

James Judd was born in South Stoneham, England in December of 1844. He and his brothers were farmed out to help with family finances. James found himself on a farm. It was like being a slave. He was not allowed to eat meals in the master's house; often he got by on just one meal a day. Yet, James and his brothers were close to their parents. When the family learned of the gospel in June of 1848, they all joined, the younger ones being baptized as they turned eight. Their poverty delayed any hopes of emigration to Zion. Thirteen years after joining, they emigrated. They were stranded in New York City while they got work and earned more money to finish their journey to Zion. When they learned the government was signing up any and all young men for what they called, the "Civil" war, the family cut short their jobs and hurried to Nebraska, where they joined Henry W. Miller's Company. That company left late in the traveling season of 1862. During the journey, James happened to kill a deer, which was a blessing. They got to the Salt Lake Valley in October of 1862. After adjusting to life in the mountains, the family moved in 1864 to Hoytsville.

In that community, James happened to become acquainted with a pretty girl, Mary Jane Harrop. She talked with the same British accent he had. She had arrived with her family just that year. These two courted for two years. James was about five-foot ten, and had blue eyes and dark curly hair, and a beard. Mary Jane had an oval face, full lips over a rounded chin, large brown eyes, and lily-white skin, and black hair. She stood five-foot, three, and weighed 120 pounds. He was 21; she was 17. When they married in November of 1866, the same man who had baptized James' family performed the marriage.

James' manner was mild; he was patient and free-hearted. He built a 20 by 20 log house for Mary Jane. Their first child was a girl, Selena, born in April of 1868. A year later the couple went to the Endowment House in Salt Lake and were sealed. Rules at the time said Selena had to wait until after a temple was built to be sealed to her parents. Early in 1871 the family increased by another girl, Mary Hannah. Shortly after this, James and Mary Ann moved their family to a ranch. There was only a dugout there to live in, and it had to be shared with another family. In October of 1873, another baby girl, Martha, joined the family. That next summer James and his father built two log rooms in front of the dugout. James seemed to be able to do anything. He made "bitch" lights for use in the house. He obtained a mold and made candles. For all these things, grease was saved in a special vat. The next step up in lighting were coal oil lamps. One of those could light two rooms at once, if mounted on a wall near a doorway.

On the 4th of February, 1876, a son joined the family; James Henry. The years brought more: George in 1878, William in 1880 (he lived but three weeks), Catherine in 1883, Rachel in 1888, and in late 1889 came Pearl. Selena, the oldest, learned to drive a team of horses to help with the farm work. When James had milled wood to take to Salt Lake City, he used a wagon with a team of horses. Selena drove the wagon that followed; it had oxen hitched to it. At Salt Lake City, they would load up with raw salt and take it to the miners in Park City. Then they went home. In time, Martha took over Selena's part, for Selena got married when she was eighteen.

In these later years, the family would go to the Millcreek bench in Salt Lake City and get fruit while visiting Mary Jane's sisters.

Through the years, James and Mary Jane accumulated the wealth of the time – sheep, land, horses and barns. When the new barbed-wire fencing came out, James put up some. But when his horses scratched themselves on it, he went back to wood fences. He had his own bullet mold. He did all the

butchering for the family. He knew that from his childhood. He also tanned his own leather. In 1885 he became the ward Sunday School superintendent. In 1891 he was put in the bishopric of his ward. No, he still had to be superintendent, and do his other duties also. He was kind to everyone. He never used a whip to ask speed from his horses.

Mary Jane could serve great meals from her fireplace, but when a wood stove became available to them, she was very happy to use that. She was an expert seamstress. She knew well the proper use of herbs. After sweeping out her house, she swept the outside as well, to better avoid dust and dirt re-entering. She was Relief Society president for some time, and was First Counselor later. That included many instances of dressing the dead for burial.

In later years, with money available to him, James built a large, lovely house for his family. The living room had a large chandelier to light the room. But in the days of candles and oil lamps, how do you turn the room light on and off? The large chandelier could be raised and lowered by chains so you could light the candles or put them out. That was just before the turn of the century.

In the spring of 1901, James was taking a real big load of wool to the railroad for shipping. He rode on top of the load. He often was tired. He fell asleep up there. Soon he toppled to the ground. It broke his neck. He died on the 4th of May in 1901.

Mary Jane was despondent. She had James Henry, Catherine and Pearl still with her. They began to spend a lot of time at son George's place. He married Gertrude in late 1902. James Henry married five years later. Mary Jane then chose to live with Selena and Martha. Her sadness made her health fail gradually. In an inadvertent moment, she burned her hand. It got infected. She died in April of 1908.