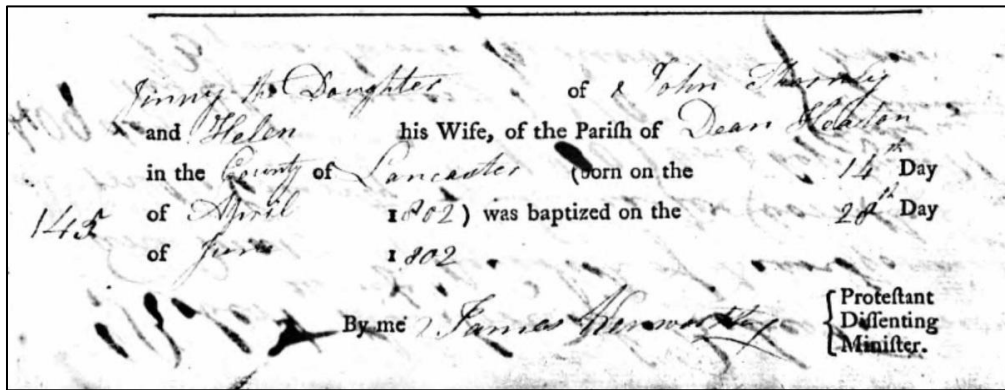


JANE THORNLEY



Jane Thornley was born 14 April 1802 in Horwich (a small town about two miles east of Bolton), Lancashire, England, the daughter of John F. Thornley and Ellen Hilton.



*Christening record for Jane Thornley in Horwich New Chapel (Independent), Horwich:
"Jenny the daughter of John Thornly and Helen his wife of the parish of Dean Heaton
in the County of Lancaster (born on the 14th day of April 1802) was baptized on the 28th day of June
1802 by me James Kenworthy, Protestant Dissenting Minister"*

From www.bolton.org.uk: "The name of Horwich is thought to come from the Old English words of "har" and "wice", meaning the grey wych-elms. According to the oldest records, wild boar used to be hunted in the forest during the 13th Century... Early industry was concerned with the cotton trade, most homes had some form of weaving equipment, and a major bleachworks as well as a few mills when mechanisation arrived, powered by waterwheels. A few coal mines and a sandstone quarry also supported the economy."

Jane's father, John worked as a spinner. He was born in Leyland, Lancashire. Ellen, Jane's mother, was born in Croston, Lancashire. Jane had an older brother, Jonathan, born in 1800 in Horwich, then Jane was born in 1802. The family moved to Bolton, where Ann (1811), Ellen (1816) may have died young, Ellen (1821), and John (1823) were born. The last child, Alice was born in Leyland in 1827.

Jane and Samuel Hamer were married 7 March 1824 in Bolton le Moors. Samuel worked as an engineer, fixing and maintaining machinery, and as a miller. Ten children were born to them in England - John,

Martha, Nancy, Ellen, James, Samuel, Jane, James, Ann, and Joseph. In 1835, the family moved to Tottington (about four miles north of Bolton), and it must have been here that they were converted to the gospel. According to the *History of the Church*, in 1840 there was a branch of sixty members in nearby Bolton. It is not known when Samuel and Jane were baptized, but their son John was baptized in September of 1840 by Robert Crook. John was 16 years old.

PLACE	HOUSES Occupied or Unoccupied	NAMES of each Person who abode therein the preceding Night	AGE and SEX		PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or of INDEPENDENT MEANS.	Where Born Whether in this County or Foreign
			Male	Female		
Tottington M.S.C.C.	1	Dr. Robinson	57		Finisher	91
		Sarah W ^e	57			91
		John W ^e	15		Stitcher	91
		John W ^e	13		Stitcher	91
		Edw. Robinson	23		Machine Painter	91
		Robert W ^e	20			91
		Wm. Tomlinson	29		Engine Painter	91
		Eliza W ^e	28			91
		Ann W ^e	8			91
		William W ^e	4			91
		Robert W ^e	1			91
		Dr. C. C. Wood	63		Coach Man	91
		Ann W ^e	33			91
		John W ^e	15		Stitcher	91
		George W ^e	7			91
		John W ^e	6			91
		Ellen W ^e	2			91
		Thos. Barron	20		Stitcher	91
		Thos. Kay	23		Stitcher	91
		Sam. Hamer	35		Engineer	91
		Jane W ^e	35			91
		John W ^e	16		Mechanic	91
		Martha W ^e	14		Stitcher	91
		Nancy W ^e	13			91
		Ann W ^e	8			91
TOTAL in 2	4		18	11		

PLACE	HOUSES Occupied or Unoccupied	NAMES of each Person who abode therein the preceding Night	AGE and SEX		PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or of INDEPENDENT MEANS.	Where Born Whether in this County or Foreign
			Male	Female		
		Jane Hamer	5			91
		James W ^e	3			91
		John W ^e	1			91
		Sam. Coote	40		Farmer	91
		Mary W ^e	40			91
		John W ^e	40		Eng. Engraver	91
		James W ^e	13			91
		John W ^e	11			91
		John Harrison	31		Blacksmith	91
		John W ^e	30			91
		Mary W ^e	10			91
		James W ^e	5			91
		James Walsh	30		Machine Painter	91
		Edw. W ^e	30			91
		Robert W ^e	12			91
		Thos. W ^e	10			91
		Elizabeth W ^e	7			91
		Mary W ^e	5			91
		Sarah W ^e	3			91
		Ellen W ^e	1			91
		Sam. Todd	22		Finisher	91
		Mary W ^e	22			91
		James W ^e	1			91
		John Wardle	22		Carton	91
		John Wardle	27			91
TOTAL in 2	13		13	12		

1841 British census, Tottington Mill

The Hamer family appears in the English census in Tottington Mill in 1841. The record shows:
 Saml Hamer, 35, Engineer
 Jane Hamer, 35
 Jno Hamer, 16, Mechanic
 Martha Hamer, 14, Stitcher
 Nancy Hamer, 13
 Saml Hamer, 8
 Jane Hamer, 5
 James Hamer, 3
 Ann Hamer, 1

The Hamers immigrated to the United States in February of 1842 on the ship *Hope*. The passenger list for the *Hope* shows:

Samuel Hamer, age 38, origin England, occupation: Miller

Jane Hamer, age 39

John Hamer, age 17

Martha Hamer, age 14

Nancy Hamer, age 12

Samuel Hamer, age 10

Jane Hamer, age 6

James Hamer, age 4

Anne Hamer, age 2

Joseph Hamer, infant, origin England

Sources: New Orleans, 1820-1850 Passenger and Immigration Lists, www.ancestry.com; Mormon Immigration Index CD. In the Mormon Immigration Index Joseph Hamer is shown as an infant, the other family members are extracted in the CD as "Hanna". Since baby Joseph was most likely not traveling alone, and ages for the other children match, it is assumed that Hamer was wrongly translated as Hanna for the other family members. In the Ancestry.com list the family is listed as Hamer. Jane's age must be in error.

The *Hope* sailed from Liverpool on 5 February 1842, under Captain Soule. There were 270 LDS immigrants, under the direction of James Burnham. The company of Saints traveled up the Mississippi and joined the Saints at Nauvoo. The ship arrived on 1 April 1842. The History of Joseph Smith records: *"About one hundred and fifty Saints from England, landed in Nauvoo from the steamer Louisa, and about sixty from the steamer Amaranth."*

[Nauvoo](#) in 1840 had a population of 2,450. The call to gather brought many hundreds of English immigrants like the Hamers: *"One of the assignments given the Council of the Twelve in Nauvoo was the resettlement of British immigrants. The Twelve helped newcomers find homes and land, employment, and temporary sustenance when needed. So, to serve the steady influx of Missouri and British Saints, surveyors in Nauvoo laid out a plat of four-acre blocks, each divided into four plots. Upon the city lots were many small log homes, some frame and stone buildings." (Ensign, Sept. 1979).* The Hamers were given Lot #74, a few blocks from the Nauvoo Temple site, towards the river. (One of the Hamer's next-door neighbors, Sarah Granger Kimball, was responsible for starting the charitable women's organization that became the Relief Society. Her house is still standing, and is part of the Nauvoo restoration site tour.) Family stories indicate that the Hamer's daughter, Jane Hamer, worked for the Prophet Joseph Smith. Perhaps it was the mother, Jane, who worked there, as little Jane Hamer would have only been six years old at this time.

Samuel worked in Nauvoo as a blacksmith. The one-year-old baby, Joseph, died in September of 1842. He is believed to have been buried on the Hamer's property. Samuel died 7 August 1843 of malaria. The loss of her husband must have been very hard for the widowed Jane Hamer, and she still had young children to raise.



*The Hamer's property on the corner of Young and Bain in Nauvoo.
Samuel and baby Joseph may be buried here.*

All of the Saints were shocked by the murder of Joseph and Hyrum Smith in June 1844, and mob violence increased. A diary kept by Zina Diantha Huntington Jacobs in Nauvoo records on September 14, 1844, *"I went and saw Sister Hamer."* (Zina later became General Relief Society President from 1887 to 1901).

Jane Thornley Hamer was left with the responsibility of a large family, as the Saints encountered increasing difficulties in Nauvoo. She had eight children, aged five to twenty. The family gathered together to support each other. In 1845, John S. Haslam, a good family friend, married the oldest daughter, Martha. The family remained in Nauvoo until continuing persecution caused the Saints to leave in 1846.

The family traveled together to Winter Quarters. Samuel, Jr. and John S. Haslam helped the Saints carry supplies and immigrants across the Missouri River, and worked as blacksmiths. The winters of 1849 and 50 were especially hard. They often did not know where the next meal was coming from: *"There had been no supper the previous night and the mother (Jane) could find nothing for breakfast. They held family prayers and asked God for food. After prayer, Samuel (her son) took his gun and prepared to go in search of food. He was in the act of leaving the tent when a large rabbit ran through the tent flap and across the floor. He took aim and fired, killing the rabbit. In the midst of their rejoicing, someone noticed a shadow which fell across the floor. Looking up, they saw a large Indian standing in the doorway. With what little English he knew and many gestures, he let them know that he had chased the rabbit into their tent, and that it was rightfully his. The mother recognized the justice of his action and relinquished the rabbit without further ado. As he turned to go the children, seeing their breakfast disappear, began to cry. The Indian stopped, turned to grandmother and said: "Where your man?" She told him that her husband was dead. He grunted, handed her the rabbit and turned and walked away."* (Nellie Hamer Reiser).

Jane is found with her family in the 1850 census in Pottawatamie County:

John Amer, age 26, occupation: blacksmith

Elizabeth, age 18

John Hazlem, age 27

Martha, age 24

Jane, age 4

John, age 2

Jane Amer, age 49

Samuel, age 17, occupation: none

Jane, age 15

James, age 13

Ann, age 12

Source: 1850 federal census, Iowa, Pottawatomie County, District 21, page 112, on ancestry.com.

25		Susannah	2		
26	774774	John Amer	21	M	Pottawatomie
27		Elizabeth	10	F	
28		John Haslam	27	M	
29		Martha	24	F	
30		Jane	4	F	
31		John	2	M	
32		Jane Amer	49	F	
33		Samuel	17	M	none
34		Jane	15	F	
35		James	13	M	
36		Ann	12	F	
37	775775	Robert Baxter	24	M	Pottawatomie
38		Elizabeth	27	F	
39		William	18	M	none
40	776776	William Smith	40	M	

1850 census, Iowa

Jane and her family crossed the plains with the Orson Pratt Company, encountering hardship and near starvation as they journeyed to Utah. Jane was a midwife, and her skills were a great blessing to the sick while crossing the plains. Her son, Samuel, remembered her determination and economy: *"Father was always proud to tell of his mother's foresightedness and economy. He told us of how she would prepare the bones and small pieces of meat for their immediate meals, drying and saving the larger pieces for the future. When father's gun would bring down a prairie chicken or two, his mother would cook the forepart of the bird, and would dry the legs and hang them up by pieces of string to the beams of the wagon in the manner which she dried the pieces of meat. He told of how his mother made soda from saltratis which she gathered from the wayside, of how she made soap."* (Nellie Hamer Reiser)

The family arrived in the Salt Lake Valley in October 1857. Jane was 55 years old and had crossed the plains. Jane received a plot of land in the 16th Ward from Brigham Young. Her life here was comfortable and happy. Her children married and had children: *"Samuel married Ann Albion on November 5, 1857. Nancy married William Player; Martha married John Haslam; Jane married Thomas Dallin and was the mother of the famous Utah sculptor Cyrus E. Dallin; Ann was the second wife of D.O. Calder; John drowned in the Jordan River in the year 1877 while fishing; and James died in Salt Lake City."* (Nellie Hamer Reiser).

There is an incidental mention of Jane Hamer in "Our Pioneer Heritage": "Brother David Calder, President Young's head clerk had engaged me... One day one of his wives had me go with her to visit her mother, to help carry her child. Sister Hammer lived in the lower part of town. While there, a young man, Henry Maudsley, came in. His mother and Mrs. Hammer had been playmates in England and later neighbors in Nauvoo." (History of Mary S. Maudsley, Our Pioneer Heritage, vol. 19 p. 377)

	Mary Ann	24	f					Eng	
	Emma	14	f					"	
	William	12	m					"	
	Martha A.	6	f					"	
	Mary Ann	4	f					"	
	Catherine	3	f					"	
	Hannah	1	f					"	
27-98	Jane Hamer	58	f			250	75	Eng	
	Samuel	25	m	Blacksmith		100		"	
	Ann	24	f					"	
	James	20	m	Coal laborer				"	
	Jane	22	f					"	
28-99	John Hamer	36	m	Blacksmith		550	175	Eng	
	Elizabeth A.	26	f					"	
	Joseph Littlewood	15	m	Coal laborer				"	
28-100	William Woodstock	38	m	Common laborer		200	100	Eng	
	Phoebe	38	f					"	
	Daniel	16	m					"	

1860 census, Salt Lake City, Utah

Samuel Hamer, Jr. was called on a mission to settle Panaca, Nevada in 1868. Jane moved in with her son John and his family. Samuel returned in 1871, and settled with his mother on the land that Brigham Young had given her. Samuel's likeness may be seen on the Brigham Young Monument in Salt Lake City, as his granddaughter tells: "It has been stated by members of his family that Samuel Hamer posed for the figure of the Trapper on the west side of the Brigham Young Monument at South Temple and Main Street in Salt Lake City. This monument was the work of his nephew Cyrus E. Dallin. The figure is a very good likeness of my grandfather." (Isabella Hamer Vogelaar).

Post Office: *Salt Lake City*

1		2		3		4		5		6		7	
The name of every person whose place of abode on the first day of June, 1870, was in this family.		The name of every person whose place of abode on the first day of June, 1870, was in this family.		The name of every person whose place of abode on the first day of June, 1870, was in this family.		The name of every person whose place of abode on the first day of June, 1870, was in this family.		The name of every person whose place of abode on the first day of June, 1870, was in this family.		The name of every person whose place of abode on the first day of June, 1870, was in this family.		The name of every person whose place of abode on the first day of June, 1870, was in this family.	
1		<i>Elizabeth</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>at Home</i>								
2		<i>Amy</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>at Home</i>								
3		<i>Sattie</i>	<i>3/2</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>at Home</i>								
4	<i>84 1/4</i>	<i>Hammer John</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Blacksmith</i>								
5		<i>Elizabeth</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Keeping house</i>								
6		<i>Genetta</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>at Home</i>								
7		<i>Hammer Jane</i>	<i>69</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Keeping house</i>								
8		<i>James</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>None</i>								
9	<i>88 3/4</i>	<i>Quibby Mary</i>	<i>67</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Keeping house</i>								

1870 census, Salt Lake City, Utah

Jane is found living with her son John's family in Salt Lake City in the 1870 U.S. census:
Hammer, John, age 45, blacksmith
Hammer, Elizabeth, age 37, keeping house
Hammer, Genetta, age 4, at home
Hammer, Jane, age 69, keeping house
Hammer, James, age 33, none



Jane Thornley, circa 1870

Jane Thornley Hamer is found in the 1880 federal census in Salt Lake City:

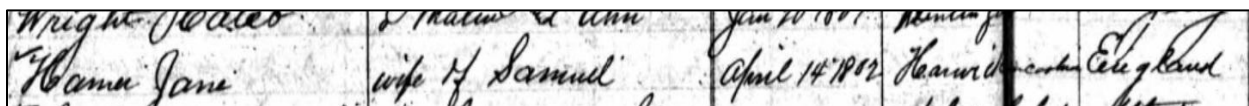
Samuel Hamer, age 46, born in England, occupation: Blacksmith
Ann Hamer, wife, age 45, born in England, keeping house
Jane Hamer, daughter, age 20, born in Utah, occupation: Housekeeper
Daniel Hamer, son, age 13, born in Utah, school boy
Clara Hamer, daughter, age 9, born in Nevada
Willard Hamer, son, age 11 months, born in Utah
Sarah Hamer, wife, age 31, born in England, keeping house
Nancy Hellen Hamer, daughter, age 9, born in Utah
Samuel Earnest Hamer, son, age 7, born in Utah
Martha Hamer, daughter, age 5, born in Utah
Mary Hamer, daughter, age 3, born in Utah
Walter Hamer, son, age 8 months, born in Utah
Jane Hamer, mother, age 78, born in England
James Hamer, brother, age 43, born in England, occupation: Chore boy
Census place: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah

FHL# 1255337

Page #: 137A



Jane Thornley Hamer



Death record for Jane Hamer in Salt Lake City, Utah Death Register

Jane died 7 May 1885 in Salt Lake City, 83 years old. Her obituary in the Deseret News reads:
"HAMER - in the Sixteenth Ward, Salt Lake City, May 7, 1885 of old age, Jane Hamer, widow; born in Harwich, Lancashire, England, April 14, 1802. Funeral service at Sixteenth Ward School House, at 11 am on Sunday, May 10. Friends invited."

HAMER.—In the Sixteenth Ward, Salt Lake City, May 7th, 1885, Jane Hamer, widow, of old age. Born in Harwich, Lancashire, England, April 14th, 1802. Aged 83 years and 23 days.
Funeral service at Sixteenth Ward school-house, at 12 m., on Sunday, May 10th. All friends invited.

FAMILY GROUP RECORD OF SAMUEL HAMER AND JANE THORNLEY

Samuel Hamer was born 28 May 1803 in Bolton Le Moors, Lancashire, England to John Hamer and Jane Bentley. He married Jane Thornley 7 March 1824 in Bolton Le Moors, Lancashire, England. She was born 14 April 1802 in Horwich, Lancashire, England to John Thornley, a spinner, and Ellen Hilton. Samuel died 7 August 1843 in Nauvoo, Illinois. Jane died 2 May 1885 in Salt Lake City, Utah. Samuel and Jane had the following children:

1. **John**, born 2 July 1824 in Bolton; married Elizabeth Ann Wilding 24 September 1850; died 1877 in the Jordan River, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- *2. **Martha**, born 1 July 1826 in Bolton; married John S Haslam 4 March 1845; died 16 June 1867.
3. **Nancy**, born 1 April 1828 in Bolton; married William Player 24 September 1880; died 28 June 1889.
4. **Ellen**, born 15 August 1830 in Bolton; christened 18 August 1830 in St. Peter parish, Bolton; may have died young.
5. **James**, born 14 August 1832 in Bolton; christened 23 September 1832, St. Peter, Bolton; may have died young.
6. **Samuel**, born 30 August 1833 in Bolton; christened 22 September 1833 in St. Peter, Bolton; married Ann Albion 5 November 1857; married Sarah Openshaw 8 July 1870 (the daughter of John S Haslam's

cousin, Job Openshaw); is said to have posed for the figure of a trapper on the base of the Brigham Young statue on Temple Square; died 8 February 1895.

7. **Jane**, born 12 November 1835 in Tottington, Lancashire, England; christened 13 December 1835 in St. Peter, Bolton; married (1) C.A. Allen, (2) Thomas Dallin in 1859; mother of Cyrus Dallin who sculpted the angel Moroni on top of the Salt Lake Temple; died 16 March 1919 in Springville, Utah; buried 19 March 1919.

8. **James**, born 12 September 1837 in Tottington.

9. **Ann**, born 10 December 1839 in Tottington; married David Orson Calder 5 March 1857; died 5 December 1902.

10. **Joseph**, born 19 August 1841 in Tottington; died 30 September 1842 in Nauvoo.

SOURCES: St. Peter parish register, Bolton FHS# 559177; Leyland parish register; Croston parish register; Tottington parish register; New Orleans, 1820-1850 Passenger and Immigration Lists; Family Group Sheet submitted by Elsie Hamer Taysum; Obituary, Nauvoo Neighbor 16 August 1843; Nauvoo property records; 1850 census, Pottawattamie County, Iowa; 1860 census, Salt Lake City, Utah; 1870 census, Salt Lake City; 1880 census, Salt Lake City; Deseret News; www.familysearch.