

In Remembrance

of

JOHN LYE GIBB

and

Sarah Phillips Silcox  
Smith

and

Hannah Simmons

**John Lye Gibb History  
The Children of**



**John Lye Gibb**



**Sarah Phillips Silcox Smith**



**William Henry,**



**John James,**



**Milton Herbert,**



**Lynn Elliott**



**Isabelle Elizabeth,  
(Merrill)**



**Jehzell,  
(Merkley)**



**Sarah Ann  
(Fisher)**



**Mary Athaliah  
(Smith)**



**Ada Laura  
(Dyer)**

**Sarah's children that died in youth, John Lye Gibb, and Ada Jane (Jennie) Gibb**

**Gibb**

**Ancestors of**

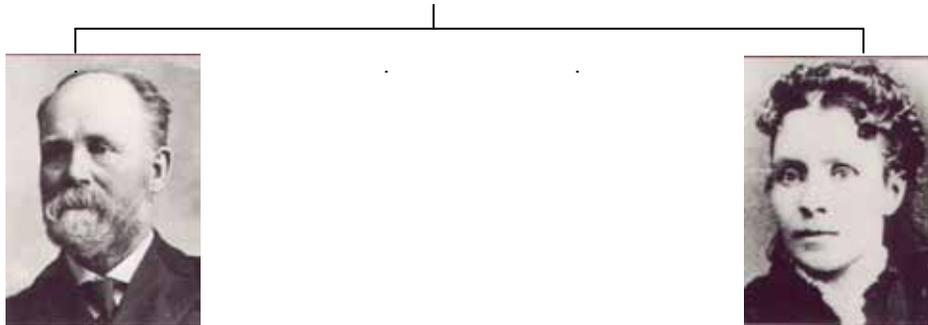


**William Henry, John James, Milton Herbert, Lynn Elliott**



**Isabelle Elizabeth, (Merrill) Jehzell, (Merkley) Sarah Ann (Fisher) Mary Athaliah (Smith) Ada Laura (Dyer)**

**Gibb**



John Lye Gibb

Sarah Phillips Silcox Smith



William Gibb



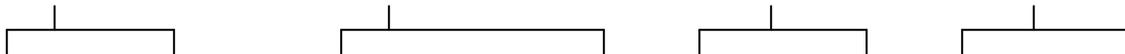
Isabella Elizabeth Lye



Samuel Silcox



Athaliah Phillips



Willian Gibb- Ann Stocklinch



Thomas Lye- Ann Davis

?

?

Thomas Phillips – Jane Jones

**The Children of**



**John Lye Gibb**



**Hanna Simmons**



**Joseph Franklin,**



**Henry Simmons,**



**David Thomas,**



**Jesse**



**George,**



**Fredrick Leroy,**



**Hannah (Mendenhall),**



**Emma Lucy (Dow)**

**Hannah's children that died in youth: Catherine Gibb, Margaret Gibb.**

**Gibb**

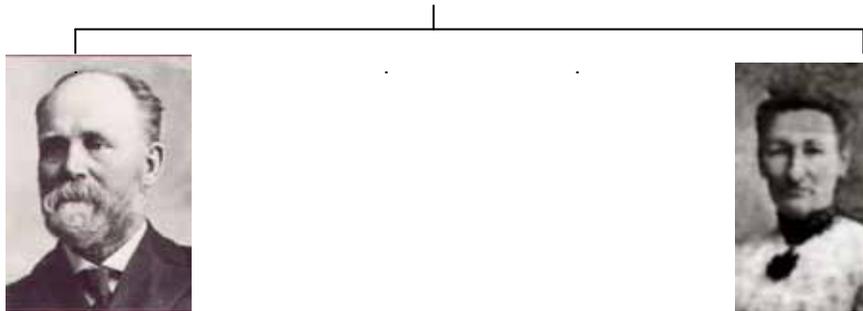
**The Ancestors of**



**Joseph Franklin, Henry Simmons, David Thomas, Jesse, George, Fredrick Leroy**



**Hannah (Mendenhall), Emma Lucy (Dow)  
Gibb**



**John Lye Gibb**

**Hanna Simmons**



**William Geep Gibb**



**Isabella Elizabeth Lye**



**Henry Simmons**

**Catherine Davis**



**William Gibb-Ann**



**Thomas Lye-Ann Davis, Charles Simmons-Charlotte Foster, Jenkin Davies-Margaret David**

## **Patriarchal blessing of John Lye Gibb**

Lehi, Dec 3rd, 1895

A blessing given by Charles D. Evans, patriarch, upon the head of John L. Gibb, son of William Gibb and Elizabeth E. Gibb, born Sep. 16th Bro. John L. in the name of Jesus, I lay my hands on thy head and seal upon thee a blessing. Thy lineage is from Abraham. Thou art chosen to come into flesh that thou mayest continue the lineage of thy house. Thy mind has received testimony by the Holy Spirit of the work of the Lord and of the doctrines of the Church which have fallen on thy ears as the dews of heaven and thy integrity and honesty are known to the angels. Thy life has been preserved that thou mayest stand at the head of a numerous posterity who will be countless as the stars of heaven. Thou hast been unwavering in thy faith and has set thy face to work righteousness and wilt assist in connecting the house of thy fathers. No weapon formed against thee shall prosper and the tongue that would defame thee shall be silenced. Thou art called as one of the hundred and forty four thousand who will be redeemed from the earth, and to bind up the law and seal up the testimony, therefore the Lord will be near thee in the hour of trial, and thou wilt not fall from thine integrity, nor will thy name be taken from the Lamb's Book of Life, and thy children will revere thee and bless thy memory and the fullness of the holy priesthood will be given thee. Thy righteousness will be established and thy priesthood remain with thee, and thou wilt walk in thy heavenly mansion with a crown of glory on thy head and a scepter of righteousness in thy right hand, and I seal thee up to eternal life in the name of Jesus, Amen

### **Patriarchal Blessing - Sarah Silcox Gibb**

Lehi Dec 3rd, 1895

Patriarchal Blessing - Sarah Silcox Gibb A blessing given by Charles D. Evans, patriarch, upon the head of Sarah Gibb, daughter of Athelia Phillips and Samuel Silcox, born 1845. Sarah, in the name of Jesus, I lay my hands on thy head and confer upon thee a blessing. Thou art of the royal house of Ephriam and by thy obedience hast been led of the Lord to the gospel, through the dark hours of youth, and thy feet are planted on the rock of truth, and thou wilt not falter in the hour of trial if thou art faithful. The Lord has given thee great self control and forbearance and long suffering and charity. Thou hast had mercy on others failings. Thy wisdom will shine through thy words which will be as "golden rays of the sun". Thou wilt check the wayward, build up the hopes and brighten the minds of the downcast. Thy light and thy example will lead many to righteousness. Be not discouraged and all will be well with thee and thou wilt not lack an heir to thy house whilst the earth will stand. Thou shalt dwell in holy temples with the prophets and apostles and see the face of thy redeemer and enter into thine heavenly mansion with a crown on thy head and given of an endless posterity and I seal thee up to eternal life in the name of Jesus, amen.

### **Patriarchal Blessing - Hannah Simmons Gibb**

Raymond, Alberta, Canada

September 9 , 1902

A Patriarchal Blessing given by John A. Wolf, patriarch, upon the head of Hannah Simmons Gibb, Daughter of Henry Simmons and Catherine Davis Simmons, Born December 16, 1855, in London, England.

Sister Hannah, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by virtue and authority of the priesthood that has been vested in me, I lay my hands upon your head to give you a patriarchal blessing and I say unto thee, dear sister, lift up you heart and rejoice and be exceedingly glad for the privilege

that you have of coming upon the earth when the gospel has been revealed and also for the privilege you have in becoming a mother in Israel and rearing a family that will be an honor unto thee and who will bless and comfort your heart in your declining years for they shall be great and mighty men in the kingdom of God. The Lord has heard your prayers and He will comfort your heart and bless you with health and strength that you may perform your labors in and acceptable manner in the sight of our Father and to those with whom thou art called associate.

I say unto thee that thou shalt have great pleasure in your labor for the power of god shall be made manifest unto you in many ways. Thou shalt go forth as a ministering angel to administer unto the sick and the poor and to comfort those who are cast down and to strengthen those who, are weak in faith.

Thou shalt have faith to heal the sick and to rebuke adversary and to be a comfort and a blessing unto thousands for your labors are great and the Lord will be with thee by day and by night to comfort and to bless and to sustain thee and to show unto thee concerning you and yours. It is His will that you may be enabled to save your family in the kingdom of Heaven.

Your last days will be your best days for the Lord will give you means to make your comfortable and build up the church and thou shalt help to establish a reign of peace and righteousness upon the earth.

Your table will be spread with the bounties of the earth and no good things will be held from you, for the Lord loves thee for your integrity of heart and for your faithfulness in the past and He will greatly multiply His blessings upon you for these things.

Now, Dear sister, I seal upon thee all these blessings which have been pronounced upon your head and all your heart may desire in righteousness in as much as you will use the same to forward His great work.

I seal thee up to come forth in the first resurrection to be added upon forever and ever in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Letter from the                   Genealogical Society of  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints  
107 South Main Street - P.O. Box 759  
Salt Lake City 11, Utah

March 12 1963

Bruce Gibb  
1416 28th street Ogden, Utah

Dear Brother Gibb:

It is very pleasing to know you are compiling a record of all the descendants of Your grandfather, John Lye Gibb. This is a highly commendable undertaking, and on your part, I am sure, a devoted labor of love. It will help to do honor to the memory of a noble man and faithful Latter-day Saint, whom I revered.

John Lye Gibb came as a pioneer settler from Lehi, Utah to Magrath, Alberta, Canada, Probably in the year 1899. When our family arrived there in July 1899, His family was already living there, and made us welcome in their home when heavy rainstorms made it uncomfortable for us in our tent and covered wagon, and when my mother was sick, I can still remember when Sister Gibb went into her garden and picked a tub full of vegetables and rhubarb for us when food was in short supply.

As a boy I was acquainted with all members of the family. Brother Gibb bore fervent testimonies of the Gospel. Once when the Mounted Police began investigating his marriage relationships, because he had two wives and two families, he stood up in Fast Meeting and declared he would never desert his wives and children, no matter what the consequences. He had previously suffered imprisonment in Utah because of his belief in and practice of Polygamy.

After we had removed to Taber, Alberta, He called upon us on different occasions, and stayed at our home. He took a prominent part in leading the singing and in musical activities. I was then a high school boy, and was reading intensively Whitney's History of Utah. Some things were not clear to me, and I plied him incessantly with questions. He had the true answers to all my queries; we became fast friends; and I learned to rely upon his knowledge and judgment.

On one occasion he told of young man in his early twenties, Francis M. Lyman. He had just been to General Conference, where his father, Amasa M Lyman, had been dropped from the Quorum of the Twelve and excommunicated, for denying divinity of the Savior. Brother said, "He was dressed in cowboy attire. I watched him sit with his head in his hands for an hour or more. Suddenly he raised his head, and said, 'I can't allow the actions of any man to jeopardize my standing in the Kingdom of God.' That decision was what made Francis M, Lyman a great leader in the Church.

It has been a delight, in the years since then, to see the posterity of Patriarch John L. Gibb grow and increase, and provide many devoted Latter-day Saints pledged to follow faithfully in the footsteps of their worthy progenitor and his two wives. "Children's children are the crown of old men and the glory of children are their fathers."

Nothing could please him more than for each and every one of his numerous descendants, to live a worthy life of service, and follow the saintly example he set. He would desire that they keep a true and complete record of their family; and unite their efforts in tracing further into the past the lineage of his forefathers, that he and his wives, his posterity and his forefathers, may be linked together eternally in a perfect family organization in the Celestial Kingdom, each and all in perfect happiness enjoying God's greatest gift, Eternal Life.

May God ever bless and hallow the memory of my revered and true friend, John Lye Gibb.

Sincerely Archibald F. Bennett

## Preface

For many years I have realized a great need for a record of all the Gibb FAMILY and of late, more than before, with families increasing in numbers and scattering all over the world that feeling that a record should be made has increased.

As long as go as 1927 I started a record and have at different times, and with different degrees of diligence and effort, added to that record. When Magrath Merrill wrote me on 15 April 1959 saying "the Gibb Association had a meeting the other day and decided to back you to fullest extent in getting the Gibb Book out" I began in earnest to complete it.

With the gathering of material came a greater realization of the need of a record for some families had been very neglectful of record keeping of their own families and had to rely on memories of parents or children for information and in many cases, as are apparent on the records, could not supply the needed information. Older members could not always give full information because it had not been recorded at home or in the Church records.

All in all, everyone has been just wonderful in cooperation. Sometimes the replies have been slow but I think now -except for a very few exceptions, the record is complete in family member at least. With a family this size it is hard to keep up with the increase. Children are getting married and having children and unless some information comes to me, I cannot write it in their records. I am sure there are some who have been missed this way.

I do apologize for the errors that are made. Some are typographical and are my own mistakes, other are difference in record received from parent about the child and the record from the child. Some I have noticed and tried to resolve, other were just unnoticed and printed as they came to me. As each of you will notice the errors in you own record, will you please correct them in your own sheet.

If at times have seemed impatient with some of you, I am sorry. The work has drawn out over three years of continuous writing of letters, typing sheets and printing, Each day the first sheets printed are getting further and further out of date and it has seemed the old generation would all be gone unless some of us got our records in and I want that first generation who are still here to have the joy of the record of their brother and sisters and of their posterity. Now in the future, if each family will bring his sheet up to date and as each event happens, fill in the information in the blanks on the sheet and see to it that their children do the same and keep their posterity correct, in 1970 all these corrected, up-to date sheets can be returned and another printing can be made. What a wonderful record it will be then. Grandfather must be proud and pleased with his great family.

## EXPLANATION OF THE CODE SYSTEM

Every individual listed in the book has a number of his or her own and can be identified individually by that number. The numbering system used is very natural and easy to understand, yet it gives identification of the individual by family and by generation removed from Grandfather Gibb.

Since Grandfather had two wives it is logical to divide the family into two groups numbers. Therefore, I have used the Roman numeral I for the family of John Lye Gibb and Sarah Silcox Smith and the Roman numeral II for the family of John Lye Gibb and Hannah Simmons. These numerals appear following the Word - Code No. at the top of the page to the right of center on each sheet. This is the code number of the parent who is a descendant of John Lye Gibb on each sheet.

Since children usually come one after the other, each child takes as his or her number the number of the Parent ( at the top of the sheet) with the number preceding his or her name listed as a child on his or her parent's family group sheet.

Example: One sheet Code No. I - Isabelle Elizabeth Gibb is the second child born to John Lye and Sarah Gibb. Her number is - I:2. Her sheet will be found in Section 2. Second Generation, Code No I:2.

Her child M.M. Merrill will take the number I:2 with 5 added as his own number making his code No. I:2:5. Since he has three numbers in his code number I:2:5 indicates he is a third generation and his family group sheet will be found in Section 3 ,etc.

When a descendant has two or more wives or husbands, the number of the spouse appears in parenthesis immediately following his or her Code No. and is hence forth attached to the descendant's number and retained by the children indicating which wife or husband the child is descendant of.

Example : William Henry Gibb - the 3<sup>rd</sup> child of John Lye Gibb and Sarah Gibb has a code number of I:3 as a child. On his family group sheets found in Section 2, you find him as the husband of Flora G. Harwood listed as I:3(1) and as the husband of Mabel Price Gibb Listed as I:3(2). Bertha Ione Gibb, the fourth child of William Henry Gibb and Flora Harwood has the Code No. I:3(1):4 and Elodie Ada Gibb the second child of William Henry Gibb and Mabel Price has the Code No. I:3(2):2

## I IDENTIFYING DIRECT DESENDANTS:

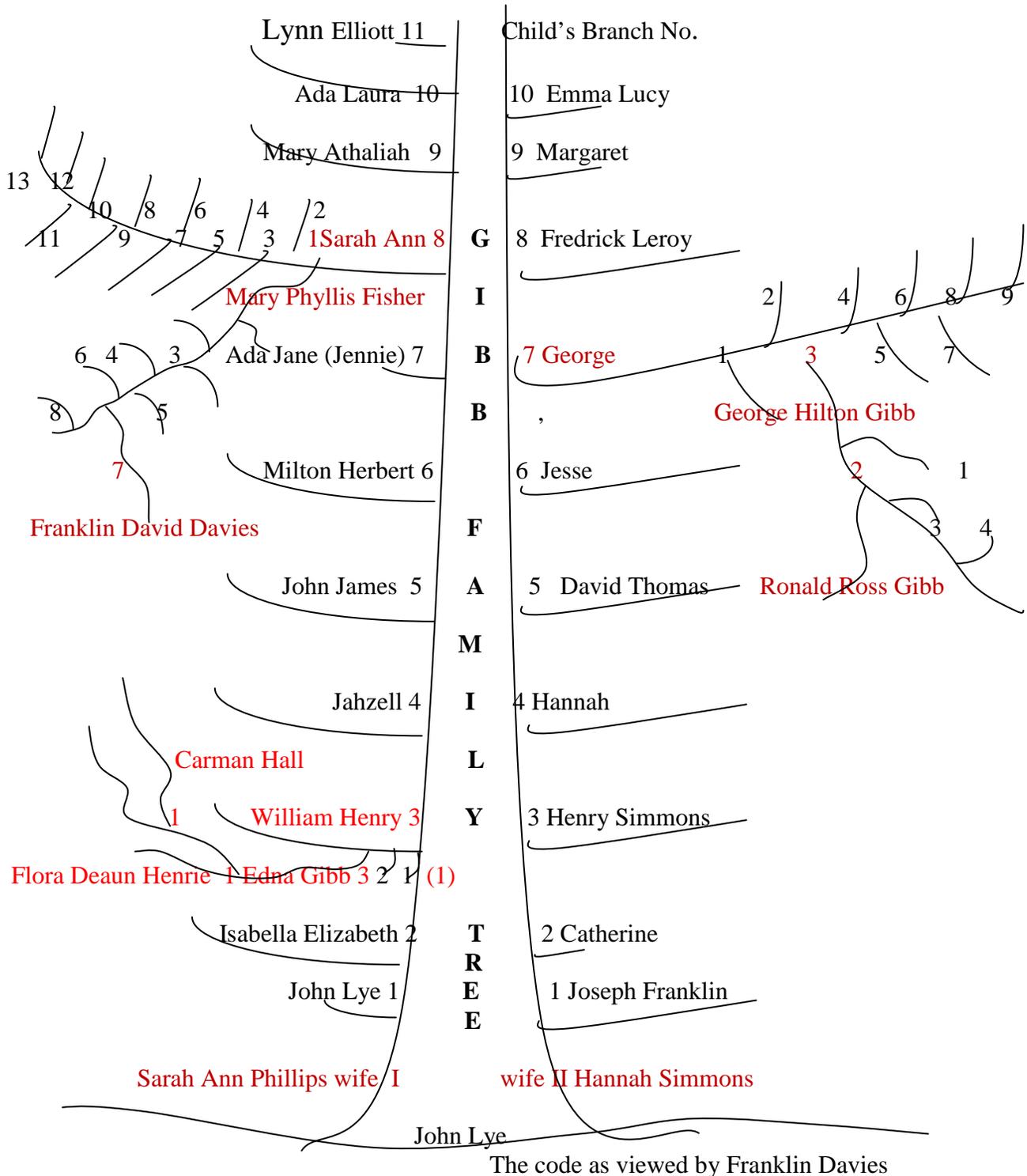
All direct descendant s of John Lye Gibb are capitalized and on each sheet one parent's name is capitalized and his or her father or mother in capitalized showing how the line of John Lye Gibb is extended through the parent to the children all of which are capitalized. With out some system it would be impossible with out a lot of extra research to identify the Gibb line the second generation after a daughter had married. Example: Sheet Code No. I:3(1):3:1:1 ( the last page in the book) Richard Storey Hyatt and CARMAN HALL. CARMEN HALL is the direct descendant being the daughter of FLORA DEAUN HENRIE see Code No. I:3(1):3:1 who is the daughter of EDNA CLARA GIBB see sheet Cod No. I:3(1):3 who is the daughter of William Henry Gibb see Code No. I:3(1) who is the son of John Lye Gibb see sheet cod No. I. You will notice that all the direct line from Carmen Hall to John Lye Gibb were Capitalized.

Example of how the coding works.

The John Lye Gibb Family Tree Code System as used by Bruce L. Gibb in his Book  
 "In Memory of John Lye Gibb, Sarah Ann Phillips, and Hannah Simmons"

Example 1 **Branch No.: I:8:1:7** is Franklin Davies. Example 2 **Branch No. II:7:3:2** is  
 Ronald Ross Gibb.

Example 3 **Branch No. I:3(1):3:1:1** is Carman Hall



Dear Family:

Grandfather Gibb left his home, his father's family and his home land; he gave up a good and prosperous business; took his family, wife and three small children and in a day when travel was a hardship, left England for America - for Zion; he suffered privations and hardship along with his wives and children for many years and through it all he never complained because it was all for a great cause. He had a testimony of the gospel so strong that all other things were insignificant to him. He knew that God is and that Jesus is His Son and he knew that the Gospel had been restored to the world through the Prophet Joseph. To Grandfather the only purpose in life was to belong to the Kingdom of God and through his diligence and faithfulness be worthy of Eternal Life.

Such convictions is not had base on imagination or untruths, nor is it had by turning away from the truth. His conviction came through following the admonition of Jesus when he said "My doctrine is not mine but His that sent me. If any man will do His will he will know of the doctrine whether it be of God or whether I speak of myself:. Grand father's whole life was spent serving the Lord and is a wonderful example to all his children.

His life is an everlasting testimony to each one of us that the Gospel is true and that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day- Saints is the only one on the earth which has the authority of God: and only through it can be attain Eternal Life. We cannot evade Grandfather. He lived and he knew and he bore record all his days on earth.

It behoves each one of us to consider that which Grandfather stood for; see what made him such a great man; find the fountain of his joy and the light of his hope that we too may have some of his great happiness and faith.

With my heart full of love and kindness for each member of this family let me add my testimony - along with many, many others of the Family - in the hope that some who's faith is not strong may be strengthened, that those who may not be members may be led to make an honest and active investigation of it's principles.

I know - for the spirit bears record to me, as it will to each of you - that Jesus is our Savior and the knowledge and ordinances necessary for salvation are of Him and have been restored to the world for our exaltation; That Joseph Smith is a prophet and so also is President McKay; that happiness in this world and eternal life to come, comes through following the commandments of Jesus Christ.

Signed Bruce Gibb

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF

### JOHN LYE GIBB

#### Note

In preparing a History of John Lye Gibb, not having access to outside sources of information, and as time does not permit extensive research prior to this publication, I can do no better than to include verbatim three short outlines of his history presented in the order:

1 Andrew Jensen's Latter-day-Saint Biographical Encyclopaedia, Vol III, page 382.

2: A sketch of John Ly Gibb's life by Hanna Simmons Gibb, "Life History & Poetry of Hannah Simmons Gibb., Page 18

3: "The life of John Lye Gibb" as told to Sarah Gibb Fister, Paged 4&5  
Bruce Gibb

Gibb, John Lye a Patriarch in the Alberta Stake of Zion, Canada was born Sep 16 1848 at south Petherton, Somersetshire, England, the son of William Gibb and Isaabella E. Lye. Becoming a convert of Mormonism, he was baptized 22 June, 1866 by Elder Edwin Frost: married Sarah Phillips Silcox, 13 Oct 1867 at Stow Church, Newport, England; was ordained an Elder by Henry Hayes at New Tredeger England in 1874. He emigrated to Utah in 1875 crossing the Atlantic in the Steamship "Wyoming" with a company of Saints in charge of L. John Nuttall. Having married Hannah Simmons as Plural wife 30 Jan 1881, he was arrested and convicted of unlawful cohabitation and served a term in the Utah penitentiary.

For many years he was a resident of Lehi, Utah count, Utah, where he led the ward choir for 21 year and also served as a member of the Distinct School Board for a long time.

Responding to a call from President Lorenzo Snow he went to Alberta Canada and settled in Magrath, where he has taken an active part in the building up of that settlement. For a number of years he acted as the village overseer and also served on the school board for ten years he led the ward choir and is at the present time a member of the town council. Elder Gibb is the father of 24 children 17 of whom are still living. He has already 72 grandchildren.

--- Andrew Jensen's Latter-Day saint Biographical Encyclopaedia Vol. III page 382

#### A SKETCH OF JOHN LYE GIBB'S LIFE

John Lye Gibb, son of William Gibb and Isabella Elizabeth Lye Gibb, was born September 16 1848 at Somersetshire, England.

John Lye was the oldest of eight children. There were three brother and two sisters, five living children. His Father was a first class shoemaker and made shoes for the best shoe companies. John when to work with his father when he was very young. He learned the trade and became a first class shoemaker himself.

He had a very good voice and loved singing. He use to go serenading on Christmas Eve with boy friends. He grew up to be steady and careful of his ways and was a great blessing and comfort to his mother.

He pledged himself never to drink strong drink or smoke. So he kept himself clean from the sins of the world. When he heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ preached, he believed it was the true Gospel. He sang in their public meeting. So when he felt sure that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints was the only true church on the earth, He went and was baptized and confirmed a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Jun 22, 1866 By Elder Edwin Frost. His family - Mother, sisters and brothers felt very sorry and felt very bitter toward the church that took their loved one away form them.

A Miss Sarah Smith went to the same church as John Lye and in time they were married. When their third child was born, they decided to go to the state of Utah where his wife's uncle and aunts were living. He decided that he must make money to go with. So he took about twenty young men who wanted to learn the shoe-making trade. He taught and boarded them until they learned all about shoe making. He then saved money to bring his family out to his wife's relations in Lehi, Utah.

There the bishop helped him get a shop started. Then he worked and made shoes for the store and for the people. He taught singing class. He was leader of the Sunday meeting choir and Sunday School singing for twenty years in Lehi City.

He was ordained Deacon, Then Priest, then Elder, Seventy, High-priest, Patriarch and to many other callings.

He was always very strict to keep the Sabbath Day holy. Always clean and neat and always in time on duty. Always brushed and brightened the children's Shoes, put them ready for Sunday morning. When the bishop called for help or donations he was always among the first to give. In his Patriarchal blessing it says "his humanity and truthfulness are known to the angels."

January 1878 he married Miss Hannah Simmons. In 1887 he went to jail for having two wives, thought that was the greatest thing he ever did. In 1898 he was called by president of the Church, President Snow and Councillors to go to Canada, take his family and help build the canal and subdue the land ready for the Ten Tribes to come to. He lead the choir and all singing in Magrath, sixteen years. He held many offices in the church, planted many trees, shrubs, flowers and gardens. He was ordained Patriarch in 1914. He gave many blessings that came true. He lived a true Latter-day Saint life. He died in Cardston, December 17 1920 and was buried in Magrath cemetery with great respect.

--- by Hannah Simmons Gibb "Life History and Poetry of Hannah Simmons Gibb page 18.

### **Life of John Lye and Sarah Phillips Silcox Smith Gibb**By Sarah GibbFisher

In the little village of South Petherton, Sommersetshire, England is a little country village, South Pemberton. The climate is mild and the flowers and shrubs and trees grow in abundance. The country roads are bordered with primroses, growing wild, and hedges border the lanes. Here William Gibb and his bride Isabella Elizabeth Lye went to live. They built a little cottage and raised their family. The eldest of their children was our father, John Lye Gibb, born September 16, 1848. William Gibb was a shoemaker and owned a shop spoken of by the poet as "Ye old Shoe Shop." He had boys come as apprentices and John worked for his father as an apprentice and learned the trade of shoe maker for there were no shoe factories in those days and this was a very good vocation.

When John was only a little boy, war broke out in England known in history as the Crimean War and never has England experienced such suffering. More people died from starvation than from the war. Grandfather's business failed. He could get no work. They struggled on for months until there was not a morsel of food in the house. He then went away and left his family that they might get the little relief that was given by the charity associations that were established in England for the first time. William's wife, who was my grandma, received a scanty ration each day and she gave it to her children, but soon that failed and they had only what Jack and Bill, the two boys, were able to get for them. She gave it all to the children but ate none of it herself. Still there was such a little bit that one of her children became ill and died from starvation. This was a very sad memory in the life of Father.

After the war, Grandfather became very prosperous in his trade and had many young men working for him. One day as Jack and a fellow worker, who happened to be a Mormon, were talking. He asked Jack to attend a Mormon meeting that night with him so out of curiosity Jack consented to go. He didn't hear much of the service for a young girl came in and sat on a seat just in front of him. He has said "As I sat there I looked at her most of the meeting and I thought I had never seen such a pretty girl in my life". After the meeting my friend made me acquainted with her and I asked her to walk home with me. He went to the meeting often but only to walk home with the girl. As he did not take any

interest in the church she refused to go with him because she would not marry a man who was not a member of her church. For a long time he did not see her. One day when he was going home from work he saw a man preaching on the street corner. He stopped to listen and every word he said seemed to ring true to his soul and he decided to investigate Mormonism. The result was that on June 22, 1866 (18 years of age) he was baptized.

He again went to the girl, who had rejected him on account of his religion, and when she learned he had joined the church she was very happy and on October 13, 1867 they were married at Stow Church, Newport, England. His parents disowned him when he joined the church so they went to Ireland. They had many dear friends there and he had work and good pay, but they were working for money to go to Zion. In 1875 they crossed the Atlantic in the steamship, Wyoming, with a company of saints. They had two children, their eldest child having died when he was two years old. This was a great sorrow to him as they were so proud of their two beautiful children, John and Bella.

After they arrived in Lehi, Utah their faith was often tried and if their testimony had not been built upon a "rock" they would have lost faith through the actions of the people in Zion.

I wish to tell the story of the life of my mother, who was a truly great and good woman. I believe that her story teaches that a person may be truly great and yet no one, particularly the person herself, may realize this.

When she was but five years of age, my mother was left an orphan. She did not have the love and security of a normal home life. Too early in life she was forced to support herself, to work for her keep, to work in an environment that seemed to her to be hostile and unfriendly. Hard as the life of a servant was, many as were her deprivations, she did learn two of life's great and necessary lessons: to work and to care for herself.

In spite of these lessons that she learned in the often friendless school of experience, her life was full of poverty - poverty of body, poverty of mind and poverty of love. One day a great thing happened to her to change the course of her existence, to give her at once a goal to live for, and to give a meaning to her life. She heard the gospel of Jesus Christ taught by a Mormon missionary, and such was her need and such was her desire and such was her understanding - that she accepted at once. From this time on her life was different. She had something for which to live.

At one time she was working for a lady who was very particular about the way her servants looked. She insisted on a neat appearance, clean clothes, well brushed hair, well mended shoes. Shoes were particularly a problem - they were difficult to get and worn ones always looked shoddy. My mother finally saved enough to buy a much needed pair. She carried the money with her one Sunday afternoon on her way to church. As she walked **along she thought of one of the principles of the church that was to mean** so much to her - the principle of tithing, the payment of a tenth of one's earnings to the Lord. The money she so carefully had saved for shoes was just enough for her to pay her tithing. So instead of waiting to buy shoes, she paid her tithing. Then she went home and spent an evening of mingled feelings. She had feelings of gratitude to a church that was giving her the richness of life that she had missed in her orphaned years. She had feelings of fear, fear to face her mistress on Monday **morning without the new shoes, that meant** so much to her appearance. Perhaps, in answer to her prayers and to her payment of tithes, the heart of her mistress on that morning was touched with **goodness, and mother was given money to buy a new pair** of shoes. This memory always stayed with my mother as a testimony of the rewards that come to one from the living of the principles of the church.

Mother always felt that one of the things that the church gave her was the love of her husband, whom she met while attending church. It is difficult to say which she loved the more - the gospel or her husband, John. She poured out to her husband all of the love that she had been deprived of giving to a father and a mother. And she received from him the love that had **not been given to her**.

To mother was born a little boy and she named him John. Then in the swiftly passing and happy years she had three others that she named Belle, Jehzell, and Henry. Mother loved her babies very much and loved to dress them to look sweet and clean. She would then walk along the village streets with the children. People would ask her if they were wax works - they looked so clean and beautiful.

It was the aim of all good Mormons living in England to finally save up enough to make the trip to Utah, the promised land of the Saints. Being uprooted from the land of one's birth is difficult for all people. It was especially difficult for my mother. Among the many things that mother had to leave in England was John, her **first-born, buried when he was** but three years of age. Her first baby born in the new land of Zion **she named John, after her husband and** in memory of her first child. Her early years in Utah were soon blessed by the births of her fifth and sixth children, Milton and Sarah.

One of the things most difficult for the women of Mormonism to understand was the great principle of plural marriage. Mother understood and accepted the principle. She felt that for father to gain the highest glory in heaven he should take unto himself another wife. Now, if the principle of polygamy, which is an important and basic part of the Mormon faith, is not true, then Mormonism itself isn't true. Mother knew by the gift of the Holy Ghost that it was true and she made this great sacrifice for the gospel and for her husband whom she loved. She told father to take another wife.

Mother had many trials in the new world. None was more difficult to stand than the deaths of her next three children. But her earthly happiness was greatly increased by the births of three more children, Ethel, Ada, and Lynn. Lynn was her last child and the pride of her life. John's second wife, called "Aunt" by the children of his first wife, also had a large family of six boys and three girls. Father thus had 21 children and two wives who were sealed to him for time and eternity - through the great principle of eternal marriage.

Mother loved and encouraged father's great gift for music. He did a great deal of good in the church with this gift. He led the Lehi choir for 40 years and put on many entertainments and shows. Once, in order to make it possible for father to make a trip to California with the choir, she stayed home and taught and loved and cared for her large family. Mother was the center of the family. She taught her children to pray to our Father in Heaven and to love the Gospel. Every Sunday morning she stayed home and cooked a good dinner while father took the children to Sunday School. Each Sunday afternoon she went with father and her family to church. There she would love to sit and watch father lead the choir. She said that this was one of her greatest pleasures in life. Once she said that she wanted father to lead the choir at her funeral.

A wife can either make or break a man. Mother helped to make father accomplish the things that father did in life. We all know what a wonderful man that father was - and mother made him that man.

One of the centers of mother's faith was her faith in prayer. She taught her children this faith. Once when I was making doll clothes as a little child I lost the scissors. Mother and I looked everywhere for them and couldn't find them. As mother had always taught us to pray for the things we wanted in life, I went into the bedroom and prayed to the Lord to help me find the scissors. When I arose I saw mother kneeling and praying by my side. I know that she was praying that I might always retain that faith that I had as a child. We found the scissors.

Mother was a source of strength and inspiration to all of her family, in the small things as well as the great things in our lives. When I was afraid at night I would get into bed with mother, and then I no longer had fear. She

loved a good home and tried to make a home atmosphere for the children. Particularly she loved the organ in the front room, which was the center of the family life. She believed in education and did as much as she could for her children. She made it possible for her eldest children to attend Brigham Young University by canning fruit and by making cakes and bread to send to them.

From the time she was a little girl my mother never lost her faith in the principle of tithing. She loved to pay a tenth of what she made on the sales of butter and eggs. I remember one day her giving me some eggs to

buy father a birthday present and I bought him a whole five cents worth of candy. When I gave it to him I said "now give it back to me".

Life in a new and rugged country was difficult. The lot of modern women, no matter how difficult, is something less difficult than the life of a farm woman in the plains country. Mother's first home in Alberta was a dugout which father had constructed by digging a cave in the side of a hill and boarding up the front. Simple and primitive as this was, my mother made it into a home for her family. The hardships of this primitive life were many. There were no doctors, no electric lights, no running water - few of the things that we now consider to be necessities of life. Mother carried water, in order to wash her clothes; she hunted wood in order to make a fire to bake bread; she churned butter. So many things she did that were hard for a woman. When I think of these things I feel how blessed I am.

Mother grew and developed her soul by serving. Many a young mother, who was having her first child away from home, sent for mother to be with her. Many young boys came up from Utah to help the community work on an irrigation canal. Mother tried to be a mother to these boys. When Henry's wife died and left six little girls, my mother took three of them to care for. I can remember her saying: "Oh, be good to them, because I know how it is to be without a mother". She did her best.

Among the many difficult things for mother to bear in this life of hardship was an injury to Lynn, her youngest son. The man who delivered mail, by team, to the scattered residents of our community used to stop at our home to eat dinner and to have his horses cared for. Lynn was helping with the horses one day when he was kicked in the leg. Because of the injury, the leg had to be amputated. Lynn was mother's last and dearest child - only a mother can tell what suffering she went through. Later on Lynn was hurt again by a horse and for weeks mother sat by his bed nursing him.

Many things I remember about the sweetness and beauty in my mother's personality. She always wished that her children could learn to play the piano, to learn to paint, to appreciate literature, and to get a formal education. She never swore or told an unclean story. She even told us never to chew gum. She considered this to be not ladylike. She was tolerant and kind to those who were less fortunate than herself. One of her mottos was "judge not lest ye be judged". She was loyal to the church and would never gossip or talk about the leaders who were in positions of authority in the church. She felt that they were called to those positions by the Lord and she respected them.

Bitter and hard as were the trials and hardships of her life, my mother had her reward. Father was always good to her. He loved her as well as she did him. Their life together was rich and complete. They talked and read

and planned together. One of the things they liked best to do together was to read good books. She loved to make him nice things to eat, and she always had his meals on time. She died before he did and just as she was dying she held out her hands and said, "John, come quickly". He did go soon after to meet her in their heavenly home. Through the gospel that she loved so much she is able to be with father as his wife through all eternity.

Work and worry got the best of mother and she became sick. For 15 years she wasn't herself. These terrible years caused her children to sometimes forget the best years of mother's life. The memory of her best years was swallowed up in these terrible years which warped our memories of her. But these years were just a phase of her life, and I like to remember the good years of service and love and devotion to her husband, her family and her church.

I believe that her daughters have made good wives and mothers. If her boys or girls do not live the gospel to the best of their abilities and keep the commandments of God, they are not worthy sons and daughters of that wonderful and truly great woman, our mother.

### **John Lye Gibb** by Zeuon W. Jacobs

John Lye Gibb and Sarah Smith both joined the church in England. They were married and came to Zion after two of their children were born. They were among those called to Canada to help build the southern part of Alberta. They settled in Magrath, Alberta and brought their children up there. This was in 1899.

John Gibb was one of the outstanding characters of Magrath. He built a home for his family and then set up a shoe repair shop which he gradually increased in size and put in a stock of harnesses and later other leather goods.

He was an educated and refined man. He understood music and had charge of the first Ward Choir at Magrath. For many years he continued to lead the singing. He was interested in education. He was a member of the first School Board in the young Town. He was ever anxious for the welfare and progress of the younger people. He took part in the dramatics in the town, and was an efficient and pleasing performer.

I once asked him how he succeeded in rearing such a large number of exemplary and worthy children. He paused for a moment at the question and then said, "Bro. Jacobs, I have always tried to keep my children busily employed. That is one of the secrets of my success in that line."