

Charles Westover

Charles Westover was born 16 October 1850 in Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah Territory.¹ He was the oldest of eleven children of Charles Westover and Eliza Ann Haven. His parents had each crossed the plains and were the first couple to be married in the Great Salt Lake Valley. They lived with and took care of the Erastus Snow family while Erastus went on a mission to Denmark.² They were married for 70 years!³ In the spring of 1853 they moved to South Cottonwood.⁴ In 1856, his father married to a second wife in polygamy with seven more children.

The family was living in Salt Lake City in 1860.⁵ His father was called to settle in St George, Washington, Utah Territory, and the family moved there in December 1862. His mother taught school in St George.⁶ The family moved to Pinto, Washington, Utah Territory, by 1870, where Charles worked on the family farm.⁷ One day in 1875, Charles' mother and five-year old sister were home alone. A cloud burst almost washed the little town away. Flooding waters crept under the door, rising higher and higher. Charles' mother, Eliza, put his sister up on the table. When the table started floating around the room, she opened both doors, hoping that would take the pressure off the house.⁸

A young neighbor, Joe Platt, waded, swam, and hung onto fences to come to the door. He took the little girl and carried her toward a wagon lodged between two trees. Eliza saw him stumble and fall, both heads going under the water. He struggled up, dropped of the girl, and came back for Eliza. After the water subsided, Eliza found out that he had almost severed his foot by stepping on an ax embedded upright in the sand under the flood waters. Their home an almost everything they had were gone.⁹

In 1876, Charles was an ore hauler in Silver Reef, Washington, Utah Territory.¹⁰ On the 1880 census, Charles was a butcher in Silver Reef, Washington, Utah Territory.¹¹ He was a partner in the Lusk and Company butchers.¹² He opened the People's Market with Edward Marshall. They offered beef, mutton, pork, veal, sausage, bologna, headcheese, pickled feet, tripe, etc. The delivered meats to all points in the vicinity, free of charge.¹³ His partnership with Edward Marshall dissolved in 1882 when Marshall retired.¹⁴

He married Ellen Parker in 1883 in St George, Washington, Utah Territory. They had nine children. Ellen was an aunt of Robert Leroy Parker, known as Butch Cassidy. His parents moved to Silver Reef

¹Utah Death Certificates. 1904-1964.

² Eliza Ann Haven Westover, by Charlene Paxman Fuller, in *Familysearch.org*

³ The Haven and Eva Paxman Family Organization has a copy of a picture of them together on their 70th wedding anniversary.

⁴ Eliza Ann Haven Westover, by Charlene Paxman Fuller, in *Familysearch.org*

⁵ United States Census, 1860.

⁶ Eliza Ann Haven Westover, by Charlene Paxman Fuller, in *Familysearch.org*

⁷ United States Census, 1870.

⁸ Eliza Ann Haven Westover, by Charlene Paxman Fuller, in *Familysearch.org*

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ *The Archaeology of Abandonment: Ghost Towns of the American West*, by Paige Peyton, p. 154.

¹¹ United States Census, 1880; *Iron County Record*, 7 January 1921, p. 4.

¹² *Utah Directory and Gazetteer, 1879-1880*; Hyrum Leany, at cedarcity.org/DocumentCenter/View/7652/

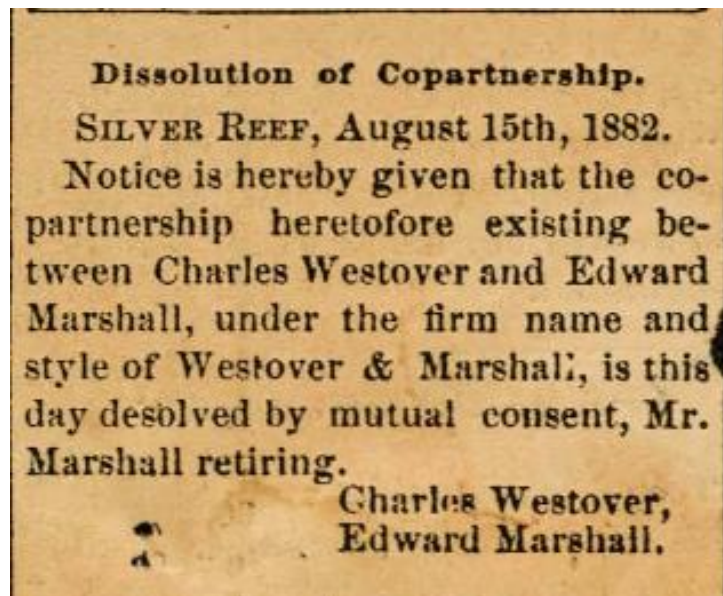
¹³ *Silver Reef Miner*, 5 November 1881, p. 2.

¹⁴ *Silver Reef Miner*, 7 October 1882, p. 2.

in 1884, where his mother took in boarders.¹⁵ For the next fifteen years, Charles served as juror, deputy registrar, registrar, election judge, and councilor in Silver Reef, Leeds, and Washington City.¹⁶

In 1899, Ormund Wilkins and James Waters attempted to jump claim Charles' farm, located near the big dam, three miles to the southeast. They put up a lumber shack and set two cedar posts at opposite ends of the land, decorated with two pieces of paper. Charles got a teacher to work on it and found they had claimed all the land between the posts. County attorney Morris threatened both jumpers with arrest for trespassing and they tore down their shack and left.¹⁷ On the 1900 census, Charles was a farmer, living with his wife and eight children in Washington City.¹⁸ He bought 175 acres of land in Washington County with and water and mining rights in 1908.¹⁹

On the 1910 census, Charles was a farmer, living with his wife and five children in Washington City.²⁰ He served as justice of peace in Washington.²¹ They continued to live in Washington City²² until he died on 8 January 1821 and was buried in the city cemetery.²³ It is interesting that he was outlived by his 92-year old mother. Ellen continued to live in Washington City²⁴ until her death in 1939. She was buried next to Charles.



(Image from the *Silver Reef Miner*, 7 October 1882, p. 2)

¹⁵ Eliza Ann Haven Westover, by Charlene Paxman Fuller, in *Familysearch.org*

¹⁶ *Salt Lake Herald*, 23 April 1886, p. 5; 28 April 1885, p. 5; 19 July 1891, p. 3; 21 November 1893, p. 5; 16 September 1896, p. 6; 25 December 1902, p. 3; *Salt Lake Evening Democrat*, 14 April 1887, p. 4; *The Union*, 24 October 1896, p. 4; 23 January 1897, p. 2.

¹⁷ *Salt Lake Herald*, 5 February 1899, p. 6.

¹⁸ United States Census, 1990.

¹⁹ thelandpatents.com/gallery/6p3pqhkk

²⁰ United States Census, 1910.

²¹ Report of the State Bureau of Immigration, Labor and Statistics, Vol 1, 1913, p. 365.

²² United States Census, 1910.

²³ Utah Death Certificates. 1904-1964.


²⁴ United States Census, 1930.

People's Market

WESTOVER & MARSHALL

Proprietors.

THIS NEW FIRM HAS TAKEN the above popular stand and started business. They are now prepared to serve the people of Silver Reef and vicinity with the choicest cuts of BEEF, MUTTON, PORK and VEAL; also, SAUSAGE and BOLOGNA, Headcheese, Pickled Feet, Tripe, etc.



We want all who love good meat and good accommodations to give us a call and see for themselves, and we are satisfied, after a fair trial, to be judged by our works.

MEATS DELIVERED to all points in the vicinity FREE OF CHARGE.

(Image from the *Silver Reef Miner*, 5 November 1881, p. 2)



Charles Westover, Jr (image from *Familysearch.org*)



(Image from *Familysearch.org*)