

YOUR HERITAGE



HISTORY OF THE ANCESTORS OF GEORGE FENTON WHITNEY & LETTIE TOBLER

**“And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the
children and the heart of the children to their fathers,
lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.”**

—Malachi 4:6

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IN APPRECIATION

By Julia and Mark Rawlins

This book has come to be a blessing and an inspiration to all of us.

Thanks to Dorothy who inspired the printing of this book.

Thanks to Janice—who was inspired to type all this information in the computer so it could be accessed as needed. Also, her proofing and her connecting names to pictures has been a tremendous blessing. Whew!

Thanks to the Spirit that has inspired many to come forward with pictures, stories, and facts—the existence of which we did not know. Those same people have helped pick up the loose ends all along the way.

A great, great, great big thanks to Travis and Meghan Ball whose formatting skills, creative genius, blood, sweat and tears, combined with countless hours, have created an outstanding book.

Add to that the thousands of hours of proofing, typing, technical support and blood, sweat and tears of Leroy and Judy Ball. These four people made this book happen. Also, Kelsey Ball was in charge of making the house stay sane and being a general slave girl.

Cheers are in order!

DEDICATION



This book is dedicated to you, the children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of G. Fenton and Lettie Whitney in order that you may know the sacrifices of those that came before you and enjoy their testimonies of the Gospel and their dedication to following the prophet unwaveringly. As you study these stories, you will find strength and courage to face your own trials. Especially enjoy the humor, the joy and the humanity of our ancestors.

Love,

Julia Whitney Rawlins
Wilma Whitney Adams
Dorothy Whitney Hawkins
Venice Whitney Spendlove
Beth Whitney Johnson
John Whitney
LuRae Whitney Brown
Anna Mae Whitney Meeks Appel
Lloyd Whitney
Janice Whitney Ruesch

Julia Whitney Rawlins
Wilma W. Adams
Dorothy Whitney Hawkins
Venice Whitney Spendlove
Beth Whitney Johnson
John Fenton Whitney
LuRae Brown
Anna Mae Whitney Meeks Appel
Lloyd Whitney
Janice Whitney Ruesch



Front Row: John, Lettie, Janice, Fenton, Julia.
Back Row: Wilma, Venice, Beth, Lloyd, Dorothy, Venice, LuRae

2 ½ MINUTE TALK INDEX



DEDICATED TO TONY WHITNEY

Tony Whitney, a grandson of Fenton and Lettie told us he would not buy this book unless we included an index to our favorite 2 ½ minute talks. Most of us thought he was kidding, but just in case he wasn't, we asked several family members to tell us their favorite stories.

So here are some, but certainly not all, of the family's favorite stories along with the name(s) of the family member who recommended them.

► INTRODUCTION, GEORGE FENTON WHITNEY & LETTIE TOBLER

Whistle Story (My Story, Fenton Whitney History) Usually the Spirit speaks in a still, small voice, but this time It whistled. *Janice, Anna, John, Venice, Rae, Ryan, Rodney, Ray, Christopher, Casey, Michael, Spencer, and Jeffrey.*

Lifting Chicken Crates (George Fenton Whitney by Janice Ruesch) An Unseen angel helped Grandfather Fenton lift the heavy chicken crates that had fallen

into the Wash. *Janice, Venice, John, Christopher, Casey, Michael, Spencer.*

Gave last \$5.00 to Missionary (G. Fenton Whitney By Janice Ruesch) *Julia and Jeffrey*

Luke teaches Fenton the Gospel on freighting trips. *Mark*

Losing Chickens on the Mormon Mesa (Lloyd Whitney's Funeral address) *Lloyd*

The Haunted House in Hurricane (Lloyd Whitney's Funeral address) *Lloyd*

Fixing machinery under the shade tree (Lloyd Whitney's Funeral address) *Lloyd*

Hunting for Gold (John Whitney's Funeral address) *John.*

Stake Presidency Blessed Pregnant Women, and those who looked Pregnant (Wilma Whitney Adams tribute) *Wilma.*

Grandpa Fenton's Countless hours of Welfare Farm Service (Wilma Whitney Adams Tribute) *Wilma.*

Fenton Was a Valiant Spirit (Wilma Whitney Adams tribute) *Wilma*

Six sets of Tonsils removed in one day (Lettie Whitney History) Nothing else needs to be said! *Beth*

Shivaree, First night at the Ranch (Lettie Whitney History) *Ray*

Family Bonding at Ranch (Lettie Whitney History) *Rowena*

Cheating Boss turns Good Man Bad (Interesting side notes to Fenton Whitney's story) *Ryan*

► **CHAPTER ONE, GEORGE LUKE WHITNEY & JULIA ANN WARDELL**

Luke resolves to stay out of bars, even to warm up. *Mark*

If a man dies, His next of Kin should Marry his Widow, Luke Whitney took biblical urging to heart. *Gary Hannig.*

17 Mile Hike after Church Meetings
After long weekends of stake meetings Luke Whitney would walk home all night. *Ray, Mark, Christopher, Casey, Michael, Spencer, Travis, and Rodney.*

Grandma Julia Slept in Treehouse for protection. In St. Thomas, Grandma slept in a treehouse to protect herself from the desperados. *Anna and Travis.*

► **CHAPTER SIX, LUKE SYPHUS & CHRISTIANA LONG**

Hungry Indian Snatches girl, A hungry Indian takes Grandma Lovina Syphus. *Janice, Gary Hannig*

Survival Story, second white child born in San Pedro, California. *Nada*

Luke Syphus Converts Organ Builder
Beth

Virgin River Flood wipes out everything
Beth

Luke feeds Indian at table, Indian saves family's life. *Mark and Travis*

► **CHAPTER 8, SOLOMON WARDELL HISTORY**

Miracle Calf saves traveling Pioneers
A group of traveling Pioneers almost starved until a miracle heifer (calf) saves them. *Dorothy.*

Woman pretends to be Ill to get free food. The sickest woman in town taken care of until she was found out. *Dorothy.*

Kind Sister sends fresh roll each day to save baby. *Dorothy.*

Listening to the Spirit, Julia Ann Wardell Whitney saved from lightning strike. *Julia.*

Save what's important! The gun and the Feather bed mattress. *Julia.*

Truth Pays, Ellen Wardell warns Indian that Boiling Lye is not Molasses. *Gary Hannig.*

► **CHAPTER 14, SAMUEL STUCKI & ANNA MARY REBER (SEE ALSO CHAPTER 16 FREDERICK REBER & ANNA MARIA LANZ)**

John Reber Healed in the waters of Baptism, John Reber suffered from crippling arthritis and was healed as he was baptized. *Anna and Venice.*

► **CHAPTER 15, JOHANNES STUCKI & ELIZABETH SCHENK**

Men will come from the West, you need to listen. People are often prepared for the Gospel. *LuRae.*

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Organization of Book

Each of the inspiring stories in this book are the histories of one of your ancestors. The miracle is that so many of these stories have been preserved. Another miracle has to do with the dedication of Latter-day Saint family members who have researched the ancestors beyond those we have stories for. Sooo, with the last person on each ancestral line, we have included the pedigree back five generations.

In all reprints of letter and documents, the original spelling and grammar were retained, unless for clarity purposes a change was needed.

Inserting pictures in unity with the written stories turned out to be impossible in the time frame we had. So, if you don't see your favorite picture look elsewhere in Lettie's, Fenton's or Wilma's stories.

Facing each family history chapter, you will see a mini pedigree chart with the ancestor in a box showing how you relate to that person.

Read and enjoy.



Julia Whitney Rawlins



Wilma Whitney Adams



Dorothy Whitney Hawkins



Venice Whitney Spendlove



Beth Whitney Johnson



John Fenton Whitney



LuRae Whitney Brown



Anna Mae Whitney Meeks Appel



George Lloyd Whitney



Janice Whitney Ruesch



George Luke Whitney



George Burton Whitney



Lovina C. Syphus



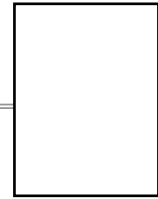
George Fenton Whitney



Julia Ann Wardell



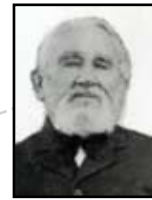
Solomon Wardell



Ellen McKell Matheson



John Henry Tobler



Jakob Tobler



Anna Barbara Staheli



Lettie Tobler



Mary Elizabeth Stucki



Samuel Stucki



Anna Maria Reber



George Sanders Whitney



Mary Eveline Barnard



Benjamin Barnard



Lucy Wood



Luke Syphus Sr.



Christiana Long



Stowell Barnard



Mary (Polly) Burton*

John Wardell

Sarah C Tracey



Mathew Syphus, Sr.



Mary Long



Daniel Matheson



Catherine Treasurer

Christian Tobler

Anna Buhler

Joachim Staeheli

Anna Katharina Kreis

Johannes (John) Stucki

Elizabeth Schenk

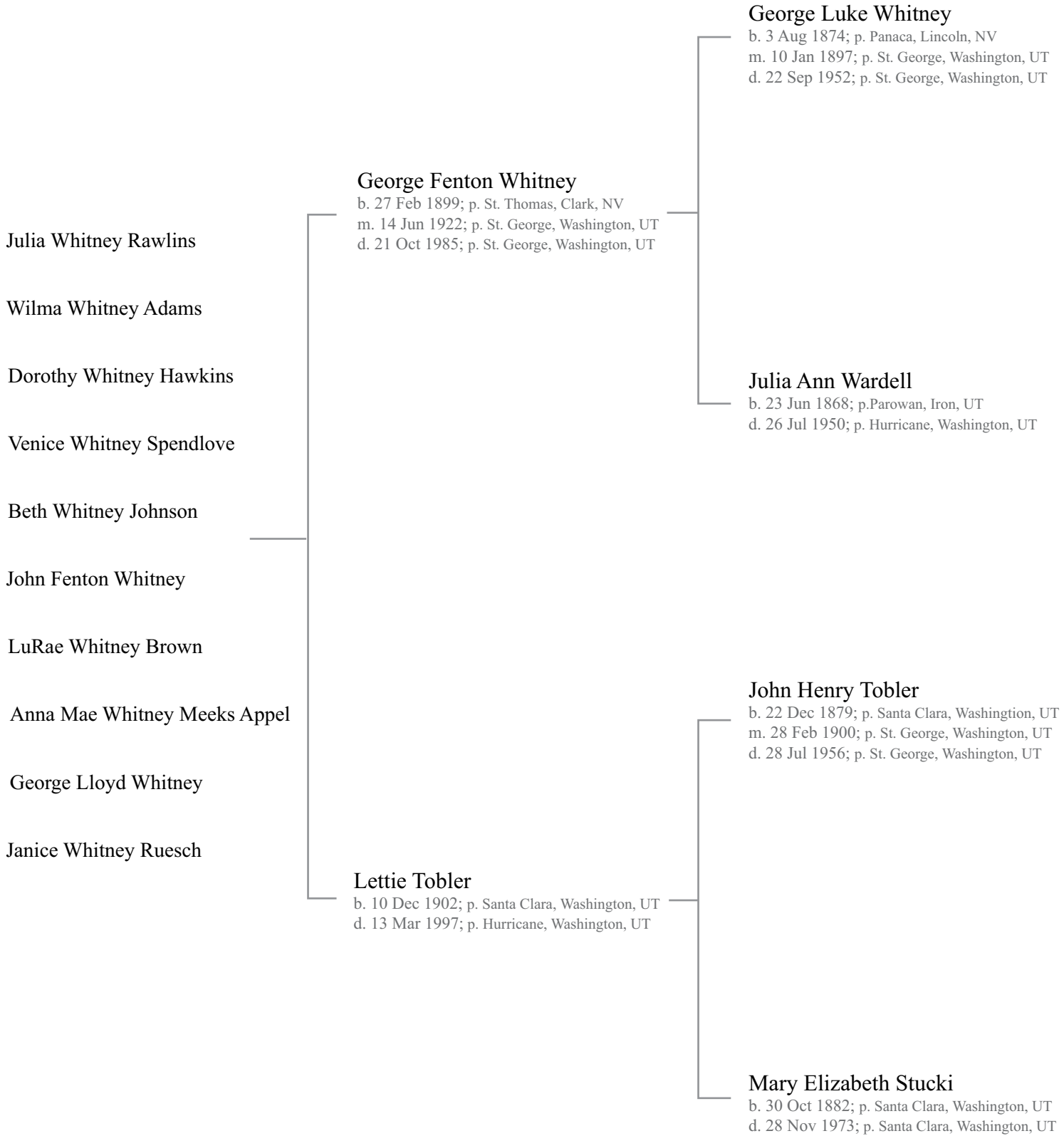


Fredrick Reber



Anna Maria Lanz

* This picture has been identified with the names Mary (Polly) Burton, Lucy Wood, and Mary Eveline Barnard.



George Burton Whitney

b. 9 Mar 1846; p. Troy, Rensselaer, NY
m. 9 Oct 1873; p. Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, UT
d. 5 Apr 1927; p. St. George, Wash, UT

Lovina C. Syphus

b. 31 Aug 1854; p. Sydney, Australia
d. 10 Dec 1934; p. St. George, Wash, UT

Solomon Wardell

b. 20 Jul 1841; p. Hall Green, Warwick Shire, England
m. 29 Jun 1865; p. Parowan, Iron, UT
d. 12 Jul 1914; p. Whitney Ranch, St. Thomas, NV

Ellen McKell Matheson

b. 7 Dec 1848; p. Dundee, Angus, Scotland
d. 9 Oct 1887; p. Parowan, Iron, UT

Jakob Tobler

b. 15 Jan 1833; p. Schonegrund, Switzerland
m. 18 Oct 1861; p. Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, UT
d. 22 Nov 1918; p. Santa Clara, Washington, UT

Anna Barbara Staheli

b. 14 Feb 1835; p. Amriswil, Thurgau, Switzerland
d. 16 Sep 1920; p. Santa Clara, Washington, UT

Samuel Stucki

b. 18 Jan 1824; p. Sigmar, Bern, Switzerland
m. 27 Jul 1881; p. St. George, Washington, UT
d. 6 Mar 1910; p. Santa Clara, Washington, UT

Anna Maria Reber

b. 30 May 1860; p. Urtenen, Bern, Switzerland
d. 7 April 1946; p. Hurricane, Washington, UT

George Sanders Whitney

b. 17 Apr 1818; d. 29 Aug 1863

Mary Eveline Barnard

b. 16 Oct 1816; d. 31 Dec 1884

Luke Syphus Sr.

b. 23 Jan 1827; d. 19 Apr 1915

Christiana Long

b. 10 Jan 1832; d. 17 Aug 1918

John Wardell

b. 3 Sep 1815; d. 30 Jul 1891

Sarah C Tracey (Care, Carr)

b. 8 Jan 1815; d. -

Daniel/Donald Matheson

b. 15 Jul 1801; d. 22 Mar 1884

Catherine Treasurer

b. 24 Sep 1804; d. 4 Jan 1896

Christian Tobler

b. 14 Feb 1802; d. 23 Jun 1876

Anna Buhler

b. 11 Jul 1803; d.2 Jan 1883

Joachim Staheli

b. 6 Apr 1797; d. Oct 1862

Anna Katharina Kreis

b. 30 Jan 1797; d. Mar 1863

Johannes (John) Stucki

b. 31 Aug 1800; d. 25 Jun 1873

Elizabeth Schenk

b. 26 Apr 1789; d. 1 Dec 1834-1854

Fredrick Reber

b. 24 Apr 1835; d. 3 Jan 1925

Anna Maria Lanz

b. 22 Jan 1837; d. 31 Jul 1918

Stowell Barnard

b. 4 Apr 1789

Mary (Polly) Burton

b. 9 Jan 1799

Mathew J. Syphus Sr.

b. 17 Feb 1799

Mary Long

b. 8 Aug 1807

Benjamin Barnard

b. 20 Feb 1750

Lucy Wood

b. 10 April 1751