

Mary Magdalena Wiekel Huff (Mary Huff)

Mary Huff was born July 20, 1818 in Union, Union County, Pennsylvania. She was the daughter of George and Elizabeth Eckley Wiekel. She married Henry Huff in about 1838 in Union County, Pennsylvania. Four of their seven children were born in Union County—Caroline Sarah, born June 15, 1840, Jeremiah, born June 21, 1841, Mary born 1843, and Susannah, born March 31, 1844.

They family moved to Nauvoo, Hancock County, Illinois where Lavina was born on November 22, 1845. After going with the Saints from Nauvoo to the Middle Missouri Valley, two more children were born, Martha on September 2, 1847, and Eugene in February 1850. These two children were probably born in Big Pigeon. Mary probably died in 1849 and then Eugene died in 1851. These children were both probably buried at Big Pigeon.

Little information is known about Henry Huff before 1850. It is believed that he went back to Pennsylvania to make money to outfit the family to go west. He died shortly after his return.

Mary is listed on the Big Pigeon Branch Records and in the Tithing Records. She is also listed on the 1850 U. S. Census, in dwelling #686, as follows: Mary Huff, age 32; Carolina, age 11; Jeremiah, age 9; Susannah, age 7; Lavina, age 5; Martha, age 3; and Eugene, age 8 months.

Mary and her family joined the Uriah Curtis Company. The Company consisted of 260 individuals and 50 wagons when it left Kanessville. At some time during the journey, Uriah married Mary. When they arrived in the Salt Lake Valley on September 29, 1852, Mary was Mary Curtis.

Mary and her family are listed on the 1860 U. S. Census in Springville, Utah County, Utah Territory. Listed are Mary, age 41; Jeremiah, age 19; Susannah, age 17; Martha, age 12; Louisa, age 6; and Phoebe, age 4. Louisa and Phoebe are the children of Uriah Curtis.

By the 1870 U. S. Census, Mary and Phoebe are living in Curlew Valley, Box Elder County, Utah. Mary was listed as age 52. According to the 1880 U. S. Census, Mary is living with her son-in-law, John Houtz, and her daughter Louisa in Curlew Valley. On the same census, Mary's daughter, Phoebe, was living with her brother-in-law, Hugh McCorkindale and sister, Martha, in Levan, Juab County, Utah. Mary may be been with that family when she died on September 17, 1890.