she married did not appear to be members of the Church. We would like to believe that she stayed close to the Church until she went to California. It is interesting that the posterity of the 2 children taken to California have no association with the LDS Church, but the 2 Children left for adoption in Utah have hundreds of active faithful members in their posterity. It would also be interesting to hear about her experiences in the disastrous 1906 San Francisco earthquake.

I will close with an experience my wife and I had visiting a great grandson of Jane in Clayton California in June 2010. His name was Winthrop Jr. (Wimp) Delamater. His maternal grandmother was Beatrice Clemens, Jane’s 3rd daughter. We had hoped to find out more about Jane and Beatrice, but to our surprise he knew virtually nothing about her, even her last name. He also knew almost nothing about his grandmother, Beatrice, who died a few years before Wimp was born. So Wimp and his wife were interested to hear what we knew. He brought out an antique, dark red opaque teacup with “Jane 1894” inscribed on it. He said he always wondered for years who this Jane was and how she fit into the family. So we helped him put the story together. He did confirm that Beatrice and Rollo Delamater only had one son, Winthrop Jr. Delamater. Wimp had one sister. Wimp and his wife had no children. So that is the extent of Jane’s California posterity, assuming that Georgie Irene did not marry.

I asked Wimp to tell us about his Father, Winthrop Jr.. When I asked him what he did for a living, he gingerly put his thumb to his lips and tipped it back and forth indicating that he imbibed about all the time. His memory was that his dad worked in insurance. He described his father as strong as an ox. He told a story of when Wimp was young going with his father to pick up something very heavy, weighing about 450 lbs. The vendor told Winthrop he would have to wait until more help came to lift it on the truck. His dad was impatient and told Wimp to brace himself in the truckbed and try to hold on the best he could when the load came onto the truck. His dad slowly lifted it onto the truck, secured it and took off. The story reminded me of stories my Mom told me about Uncle Ralph (another grandson of Jane) hefting 100 lb milk cans over each shoulder. Perhaps Jane Smith carried these strength genes.

It has been an adventure learning more about my Great Grandmother, Jane Smith, and her family. I hope to someday know the whole story, to feel her trials and pains, and to share in her happy moments.

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