



Mary Hay

Mary Hay was born April 21, 1821 in Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland. Little is known of her early life in Scotland, although it is said that she worked as a cotton warehouse worker. At some point after her conversion and baptism, she decided to leave Scotland and emigrate to Utah. She was among the many travelers that used the Perpetual Immigration Fund. This was a fund created by the church to aid poor travelers to come to the Salt Lake Valley, and in turn, help others to do so by paying back the funds they had borrowed. Mary Hay traveled without anyone else in her family. But she had plenty of good company, as she traveled to America on the ship called the *Enoch Train*, with many other members of the church. Some of them had a brush with fame: "They were seen off at the Liverpool docks by author Charles Dickens, who gave both Robert Parker and Thomas Schofield signed copies of his books. He scribbled some notes as he watched them board the *Enoch Train*. He later wrote about it, expressing at once his admiration and perplexity of these Mormons who sailed away into the unknown vastness of an uncertain future, carrying their few worldly possessions on their backs, guided only by faith and promises."²³



Model of the ship *Enoch Train* created by Kenneth R. Mays²⁴

²³ See <http://www.prospector-utah.com/butch.htm>, which refers to "Autobiographical sketches of Charles Dickens", published in *Monthly Magazine* and later compiled into a volume of his life. Dickens was apparently a friend of Parker and Schofield, both of whom went on to travel in the same handcart company as Mary Hay.

²⁴ <http://www.lds.org>, from a *Liahona* article titled "A Covenant Restored". Caption read: "Reproduced in 1:32 scale, the model of the *Enoch Train* took four years to make. It is complete even to such details as the sailors' knots tied in the "ropes" to the sails." (see also

The ship left Liverpool, England on March 23, 1856 and arrived at Constitution Wharf, Boston, Massachusetts on 1 May 1856. Mary Hay's journey to Utah continued as follows:

At 4 PM, 2 May, disembarked and went by one of nine omnibuses to the railway station. Started by train at 5 PM for New York, where they arrived on the third of May. After a short stay in New York, ..., the company continued the journey by rail to Iowa City, where they arrived on the tenth of June.²⁵

The *Enoch Train* passengers stayed together and went on to become most of the pioneers in the first two handcart companies to travel to Utah. They left early in the season, and avoided the problems faced by later companies to make the same trek. Their handcart journey began in Iowa City, Iowa on June 11, 1856 and ended in the Salt Lake valley on September 26, 1856.²⁶ Detailed information about her journey can be found in a book about the *Enoch Train* pioneers.²⁷ Mary Hay was in the second handcart company (led by Daniel D. McArthur), which was filled out with pioneers who had sailed on a different ship.



Handcart²⁸

http://contentdm.lib.byu.edu/cdm4/item_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/RelEd&CISOPTR=6631&CISOBOX=1&REC=7, Copyright 2002 Brigham Young University. All rights reserved.)

25 *Mormon Immigration Index*, which quotes *Millennial Star*, Vol. XVIII, pp.217, 356, 378, 414, 542; *Deseret News*, Vol. VI, pp.160, 166.

26 Mormon Pioneer Search website (http://www.xmission.com/~nelsonb/pioneer_search3.htm), search for Mary Hay results in references to *Deseret News* 23-Jul-1856 Vol. VI No. 20, p. 160, microfilm 26587; *Handcarts to Zion*, pages 282-285; *Enoch Train*, Ship roster on microfilm(s) 25691; Handcart Roster in *Our Pioneer Heritage* Vol. 14 p. 311 microfiche 6049788.

27 *The Enoch Train Pioneers: Trek of the First Two Handcart Companies – 1856*, by Robert O. Day, Day to Day Enterprises, 2001.

28 <http://www.lds.org>, from a *Liahona* article titled “A Covenant Restored”. Caption read: “This handcart was pulled across the Great Plains in 1866 or 1867 by the William Stiff family of England. It is similar in type and style to those used ten years earlier by handcart companies promoted by the Church. “

It is said that Mary Hay knew her future husband Thomas Cunningham Young when they both lived in Renfrewshire, Scotland, and it seems likely, as they were married October 8, 1856 in Salt Lake City, Utah, shortly after her arrival in the Salt Lake Valley. They had six children together. Mary Hay Young served her family as a homemaker and farmer's wife²⁹, and died January 16, 1886 in Three Mile Creek, Box Elder, Utah.

²⁹ Ancestry.com, online database, Pioneer Immigrants to Utah Territory, entry submitted by Karen Young Christensen.