

LIFE OF MARGARY WATERHOUSE BOYACK



**Written by her daughter
Elizabeth Evans.**

Margary Waterhouse Boyack, the daughter of □ Thomas Waterhouse and Isabella Donaldson, was born December 10, 1833 at Dundee, Scotland. There were two boys and four girls in the family. The father was of English descent and the mother was Scottish.

Thomas Waterhouse was a grain merchant and a very respectable citizen of Scotland. He mysteriously disappeared at a time when he was returning home from a trip to England, where he had been to visit his relatives, and was never heard of again. The cause of his disappearance always remained a mystery to his family and their belief was that he had accidentally been drowned in some of the docks. One brother of Margary Waterhouse was a British soldier who died away from home. The other brother also died before having the opportunity to embrace the gospel.

The sisters and their mother, after the disappearance of their father and husband, did all sorts of needle work. A little shop was opened and these things were sold to the public.

The gospel came to them through missionaries and they readily accepted it. One sister, Isabelle, immigrated to America in 1854, but she died and was buried on the plains. Her sister Margary located her grave a year later when she was crossing the plains. The grave had been torn open by animals but pieces of cloth were the means of recognition.

Margary Waterhouse met her husband, James Boyack, Jr. in Scotland. He and his folks had also joined the L.D.S. Church and had planned to come to Zion as soon as possible. She immigrated to America in the company of his parents, his brothers and sisters; he having come to

Zion two years previous.

She was among the early pioneers to cross the plains, arriving in Salt Lake City, Utah in October, 1855, where James Boyack, Jr. met the company. He had been working on the Salt Lake Temple previous to their coming.

Many hardships were endured by these early pioneers and probably many sacrifices, but my mother, Margary, never complained nor wished that she had remained in Scotland where a more comfortable fare could have been had. She was happy here in rendering service to others and finding joy in the religion she had so recently accepted. All through her life she was spiritually blessed and was active in her service until a very few days before her death.



She was **married to James Boyack, Jr. November 23, 1855, at Salt Lake City**, later going through the Endowment House when that place was opened. After her marriage, she moved with her husband to Palmyra, Utah, about three miles northwest of Spanish Fork. She lived there for a short time, then moved to Spanish Fork in 1856, making her home there. The first year at Spanish Fork was spent in a dugout dwelling, then a one room adobe house was built. Most of the children were born in this home before additional rooms were added on.

The first child, James A., was born September 9, 1856. He married Sarah M. Cox Williams and later served a mission for the Mormon Church to Ohio. This mission was in 1907-1909.

On June 23, 1858, a daughter was born and was christened Margary Ann. She married Robert Kinder and made her home at Lehi. She was the mother of eleven children, having the largest family of any of her sisters and brothers.

During the first years of married life, my father was away from home much of the time. He farmed at Palmyra during the day time and guarded, with others, against Indians at night. This made a bigger hardship on mother but her sincerity in her religion and her optimism helped her through these trials.

Mary Jane, a third daughter and fourth child, was born September 3, 1863. She married William Howells and was the mother of six children.

Jemima E. was born August 21, 1865. She died a few years after her mothers death, leaving her husband, Richard Smith, and nine children.

Dessa, born December 8, 1868, never married and left home while quite young to work. She died in Pennsylvania and was brought to Spanish Fork for burial.

Isabella, a sixth daughter, was born December 22, 1869. She married Charles H. Peterson. She died in 1924. Her husband and three children survived her.

A second son, George S., born July 8, 1872, married Jane F. Bowen.

A third son, the ninth and last child, was born May 9, 1876. He was christened Ralph B. Boyack He was serving a mission for the L.D.S. Church in the south-western states, laboring mostly in Texas, when his mother died. He married Sarah E. Morgan after his return from this mission and has since resided in the old home.



Margary Waterhouse Boyack was always an active and ardent worker in the church and community activities. Her main work was probably in the Relief Society and after third ward was organized, she was set apart in Jan. 1892 as Relief Society president of that ward. This position she filled until her death. She was a great worker for the dead as well as the living for she did a great deal of work in the Manti Temple.



The **sudden death of her husband in 1893** was a great shock to her and to the children, but she had her family closely around her, although nearly all were married at this time, and she continued to do her activities outside the home.

Many blessings had been promised her in two patriarchal blessings, one given her by Zebedee Coltrin (August 10, 1873) and one given by C. W. Hyde (October 17, 1886.) Most of these blessings were fulfilled during her life.

Her great desire was that she might not live to burden others after she would be unable to render service. This wish was most certainly granted, since she lived but a few days after taking a paralytic stroke. This fatal stroke came on her Saturday January 16, 1903 and **she died January 20, 1903 at the age of 69.** She was survived by all of her nine children.



* The writer of this history, Elizabeth M., was the second daughter and was born April 4, 1861. She married John D. Evans.