

Mary Catherine Cloward Kump

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In the Heavens are parents single?
No, the thought makes reason stare.
Truth is reason, truth eternal,
Tells me I've a mother there.

--Eliza R. Snow

Mary Catherine Cloward was born 23 May 1856 in Spanish Fork, Utah, the daughter of Jacob and Susanna Mendenhall Cloward. She was one of nine children, six boys and three girls. While she was quite young, her parents moved to Moroni, Sanpete County, Utah where Mary Catherine lived until she grew to womanhood. She was baptized the 25 October 1873 by Christen Jensen at _____. She had but little education for in those days in Moroni there wasn't many school days in each year, so her education was limited. Mary Catherine's parents weren't rich in worldly goods for the people that lived in Sanpete County. However, she grew up and had a lot of enjoyment going to dances and quilting parties and enjoyed herself as only young girls could. But she did have to work to get money, to buy her own clothes.

Mary Catherine went to work for Zachariah and Elizabeth Ann Cloward Kump who had five children born to them. Elizabeth Ann and Mary Catherine were first cousins. Elizabeth died leaving five children, three boys and two girls. She died March 1874 in Moroni, Sanpete County, Utah.

About the first part of 1875, Zachariah and Mary Catherine Cloward was married. Fifteen children was born to them; eight boys and seven girls. Their second child Addie Mae died in 1887 while she was young. They raised all the rest of their children to maturity.

Oh, what a wonderful mother she was to her children. I know, because I was one of them. My mother who challenged the crisis of life or death that she might give birth and bestow upon fifteen children the invaluable gift of mortality. Our mother that gave the food that kept life, kindled and nourished us when body and mind were helpless through the long days of infancy. Our mother who watched in our earliest years, our every move, who guarded our sleeping and wakening moments to save us from harm. Our mother who gave us all she had to give, to the last morsel of strength of thoughtfulness, and the tenderest care and love ever had, and always. She was so good and kind to others too. She lost her husband 20 June 1904 at Chester, Utah and she had the responsibility of rearing and feeding and clothing her big family. After Zachariah died she went to the temple and had all her temple work done. She had Elizabeth Ann sealed to Zachariah; then she too was sealed to him and all the children sealed to them that could be sealed at that time.

After Willous Kump, her son died on 3 August 1905, of appendicitis, he came back to her and told her he wanted his temple work done. She told this writer that she could not hardly do anything for thinking of him. She told the Bishop all about it and he said Willous cannot go on until his temple work is done, that you should go and have this work done and she did and she had all the other work done at the same time and after that she knew how much better she felt about Willous. She seemed to be very happy after that.

Mary Catherine had a nice horse and buggy and she would go and visit all her children and friends and she was so kind and generous and gave all her children such good advice as long as she was able. We all know that she was kind to her fellowmen. She will certainly gain the Celestial Glory for the good life she lived. She was a great tithe payer. She was a faithful member to the end. Mary Catherine died 25 March 1915 of pleurisy in Chester, Sanpete County, Utah. She was buried 29 March 1915 at the Moroni Cemetery.