

Philip DeLaMare

Philip was born on 2 April 1823 on the island of Jersey where his forefathers had resided for over 200 years. Their roots were in Normandy, France. They had migrated to the Island of Jersey because of a bloody revolution that took place there in the 1600's. Philip was the son of Francois DeLaMare and Janne Ahier. He was the fifth of their fourteen children.

Philip's education was limited. At age ten he was working on a farm. At twelve, he secured a five year apprenticeship in a blacksmith shop. During those years, the pay was meager but as a journeyman blacksmith, he made four schillings a day. He walked the six miles from his home to the blacksmith shop and six miles to return home. While walking, Philip composed a poem which set forth his feelings about life. The poem was set to music and it appeared in the earlier editions of the LDS Hymn Book. The poem is entitled 'Let Each Man Learn to Know Himself'. It was Hymn 91 in the 1948 edition of the hymn book.

After completing his apprenticeship, Philip worked for his father for five years. In 1845, Philip went to England to work. There he met and married Mary Ann Parkin. In 1847, his father called him back home. His father was successful bidder for the construction of the Albert Pier and wanted his son to work on the project with him. The Pier took five years to build and required the labor of a thousand men. Philips profit from the venture was the equivalent of \$10,000:00.

While working on the project, one of the workmen told Philip about a new religion that was being preached in town. Philip had always had a religious nature and seized the earliest opportunity to investigate. The preacher was Elder William Dunbar. Philip was so impressed, that he ask for immediate baptism. The year was 1849. One week later, Philip was ordained an Elder and began himself to preach the message of the restored gospel.

In June of 1850, Elder John Taylor, of the Council of Twelve Apostles, who at the time was on a mission to France, visited the Island of Jersey. There he met Philip DeLaMare. Philip was called by Elder Taylor to be his councilor and assist in the translation of the Book Of Mormon into the French language. Philip accepted the call and with his wife and family traveled with Elder Taylor to Paris.

Some time later, Elder Taylor received a communication from Salt Lake City asking him to purchase the machinery to manufacture sugar. Philip assisted Elder Taylor in the search for the needed equipment. In 1851, Philip went to England to raise the money needed to purchase the sugar making machinery. The Deseret Manufacturing Company was formed and arrangements were made to ship the hardware to America.

While in Liverpool, Philip met a woman, Marie Chevalier, whom he had known on the Island of Jersey. She had been baptized by the same Elder that had baptized him. Philips wife now had three children. She had lost her hearing some years before in a severe illness. Philip offered to pay Marie's fare to America if she would travel with his family and help care for his wife and children. She accepted. Philip was to leave for America before the sugar making equipment was ready to ship so that he could make arrangements to transport the equipment from New Orleans to Utah. They sailed for America in early 1852.

While they were in St. Louis making preparations, the Latter Day Saint compound was struck be a cholera epidemic. All of Philip's children were ill. Mary Jane did not survive it and was buried in Weston, Missouri. It was about this time that Philip and Mary Ann were taught about plural marriage and the celestial marriage covenants. As a result, Philip proposed to Marie and she accepted. They were married in April 1852.

Philip and J. H. Russell had made arrangements to build 200 wagons and they required 200 yoke of oxen to pull them. Philip paid \$6,000 from his own resources for the oxen. The sugar hardware had arrived and the wagon train left for Salt Lake City on 4 July 1852. The sugar venture was not successful and Philip found himself at age 30, thousands of miles away

from his birth place and destitute of the small fortune he had accumulated in Europe.

Brigham Young offered Philip a job working for the church. His primary task would be sharpening the tools of the temple workman. Philip replied that he had always been his own master and that he preferred to keep it that way. Brigham slapped him on the back and told him to go be his own master.

Philip's wife, Mary Ann, sold many of her priceless possessions to purchase the tools Philip needed to open a blacksmith shop. He established the shop on Second South between Main and West Temple.

Philip had met a man named John Gillespie during the time that the sugar machinery train was enroute to Salt Lake City. When they arrived at the Green River, there was a wagon train there waiting to help them across the river. John was a member of that group. John had settled in Tooele and he persuaded Philip to move to Tooele which had been settled only four years before.

Philip and his family left for Tooele in the early spring of 1853. Their wagon was pulled by four horses and they made the trip in one day. In Tooele, Philip constructed two log houses on North Main Street. One for each of his wives. He built a blacksmith shop between the two houses.

In 1854, a Col. Steptoe left Kansas with his command. They were to escort 450 mules and 200 horses to California. By the time they got to Utah, winter was coming on and they decided to over winter in Utah. They selected Rush Valley as their winter encampment site. This turned out to be a blessing for Philip and his family. At Brigham Young's suggestion, Philip was hired by Col. Steptoe to prepare the animals for the journey from Tooele to California. Philip made 3000 mule and horse shoes. He was then contracted to accompany the command to California to take care of the animals needs while they were in route. The trip of most of a thousand miles took two and one-half months.

Upon his arrival in California, Philip sent a hundred dollars back to Tooele. This money not only helped his immediate family but many others as well. After leaving Col. Steptoe's employ, Philip joined a government expedition to the Cascade Mountains in what is now Washington state. There were many difficulties with the expedition and Philip returned to California. He stopped for a short time in Scott Valley where he opened a blacksmith shop.

Word reached him there that the people in Tooele were suffering from famine and a shortage of water because of a cricket and grasshopper plague. Philip's employment by the government had been lucrative and he had over \$9000 in square gold coins. Upon hearing of the saints plight, Philip left immediately for home. He stopped in the Mormon settlement, San Bernardino, where he purchased food and clothing and then left promptly for Tooele. The supplies he carried with him not only provided relief for his own families but they were generously shared with other families who were in need. Philip enjoyed being back with his family and he reopened the blacksmith shop.

After his return to Tooele, Philip got acquainted with a young woman, Jennette Micklejohn, who had emigrated from Scotland with her family in 1855. Jennette and Philip were married in the Salt Lake Endowment House in 1857. Jennette was 17 years old at the time of their marriage. During the winter of 1856-57, Philip was involved with the protection of Echo Canyon during the time that Johnston's army was enroute to Utah. He returned to Tooele when that affair was resolved.

In 1859, Philip received a mission call and he journeyed back to England. It was three and one-half years before he was reunited with his families.

In 1864, Philip opened a blacksmith shop in Salt Lake City because there was not enough work in Tooele to earn a living. He didn't stay long because he was away from his family. When a cooperative blacksmith shop was opened, Philip was hired to manage it. He also maintained his own shop and he opened one over in Stockton as well.

Somewhere along the line, Philip purchased a 40 acre farm. He then bought a threshing machine and threshed wheat all over east Tooele County. In 1875, he lead the effort to get running water into their homes. He served two terms on the city council. Philip continued to work as a blacksmith until 1898 when he was 75 years old. In 1899, he was called to serve as Tooele Stake Patriarch. He served in that calling until his death on 16 October 1915 at the age of 92 years. Philips three wives bore him twenty-one children.