

Fanny Sophia Hocquard

Fanny Sophia Hocquard was born in St. Brelade, Cannel Isle of Jersey on October 20, 1829. She was the daughter of Francis and Elizabeth Jeune Hocquard. Francis Hocquard was born October 28, 1790, and Elizabeth Jeune was born November 30, 1793, both in St. Brelade.

We read from the Gazetteer the following concerning the Isle of Jersey, where the Hocquard family lived:

"The largest and most important of the channel islands, 15 miles north of the French coast, 17 miles S.E. of Guernsey and 88 miles S.E. of Portland pier; area 28,717 acres, population 50,455.

"Jersey is the most southerly of this group of islands in the north. The appearance of the island is rugged and precipitous and cliffs rising sheer from the sea. Toward the S.E. the land slopes and terminates in fine stretches of shore. The interior may be described as wooded tableland comprising many valleys and watered by a number of small streams. Not much corn is grown, but potatoes and fruit are largely cultivated and are exported in enormous quantities. On the coast the vessels are successfully prosecuted."

At the age of 4 little Fanny went to live with her uncle and aunt, Phillip Jeune and his wife, Fanny LeFeuvre (who were born, respectively, November 7, 1795 at St. Brelade and November 5, 1804 at St. Helliers, Channel Isle of Jersey.) Phillip and Fanny had been married for ten years without children. So little Fanny was permitted to go to their home at St. Helliers to live with them. They gave her the best that money could buy, as well as an excellent education. Three days a wee the students studied the English language and two days a week the French language. the following week the order was reversed and three days were devoted to French and two to English. At that time the French and English were at war with each other over the possession of the Isle of Jersey. Fanny recalled seeing the soldiers fighting in the streets of the little city. In addition to her academic schooling Fanny studied dressmaking at which she became most adept. Also she learned the milliners's are and wove beautiful hats from straw.

On March 20, 1837 the Jeunes were overjoyed with the birth of their own little son Philip. Then later they were the proud parents of two daughters, Fanny Esther and Julia May.

The Jeunes joined the church in 1851 and left for American soil January 10, 1852 taking Fanny Sophia with them. She was 22 years of age and had not Jet been converted to the gospel. They sailed on the ship "Kennebec", the voyage taking eight weeks.¹

"56th Company, 333 souls. Jan. 10, 1852

¹ Emigration Shipping Files in Room 310, Church Office Building.

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"In the morning the 'Kennebec' a new and commodious ship of 1,070 tons, went out of the Bramley-Moore dock at Liverpool, England with 333 souls on board under the direction of John S. Higbee. John Pack also returned from his mission on this vessel accompanied by a dozen saints from the channel islands. He was appointed to act as a counsellor to President Higbee together with John Spiers, Thomas Smith, and William C. Dunbar who all presided over conferences. Entered in the number of saints who emigrated in the Kennebec were 69 passengers whose fare was paid by the Perpetual Emigration Fund Company, the first ones who emigrated by that means.

"Besides the saints there were a number of Irish emigrants on board without sufficient supplies. In order to lay in sufficient supplies they stole all they possibly could from the Mormon emigrants who consequently had to go short themselves. They were compelled to subsist on half rations the last four or five days before landing.

"Provisions and water were good and wholesome and included oatmeal and pork. But as the English did not like oatmeal and the Scotch could not relish the pork they exchanged these articles of food with each other to the great satisfaction of both parties.

"The voyage throughout was safe and pleasant with the exception of one terrific hurricane which swept the deck clean of cook houses, water barrels, and everything else that could be washed overboard. The company arrived in New Orleans March 14th, 1852.

"They continued their journey on a small boat, 'The Pride of The West' and arrived in St. Louis, Missouri about the end of March."

About 90 of the saints from the 'Kennebec' sailed on the "Saluda", a dilapidated steamboat. The "Saluda" had not travelled far when she exploded with 175 on board. Of this number about 100 were badly wounded or killed. Many accounts are recorded of this horrible accident. As a result of the accident the missionaries in charge were more careful in chartering the subsequent boats to take the emigrating saints up the Mississippi River. It was the only accident of any consequence which befell the saints in emigrating from Europe to the place of preparation for the journey across the plains.

After reaching winter quarters they travelled with an independent company under the leadership of John Taylor and Capt. Lie De La Mare, the latter having been a blacksmith who had worked in the shop with Phillip Jeune while in the Isle of Jersey. The company brought with them the first sugar machinery that was brought to America. They also carried with them the first still and worm ever seen in the west.² They were forced to wait a considerable time at Fort Leavenworth for the arrival of the machinery. (For a detailed account of the journey, etc. please refer to the history of Thomas Fields Carlisle, Sr.)

² From Matilda Carlisle's history.

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During the waiting period Fanny was invited to spend the day with a family across the river. On reaching the house she experienced a peculiar feeling, as though she were being carefully scrutinized. Her young cousin accompanied her. Everyone was treated with wine. Being possessed with such a peculiar feeling, Fanny sought a means of getting rid of the proffered drink. Since her little cousin had not been offered a drink, Fanny gave her the wine. After drinking it, the child fell into a deep sleep which lasted several hours. After the girls left the house and journeyed toward the river, the man who accompanied them told Fanny that a certain man by the name of Charlie Arkinson had doped the wine that she was to drink. He had intended to make her his wife while under the influence of the drug. The minister who was to marry them was hidden in one of the other rooms.³

The company started from the Missouri River on July 4, 1852, and arrived in Salt Lake City in November of 1852 after an extremely difficult journey. During the journey they met many Indians, but since the members of the company treated them with kindness the Indians were friendly. Fanny often loitered at the end of the wagons to talk with the Indians.

Most of the families who travelled with the sugar company remained in Salt Lake City. However, the Jeunes continued on with the company intending to settle in Provo. A severe snowstorm forced the Jeunes to stop in Pleasant Grove where they made their home for some time. The sugar company went on as far as Provo. (Refer to Thomas Carlisle's history for information concerning the outcome of the sugar machinery.)

Also traveling with the sugar company was a young, Englishman named Thomas Fields Carlisle.⁴ Thomas and Fanny became well acquainted during the long journey westward. After reaching the valley their friendship continued and grew and they were married in Pleasant Grove January 22, 1854, by Bishop Henson Walker.

The following year they moved to Alpine, Utah where they spent the rest of their lives. How thrilled Fanny was when her own parents emigrated to Utah in the fall of 1854 and settled in Mill Creek. Later they moved to Alpine in February of 1855 where they lived until their deaths.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Emigration files do not specifically record the data of crossing the plains for either Fanny Hocquard or Thomas Fields Carlisle. However, because of the association of Capt. Phillip De La Mare with Phillip Jeune it is entirely reasonable to believe that he arranged for the Jeunes to travel with the sugar company which he directed. Being an independent company, the list of other in the company was not preserved in the Emigration Files. However, the account of the journey of the sugar company did list a few men and Thomas Carlisle's name was included.

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Fanny's only sister Elizabeth also came to America in 1855. The Hocquard family consisted of two girls and four boys, namely: Francis Phillip born September 18, 1821, John born in September of 1823, Phillip born June 1825, Elizabeth born June 8, 1827, Fanny Sophia born October 20, 1829 and Charles born in 1831.

Fanny's first two children were girls: Fanny Elizabeth born April 12, 1855 and Jane Blanche born September 22, 1856. On March 7, 1857 they took their two little girls to the Endowment House, where Thomas and Fanny received their endowments were sealed to each other, and the children were sealed to their parents. Four other children followed: Eliza Alice born December 4, 1857, Thomas Fields Jr. born October 8, 1859, Francis Lincoln born February 16, 1861, and Richard Phillip born March 7, 1863.

Fanny was an active church worker. At one time she was chosen a member of the executive committee of the Relief Society.

November 28, 1869 Brigham Young organized the Young Ladies' Retrenchment Association for the purpose of teaching the Young women of the Church how to properly act, dress, and dance and not to follow the pattern and styles of the day. When the Y.L. Retrenchment Association was organized in the Alpine Ward she was chosen as a teacher in classes of suffrage. She continued to work in the Y.L.M.I.A. (the organization which evolved from the Retrenchment Association).

Fanny was always beautifully dressed, usually in a dark dress with a lace collar. A sparkling white apron always protected her lovely clothes at home. She was dressed up even as she oversaw the strawberry picking (which was her responsibility). She watched the pickers carefully, to see that everyone filled their cases right to the top. She was a tall, heavy-set woman in stature, always immaculate and so queenly. She reigned over everyone around her, not because of imposition but because her natural dignity commanded respect. She was a born leader and everyone seemed to bow their will to hers.

She had such beautiful flowers - their home was the showplace of Alpine. They must have brought shrubs and flowers from Salt Lake. Always in their yard were unusual plants and shrubs not grown elsewhere in the locality. She could be seen in the garden telling her husband just where to put the flowers but she never bent to touch the dirt.

Fanny was a most congenial neighbor and never let harsh words intended for the hurt of others pass her lips. She befriended even the Indians as did her husband. Many of them camped on the Carlisle property. After a storm it was not unusual to see many of the Indians knocking at the Carlisle door so that they could dry their blankets and also warm themselves.

A light was kept burning in the window at night. One night during a heavy snowstorm a man became hopelessly lost as he floundered off the beaten path. He finally saw the light in the window and after great effort reached the Carlisle home where he was taken in, warmed and fed. The poor man was almost frozen to death, and the light had saved his life.

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Although she was the mother of three sons and three daughters, Fanny's mother love was not confined to her own children. Two other children claimed her as their second mother. When but a few hours old, Esther Mallett, being left motherless, found in Fanny Carlisle a mother who loved her as her own. Esther was the daughter of Fanny's cousin, Julia May Jeune Mallett. Esther lived with the Carlises almost her entire life.

Many hours of Fanny's life were spent that others might benefit from the talents of her dexterous fingers. She sometimes took in dressmaking at which she was most skilled. But she never told anyone for whom the work was being done. She, Esther, and Fanny spent many hours sewing together. In addition to her dressmaking skill, she did a great deal of beautiful handwork, petit point, and hairpin lace.

Florence Clare, her brother's grandchild was brought to her from England then but a girl of 11 years. She also stayed with Fanny and Thomas for many years.

Thomas died July 6, 1904 and was buried in the Alpine Cemetery. Fanny outlived her husband almost 18 years. Even after his death the property was kept in her name while her three sons ran the farm and sheep. When she was advanced in years she finally divided it among her children.

More than the last ten years of her life were spent in darkness. However, she never complained because of the loss of her sight, and always felt that she was blessed with good health to make up for her loss. All through the sightless days of her last illness she had the best of care at the hands of the adopted daughter Esther. All her children were devoted to her until her death. Even though she couldn't see her visitors, she always recognized the visitor by the voice and was never deceived. She used a chair on which she bent one knee, then pushed it around the house in front of her to keep from running into things and falling.

Even though she was deprived of her eyesight and though the beauties of nature and the faces of her loved ones were dark to her she was ever cheerful, patient, and willing to await the Lord's command.

Fanny suffered a paralytic stroke in December of 1921 and passed away February 12, 1922 at the age of 92 years. She was the oldest citizen of Alpine and her passing was mourned by hosts of friends and relatives.

Note: The name "Hocquard" has been spelled in a variety of ways. The spelling used here is that which is found on the St. Brelade Parish Register, which we take to be authentic.

This history was written in December, 1956 from material found in a previous history written by Metilda Carlisle, to whom this writer is indebted. Other additional material was found in the temple Index Bureau, Church Records Archives, Alpine Ward Records, and Church Historian's Office. Living descendants who knew her personally also added their recollections. It was all compiled by Dora D. Flack, wife of LeGrand Flack, Flack, a great-grandson.