

**A REMARKABLE STORY
OF TWO LOCAL PIONEERING PEOPLE WHO
BECAME 'LATTER-DAY SAINTS'**

**Samuel Webster (born in Limby Hall, Swannington)
married Eliza Smith (born in Griffydam) in 1874
at St. George's Church, Swannington**



SAMUEL WEBSTER 1854-1939 - BORN IN LIMBY HALL



ELIZA WEBSTER (NEE. SMITH) 1856 -1941 - BORN IN GRIFFYDAM

BY SAMUEL T STEWART - SEPTEMBER 2023

PREFACE

The following publication is based on information published on genealogical websites combined with the author's own extensive research. Samuel Webster's kept a diary of some of his experiences which proved useful.

There are other publications on the authors website about local people emigrating to America and Canada in the early days.

COMPLIMENTARY BACKGROUND READING

<https://rsc.byu.edu/canadian-mormons/alberta-settlement>



SAMUEL AND ELIZA WEBSTER'S (NEE. SMITH) FAMILY (see page 14)

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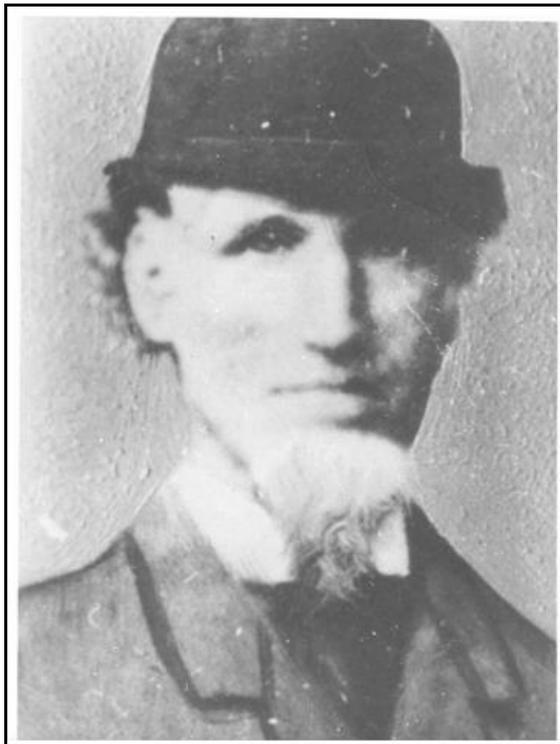
SAMUEL WEBSTER AND HIS PARENTS JOHN AND SARAH ANN SOUTHWELL

Samuel Webster was born at Limby Hall, Swannington, Leicestershire, England on the 9th of April, 1854. His parents were John Webster and Sarah Ann Southwell. He went to school in Swannington and when he was 10 years of age, his school years being over, he went to work in the local coal mines with his father, from 6:00 am to 6 pm for one shilling a day. At the age 16 he began to work as a regular miner and at age 18 he was drawing full pay with the other miners.

At the age of 18, Samuel Webster met his future wife Eliza Smith and two years later, on the 12th October 1874, they were married at St. Georges Church, Swannington, Leicestershire, Eliza being 18 years of age.

Samuel Webster's mother and father were John Webster (1813-1882) and Sarah Ann Southwell (1828-1908) and they had 9 children, 3 of which died at an early age.

John (1851-1921), Elizabeth (1852-1917), Samuel Webster (1854-1939), Martha (1856-1925), William (1857 - 1859), Thomas Henry (1858-Deceased), Sarah Ann (1860-1886), William (1863-1863), William (1867-1940).

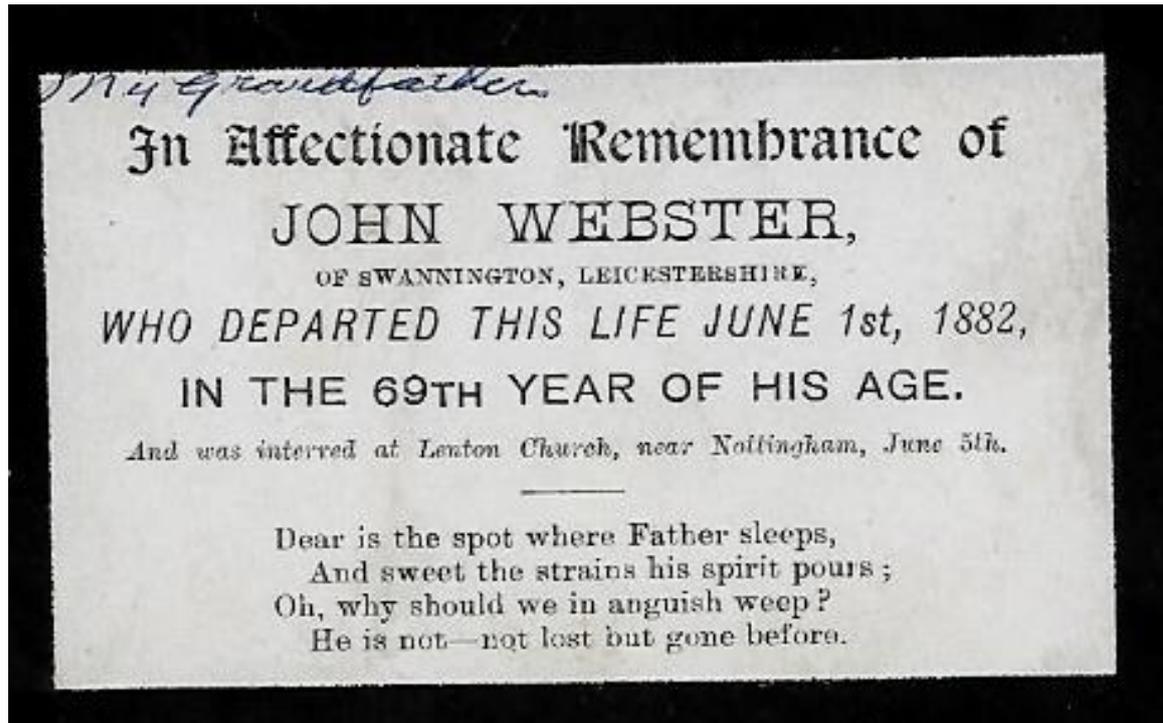


**JOHN WEBSTER & HIS WIFE SARAH ANN SOUTHWELL
SAMUEL WEBSTER'S PARENTS**

Continued over page

Their daughter Martha Webster was born on 6 May 1856 at Limby Hall, Swannington. She married Jem Pratt on 25 December 1872, in Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire.

John and Sarah Ann were living in Saint Mary the Virgin, Nottingham in 1881. John died in 1882 (see remembrance card below), and the following year Sarah Ann travelled to America by ship with son William from Liverpool and on to Canada to join their son Samuel & his wife Eliza who were already living there (**see page 7 onwards**).



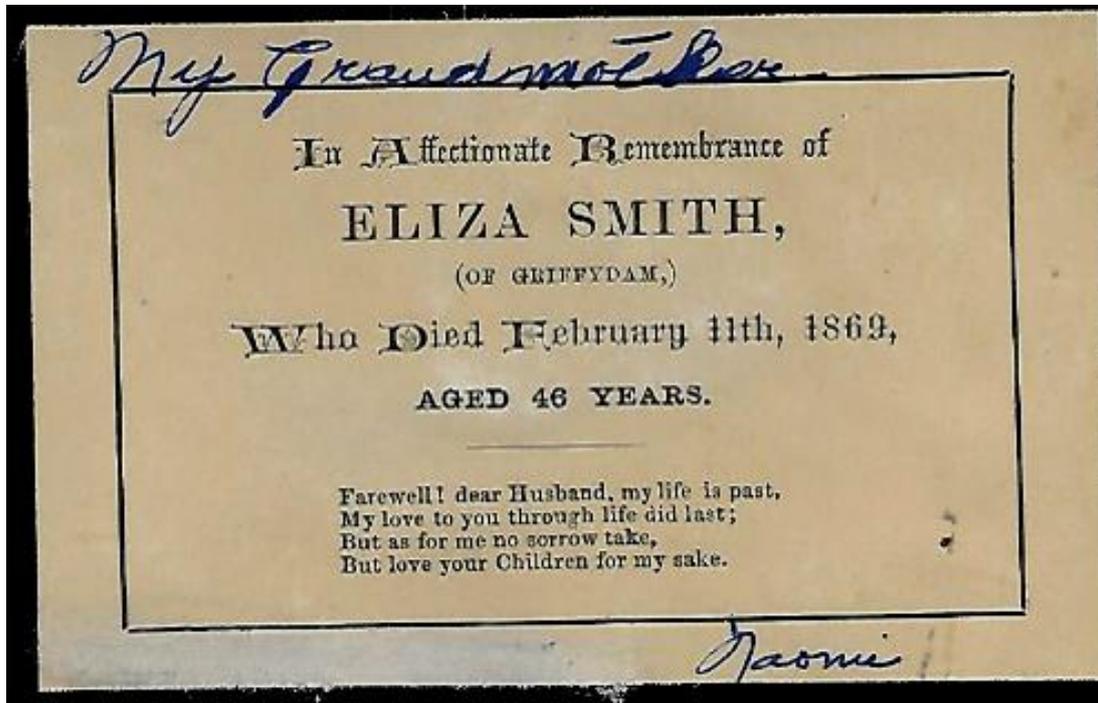
ELIZA SMITH, HER PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS

Eliza Smith was born at Griffydham, Leicestershire on the 2nd of February, 1856. She was the daughter of William Smith (1820-1908) and Eliza A Handford (1823-1869). They had 7 children :-

Elizabeth (1847-1932), Ann (1849-1889), Mary (1851-1931), James (1853-1884), **Eliza (1856-1941)**, Mary Ann (1857-deceased), Louisa (1858-deceased).

William Smith's wife Eliza A Handford was born in Griffydham c.1823. Her father Joseph Handford, was 34 and her mother, Jane Hodges, was 26. Eliza A died in Griffydham at the age of 47.

Eliza's (b.1856) parents came to live on Elder Lane, Griffydham after 1851, as they are not included in the census of that year. The 1861 census indicates that their cottage on Elder lane would have been the third or fourth in from the junction with the Rempstone road. None of the family appear in the 1871 Griffydham census by which time Eliza had died (1869 aged 47).



The name Naomi on the above card was one of Samuel Webster and his wife Eliza Smith's daughters, hence being headed 'my grandmother' (**see page 7 onwards**).

The 1871 census shows William Smith to be living in Swannington. He died in 1908 in Hugglescote at the age of 88 and is buried in Hugglescote cemetery.

The parents of William Smith were James H Smith (1784-1872) & Elizabeth Lowe (1784-1851). They had 8 children :-

Thomas (1804-deceased), Sarah (1806-deceased), Mary (1808-1824), Elizabeth (1813-deceased), Elizabeth (1814-deceased), Samuel (1817-1906), **William (1820-1908)**, John (1824-deceased).



WILLIAM SMITH (1820-1908)

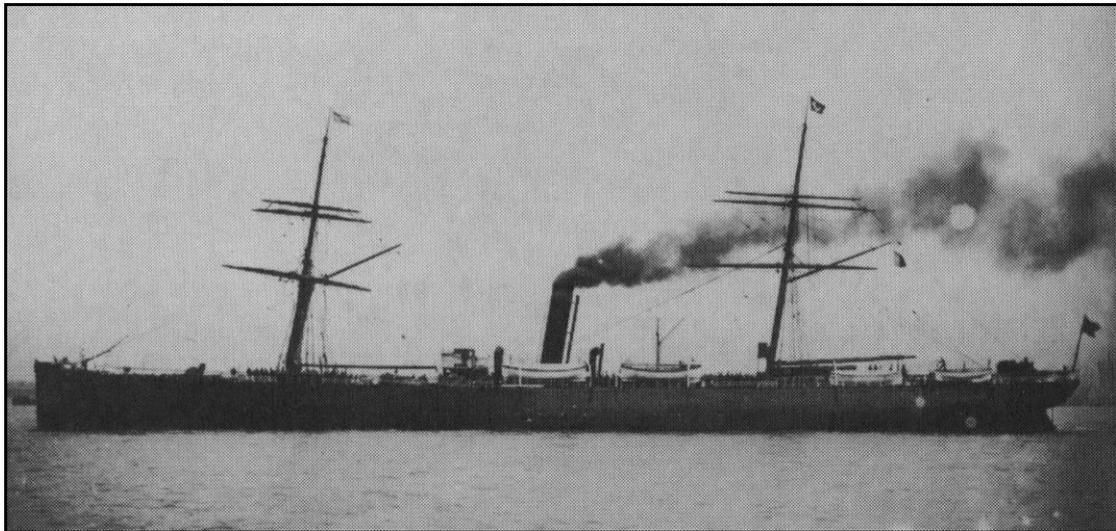
SAMUEL WEBSTER (b.1854) AND ELIZA SMITH (b.1856)

Several years passed since Samuel and Eliza's marriage in 1874, with conditions changing at home and at work. The problem of making a living had moved them 4 times; from Swannington to Hucknall Torkard to Swannington and again to Whitwick.

Grandpa Webster's wrote in his diary, "My younger years were pleasantly spent. I never took any rough course in my living." This was no doubt due to the fact that he always attended the LDS (Latter Day Saints) church with his mother, so it was natural for him to join the church, which he did on the 5th of June 1876. His wife Eliza followed him in baptism in Dec. 1877. Soon after Samuel joined the church he was called as a second counsellor in the LDS branch in **Whitwick**. He was confirmed in the Church by Elder Thos. Ball, and was ordained by a Priest, Pres. William Freeston and an Elder, Nelson A Empey. It is likely that they worshiped at the LDS branch in Hucknall also.

On the 5th of June, 1880, Samuel left his native England and sailed on the ship *Wisconsin* from Liverpool for America, leaving behind a young wife and three babies while he worked to prepare things so that they might join him. Only 3 of their 10 children were born in England. Levi at Swannington, Leicestershire on Sept 14th, 1875, Alice Ada at Swannington, Leicestershire on April 22nd, 1877 and John William on Apr 10th, 1879 at Whitwick, Leicestershire.

The author has checked this on the '**SAINTS BY SEA - LATTER DAY SAINTS IMIGRATION TO AMERICA**' website which provides the following information :-



THE WISCONSIN A SINGLE-SCREW STEAMSHIP

The ship left Liverpool on 5th June 1880 and arrived in New York on 16th June 1880. These would have been mostly Latter Day Saints (Mormons).

There were 334 passengers on board, and the passenger list contains the name of Samuel Webster.

227		Wisconsin		Sailed June 5 th 1880		Agent William Rudge							
Steamship		Sailed		Agent									
Names.	Age.	Conference.	Passage.			Settlement.			Remarks.	£ s. d.			
			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
221 Levi Mattis	44	Bucks	14	18	2	Church Draft #98	14	18	0	Returned	5	9	0
225 Samuel Webster	29	Nottingham	14	14	0	Cash	14	14	0	Returned	6	0	0
226 Ann Palmer	15	"	14	18	2	Church Draft #93	15	0	0	Returned	1	10	0

The above extract from the ship's register confirms Samuel Webster's age at the time as 29, and gives him as being connected to the 'Nottingham Latter Day Saints Conference', and that he paid £14 14s. for the trip. A photograph dated 1907 appears later, taken after when he sailed back to England in 1906 to attend the Nottingham Conference and carryout his missionary duties before retuning home in 1908.

When Samuel left on the Wisconsin, his destination was to be in Utah, where he was to work in the mines. He arrived in Utah and found work, for about 4 months, in the coal mines at **Coalville**, but there was a serious drawback there.

WHAT A COINCIDENCE

Coalville is still a city in and the county seat of Summit County, *Utah*, United States. It is also a former Coal mining town in Leicestershire. Coalville, Utah is part of the Salt Lake City, *Utah* Metropolitan Statistical Area. The population was 1,363 in 2010. Interstate 80 currently passes through the town, as well as the Weber River which flows into Echo reservoir, just north of Coalville.



USUSC P0019 San Francisco of Rocky Mountain Scenery
 18 Coalville - Weber Valley, Utah.

COALVILLE, Utah c.1879

Coalville, Utah originally began as a settlement known as **Chalk Creek**. In 1854, the territorial government in Utah offered a \$1000 reward to anyone who could find coal within 40 miles of Salt Lake City. Four years later, Thomas Rhodes found a coal vein in the Chalk Creek area, and coal mining began in earnest. Hundreds of tons of coal were shipped to Salt Lake City, and soon a narrow gauge railroad was built. The settlement was then renamed Coalville, as a result of this early success.

Coalville was officially founded in 1859 by William Henderson Smith, an early Mormon freighter. He noticed that wheat, spilled by other wagons moving through the area, would grow to maturity without being tended. He subsequently convinced four families to settle in the area with him. Early life in Coalville was difficult, and during winters, the settlers dealt with a constant scarcity of food. When food ran out, they would travel to Salt Lake City for supplies. The local Indian tribes were also hostile for a time, and the settlers built a fort on the advice of Brigham Young. In 1867, Coalville was incorporated.

By 1880, success in the coal industry led to the extension of the railroad into Park City. Then known as the Summit County Railway, the railroad continued to transport coal and was also used for Park City's silver mines.^[11]

Unlike most Mormon settlements in Utah and the intermountain west, Coalville city streets are not aligned to the true north. Main Street in Coalville is offset such that it runs slightly north-northwest, and Center street runs slightly east-northeast.

The pay was mostly by what he then called truck and trade. He had left his wife and 3 children in England and he knew that with the pay he was getting it would take a long time before he could send for them. Truck shops or company stores were run by the pit owners where miners and their families bought food etc at extortionate prices - often with tokens rather than proper money.

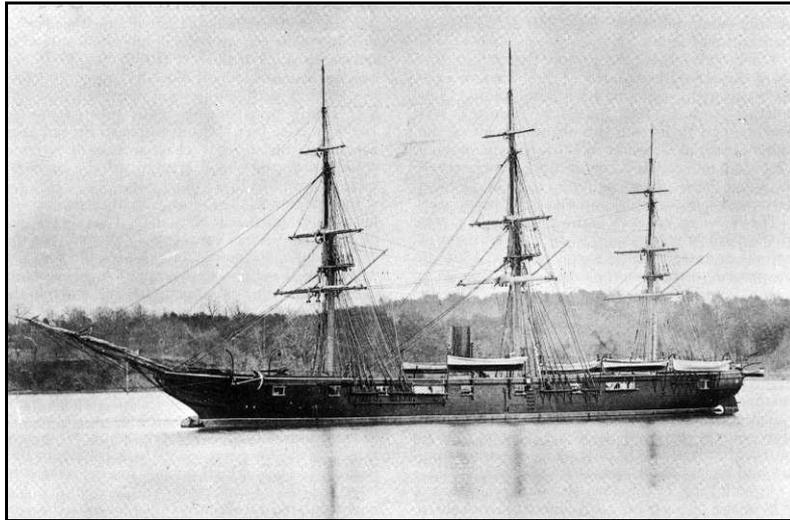
Samuel Webster then moved to Grass Creek, Utah and worked in the mines and while there saved enough money to send for his family. They arrived in America on the ship Wyoming in 1881.

The family actually departed Liverpool on the 16th April and arrived in New York on the 26th April. As shown on the ship's register below, Samuel's wife Eliza, and their three children born in England - Levi, Alice A, and Jonathan William are given. They had a total of ten children, the rest being born during their pioneering years. Jonathan S Southwell is also in the party. Southwell was the maiden name of Samuel Webster's mother. A sum of £35 15s. 6d. was charged for the whole party.

There were 186 souls / Latter day Saints on board.

17	Jno. S. Southwell	24	Nottingham	114	114	"
18	Eliza Webster	23	"	114	114	"
19	Levi	4½	"	2	2	6
20	Alice A.	3	"	2	2	6
21	Jno. W.	2	"	2	2	6
				35	15	6
				112	8	6
				112	8	6

Handwritten notes: Church off 25, Rets Cash 6.13, Jno. S. Webster, 112 8 6, 112 8 6



THE STEAMSHIP WYOMING OF THE GUION LINE

The Wyoming is recorded as making 5 journeys during 1881 from Liverpool to New York. On one occasion it is recorded as taking 644 Latter Day Saint Missionaries back to New York. It is really difficult to imagine 644 men being packed into a ship of this size!

EXAMPLES OF LETTERS SENT BY A LATTER DAY SAINT ABOARD THE WYOMING

Letter from David C. Dunbar and James H. Wallis - April 17, 1881

S. S. *Wyoming*, off Queenstown, April 17, 1881. President Albert Carrington.

Dear Brother - After leaving Liverpool at 11:30, Saturday morning, the welfare of the Saints and their general comfort and happiness, were looked after. The Saints have been divided into two wards, with faithful and diligent elders appointed to see after their well-being. Brother W. W. Jackson has been sustained as chaplain, and Brother James Lowe as captain of the guard. Elder Oscar F. Hunter is assisting President David C. Dunbar in his position, and all things are working together for the good of the people. At the instance of President Dunbar, a meeting was held on Saturday evening, to counsel and advise the Saints in the manner of their conduct and procedure during the journey. Valuable instruction was given by President Dunbar; and Elders Hunter and Jackson, and the Spirit of the Lord rested upon the people. The Saints meet for prayers at 7 a.m. and 8 p.m., and are striving to be happy and comfortable. We are sailing along very nicely, with no sickness up to the present. We expect to reach Queenstown at 5 a.m.

Praying the choicest blessings to rest upon you and all his scattered people, that they may be speedily gathered, we remain

Your brethren in the gospel,

David C. Dunbar, president, James H. Wallis, clerk. [p.368]

Letter from David C. Dunbar and James H. Wallis - April 26, 1881

New York, April 26, 1881. President A. Carrington.

Dear Brother - After leaving Queenstown at 9 o'clock on Sunday morning, the 17th instant, we had very fine weather up till Wednesday afternoon, making good time with fair wind and smooth sea, the sun also being our welcome and pleasant companion. On Wednesday afternoon, however, head winds set in, and, as a consequence, we encountered heavy seas, the vessel rolling and pitching considerably. Of course this necessarily occasioned considerable seasickness on board, and most of the Saints confined themselves to their berths; but this did not last long. On Saturday morning the wind changed and the sea became more calm, and, as a result, the Saints appeared more frequently on deck, and with much more pleasant countenances.

Their general health has been and is good, but it is our sad duty to report one death - that of brother William Bailey, from the Tupton Branch of the Sheffield Conference, who died of consumption, and was buried in the sea about 400 miles from New York, as we were not permitted to carry him to land. He was a young man about twenty-two years of age, and died in full faith in the gospel.

We have held several interesting meetings on board with the Saints, administering the sacrament to the people, and imparting words of encouragement and consolation. We also had a very enjoyable time in a concert held two nights ago among our people, several of the officers of the ship, as well as some of the passengers, being present.

We landed here about five o'clock this afternoon, being met by Elder William C. Staines. The voyage throughout has been generally very prosperous.

The brethren and Saints desire kind remembrances to yourself and all in the mission, and our prayers ascend night and morning to the Lord God of sabbath, that he will speedily open up the way whereby his faithful Saints may gather up to Zion, and rejoice more fully in the eternal truth of life and salvation.

Praying the revelations of God to continually guide you in all your labors, we remain,

Your brethren in the gospel,

David C. Dunbar, president, James H. Wallis, clerk.

P.S. 6 p.m., April 27th. **We are now safe on the cars (railway carriages)**, all ready for our journey overland. We expect to start in half an hour. All the company are well.

The family made their home in Grass Creek for some time and then in the early spring of 1882 they moved back to Coalville, Utah where Samuel and Eliza's 4th child Sarah Ann Southwell Webster was born on the 4th of March, 1882. They bought a little home in Coalville and continued to live there where their daughter Eliza was born on June 4th, 1884.

They subsequently moved from Coalville and went to Alma, a mining town in Wyoming, which belonged to the Union Pacific. While they lived in Alma a gas explosion occurred at the mine killing all 13 of the men that worked on the midnight shift. Thinking themselves very fortunate they then moved again, this time with Samuel's mother, Sarah Ann Webster (nee. Southwell) and a brother William, into Auburn, Wyoming. where they started ranching in a small way.

Sarah Ann Webster (nee. Southwell) - [see page 3](#)

Remarkably, Sarah Ann sailed for America in 1883, with the remainder of her family following the death of her husband John in 1882. The following is a description given by one of her grandchildren :-

Grandma Webster, as she was known in the village, was a tiny woman weighing about 100 pounds with dark hair parted in the middle and drawn in a bun at the back (See photograph on page 3). She was a midwife in the early days of Mountain View; she helped to bring many babies into the world, including some of her grandchildren. Sarah Ann was born Oct. 2, 1830 in Great Gidding, Huntingdon, England, United Kingdom. Her father William Southwell was 32 and her mother Elizabeth Wade was 24 when she was born. Sarah Ann married John Webster Sn'r and they had at least 6 sons and 3 daughters. She lived in Swannington, Leicestershire for about 20 years. After her husband's death she came to America in 1883 with her children, then on to Canada. She lived in a little house of her own in Mountain View on property now (1981) owned by Burrows. She thought nothing of walking several miles to the ranch in the early mornings to visit her children and grandchildren. She had a little dog named 'Lady' that was her constant companion. One November morning she walked down to the bridge that was being built across the creek to get her grandson's (Ellis) lunch pail delivered to him (that he had forgotten). There was just a plank leading to the bridge. It was covered with frost which caused her to slip and fall, striking her head. She managed to get home but died a few days later on November 6, 1908, at the age of 80 in Mountain View, Cardston, Alberta, Canada. Her little dog grieved and soon died so Ellis buried it at "Grandma's feet". She was buried in Mountain View Cemetery, Cardston, Alberta, Canada.

After 5 years in Auburn, residency was required in the US. Samuel Webster filed for naturalization for his family on May 1, 1886 in Uinta Co. Wyoming. Whilst in Auburn, 2 more children were born to Samuel and Eliza - Samuel on July 7th, 1887 and James on February 3rd, 1890.

The year 1891 was a terrible one for the Webster family apparently. All of the family were stricken with diphtheria and their little boy Samuel died on Apr. 22, 1891. The year following, Bertram was born on April the 18th, 1892 and the following year their daughter Naomi was born on April the 21st, 1894.

About the beginning of 1894, Samuel Webster and his brother William (who had travelled out from England with his mother Sarah Ann in 1883), having heard of the homestead land in Canada decided to move, their destination being 'Mountain View', Cardston County, Alberta - See page 18).

They sold their small holdings and with their mother and families and a few cattle they possessed, they set out by wagon train for Canada. The trip took them about 8 weeks so they arrived at 'Mountain View' in the fall of 1894. Quoting again from Grandfather's diary, "Times were bad, and as there was not much work in Mountain View we left our stock with William R. Clark to care for and moved to Lethbridge, where I and my 2 older boys Levi and John worked in the mines. In the spring they moved back to Mountain View, located land and built a home on the ranch, west of Mountain View. It was there that their 10th child, Martha Elizabeth was born on May 3, 1896. This gave them a total of 9 living children.

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200 MEN WITH TEAMS WANTED

WHO WILL BECOME ACTUAL SETTLERS IN
SOUTHERN ALBERTA, CANADA.

To the Latter-day Saints who desire Good Places to make Comfortable Homes, we offer a grand opportunity to accumulate means to pay for them without incurring the bondage of debt.

We have about fifty miles of the Alberta Irrigation company's canal to construct, for which half will be paid in cash and balance in excellent prairie land, at \$3 an acre, with free water for two years to first settlers on these lands.

oats, barley, rye, potatoes, and all of the hardy vegetables.

As to fruit, our country is not so well adapted, in consequence of our open winters and the frequent thawing and freezing. The smaller fruits, such as strawberries, gooseberries, currants and raspberries are raised, but if you

INDUSTRIES.
I will here add we have in Cardston a newspaper, a cheese factory, grist-mill, three stores; two blacksmith shops, two carpenter shops, one tin shop, shoe shop and a meat market.
In Acton, a store, cheese factory and

Samuel and Eliza's children were named:-

Levi Webster, Alice Ada Webster, John William Webster, Sarah Ann Southwell Webster, Eliza Webster, Samuel Webster, James Smith Webster, Naomi Webster, Bertram Webster and Martha Elizabeth Webster



THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN TYPICAL OF THE WAGGONS THEY TRAVELLED IN TO 'MOUNTAIN VIEW IN CANADA' OVER A PERIOD OF 8 WEEKS

With their travels over, the task of making a living from their homestead loomed. It was not easy. They milked cows, made their own butter and cheese, killed and dressed their beef and pork, made their own soap for washing, did their own sewing, knitted stockings, sweaters and caps and many other tasks that went with pioneering a country. The boys were very handy at building and could fix anything that could be done with their hands.

In 1902, Samuel, Eliza and the family went to 'Salt Lake City' to complete their temple work. Below is a photograph of the family with their nine living children which was taken for this occasion :-



Left to Right

Top Row

Eliza, John, Sarah Ann (Sadie), & Levi

Bottom Row

James (Jim), Naomi, Father Samuel, Martha (Mattie), Mother Eliza, Alice, Bertram (Bert)

Continued over page

In the year 1906, Samuel was called by the LDS on a two and a half year mission to his native England. This left the family to care for themselves whilst he was away. The photograph below was taken at the Nottingham Conference on August 11th 1907.



Row 1, sitting in front, left to right: John Andrew Stephens; James Wilford Phillips; Bertrand Walter Clayton; Thomas James Rosser; Edmund Olef Norr

Row 2, seated, left to right: Charles Vestal Dean; John S Smith; Thomas Owen King; Charles William Penrose; Romania Bunnell Penrose; Frank Leroy Walters; Thomas Martin; Oliver Beagley Ostler

Row 3, standing, left to right: James Moores Cook; Clarence Eugene Horsley; William Henry Brough; Samuel Webster; Samuel Edward Lublin; John P Orton; Victor Smith Amussen; Lorenzo Jackson; Lafayette Orme; Luman Andrus Shurtliff

Row 4, standing, left to right: Samuel Roy Egbert; Uber P Eldredge; Joseph Heber Ruff

The following is taken from a feature written on the internet, presumably by one of the grandchildren :-

Following Samuel Webster's return (from England) to the homestead at 'Mountain View', (in 1908) Samuel resumed an active life in the community. In spite of his meagre schooling, he was well informed, having had a wonderful and full life of experience, and being of a studious nature, he became a fluent speaker. During his life in Utah, Wyoming and then in Canada, he proved to be very capable and most willing in times of sickness and in death, always rendering service when and where it was needed. He was a devoted husband and father, and was a lover of music and possessed abilities in that line. This latter quality was passed on to his posterity, and has been a gift that has meant much to their family and the communities where they lived.

Highlighting Grandma and Grandpa's declining years were the parties held by the whole countryside on their 50th, and 60th wedding anniversaries. Had Grandpa lived from April to October of the year he died, there would have been a great party for their 65th anniversary.

No day in the year was happier for them than one in which all of their beloved children's children would come to call. After their family had all married and had homes of their own, they built a little home in the town of Mountain View, where they spent most of their declining years.

Their grandchildren often remarked how much they enjoyed their visits to their Grandparents home. No matter how many came, they were always made welcome. Grandpa was quite a tease, and had a nickname for all of them, and they often wondered at times, if he remembered their real names, but they love it, especially when Grandma would say, "now don't you believe him he is just teasing".

Grandma was always very patient and loving. She was a very devoted wife and mother to her family. The family were never blessed too much of the material things of life but they often said they were very blessed with a wonderful and devoted family, which was of the most importance in their lives.

Grandpa passed away on the 12th of April, 1939 at the age of 85 and Grandma on the 18th of September, 1945 at the age of 89. We as members of their posterity, appreciate their teachings and sacrifices they made and the ideals they exemplified in their lifetime. We are grateful for their faith and devotion to the Church and their service and love for their friends and for each member of their families. They are both buried in the 'Mountain View Cemetery' (see page 19).

SAMUEL WEBSTER'S RETURN TO ENGLAND IN 1906

As featured on the preceding page, Samuel Webster returned to England in 1906, returning to the Mountain View family home, Canada in 1908.

D. G. Murray (a grandson of Samuel and Eliza Webster) wrote, I have in my possession postcards sent from Samuel to Eliza on her birthday Feb 2 1908. He sends a picture of the Speedwell Whitwick Colliery in Leicestershire, England. He says that this is the mine and I done my last work at it in England. I left the last part of May month in the year 1880 (This was the month before Samuel set sail on the Wisconsin to the US from Liverpool).

In a postcard sent Jan 11 1908 he says:-

To MAMA from your loving husband in remembrance of your birthday . My dear wife I hope this little token of love will find you enjoying the best of health and every other blessing that will do you good. My thoughts are always with you and I hope that when your next birthday comes around that I shall enjoy the pleasure of wishing you many happy returns by word of mouth and a hearty handshake. It seems a long time since I saw you Mamma, fancy 2 birthdays passing. I am feeling fairly well. I hope you and the children are enjoying good health. Take good care of yourself. I want you to look well when I come home. I received the card. Thank you for it. I wish you many happy returns and hope we shall spend them together my Dearest Love.
from your loving husband Samuel Webster.
Kisses xxxxxxxxxxxx

Postcard dated June 13 1908:-

He sends a photograph of St. Georges Church in Swannington, England.

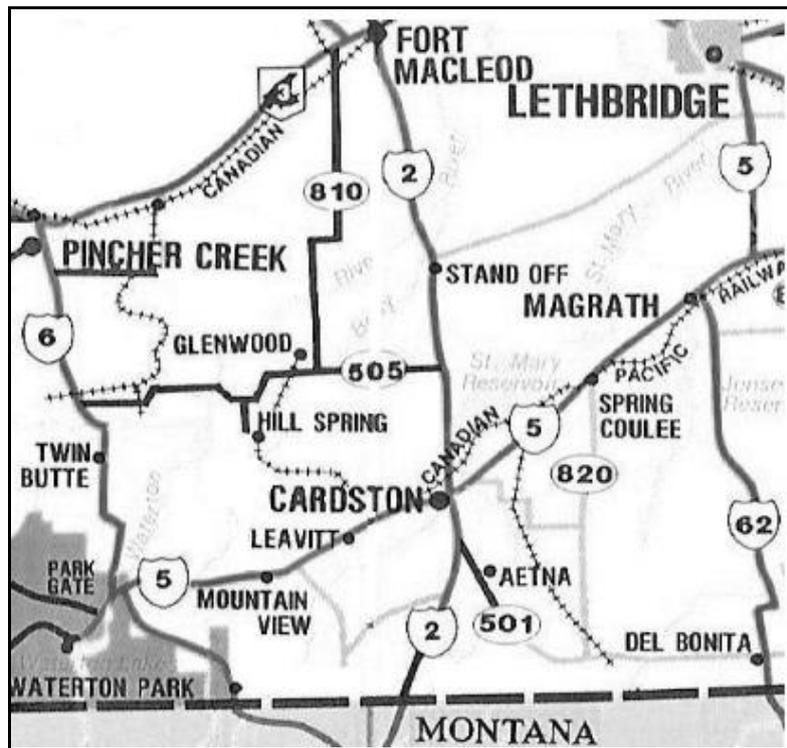
My Dear Wife I have succeeded in getting a postcard that I think you will like. I have been trying somewhat ever since I came to England but have not been successful until now. I am sending it to you because I believe you will treasure it. You must take care of it because I have not got one and you will be able to show it to our children and tell them all about this place and the reason we hold it so dearly, that is I do. You will see that there has been quite a nice addition to it on the end. Dear wife, I have wandered around the grounds and read the names of a many who are laid to rest that we knew. Love conquered and I sent it to you That sacred love that I entered that building with you on that morning still remains and I pray that if ever wife, I send you the love and greetings and wish you every blessing from your loving Husband Samuel Webster.

The last postcard is a picture of the ship he sailed home on to America in.

Dear Wife this is the vessel I returned from Old England, set sail on 13 August 1908. Had a very pleasant voyage 10 days in crossing, your loving Husband. SW

'MOUNTAIN VIEW' - SAMUEL AND ELIZA'S FINAL PLACE OF RESIDENCE

The extract of a modern map below shows the location of 'Mountain View' where Samuel, Eliza and their eight children travelled to by waggon train from Auburn, Wyoming. The journey took 8 weeks and they arrived in the fall of 1894. As explained previously, there was little work to be found there and so Samuel decided to leave their stock with a William R Clarke, and move to 'Lethbridge' (shown on the map) where Samuel and his two older boys, Levi and John William worked in the mines to earn money which enabled them to move back to 'Mountain View' in the spring of 1895.

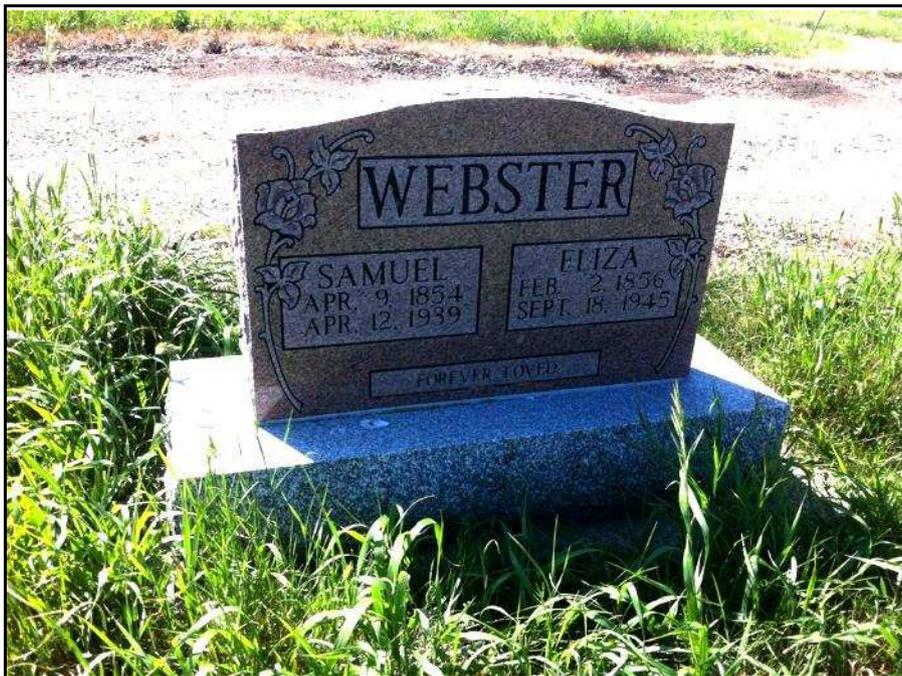


'Mountain View' today is a hamlet in Alberta, Canada within Cardston County. It is located along Highway 5 approximately 25 kilometres (16 miles) west of Cardston and 20 kilometres (12 miles) east of Waterton Lakes National Park near the United States border. It has about 90 residents and an elevation of 1306 metres. Originally named 'Fish Creek', it was officially aptly named as 'Mountain View' in 1893 due to it offering stunning views of the Canadian Rockies. The area was originally settled by Mormon immigrants in the last decade of the 1800's following the work of Charles Ora Card.

Charles Ora Card (November 5, 1839 – September 9, 1906) was the American founder of Cardston, Alberta, the first Mormon settlement in Canada. Card was a Mormon pioneer as a teenager, travelling from the eastern United States to Utah Territory in the 1850s. After arriving in Utah, he supervised the construction of the Logan Utah Temple, served as a city councilman, and was appointed to the first board of trustees of Brigham Young College. Card was then tasked by leaders in the LDS Church to travel north to Canada and establish a Latter-day Saint colony there. He worked to make the community self-sufficient, participating in irrigation projects. Card was a practitioner of plural marriage, marrying a total of four wives and having

sixteen children. He served in leadership positions within the LDS Church, mainly as stake president. He was the spiritual and economic leader of Cardston. Ten thousand Mormon settlers lived in southern Alberta in 1911. By 1923, "80 percent of the Latter-day Saint population in Canada lived within a 100-mile radius of Cardston," the city founded by and named after Charles O. Card. That same year, the Cardston Alberta LDS Temple was finished, making it the first temple built outside the United States. According to the LDS Church's website, 82,088 members of the Church live in Alberta today

SAMUEL AND ELIZA WEBSTER'S FINAL RESTINGPLACE 'MOUNTAIN VIEW CEMETERY'



**SAMUEL & ELIZA'S GRAVES IN 'MOUNTAIN VIEW CEMETERY'
SCHOOL AVENUE, MOUNTAIN VIEW, CARDSTON, ALBERTA**



A cairn on the grounds of the Mormon temple in Cardston pays tribute to the arrival of the first Mormon settlers from Utah in 1857.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

There follows some extracts from the journal of Abraham H Cannon (A Latter Day Saint / Mormon) at the beginning of his mission to the UK starting October 1879. The author first recorded this when he was researching the history of 'Coleorton Pottery' which Abraham H Cannon visited on Nov 21st / 22nd during his tour of the local area. The references to Coleorton Pottery are underlined in red.

If we now refer to the para dated Monday Nov 24th describing his activities on that day, it can be seen that he went to visit a Bro. Webster and had breakfast and dinner there and carried out some writing, whilst there. There is a reference to visiting sisters Freeston and Dumolo also. Bearing in mind that Samuel Webster was ordained by a Priest by the name of William Freeston and Samuel left for America on June the 4th the following year, it is not unreasonable to imagine that this was our Samuel Webster. Maybe this visit finally influenced Samuel's decision to leave his wife and young family and try to make a better life for them in America, which he finally achieved, not without a great deal of hard ship on the way of course.

It is not possible to prove it was our Samuel Webster, but dates, locality and names suggest it was.

The author is struck by te number of 'Later Day Saints' that there were in the area at this time.

The following is a transcript from Abraham's journal that he began when his mission started. This was transcribed by Steven M. Cannon from a photocopy that resides in the Historical Department of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. This is the first 85 pages of Volume 1.

Thursday, Nov. 20th:- Took breakfast at Bro. Allen's, and then went down to Bro. Fowkes, where we remained a few minutes, and then took the train and went five miles to Gresley. It is very wet and miserable today. We walked about one and a half miles to Bro. Horkley's house, and took dinner; there was a letter here for me from Mina; I was studying the Bible for a while in the afternoon; we went down to Bro. Row's to tea, and remained here to meeting; myself and Bro. Dunbar occupied the time. Had supper and then went with Bro. Horkley to his home where we slept. There has been quite a fall of snow today. Pottery is made here in great abundance; The "Common" several years ago made a man poor who rented it at £50 per year, now a man is becoming rich from it, who pays £50.000 a year, the clay is so good for making pots. Mark Croxall's grandfather, 90 years of age lives at Bro. Row's and is entirely blind.

Friday, Nov. 21st:- It was snowing quite hard this morning, and is very cold. We had breakfast at Bro. Horkley's, and I was then reading until about dinner time, when we went about a mile to Sister Heath's home where we had dinner. On returning to Bro. Horkley's we found Bros. Cliff and Terry there, and after spending about an hour talking with them, we went to the station, distant about one mile and a half, and took the train for Ashby-de-la-Zouch, five miles, and from there walked three miles to Lount?? to the house of Bro. Wilson, who is the proprietor of the Colerton Pottery; we were covered with snow on our arrival at this place. We had tea soon after arriving, and during the evening we were amused and interested in hearing Bro. Wilson's two daughters, and son sing, Bro. Dunbar play the accordeon [sic]; and a music box play a number of tunes. About ten o'clock we had supper, and retired to bed about eleven. It is very cold this evening. Bro. Wilson was a poor man not very long ago, and a brother dying left him this pottery and house; but lately trade being so bad, he has suffered two heavy losses, and he will lose all if he remains here, is my opinion; his daughters feel very conceited.

Saturday, Nov. 22nd:- As soon as we arose we had breakfast, and then went around through the pottery with Bro. Wilson. It surprised me to see the process of making pottery; the clay first has to be laid out on the ground for some time, it is then taken in a room where it is wet and worked thoroughly, after which it is laid out and dried, and then it is taken to the room where it is to receive its form, and here it is again thoroughly worked by hand by a woman, to get all the air out of it. It is now ready to be made into the different articles, some articles being moulded [sic] other made by a turning machine; after being dried in the air, the articles are put in a furnace and burnt, and then they are dipped in a kettle of glaze, and are again burnt, after which they are ready for market. There are quite a number of girls and women engaged here, besides the men, and the work, some of it, is very hard. I did a little writing before dinner; about two o'clock we started for Whitwick, four miles distant, and went to the house of Bro. Freeston where there was a letter awaiting me from Sarah. On our way here, Bro. Dunbar mistook Kingstone [Thringstone??] for Whitwick, and we went about three quarters of a mile out of our road. After having tea and remaining for a while at Bro. Freeston's we went to Bro. Domelo's Home where I wrote letters to Pres. Budge and Bro. John Nichol森. Had supper here and remained all night. Snowed some this morning, and has been very cold all day.

Sunday, Nov. 23d, 1879:- Had breakfast at Bro. Domelo's, after which we went down to Bro. Johnson's home, with Bro. Freeston, and remained there for a while. Bro. Dunbar took dinner here, but I went to dinner with Bro. Freeston. Went to meeting at half past two, which is held in a little hall; I bore my testimony, with my brethren and sisters. I went to tea at Mr. Williamson's, Bro. Dunbar going to some other place. This Williamson and wife were in the Church but were cut off for some cause; two sisters live here. Returned to meeting at six P.M. and there being quite a number of strangers present, Bro. Dunbar occupied the time in giving an excellent [sic] discourse on the first principles of the Gospel. We took supper at Bro. Johnson's, called in Bro. Freeston's and went to Bro. Domelo's and to bed. It is very foggy, and wet under foot this evening. I went through a Church of England graveyard, and seen the hill upon which a large castle used to stand, this morning.

Monday, Nov. 24th:- A beautiful cold morning. We went to Bro. Webster's to breakfast, and remained here for some time writing; had dinner here, after which we called on Sisters Freeston and Domelo, and took our departure for Shepshed, four miles distant; we passed through a beautiful country, abounding in woods, and rocky hills, which relieve the general monotony of the scenery in England. We went to Bro. Danver's home and had tea, on arriving in Shepshed, and then went to Bro. Bennett's where we left our satchels; went from here to see Sister Thorpe, returning in a few minutes, and during the evening I wrote letters to Sarah, Sam Woods, and started one to Mina. Had supper here and remained all night. He tends the Cotton Mills.