

Their remaining child, Ether Leroy Marsing, age 2 then became ill. He died on February 17, 1891. All of the children were buried in Price, Carbon County, Utah. Within a span of 18 days, all of the living children of Niels Larson Marsing and Harriet Harmon had succumbed to diphtheria. This left them with no children. Harriet Harmon finally recovered from the disease and she bore their remaining five (5) children in Price, Utah all of whom grew to maturity.

Niels Larson Marsing was also a weaver by trade. He was called by President Brigham Young to serve in the Muddy Mission (St. Thomas, Lincoln County, Nevada). He was a teacher in Willard County for 12 years. He served as the Sunday School Superintendent in both Willard and Carbon Stakes, and in the 17<sup>th</sup> Quorum of Seventies.

Church records indicate that Niels Larson Marsing was also sealed to five (5) other women:

1. Anna Lisa Lovgren Carlsen, born June 3, 1812 in Skabersjö, Malmöhus, Sweden. Sealed in the Endowment House on June 12, 1876.
2. Kjerste Jepsen – sealed in the Endowment House on June 14, 1876.
3. Elna Larsen – sealed in the Endowment House on June 14, 1876.
4. Mette Pherson – sealed in the Endowment House on June 14, 1876.
5. Gertrude Carlson, born 1824 in Snorestad, Malmöhus, Sweden. Sealed in the St. George Temple on June 17, 1881.

It appears that the first four (4) women were sealed to Niels Larson Marsing around the same date he married and was sealed to Harriet Harmon in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City, Utah. It is not known if Niels Larson Marsing ever lived with any of these women. It was common practice in the church during the years polygamy was practiced to have unmarried women and/or women who were married but not sealed to other men to be sealed to endowed men.

Niels Larson Marsing died at age 85 on November 2, 1913 in Price, Carbon County, Utah and was buried in Price, Carbon County, Utah.

## SARAH BEDFORD

Sarah Bedford was born on April 29, 1834 in Liversedge, Yorkshire, England. She was the daughter of John Bedford and Charlotte Truelove. She was christened on September 21, 1834 in Miffeld, Yorkshire, England. She had nine (9) siblings; four (4) sisters and five (5) brothers. In 1854, she married George Booth in Liversedge, Yorkshire, England. She was baptized a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on December 24, 1855. Upon returning home from the baptism, her husband, George was infuriated over her baptism and in essence, ended the marriage and cast her out of their home.

In 1860, Sarah immigrated to America to gather with members of the church in Salt Lake City, Utah. She traveled by wagon with the Meldrum family from Liversedge, Yorkshire to Liverpool, England. She found passage on the ship "Underwriter". She boarded the ship on Monday, March 26, 1860 and set sail for New York City, New York on Friday, March 30, 1860. There was a total of 594 church members on board; 70 from Switzerland and the remaining from England. They arrived in New York City on May 1, 1860. The ship register listed her as Sarah Booth; a spinster. She cleared U. S. Immigration through Castle Garden, New York and began her journey to Utah the evening of May 2, 1860. The route and means of transportation to Florence, Nebraska was the same as that taken one (1) month later by Hansina Catherine Nicolaisen and Niels Lars Marsing (detailed under Hansina Catherine Nicolaisen).

Because she lacked the funds to travel by ox and wagon to Utah, she found passage via a handcart company. She was assigned to the ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) handcart company designated as the Daniel Robinson Company of 1860. The ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) handcart company consisted of 233 individuals, 43 handcarts, and 6 wagons. Some family histories suggest that her passage with the handcart company was funded by Lorenzo Dowd Rudd with a commitment that she enter into a polygamous marriage once they reached the Salt Lake Valley. The handcart company left Florence, Nebraska on June 6, 1860 and entered the Salt Lake Valley on August 27, 1860.

Upon arrival in the Salt Lake Valley, Sarah Booth was coerced into the polygamous marriage arrangement by Rudd as she was indebted to him for her handcart passage. However, the marriage was arranged through deception and without permission from Rudd's first wife or authorization from church leaders. The marriage was later annulled.

Sarah found work in Salt Lake City as a housekeeper for William and Hannah Goddard where she learned to live in and care for a pioneer home. During that time, Sarah Bedford met John Pilling. On October 15, 1864 they were married and sealed in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City. Shortly after their marriage, John Pilling and Sarah Bedford were called to move and help build up the settlement at Fillmore, Willard County.

On July 24, 1865, Sarah gave birth to her first child, a son, John named after his father and two (2) grandfathers.

On November 29, 1867, Sarah gave birth to her second child, a daughter they named Ellen.

On August 18, 1869, Sarah gave birth to her third child, another son they named William.

On January 22, 1870, Sarah's husband, John Pilling died in Fillmore, Willard County, Utah of complications from war wounds that had never completely healed.

When John Pilling died, Sarah Bedford Pilling was left with her three small children without means of income. Family records indicate that Sarah Bedford Pilling's bishop approached her about caring for the children of Niels Larson Marsing. Sarah met with Niels Marsing and agreed to move from Fillmore to Niels' home in Kanosh to care for his children. Niels added two additional bedrooms and a "baker room" to his house to accommodate Sarah Pilling and her three (3) children. Sarah Pilling moved from Fillmore to Kanosh in the early summer of 1870.

On September 5, 1870, Niels Larson Marsing and Sarah Bedford Booth Pilling were married in Kanosh, Willard County, Utah. Sarah was not sealed to Niels since she had previously been sealed to John Pilling. The marriage brought together eight (8) children; seven (7) boys and (1) girl.

On August 13, 1871, a son, Hyrum Marsing was born in Kanosh.

On February 3, 1873, a daughter, Sarah Bangta Marsing was born in Kanosh.

On October 31, 1875, another son, Alma Marsing was born in Kanosh.

In the spring of 1876, Neils Larson Marsing received a call from church authorities to move to Joseph City, Sevier County, which was about 50 miles from Kanosh. Niels moved with his second polygamous wife, Harriet Harmon while Sarah Bedford Pilling remained in Kanosh with the children until a house was secured in Joseph City to accommodate the entire family.

Sarah gave birth to a daughter on September 26, 1878. She named the daughter, Mary Jane Marsing; Mary and Jane were the names of Sarah's two sisters. In the spring of 1879, Niels Marsing moved the remainder of his family from Kanosh to Joseph City, Sevier County.

On November 22, 1882, Helen Pilling, daughter of Sarah Bedford Pilling Marsing and her second husband, John Pilling married Charles Winder in Joseph City.

In March 1884, Mary Jane Marsing, the youngest daughter of Niels Larson Marsing and Sarah Bedford Pilling Marsing died. She was buried in Joseph City.

In April 1885, Niels Larson Marsing decided to move from Joseph City, Sevier County to a new settlement in Emery County near Desert Lake. Desert Lake was located five (5) miles east of Cleveland in Emery County. The move took eleven days by horse, ox and wagon.

Niels built a log cabin with a dirt floor and fireplace near Desert Lake. The log cabin could not accommodate the entire family, so Niels found an empty house in Cleveland, five miles to the west, and moved there with Harriet and their four (4) children. Niels found some work in Cleveland in the town co-op store and remained there with Harriet Harmon.

In 1888, the co-op store in Cleveland where Niels was working changed ownership and he decided to move to Fairview, San Pete County where he found work in a fruit orchard. Niels Larson Marsing moved with Harriet Harmon and their six children leaving Sarah Bedford and her children in Desert Lake.

In 1890, Wilford Woodruff, President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints received a revelation directing the church to end the practice of polygamy. During General Conference on October 6, 1890, the revelation that became known as the "Manifesto" was accepted by general church membership as a binding declaration upon the members. It presented a dilemma for Niels Larson Marsing because he could now legally live with only one of his wives. It was agreed upon among Niels, Sarah and Harriet that Niels would live with Harriet because her children were younger and needed the care. Sarah Bedford Pilling Marsing remained in the log cabin at Desert Lake with Niels' two sons, Martin Luther and Niels Olaf, her own two sons, John and William Pilling and her three youngest children, Hyrum, Sarah Bengta and Alma Marsing.

The boys who stayed with Sarah built her a better home on higher ground so floods from Desert Lake would not impact her. It was a large cabin with smooth wooden floors, well fitted doors, front and back and glass pane windows. They roofed it with hand-cut shingles and plastered in a flue for her kitchen range. The older boys, Martin Luther and Niels Olaf Marsing, and John and William Pilling lived in the old cabin and the three younger children lived with Sarah in the new cabin. The boys farmed and ran cattle for a living and supported their mother, Sarah Bedford Pilling.

In 1890, Niels Marsing and Harriet Harmon moved to Price, Carbon County with their seven (7) children. Sarah Bedford Pilling Marsing remained in Desert Lake. In January 1891, Sarah traveled to Price, Carbon County to help with Harriet Harmon Marsing and her children who were afflicted with diphtheria. When Sarah returned from Price, the only children left at home that had not married or moved away were William Pilling and Alma Marsing. Shortly thereafter, both boys married; William Pilling married Albertine Marie Oveson and moved to Woodside, Emery County and Alma Marsing married Annabella (Anne) Thayne but remained near his mother in Desert Lake.

In 1896, at the instigation of her son-in-law Mason Levi Snow (husband of Sarah Bengta Marsing), he and several other men moved Sarah Bedford Pilling Marsing's log cabin from Desert Lake to Cleveland. They moved the cabin onto

a corner of Mason and Betty (Sarah Bengta Marsing) Snow's lot next to their house so that Sarah Bedford Pilling Marsing would be nearer family members. They moved the cabin by raising it onto logs and having a team of oxen pull it the five miles from Desert Lake to Cleveland. There she lived out the remainder of her life assisting her children and grandchildren. Sarah Bedford Pilling Marsing died on April 1, 1911 at age 77 in Cleveland, Emery County and was buried on April 3, 1911 in the Cleveland Cemetery, Cleveland, Emery County, Utah.

## JOHN PILLING

John Pilling was born on July 11, 1831 in Winwick, Lancashire, England. He was the son of John Pilling and Ellen Richardson. He was christened August 7, 1831 in Winwick, Lancashire, England. He had nine (9) siblings; three (3) brothers and six (6) sisters. He was baptized a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on February 7, 1858. He married Caroline Jackson while living in England.

John Pilling and Caroline Jackson immigrated to America in 1859. They sailed on the ship "Antarctica". The Antarctica set sail from Liverpool, England on July 10, 1859 and arrived in New York City, New York on August 21, 1859. There were a total of 30 members of the church who sailed on the Antarctica.

There is no record of how John Pilling and Carolyn Jackson traveled from New York City, New York to Florence, Nebraska to be outfitted for the trek to the Salt Lake Valley. However, John Pilling is listed as a member and Captain of ten (10) of the Daniel Robinson Company of 1860. The company was the 9<sup>th</sup> Handcart Company that was outfitted in Florence, Nebraska. The company left Florence, Nebraska on June 6, 1860 and arrived in the Salt Lake Valley on August 27, 1860. Caroline Jackson Pilling died in May 1860, prior to the 9<sup>th</sup> Handcart Company leaving Florence, Nebraska. There is no record of her place of death or place of burial. There is also no record of any children being born to John Pilling and Carolyn Jackson Pilling.

After arriving in the Salt Lake Valley, John Pilling married Mary Jane Wilgus on February 16, 1861. They were married and sealed in the Endowment House on that date. On the same day, February 16, 1861, Carolyn Jackson Pilling was vicariously sealed to John Pilling.

Mary Jane Wilgus was born on March 22, 1842 in Burlington County, New Jersey. Mary Jane Wilgus, her parents, Jesse Wilgus and Sarah Ann Bishop Wilgus and a younger brother, Joseph Wilgus were among those in the Daniel Robinson 9<sup>th</sup> Handcart Company of 1860. This is the same company that John Pilling and Sarah Bedford Booth traveled with to the Salt Lake Valley.

On September 28, 1862 a son, Jesse Pilling was born in Salt Lake City to John Pilling and Mary Jane Wilgus.  
On September 28, 1864 a daughter, Sarah Pilling was born in Salt Lake City to