

# Robert Gardner Jr. 1819

By Adam Hunt



My great-great-great, grandpa, was an extraordinary. He was born on October 12, 1819, in Kilsyth, Stirlingshire, Scotland. He was born Methodist. His older brother William was the first to be baptized, and converted to a Mormon. Robert wanted to talk to some of the Mormons. He was advised by the Methodist ministers not to do so. He did so anyway. He was baptized January 4, 1845, at Brown's Creek Brooke Township.

"I never will forget the time ... my brother William Baptized me. While under the water, though only about a second, it seemed to me a minute, and a bright light shone around my head and had a very mild heat with it. I think I was confirmed while sitting on a log near the water, under the hands of Samuel Bolton and my brother William, Bolton being the mouth. I cannot describe my feelings that I had at that time, and for a long time after, but I felt like a child, and was very careful what I said and did and thought lest I might offend my Father in Heaven."(The entire family eventually got converted.)

When Robert was called to go to St. George, he gathered supplies and part of his family and went.



Later he went back to get the rest of his family. Brigham Young

”  
agreed to buy half of the mill (the other half belonging to his brother, Archibald.) He was to receive \$1,000 in goods, and \$5,000 in cash. Brigham gave him the goods, but not the \$5,000 in cash. They argued about it. Brigham used strong language. At the end Brigham said "Now

Robert Gardner, go off and sulk and apostatize and leave the church." Robert promptly retorted, "Brigham Young, if this were your church that is just what I would do but this is the Church of God and it is my church as much as it is yours; so I shall do nothing of the kind."

"The following were then presented and sustained without dissent; Robert Gardner as Presiding Bishop of the City of St. George and acting Bishop of the 4th Ward of St. George, and to have charge of all tithing business of St. George; Ute Perkins as Bishop of the 1st Ward with William Fawcett as counselor. (Elders Pratt and Snow gave them direction of the 2nd ward also) Daniel D. McArthur as Bishop of the 3rd Ward."

Robert went to Pine Valley in 1863. "When Spring came I moved my wives, Jane and Cynthia, and their families to Pine

Valley. With the help of my older boys and ox teams I started logging and sawing lumber. I had arranged for my family in Pine Valley as best I could, but most of my time was taken up in public affairs. I had little left to devote to my own and my families."



He died February 3, 1906. He was eighty-seven years of age at the time of death. I would like to acknowledge my uncle Doug, who wrote the book that I got all of my information from.