

Biographical Sketch of Maria Embling

Author Unknown

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Maria Embling is the daughter of a brother of Janet's great-great-great grandfather, making her relationship to Janet a first cousin four times removed.

ID: I1119
Name: Maria EMBLING
Sex: F
Birth: 7 Aug 1839 in Hook Wiltshire England
Death: 22 Sep 1911 in Salt Lake City Utah USA.

Maria Embling was born on April 7, 1836 in Wiltshire, England.

Her Father was Henry Embling.
Her Mother was Ann Sutton.

Maria was the eldest of four girls and there was three boys. The family was very poor and Maria had to go out in the fields and scare crows off, when she was only four years old. That seemed to be the custom in England at the time. When a new baby would come into the family Maria would cry and say there was not enough food now. Her mother always got up on the third day after her babies were born, and she lived to be 83 years old.

Maria only went to school two days in her life, but learnt to read from nursery books. When she was twelve years old she went out to service as they called it in England, but what it meant was that she went to work as a servant for someone else. She worked until she married. She had beautiful auburn hair that hung below her waist

and hung in curls. She was very good looking then. She only grew to be four foot tall. When she was 15 years old she heard the gospel of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Mormons.

Maria was living at some wealthy homes during her life in service, She worked as a Dairy maid at one place. She had to get up at 4:30 am. It was very dark, and she would fall over the cows as she went to milk them. She was a pantry girl at one place and said sometimes the tables were covered with dishes that she had to wash. She was also a cook at the Liverpool Office, the headquarters of the Mormon Church. Brigham Young and one of his sons was there at the time and he praised her cooking. She was a fine cook.

After Maria joined the Mormon church, she was very happy in doing her duties in the church. One time a missionary went to her and asked her to loan him enough money to buy a

Book Of Mormon. He promised her that if she would let him have the money she would have it back and double that night. There was a party at the home that night and Maria got tips from the guests. She received double what she had given the missionary.

When Maria was 29 years old, she with many others came to Utah in the year 1866. It took six months by sailing ship and wagons pulled by oxen to reach Utah. She told of sleeping in tents and waking up all wet after a rain storm. After arriving in Utah she went to stay with friends. At about the same time Maria came to Utah so did Stephen Shingleton. His Wife had died in New York City just after they arrived by ship. He crossed the plains to Utah with his five children. When Maria met Stephen, she recognised him as railroad employee that she had seen in England.

Maria told the following story to her children. "I was in the service of an old maid, who said, Maria, let's see whom we are going to marry. I'll drink dragon's blood. I said all right, I'll eat a raw herring. So I went to the drugstore and got a herring and went to bed backwards. The lady drank dragons blood. In the morning the lady asked me of whom I dreamed about. I said I won't marry him; he is already married and is over six feet tall, and works at the railroad. So when I met Stephen in Salt Lake City I remembered the dream, and it came true, because I married Stephen in the old Endowment House in November of 1866."

Stephen and Maria had some very great trials in getting a home and livelihood in those pioneer days. Stephen had been well to do in England as he had been employed twenty years on the one railroad in England. He sold every thing to go to

Utah to join the Saints there. After getting to Utah Stephen and his boys tried to get work, but had quite a time finding anything.

Times were so hard that one time Maria was home alone trying to find something to prepare for dinner and she found nothing. In those days candles were made from good suet, and Maria had bought a large box of them as that was there means of light. Maria took some of those candles and made a suet pudding. When the family came home they were surprised to see the table set for supper and a pudding sitting on the table. One of the children remarked that I'll bet that you chopped up the candles to make the pudding. He was right, but not a crumb was left after everyone participated in eating the suet pudding.

One day while Maria was in the Salt lake temple doing ordnance work she saw Eliza Snow, who was one of the most recognised women of the church. Maria told her that she had been married for nine years and was unable to have her own children. Eliza Snow said, "You are like Sarah of old, you must give your husband another wife before you can have children." When Maria told Stephen what Eliza had said he wasn't in favour of it. Some of the brethren had been sent to prison for practicing plural marriages. They ended up taking Eliza's advice and approached Maria's sister Alice about it. She consented and was married to Stephen. Alice became pregnant almost immediately. Alice only lived long enough after giving birth to see her child. Maria became pregnant during the next six months. She had occasion to see Eliza in the temple and told her of her pregnancy. Eliza told Maria she would have a son and to name him Isaac. The child was a boy and was named Isaac. Isaac hated his name. Louise Alice was born

five years and nine months later, their only children.

Stephen and Maria turned their living room into a store and that store was there for fifty years. The store did a great business. One time while Maria was in the store the 9:15 train came along. The tracks were 30 feet from the front door of the store. One of the girls that Alice was playing with ran into the side of the engine, while a boy was chasing her during a game they were playing. The train stopped and Alice and some of her friends ran into the store screaming, "She's killed, she's killed". Maria started out of the store but fell with a paralytic stroke, from which she never fully recovered.

Some of the things Maria really enjoyed in her life was working in the Relief Society, singing in the Ward Choir and doing temple work for her ancestors. She did the work for about 500 people. She also enjoyed her children and her husband and his children. She got the smallpox when she was in her 65th. year. She said she had crossed the plains and been in polygamy but having smallpox was the worst trial she had ever had. She died at age 75 on September 22, 1911. She had 8 Grandchildren when she died.