

## Mary Ann Phillips Walker

[224] Mary Ann Phillips Walker was born September 16, 1840, at West Hyde Herefordshire, England, she came with her family to Utah in 1863 and walked all the way across the plains. She was a tiny, dainty woman, who loved cleanliness and order. She was thrifty and industrious. Knowing the tailor trade, she made all the family's cloths by hand for many years before she could purchase a sewing machine. When a girl, Mary worked for C. R. Savage as a model in his art gallery (Mr. Savage was later known as Utah's pioneer photographer). She also served as a maid in homes of wealthy people in England and Ireland before coming to this Country. In this way helping her parents financially. She suffered many hardships and trials of pioneer life.

[225] After her marriage, and family was pretty well raised, her husband John H. Walker went on a mission for the church, and Mary carried on at home. She raised poultry, made butter, and supervised the farm thus supporting the family, and sending the necessary funds to her husband. She took the chickens, eggs, potatoes and butter to customers in Salt Lake City and Z.C.M.I. and sold them every Saturday, rain or shine, with horse and buggy.

Mary Ann lovingly called Polly by her friends, was often called upon to go and lay out the dead. She and a friend, Sarah Ann Forbush, would often travel by night to Salt Lake in the early morning they would find a clerk to open the store so they could purchase the materials for the burial clothes. Arriving at home at the end of the long, slow journey, these faithful women would sew late into the night in order to have the cloth ready for the funeral.

She was ever kind and loving as a mother and grandmother. Many are the deeds of kindness and charity that were done unknown to any but herself. She was not one to enjoy public life, but she labored in the background assisting her husband and children to do their duty when called upon to serve.

During her life she raised, in addition to her own large family, six grandchildren, whose mother's died. The last few years of her life were spent in the home of her youngest daughter (Ann Burgon) where everything was done for her comfort and happiness until she passed on her rewards on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 1927.

*Early Histories of Union Fort: Union Fort Camp*, put together by "members of the 'Union Fort Camp Daughters of the Utah Pioneers,'" including Edna Proctor Jensen, Thelma Proctor Hardman, Verl Walker Milne, Vera Peterson, Officers of D. U. P. 1971-1972