

## BULAH AUGUSTA WOODRUFF

**Born:** 19 July 1851, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah,  
daughter of Wilford Woodruff and Phebe Whittemore Carter  
**Died:** 13 Jan. 1905, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah



Wilford Woodruff and his family arrived in the Salt Lake Valley on October 14, 1850. So it was that 9 months later Phebe brought forth her youngest living child. This was quite a miracle considering that three children preceding her and one following all died young. Infant mortality in the 19<sup>th</sup> century was very high. On Sept. 24, 1852, her father reported, that he and his wife were both quite sick as was “our youngest child, Beulah.” Everyone survived. Bulah was named after her Grandmother Woodruff. As a young girl of almost 6, she participated in the evacuation of Salt Lake City ahead of the entry of Johnston’s Army. On June 1, 1858, her father noted in his journal. “I took my wife and child and the last of my effects and started for Provo.” The stay in Provo was brief. Salt Lake City was Beulah’s town. Being Wilford Woodruff’s youngest

daughter, by Phebe, Bulah often had the opportunity to accompany her father on church business trips, both as a young lady and later even after she was married, she maintained that strong association with the Woodruff family.

On June 30, 1868 Bulah became the third plural wife of Hampden Sydney Beatie. He was 41 at the time, she was 16. He was a man of substance in the community.

Hampden had married Marion Thankful Mumford in 1849, and they came to Utah in 1849 in the Ezra T. Benson company. They were the parents of 9 children born between 1849-1874. During the California gold rush, Hampden set up a trading post in the Carson Valley of Nevada and made more money from the miners, than the other in his party that went on to the mines. He operated a freighting business over the Mormon trail into the 1860s and assisted with the pioneer companies. He became the manager of ZCMI dry goods. He was also purchaser for the other departments. He was a Lieutenant Colonel in the Utah Militia and served for a time as the Salt Lake Country Coroner. Hampden’s second marriage was to Helen Cordelia Clawson in 1855. They were the parents of 9 children born between 1857 and 1873. Helen passed away in 1884, preceding her husband in death by three years.

Hampden’s marriage to Bulah Augusta in 1868, led to 4 offspring 3 of which lived to maturity. Their children were Phebe Eleanor (born 1869), Preston Carter Woodruff (born 1871- dying 1872 as a child), Wilford Woodruff (born 1872) and Florence Estell (born 1876).

Bulah was an original member of the Retrenchment Society in the Salt Lake 14<sup>th</sup> Ward which was organized on June 4, 1870. This was the founding group for what later became the LDS Church’s Young Women’s Program. Bulah was known as a very talented seamstress.

Bulah was with her mother, Phebe, when she passed away in 1885. This affected her deeply. Hampden Beatie, passed away 11 September 1887 in Salt Lake at age 60. He left his 1<sup>st</sup> wife, Marion, age 55 and wife, Bulah, age 36, as widows. Neither remarried. However, the surviving Beatie wives undoubtedly had an extensive support network from their children and the extended Beatie and Woodruff families. Although Bulah was the last wife of Hampden Beatie, she was treated with kindness and respect -- due the daughter of a prophet.

[Alan J. Hill, 6-16-20]

## SOURCES

Alexander, Thomas G., Things in Heaven and Earth, The Life and Times of Wilford Woodruff, a Mormon Prophet. Signature Book, Salt Lake City, UT 1991.

Cowley, Matthias F. Wilford Woodruff, history of His Life and Labors as recorded in his daily journals. Bookcraft, Salt Lake City, UT c. 1964. 7<sup>th</sup> Printing 1978

Gibbons, Francis M. Wilford Woodruff, Wondrous Worker Prophet of God, Deseret Book company, Salt Lake City, Utah 1988.

Family group Sheet for Hampden Sydney Beatie and Beulah Augusta Woodruff (prepared by Helen Mar Beatie): Family group Sheet for Hampden Sydney Beatie and Helen Cordelia Clawson: and LDS vital Records information on family of Hampden Sidney Beatie and Marion T, Mumford.

Life Story of Hampden Sydney Beatie written by a Granddaughter.

Daughter of Utah Pioneers file had photo group sheet of family of Wilford Woodruff and Phebe Carter.

Wilford Woodruff's Journals

### **COMMENTARY AND STORY OF HEALING FROM WILFORD WOODRUFF'S JOURNAL**

In most records her name is spelled Beulah. However, Wilford Woodruff, her father, always refers to her as Bulah and she is a frequent entry in his journals. In deference to this primary source, this writer uses Bulah.

On October 8, 1876, Wilford Woodruff wrote in his journal this interesting story of Priesthood healing.

“Oct 8, Sunday (General) Conference opened at 10’o’clock. Orson Hyde Prayed. Orson Pratt spoke 54 Minuts. C.W. Penrose 21. Afternoon, Presdet Young spoke 63 Minuts in the power of God. In the midst of his sermon, my grandson, Wilford Beatie [almost 4 yrs.-old] was kicked in the head by a horse,(resulting in) a hole cut in the head above the temple. I was called out of the meeting, in the midst of the sermon and did not hear the middle of it. When I arrived at the house, I found the mother of Wilford, my daughter Bulah, had fainted away and the boy in the arms of his Grandmother [Phebe}. We laid hands upon both of them & Bulah soon recovered & the boy was soon running around. I then returned to the meeting and heard the last sermon...”

Note: Wilford Woodruff Beatie lived to the age of 91, passing away on Oct. 2, 1964.