

HISTORY  
OF  
WARREN FORD REYNOLDS  
BORN  
JUNE 23, 1823  
IN NEW YORK

AND

EDNA MERIA  
MERRELL REYNOLDS  
BORN  
DEC. 25, 1828  
IN  
CUTTER, WAYNE CO.  
NEW YORK

PIONEERS  
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WRITTEN  
BY  
JOSEPHINE BOWTHORPE  
WORKMAN

READ IN TWIN PEAKS  
CAMP  
NEV. 1954

## HISTORY OF MY GRAND PARENTS

Edna maria Merrell, my grandmother, was the daughter of Hosea and Mary saxton merrell, She was born on the 25th day of December 1828, Christmas Day, in Cutter, Wayne Couty, New York. She is of French decent.

Her forefathers fled from France because of their faith, and cast in the their lot with the Puritans, and settled in Salisbury, County of Wilshire, England. They came to America in the early 1600's and settled in New York, where Edna Merrell was born. Later with her parents they moved to the State of Michigan.

Warren Ford Reynolds was born in the town of Avon, Livingston County, State of New York, June 7, 1923, son of Asa D. and Betsy Artlip Reynolds. His parents died when he was just a boy, so he moved to Michigan to live with his brother Asa, but conditions were not so good and he left there and walked a long distance to Detroit, Michigan, to the home of a friend, Mr. Gauge. The Gauges had no children and were very willing to give grandfather a home.

He lived there a few years, and while living there he met Edna Merrell. They were married on the 3rd day of January 1946, when she was 18 years old.

Mr. Gauge owned a large ranch, and when Edna and Warren were married he offered them a home, but Warren refused, because they had decided to go to Nauvoo, Illinois. and join the Mormons. Mr. Gauge gave grandfather a covered wagon and yoke of Cxen to help him on his journey, so they immediantely proceeded to Nauvoo where they were baptized in the Mississippi River, by Elder Surrype, on April 15, 1846 and became members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. They later left Nauvoo with a Company of Saints and journeyed to Utah. They endured many hardships and trials in common with t he Saints at their exodus. Theis Company of Saints arrived in Utah September 20, 1848.

Grand father and Grand mother were called by Brother Brigham Young to settle in South Cottonwood where they made their home from roughly hewn logs and adobe. They raised a family of 10 children. After they had established their home in South Cottonwood, the crickets came and just about devoured all their crops. Grand father turned the chickens out to see if they would eat the crickets, they did eat so many of them that grandmother refused to eat the eggs the hens layed. The grasshoppers were very bad also. In 1867 the farmers were forced to seek employment to support their families.

One spring a Company of Saints coming to Utah, had to stop in Echo Canyon because of sickness and they were out of provisions, so Brother Brigham Young came to Grand father, Brother Boyce and Brother Huffaker and asked if they would take some of these Saints into their homes. Grandmother cooked some chickens, hot robs, potatoes, cakes and pies. So Grandfather together with Brother Boyce and Brother Huffaker took this food to these Saints. Grandfather brought back with him a girl by the name of Christina Elizabeth McNeil. She lived with them for two years, helping grandmother with her family, then he married her as his second wife.

Grandmother Edna Merrell Reynolds died at her home in South Cottonwood March 28, 1896. Samuel Brinton had this to say at her funeral; " Sister Reynolds had many friends and no enemies, she was a constant Latter-day Saint, She was a true wife and a noble mother ever ready to succor the needy and cheer those that were gloomy or down cast.

Her Faith in the Gospel was unswerving and her reward is that of the just."

This History was obtained from family and church records, and from the only living member of the family of Warren Ford and Edna Merrell Reynolds, my aunt, Bell Bird who is now in good health, and approaching the age of 87 years.

We have in our possession a few things that we prize very highly that belonged to my grandmother, such as a crystal tea set consisting of the sugar and creamer, a spoon dish, and a little vinegar dish that she always had on her table. We also have the jar that she kept her everlasting yeast in, for in those days they depended entirely upon home-made bread. She also have the old glass cupboard that she had to keep her nice dishes in.

We have traced her genealogy back to the eleventh generation, Nathional Merrell born in the early 1600's. This genealogy has been found by searching the records at the Genealogical Library and through writing letters everywhere to people who could give us just a small bit of information, Our cousin Vitaltee Roberts, a daughter of Uncle Jerome Merrell, brother to grandmother, deserves most of the credit for this work. She worked a great deal of her life in searching for these names, never counting the hours or time she made to Salt Lake or the money she spent in doing this work. Her only thought was to get the Temple work done for her Ancestral dead. She did the work for many hundreds of names, she and her cousin William Merrell, who have both now passed away.

This history was written by Josephane Bowthorpe Workman, a granddaughter of Warren Ford and Edna Merrell Reynolds.