

## Life of Sarah Jane Burningham Tolman

Sarah Jane Burningham Tolman was born March 5, 1860 in Guildford, Surrey, Lincolnshire, England, the daughter of James and Jane Constancia Shaw Burningham.

In 1861, James and his family are living in Farnham, with his brother's family. Sarah Jane and her family decided to come to America. The boarded the Manchester in Liverpool, on 16 Apr. 1861, and arrived in New York 14 May. The family consisted at that time of James, Jane, Heber, and young Sarah Jane. They were sick most of the way.

From New York they headed for Florence, Nebraska, where they joined the wagon train headed by Ira Eldredge. The wagon train left 1 July, 1816 and arrived in the Salt Lake Valley between 13 and 15 Sept.

Jane (as she went by) was baptized in 1868 by Brother Kenny Rampton and confirmed by Brother Jesse Perkins. She often said one of the things she remembered about her childhood was that they lived mostly on bread and molasses. The family lived in Salt Lake the first winter after arriving in Utah and then moved to Bountiful. Their first home was a dugout in which her sister Polly was born. They later moved to Cache Valley for four years but moved back to Bountiful and the family seemed more successful there. James was a gardener and sold his produce in Bountiful at the local fruit and vegetable.



James Burningham Family

Back row left: Julia Ann Burningham Sessions, Eliza Ann Burningham Barlow, Heber James William Burningham, Polly Burningham Holbrook, Arthur John Burningham.

Front row left: James Valentine Burningham, James Burningham (father), Sarah Jane Burningham Tolman, Jane Constancia Shaw (mother), and Harry Burningham.

The Burnings lived close to the Tolman family. In those days neighbors helped out with the adjoining farms and shared what they had.

The first that we hear of Jaren Tolman being interested in Sarah Jane Burningham is in March, 1885. In his journal, Jaren mentions going to James Burningham's house on Sunday, March 15. Seems he was very good friends with the Burningham family.

On March 21, 1885, Jaren mentions that he took "Miss Burningham riding at night." Could this have been their first and only date, before their marriage? Because just four days later Jaren mentions going to the Logan Temple to make sure his recommend had arrived.

March 26, 1885, Jaren mentions in his diary that he went to the Logan temple "for David Davis and I was also sealed to S.J.B. We got through about 2 O'clock. We came home to Painters and took dinner, then took a walk around town. Went to Charley Cards and stopped all night. When I rose I found it had been snowing a little."

For Jaren Tolman, this was his third marriage. He had married Emma Briggs in 1874, and Mary Briggs, the sister, in 1878. It would be a very hard adjustment for young Jane Burningham to have to share her affections for Jares with two other women.

Even though Jane Tolman was now married it seems she went back home to live with her parents.

It seems that times were hard in 1885 for those who practiced polygamy. There would be a lot of hiding and sneaking around so that the Marshals would not catch them. This is why in the journal of Jaren Tolman he would just use initials instead of people's names.

Jaren mentions on Apr. 5, 1885, that he went up to Wm. Holbrooks to spend the night. He mentions, "I had a lady to stop with us at night, Jane." It sounds like Jaren was not safe even having Jane stay at his home in Bountiful. It must have been really hard for the couple.



**Sarah Jane Burningham  
Jaren Tolman**

On Nov. 20, 1885, Jaren Tolman went to the temple with his three wives and did some temple work for several women, and the wives were proxies for Jaren who was sealed to several women who had died. This was common practice in the early days of the church in Utah.



#### Jaren Tolman Family

From left Top: Lydia Vilate Tolman Tolman, Elvina Jane Tolman Newman, Ora Eugene Tolman, Theadocia Tolman Westberg.

From left front: Sarah Contancia Tolman Parkin, Sarah Jane Burningham Tolman, Jaren Tolman, (Insert), and Ezra Burningham Tolman. Photo taken between 1912 and 1915.

Eight children were born to Jane and Jaren Tolman. The first child died within a year after he was born.

Jane spent some of her early years of marriage in Harrisville and Honeyville, Utah. This way the Marshalls could not know that she was married to Jaren. He would stop up to see her on occasion when he was in the area. It would not be until 1895 that Jane would have a real place with Jaren to live and raise her children.

**HUSBAND TOLMAN, Jaren** (School teacher, Farmer)  
 Birth 18 Apr 1853  
 Place Tooele, Tooele, Utah  
 Chr. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Married 26 Mar 1885  
 Place Temple, Logan, Cache, Utah  
 Death 15 Sep 1912  
 Burial 18 Sep 1912, City Cmtry, Bountiful, Davis, Utah  
 Father TOLMAN, Judson  
 Mother\* HOLBROOK, Sarah Lucretia  
 Other Wives (1) 1 June 1874 BRIGGS, Emma; (2) 26 Dec 1878  
BRIGGS, Mary Ann; (4) 15 June 1899 BYBEE, Mary Alice



**1st Child TOLMAN, James Burningham**  
 Birth 7 Feb 1886  
 Place Bountiful, Davis, Utah  
 Married to \_\_\_\_\_  
 Married Died 7 Sep 1887  
 Place Bountiful, Davis, Utah



**2nd Child TOLMAN, Sarah Constancia**  
 Birth 24 Sep 1888  
 Place Bountiful, Davis, Utah  
 Married to PARKIN, Cyrus Elmer (Dth 15 Dec 1948)  
 Married 28 Feb 1907 (sld 12 Dec 1946 SL)  
 Place So. Bountiful, Davis, Utah



**3rd Child TOLMAN, Lydia Vilate**  
 Birth 20 Mar 1890 (Dth 25 July 1963)  
 Place Bountiful, Davis, Utah  
 Married to TOLMAN, Parley Lambert  
 Married 22 June 1911  
 Place Temple, Salt Lake City, S-Lk, Utah

**4th Child TOLMAN, Son (Stillborn)**  
 Birth 14 Apr 1891  
 Place Bountiful, Davis, Utah  
 Married to \_\_\_\_\_  
 Married \_\_\_\_\_  
 Place \_\_\_\_\_



**5th Child TOLMAN, Ezra Burningham**  
 Birth 4 June 1892 (Dth 5 Apr 1918)  
 Place Bountiful, Davis, Utah  
 Married to SEIFERT, Helene Elizabeth  
 Married 17 June 1914  
 Place Temple, Salt Lake City, S-Lk, Utah



**WIFE (3) BURNINGHAM, Sarah Jane**  
 Birth 3 Mar 1860  
 Place Farnham, Surrey, Lncln, Engl  
 Chr. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Death 20 Jan 1926  
 Burial 23 Jan 1926, City Cmtry, Bountiful, Davis, Utah  
 Father BURNINGHAM, James  
 Mother\* SHAW, Jane Constancia  
 Other Hus. \_\_\_\_\_  
 (if any) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Where was information obtained? PARKIN, Sarah C. Tolman, 1927  
42 Ave., San Fran., Calif  
 \*List complete maiden name for all females.



**6th Child TOLMAN, Elvina Jane**  
 Birth 8 June 1894 (Dth 27 Nov 1918)  
 Place Bountiful, Davis, Utah  
 Married to NEWMAN, Otto  
 Married 19 May 1915  
 Place Temple, Salt Lake City, S-Lk, Utah



**7th Child TOLMAN, Ora Eugene**  
 Birth 25 July 1896  
 Place Bountiful, Davis, Utah  
 Married to READ, Hazel Dell  
 Married 9 Sep 1915 (sld 9 Feb 1916 SL)  
 Place Albion, Cassia, Idh.



**8th Child TOLMAN, Theadocia**  
 Birth 10 Sep 1898 (Dth 2 Dec 1940)  
 Place Bountiful, Davis, Utah  
 Married to WESTBERG, Lester Gustave  
 Married 11 May 1915 (sld 29 June 1927 SL)  
 Place Salt Lake City, S-Lk, Utah

Home is located at 13 East Skyline Dr., Bountiful, Utah. Sarah Jane Burningham Tolman moved into this home at the death of Emma Briggs Tolman (3 Mar 1895) to take care of Emma's children. The three persons in the foreground are: Center, Sarah Constancia Tolman Parkin. Left, her daughter Fayette Parkin Geurts. Right, Sarah's daughter Vivian Bernice Parkin Inge.



**Group Sheet of Jaren Tolman and his third wife, Sarah Jane Burningham.**

**The first child was named after Jane's father, James Burningham.**

Jane loved her children very much. It was not easy for her raising her children. She tried her best to raise the children with correct principals.

Life would become even tougher in 1895. In August, 1894, Mary Ann Briggs Tolman, wife of Jaren, passed away. Then, the following March, 1895, her sister, Emma Briggs Tolman died. This would leave Sarah Jane with the heavy responsibility of taking care her own children, plus the children from the other two wives. It is not known exactly how many children she was taking care of at the time, but there was at least 13 and as many as 16. Jane lived in the house at 13<sup>th</sup> East Skyline Dr.

Jane was very fond of children and the children all fondly called her "Aunt Janey". In her later years one of the things she enjoyed most was entertaining children. She lived a good life and was always willing to help in sickness and death.

When people were quarantined in with contagious diseases and could not get help she was always willing to go in and do what she could and went out setting up and caring for the sick, and washing and laying out the dead. She also worked in the Relief Society, Sunday School, and Religion Class and she sang in the choir. She made lots of quilts by hand and also tatted, knitted and crocheted very well.

Lamar Parkin mentions in his story: "I remember a story that was told to me by my Grandmother Tolman. She had one of her fingers partially cut off. When I asked her how it happened, she said that she and her sister were chopping wood. They were up east of the family home in East Bountiful. She was holding the wood for her sister to chop. Her sister looked up and saw an Indian man standing there watching them. She became frightened, screamed, dropped the axe and ran. The axe fell on grandmother's hand chopping off her finger. There were some Indians in the area at the time. Most of them were friendly."

Her daughter, Sarah Tolman Parkin, lived with Sarah Jane for some time while they were moving in and around the western states. Lamar Parkin was invited to live with his grandmother Sarah Jane while finished his high school. Where she had a large family, others probably lived with her from time to time.

A granddaughter Elva Parkin Tauffer related an experience she had with Sarah Jane. Elva wanted a new pair of red shoes. The family couldn't afford them at the time. Grandmother Sarah Jane took Elva to the store and made her very happy by purchasing the beautiful red shoes for Elva.

In June, 1899, Jaren once again married. This would be his 4<sup>th</sup> wife. Her name was Mary Alice. Together, they would have 5 children. This was nine years after the proclamation to no longer practice polygamy so Jaren was violating the law of the church. In the 1900 census it shows Jaren living with Sarah and Mary Alice living next door. The 1910 census shows Jaren living with Mary Alice and Sarah and her children living next door.

In 1912, Jaren became very sick. He wrote a letter about 4 months before he passed away telling of his love for his family and the hard time that he was having. It is very sad to read after reading about all the things that he was able to do in his adult life.



May 24, 1912

Bountiful

J.T. (Jaren Thomas) Tolman, Judson L. (Lamoni) Tolman, your dear wives and children, all of you everyone: Oh, how I love you all and how I should like to see all of you. I have not seen any of your families since they left and that is a long time. And I don't suppose that I will see any of you again in this life as I am sick, oh how sick. I haven't seen a well day for 4 or 5 long years, but the last 3 months has been worse than all before. How I suffer night and day. I sit here alone day and night, night after night and day after day. (Mary) Alice has been off nursing the sick. Nancy (Sarah Jane) has been helping pull radishes and working down to Richard Stringhams; Elvina to LaVerna; Thea to the cannery; Minnie over to Divines and I am all alone. Hewitt is here some of the time. They come home tired and lay down and sleep and I am left alone all night to pass the time as best I can. My dear children, I wish your dear mothers were here. Oh, how I miss them and how anxious I am getting to see them. By the time this reaches you I may be with. I hope I shall be, if I can't get any better. Oh how glad I was to see Judson again before I died, so I could tell his dear mother I saw him. I had seen Jaren twice since I had seen Judson. But oh, how I should like to see you all again. But unless I change I will not in this life. Be good children and keep the command of God, and be kind to each other and help each other and live so we can all meet again beyond the river.

All the rest of the folks are well. LaVerna has got another fine baby boy, 11 lbs. She was here to be sick. Went home last Saturday.

I got the money that you sent me all right and I thanks for it. The children most of them came to see me, but it would be a comfort if you were here. I do not see Eph sometimes for 4 or 5 weeks. Then possible not more than a few minutes. The girls come to see me quite often. We had a few fine days last week. But it is cold again.

I think I will have about 1/3 of a crop of fruit, if something else does not come to destroy it. All join in love to you all. Let the little children hear it, read and tell them this is from their Grandpa, and how he would like to see them. If the Lord should spare my life and I get well enough, I am coming out to see them and you all.

From your loving Father to his children - J T (Jaren Tolman)



Jaren died Sept. 15, 1912.

City Bountiful State Board of Health File No. 71 455

County Davis 1200628

Township or Village or City Bountiful Jaren Tolman St. Ward

STATE OF UTAH—DEATH CERTIFICATE

IF death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME (street of street and number.)

FULL NAME Jaren Tolman

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS			MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
SEX <u>Male</u>	COLOR OR RACE <u>White</u>	MARRIED <u>Married</u> (In previous (Pre- civil war))	16. DATE OF DEATH <u>September 15, 1912</u> (Month) (Day) (Year)	17. I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from <u>June 1, 1911</u> , to <u>September 15, 1912</u> . That I last saw <u>deceased</u> alive on <u>Sept 15, 1912</u> , and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at <u>5:45 p.m.</u>
DATE OF BIRTH <u>Apr 18, 1853</u> (Month) (Day) (Year)	AGE <u>59</u> yrs <u>4</u> mo <u>27</u> da. IF LESS than 1 day, give hrs. or min.	OCCUPATION (a) Trade, profession or particular kind of work. (b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed for employer? <u>Farmer</u>	18. CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows: <u>Myocardial Insufficiency</u>	
BIRTHPLACE (State or country) <u>Franklin, Utah</u>	10. NAME OF FATHER <u>Judson Tolman</u>	11. BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (State or country) <u>Maine U.S.</u>	12. MARRIAGE NAME OF MOTHER <u>Sarah Holbrook</u>	13. BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (State or country) <u>New York</u>
14. THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE (Signature) <u>Wm. Marshall Tolman</u> (Address) <u>Bountiful, Utah</u>			15. LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (For Hospitals, Institutions, Transients, or Recent Residents) To date of death. yrs. mos. da. State yrs. mos. da. <u>None</u>	
16. PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL (Address) <u>Bountiful, Utah</u>			DATE OF BURIAL <u>Sept 19, 1912</u>	
17. REGISTERED NUMBER <u>20</u>			18. NO. OF DEATH CERT. <u>1</u>	

READ CAREFULLY INSTRUCTIONS ON BACK OF CERTIFICATE



This is the old home before destruction work began last week end.

Sarah Jane Burningham Tolman (1860) wife of Jaren Tolman lived in this home, 41 East 1st North, Bountiful, Utah, from 1918 to 1928 when she died.

Jane lived out her remaining days living at 41 East 1<sup>st</sup> North in Bountiful. This house was eventually torn down along with the house on Skyline drive. The census of 1920 says that Jane was also living with Mary J. Not sure if this is a granddaughter or not. (She spent some time with her daughter, Sarah).

Sarah Jane's daughter Sarah relates this about her mother: "Her last few months were full of suffering from blood poisoning caused by stepping on a rusty nail, and having diabetes that would not heal. While at the LDS Hospital, her leg was removed. She was dearly loved by her families and friends, and tenderly called Aunt Jane,"

She died January 20th, 1926, at the L. D. S. Hospital and was buried at Bountiful, Utah.

This hand written copy was given to Glen Tonge by Mary Soffe Parkin originally from Sarah Parkin.

Patriarchal Blessing given to Sarah Jane Tolman by her Father-in-Law Judson Tolman;

Bountiful June 12, 1904

Blessing by Patriarch Judson Tolman upon the head of Sarah Jane Tolman, born Mar. 3, 1862, Bolingbroke, England, daughter of James and Jane C. Shaw Burningham.

Sarah Jane in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the authority of the Holy Priesthood I bless thee with a Father's Blessing even a patriarchal blessing. I say unto thee in the name of Jesus Christ thou art a daughter of Ephraim, thou art a daughter of Abraham and are entitled to all the blessings to rest upon thee and thy posterity thee after thee that were sealed upon Abraham for I seal upon thee a blessing of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and more especially the blessings of Sarah and Rachel for they are thine by right and thy obedience to the Holy Priesthood and the Gospel of Jesus Christ, Yea the richest blessings of Sarah shall rest upon thy head and even in as much as she has entered her exaltation an glory and is numbered with the redeemed with the Gods, that is thy destiny through thy faithfulness, Yea for time is not far distant when thou shall receive thy crowning blessing even thy second anointing and be anointed a queen and a priestess unto thy husband to rule and reign over thy numerous posterity in Israel forever. From that cause was thou sent upon the earth, to lay a foundation for thy glory, thy honor and exaltation among the Gods and these blessings are thine. I seal upon thee the gift of faith and wisdom, Wisdom to hold on to the Rod of Iron, wisdom to plant thy feet in the path that will lead thee back unto the Tree of Life and thou shall partake of the fruit of the Tree of Life which will entitle thee to immortality and eternal life, entitles thee to that crown that was promised thee before thou come upon the earth if thou was obedient to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The richest blessings of the earth dear sister are thine. The blessings of health I seal upon thee and the destroyer shall not lay his hands upon thee to afflict thee, but health shall be thy portion all the days of thy life upon the earth, and thou shall not suffer more than is necessary for thee to fulfill thy destiny upon the earth that thou might be made perfect and dwell with perfect beings. I say unto thee also Lift up thy head and rejoice for the Lord Thy God loves thee and he shall hold thee and thine as in the hollow of his hand and none of them shall be lost and thou shall be greatly blessed in thy declining years and thy last days shall be thy best days and thou shall live until thou art satisfied with life, Live to see many mighty changes upon the earth among God's people and when thou gets old thy children shall rise up and bless thee, because thou has taught them the way they should go. And thou shall be greatly blessed of the Lord for the heavens shall smile upon thee with the richest blessings there of. And Thou shall do much good upon the earth. Thou shall be numbered with.... (The rest is apparently lost.)

DAVIS COUNTY CLIPPER: January 22, 1926; fhl film # 1, 666, 036  
SARAH J. TOLMAN DIES AFTER AN OPERATION Sarah J. Tolman, wife of the late Jaren Tolman, died at the L. D. S. hospital, early Wednesday morning following an operation the morning before, when her left leg was amputated at the knee joint. About a month before she stepped on a rusty nail which later turned to blood poison. The doctors were unable to cope with the disease, so finally decided that the only chance she had was to take off a portion of the limb. She had also suffered for



a number of years with sugar diabetes. The doctors stated that she could probably only have lived about another year had this last trouble not occurred.

Mrs. Tolman was born at Farmham, England and would have been sixty six on the third of this coming month. She came to Utah with her parents the late James and Jane C. Burningham and her brother H. J. W. Burningham, when she was less than two years old. After her arrival in Utah, she lived in Bountiful, all the time with the exception of four years in Millville, Cache Valley and about five years in Salt Lake.

The following children survive her: Mrs. Elmer Parkin, Boulder Colo; Mrs. Lester Westberg, Salt Lake City, Mrs. Vilate Tolman, Marion, Idaho, and Eugene Tolman, Layton,. Three children preceded her in death. She is also survived by the following brothers and sisters: H. J. W. Burningham and Mrs. William J. Holbrook, Bountiful, Arthur Burningham, West Point; James I. Burningham, Blackfoot; Mrs. Grantville Barlow, Pocatello and Mrs. Thomas Sessions, Bountiful. She had about twenty-nine living grandchildren. All of her children are here. Mrs. Tolman was an unusually fine woman, always tried to help and do good. The remains are at the home of her sister, Mrs. William J. Holbrook. Funeral services will be held in the bountiful Tabernacle, Sunday at 12:30 p. m.



**Sarah Jane Burningham Tolman**

1. PLACE OF DEATH 2601385 State Board of Health File No. 127  
 County Salt Lake 155  
 Precinct \_\_\_\_\_  
 Village Sarah Jane Burningham Tolman  
 City Salt Lake No. 7 J Hospital Ward \_\_\_\_\_  
 2 FULL NAME Sarah Jane Burningham Tolman (If death occurred in a hospital or institution give its NAME, number of street and number.)  
 (a) Residence No. \_\_\_\_\_ St. Bountiful, Utah  
 (USUAL PLACE OF ABODE) (IF NON-RESIDENT GIVE CITY OR TOWN AND STATE)  
 Length of residence in city or town where death occurred \_\_\_\_\_ yrs. \_\_\_\_\_ mos. 9 ds. How long in U.S., if foreign birth? 63 yrs. \_\_\_\_\_ mos. \_\_\_\_\_ ds.

**PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS**

3 SEX Female 4 COLOR OR RACE White 5 SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED (Write the word) Widowed  
 6a If Married, Widowed, or Divorced, HUSBAND OF (OR) WIFE OF James Tolman  
 6 DATE OF BIRTH Jan 15 1860 (Month) (Day) (Year)  
 7 AGE 65-10-17 If LESS than 2 yrs. - by \_\_\_\_\_ wks. - by \_\_\_\_\_ mos. - by \_\_\_\_\_ yrs. - by \_\_\_\_\_ mos. - by \_\_\_\_\_ ds.  
 8 OCCUPATION OF DECEASED (a) Trade, profession or particular kind of work. (b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or employer).  
 Housewife  
 (c) Name of Employer \_\_\_\_\_  
 9 BIRTHPLACE (City or town) (State or Country) England  
 10 NAME OF FATHER James Burningham  
 11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (State or Country) England  
 12 MOTHER NAME OF MOTHER Jane Constancy Chapman  
 13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (State or Country) England  
 14 Informant J. W. Burningham  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 File Jan 21 1926 Bountiful, Utah  
 Registered Number W-103 No. of Burial (Roman) Form W-103

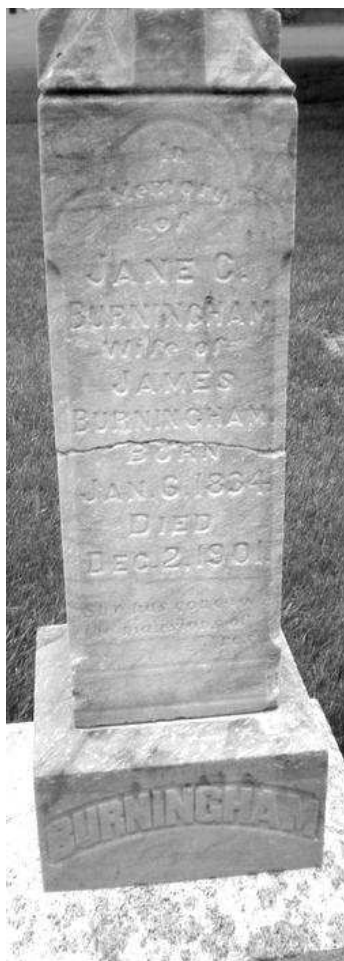
**MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**

16 DATE OF DEATH Jan 20 1926 (Month) (Day) (Year)  
 17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from Jan 15 1926, to Jan 20 1926, and that I last saw her alive on Jan 19 1926, and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at \_\_\_\_\_  
 The CAUSE OF DEATH\* was as follows:  
 Diabetic Mellitus (51)  
 Sexual Gangrene left foot  
 18 Where was disease contracted if not at place of death? Unknown  
 19 Did an operation precede death? Yes Date of Jan 19 1926  
 Was there an autopsy? No  
 What test confirmed diagnosis? Blood Sugar  
 (Signed) John H. Perry, M. D.  
 1926 (Address) Bountiful, Utah

\*State the DISEASE CAUSING DEATH, or, in deaths from VIOLENT CAUSES state (1) MEANS AND NATURE OF INJURY; and (2) whether ACCIDENTAL, SUICIDAL OR HOMICIDAL. (See reverse side for additional space.)  
 15 PLACE OF BURIAL, CREMATION, OR REMOVAL Bountiful, Utah Jan 24 1926  
 19 BOUNTIFUL, UTAH  
 20 BURNINGHAM  
 21 BOUNTIFUL, UTAH

READ CAREFULLY INSTRUCTIONS ON BACK OF CERTIFICATE

Death Certificate



Headstones located in Bountiful Cemetery.



Left photo, Jane Burningham.

Bottom James and his 2nd wife, Martha...

