

James Daniel
MURPHY

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James Daniel Murphy was born on October 4th, 1831, and was the oldest of five children in their family. His parents were John Mark Murphy and Nancy Elizabeth Daniel, and they lived in Fayette, Georgia. His parents owned a lot slaves which helped them earn more money, so their children could go to the better schools than most people.

James Daniel Murphy is my fourth great-grandfather. He was very wealthy and owned a lot of slaves. He also owned a big farm worked by slaves, called a plantation. He wanted to be a doctor, and when he got his degree, he was practicing medicine for a while. Then, his mother was worried that he wouldn't be strong enough to be a doctor so he switched to being a lawyer because he wanted to help people. He didn't like being a lawyer so he switched to being a teacher and he taught for the rest of his life. It must have been pretty hard to get all of those jobs because he most likely had to go to school for a couple of years to learn all of those things!

He was married for the first time to Ann Elizabeth Hudson when he was 20 years old. His wife went by her middle name, Elizabeth, not Ann. Their five children were Martha Sarah, John William, Nancy Luella, Lillian Captolia (my third great-grandma), and Mary Elizabeth.

They lived in the south during the Civil War. The record for the army shows that James was a volunteer for the Confederate Army in the Georgia cavalry starting on August 8th, 1863. James' grandson who did research on him said, "My grandfather, James Murphy, did clerical work for the confederates in the time of the Civil war."

One day some Yankee soldiers from the Union Army of the North came to their house and started stealing and ruining all their things. James was gone with the army when these soldiers came so he wasn't there to help defend the house. The soldiers were very hungry and in need of food and other things. They shot a bullet through the front door and it went through the hallway and out the back door, but luckily no one was in the hallway when that happened.. The soldiers killed most of their chickens, their one milk cow, and their pigs.

A granddaughter told a story of when James' seven year old son, John, saw the soldiers coming. "Since his Dad raised fine race horses, the horses had been taken to another place for safe keeping. The Yankee soldiers took the geese and ducks and whatever they could obtain and stayed around for a time. The young boy was aggravated at the soldiers and he walked up to the captain and said, "I'm not going to tell you that my Daddy has horses down at such and such a place." Those soldiers went to the location mentioned and took all of the horses."

The soldiers were very mean to this family until the head officer came in and went through a trunk and found James' Masonic papers and clothes. Because he also was a Mason, he could not do any more damage to another Mason's house. Right after, he apologized to Elizabeth who was sick in bed for the damage that had been done and no more would happen.

While James was working for the confederates, Elizabeth had their fifth child, Mary. Elizabeth's husband was still away and she was working hard to keep her children and slaves fed. I think that it would be pretty hard to feed all of those people. Mary was still a baby when her mom died. She was 39 years old, and she died from jaundice. Their daughter Lillian said, "My mother had yellow jaundice. Her face was almost a copper color so she wore a large bonnet all of the time so her face wouldn't be seen."

James' children were sort of afraid of him because he was strict and did not have a very good attitude. He did not speak much to his children, but sometimes played with them. One of his children, Jane, would get 5 to 10 cents to go to the store to get something she needed. Sometimes, she put the money in her mouth so it wouldn't get lost, but a lot of times she swallowed it. One time when she swallowed a big coin, it scratched her throat and she had to run home! I bet that hurt!

James' was a polygamist because he had over one wife at one time. He had three wives all together. His second wife was Margaret Ward, and his third wife was Charlotte, who he was married to at the same time he had his second wife.

James' two wives were very friendly to each other and were kind to each other. It's been said that, "Margaret and Charlotte bonded with each other and Margaret often comforted Charlotte, who had no sons and lost as many as three children at birth or soon afterward. The wives were devoted to their husband and each other, having no contention between them." When Charlotte was dying after her third baby was born, she asked for Margaret to come stay next to her.

James' and his second wife had a son named Robert Dobbins. Three weeks after he was born, he died. About a year later they had a daughter, Julia Gertrude. Margaret was worried about her because of what happened to Robert. One day Margaret was crying while taking care of her baby because she was really worried. Then James came in with two other men, and they said that they were missionaries for the church of Jesus christ of Latter- day saints. One of the missionaries was James' uncle, Jesse Murphy and the other was William A. Smoot, from Salt Lake City, Utah.

After the missionaries taught them more and more about the church, they moved to Utah and became members of the church. Years later, James was called to serve a mission across the country. The south was still not completely organized

from after the war and parts were still fighting. James said that while they were sharing the gospel, they got to baptize thirteen people.

One of James' daughters said, "My father got pneumonia and died ten days after he got it, and was buried on the 21st of February." They had to travel on a long road to get to the Salt Lake City cemetery, (It was 6 and $\frac{1}{2}$ miles) and since it was still winter it was a slow trip.

And that is the story of my great-great-great-great grandpa. I love that he went through a lot of hard things and kept going, joined the church, and lived a good life. I also learned from him that I am not the only one who goes through difficult things, which makes me feel like I can do things more easily.