

# BRIGHAM YOUNG'S HEIRS.

## THREATENED SCRAMBLING FOR HIS PROPERTY.

THE ELABORATE LIST OF HIS WIVES, AND THEIR SONS AND DAUGHTERS—HIS VARIOUS AND VARYING REGARD FOR THEM.

*Correspondence of the Philadelphia Times.*

SALT LAKE, Utah, Feb. 18.—The contestants at law for Brigham Young's large estate have employed an eminent legal gentleman from the East, who has for several weeks past been in Salt Lake quietly taking notes and arranging a forthcoming trial. The lawyer, it is said, came here at the instigation of some of the heirs of Brigham Young, and although the Church asserts there will be no trial, little hope is entertained of an amicable settlement, and it is altogether likely the courts will be invoked to divide the property. Mary Ann Angell Young was not, after all, the first wife of the much-married prophet, as it appears Brigham was married prior to 1834 to one Miss Miriam Works. This woman lived in Cayuga County, New-York, and Young was married to her at Auburn. He was at that time quite young, a Methodist exhorter, and worked at his trade of glazier and day-laborer. Mrs. Young the first, *née* Works, died early, but left two daughters, Elizabeth and Vilate, both of whom, or their heirs, are said to be still living. Elizabeth, the elder, married a Mr. Edmund Ellsworth, and the younger, Vilate, married Charles F. Decker. Ellsworth came West, entered polygamy, and had three wives besides Elizabeth. Decker also embraced polygamy and had three wives.

Of Mary Ann Angell Young, the first living wife and legal heir, little can be said in addition to the information already given. Should she apply under the Gentile law for her widow's third it would be hard to deprive her of her just rights, but it is believed she is too good a Mormon to do that. This long-suffering and much-abused woman is still as patient as she is noble, and no trouble in the division of the estate need be apprehended from her. She was married to Young at Kirtland, Ohio, in 1834. Her living children are Brigham Young, Jr., John W. Young, and two daughters, Alice and Luna. Her eldest son, Joseph A. Young, died two years ago.

Joseph Young had four wives. Mary, his first wife, had several children, and mother and children are still living. His second wife, Maggie, was an English girl, and is still living, with one child. His third wife was Thalia Grant, who left him; she is probably still living, but has no children. The fourth wife, Clara Stenhouse, daughter of the famous Mrs. Stenhouse, is still living. Although Joseph had three living wives, for many years past he only resided with one, Clara Stenhouse. This woman, for the love of her, induced him to give up all others and practice the ways of a monogamist. His wife Maggie was left to shift for herself, but the other wife, Mary, being a woman of spirit, compelled Young to provide for her and the children. Joseph was a wild fellow and gave his father much trouble.

Brigham junior, the second child of Ann Angell, was the Prophet's favorite son, and destined to succeed him as the head of the Church. He used to carry "Briggy" about with him and show him to the people of Utah as their future prophet. Brigham junior is about 36 years of age and a quiet, steady, good-tempered sort of man, but not bright or smart. He has three wives. His first marriage was to Kate Spencer, and his second wife was Jane Carrington. Both of these ladies are living, but I do not think either of them has children. Brigham junior's third wife was Miss Lizzie Fenton, of Philadelphia. She came out to Salt Lake with John Young's wife on a visit to Mrs. Wilkinson, saw Brigham, fell in love and married him. She was a very bright, pretty girl, and Brigham senior wanted her. The old man used to go courting her in the forenoon and young Brigham in the afternoon. There was quite a rivalry between father and son, but the young fellow won her heart and the girl with it. Miss Fenton has two children by Brigham junior, and is a favorite wife. Soon after her marriage she made him give up his other two wives and live with her alone.

John W. Young, the third son of Ann Angell and Brigham, married for his first wife Lucy Canfield, and had by her several children. His second wife was Clara Jones, but I never heard of any children. For a third wife he married Lizzie Canfield, of Philadelphia, a cousin of his first wife. He was on a visit to his first wife's relations in the City of Brotherly Love, saw Miss Canfield, and persuaded her to accompany him to Salt Lake, where, according to the Mormon creed, he espoused her. The first wife was greatly shocked at the conduct of her cousin—as well she might be. The Philadelphia wife soon had things her own way—as they say all Philadelphia wives do—and compelled John W. to give up his other wives and live with her alone. The Philadelphia girls seem to have the knack of making monogamists out of Mormons, and, it is said here, one Philadelphia woman is as much as any man can manage. John Young wished the first wife [Lucy] to kiss the third wife (her cousin Lizzie) good-night, which Lucy refused to do, and, to punish her, John locked the rebellious Lucy up in a dark room, away from her children, until she yielded. She, however, soon afterward left the house and applied to the Prophet for a divorce, which he readily granted. John Young is "President of the Salt Lake State of Zion"—a very high office. He is also a prominent railroad and business man, and the smartest of all Brigham's children. He often goes East with his pretty and lady-like wife, Lizzie Canfield, and they are as genteel and handsome a couple as one would see anywhere.

Alice, the oldest daughter of Ann Angell and Brigham is married to Hiram B. Clawson. She was nice, very pretty and bright, and a great favorite with gentlemen. When a girl she was engaged to a Mr. Tobin, who went on a visit to California, and, while he was absent, she flirted outrageously, which Mr. Tobin hearing on his return, broke off his engagement. The young gentleman with whom she had the flirtation was ordered off by the Prophet to the Sandwich Islands to convert the heathen. Soon afterward Brigham, who, it seems, was greatly displeased with the affair, gave Alice for a wife to his confidential secretary, Clawson, who already had two wives. This brought the gay Alice's single life to a sudden termination. She had several children by Clawson, but was not a very good mother. She died two years ago under circumstances of a very sad nature. This proud, ambitious, handsome woman hated polygamy, and soon afterward was found dead in her bed, with a bottle beside her labeled "poison." She was a splendid actress, and often played in her father's theatre to crowded houses. With all her freedom, she was virtuous, amiable, kind-hearted, and bright.

Luna, the second daughter of Brigham and Ann Angell, was a bright and beautiful blonde, self-willed and gay as a bird. It required all of Brigham's skill to manage her, and she often got the better of him. She was almost imperial in her self-will and beauty, and the Prophet loved this wayward child better than any of the rest. She is the plural wife of George Thatcher, a leading Mormon.

Lucy Decker, the first wife in polygamy, had two children before she married Brigham, and by the Prophet she had seven—Brigham, Heber, Fanny, Ernest, Arthur, Mira Feramorz, and Clara. Her sons are in the mercantile business. Heber and Ernest are both married, but have one wife each. Fanny is married to George Thatcher, to whom Brigham's daughter, Luna, by his first wife, is also married.

Clara Decker, a sister of Lucy, and Brigham's second wife in plurality, has three children by the Prophet—Nettie, Nabbie, and Lulu. Nettie is the only wife of Henry Snell.

Harriet Cook, Brigham's fourth wife, had one son by him, Oscar, now 31 years of age, and a hard case. Brigham disowned him and spoke of him as "that reprobate." Oscar called the Prophet "Dad" and "the old man," and often expressed a belief that he was "an old humbug." Oscar had a wife, but a few years ago she left him.

Lucy Bigelow, the fifth wife, has three daughters, Dora, Susan, and Toolie. Dora is married to a Gentile, Morley Dunford. She greatly scandalized the Mormon Church by going to an Episcopal clergyman to get married. The Prophet was terribly enraged. According to Mormon law she is not married at all, but it does not seem to trouble either her or her good husband. Susie, the second daughter, is married to Mr. Almy Dunford. Lucy Bigelow married Brigham when quite a young girl, and for a long time has lived in St. George, Southern Utah, where the Prophet and a favorite wife or two went to spend a part of each winter. He always stopped at the house of Lucy Bigelow while in St. George, and was often insolent and overbearing in his conduct toward her. On the occasion of one of his very last visits with Amelia, the favorite, both the Prophet and Amelia behaved in so insolent a manner that the usually quiet Lucy was aroused to anger, and, it is said, she routed the "head of the Church," and his carrot-topped spouse out of the house. Lucy was very pretty when young, and her daughters are said to be bright and handsome girls.

The sixth wife is Mrs. Twiss, who has no children of her own, but has an adopted son whom, it is said, Brigham also adopted to console her.

Martha Bowker, the seventh wife, has long been sickly. She has no children of her own, but an adopted daughter of whom she is very fond. It seems that—according to the Mormon creed—every woman must appear in eternity with children or be a nonentity. If they cannot have children of their own they must adopt and raise some other woman's children. A woman with 10 or 12 children is much respected in Zion. All her children will belong to her in heaven, and as the generations multiply on earth, die and follow her to the New Jerusalem.

Gentle, lovely Harriet Barney, whose charms of person are only excelled by her graces of mind, is the eighth wife. She had two children by a former husband when she married Brigham, and she brought these children to Salt Lake, "that they might be brought up," as she said, "in the true religion." It does, indeed, seem incredible that such a woman should be led into the hallucinations of Mormonism. She had one child by the Prophet, a son named Howe.

Eliza Burgess, the ninth wife, has one son by the Prophet, whose name is Alphilus Young.

Ellen Rockwood, the tenth wife, I believe is dead. She had no children.

Susan Snively, the eleventh wife, was a German lady, and married Brigham when she was quite a young girl. She managed one of the Prophet's farms, and never had any children of her own. She has an adopted daughter, a bright, attractive girl, of whom she is very fond.

Jemima Angell, the twelfth wife, was not, as before stated, a sister of Mary Ann Angell, Brigham's first living wife, but only a near relative. Neither was she a full wife, but only a "proxy." She was sealed to the Prophet for the purpose of saving her and her children from damnation. She had three children by her first husband, one of whom married a Mr. Frazier and has a large family. Jemima died several years ago.

It is said at the same time Brigham was married to Lucy Bigelow he was sealed to her younger sister, a very pretty girl. For a time he was very fond of her, and she had a child by him. Suddenly Brigham either did, or pretended to, discover she was untrue

to him, and heaped all sorts of abuse on her. She protested her innocence, but Brigham cursed her, and sent her to her parents. The parents received her, but were crushed by the disgrace of their child. The poor girl pined away, and died of a broken heart. Some say she left two children. I have seen a picture of this woman which represents her with two children, a boy and a girl, standing by her knee, but I do not know if the story be true or false.

Margaret Alley, the thirteenth wife, died many years ago. She had two children by the Prophet, Eva and Mahovin—Monan-charmer.

Margaret Pierce, the fourteenth wife, was a widow when sealed to Young. She had one child, a son—Morris—but whether by Brigham or her former husband I cannot tell.

Mrs. Hampton, wife No. 15, had no children by the Prophet, but one daughter by her first husband, Mr. Cole.

Wife No. 16 was Mary Bigelow, mentioned above, who Brigham charged with adultery and sent home to her parents. She ought properly to be called wife No. 6, after her sister Lucy, but among so many it does not matter much where she is set down.

Emeline Free, the "Light of the Harem," and wife No. 17, died some years ago and left eight children by the Prophet. Their names are Miranda, Ella, Louise, (whom her father nick-named "Punk"), Hyrum, Lorenzo, Alonzo, Ruth, and Della. Miranda is the only wife of Walter Conrad, and Louise the only wife of James Harris, Esq. One of the sons, Hyrum, is married, but has only one wife.

Eliza Roxy Snow, the poetess, is the eighteenth wife. She was one of Joseph Smith's wives, and is only married by "proxy" to Brigham. "For her bodily comfort and the welfare of her soul" she was sealed to Young for "time," but is to belong to Smith in "eternity." She is now an old woman, and has no children as I can learn.

Ann Eliza Webb Young is the nineteenth wife. She was first married to James Dee, an Englishman, by whom she had two children, but never had any by the Prophet.

Zina Huntingdon Jacobs, the twentieth wife, has one child by the Prophet, named after her mother, Zina. She married Thomas Williams, an Englishman, who now is dead. He had one other wife besides Zina. When Williams came to ask for Zina, Brigham said "he could have her if he would take the mother too." Williams agreed to this, and the mother went to live with her daughter, but Brigham afterward sent for No. 20 and gave her a house and lot in Salt Lake City. Soon after Williams had married Zina Young, and brought her home to live, his first wife's baby died, and the husband insisted on the second wife attending the funeral, to which wife No. 1 objected. Williams compelled her to submit, but she would not sit in the room with Zina, where the dead child lay. Williams died suddenly while sitting at the table in Zina's house. The first wife, as was her right, had the body brought to her house, and prepared for burial, but would not allow the second wife to ride in the carriage with her to the funeral.

Emily Partridge, wife No. 21, was Joseph Smith's wife, and married by "proxy" to Young. She had five children by Young—Emily, Carrie, Don Carlos, Mary, and Josephine. Her daughter Emily is one of the plural wives of Hiram B. Clawson; also a half-sister of Alice's husband. Carrie and Mary both married Mark Croxall, the Western Union Telegraph operator at Salt Lake, but Mary is now dead.

Wife 22 is a Boston woman—Mrs. Augusta Cobb. She has no children by the Prophet, but had several by her first husband. Brigham first met her at the "Hub," where he was on a mission. He converted her to Mormonism and induced her to abandon her husband and children and follow him to Zion, where he made her his wife. Incredible as it may seem, this woman left a fine social position and a luxurious home to join the Mormons.

Mrs. Smith, heretofore set down as wife No. 23, is no other than Emily Partridge, No. 21. She is called both Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Young, and so was duplicated.

Mrs. Van Cott, not heretofore mentioned, is properly wife No. 23 of the Prophet. She had one child when she married Young, and has since had one, a daughter, by the Prophet. This little girl, now about 6 years old, is called "Baby Young," and, I believe, is the youngest of all Brigham's children.

Clara Chase, the "maniac," is called wife No. 24, but she ought to have come in further back, for she certainly was married to Young before either Ann Eliza or Mary Van Cott was. She had four children by the Prophet—Mary, Maria, Willard, and Phoebe. Mary is dead; Maria is the only wife of William Dougall; Phoebe is the only wife of Walter Batie. Her son Willard is the young gentleman who recently graduated at the West Point Military Academy with high honors.

Amelia Folsom, the twenty-fifth wife and last favorite of the Prophet, had no children. She is still young and handsome, but said to be very high-tempered.

The above, I believe, are all of the "Prophet, Seer, and Revelator's" children, but there may be others of whom I have no account. It is doubtful if Young knew, when he died, how many children he had, or where they all lived.