

Sarah Isabella Sherratt Baker

Sarah Isabella Sherratt was born 31 December 1856 in what was called the Old Fort, near Cedar City, Iron, Utah Territory. She was the oldest of ten children of John Sherratt and Christina Bullock. She also had three older half siblings and an older foster sibling. Her parents had joined the Mormon Church and emigrated from England to Utah Territory. On the 1860 and 1870 censuses, the family was farming in Cedar City. Her father was marked as “deaf mute” and “deaf and dumb” on the censuses.¹

Sarah married Endymion “James Baker” Hilton² in 1876 in Cedar City.³ They made their first home in Circleville, Piute, Utah Territory. They had four children together. It took two days by ox team to travel from Circleville to Cedar City to see family members and obtain supplies.⁴ In 1880, James and Sarah were living with two children in Silver Reef, Washington, Utah Territory, where he worked as a teamster.⁵ They moved to Circleville, Piute, Utah Territory, then to Kingston, Piute, Utah Territory.⁶

Sarah’s health was very poor, and James thought that living elsewhere would improve her health, so they moved Montrose, Colorado, then Mexico, and back to Cortez, Colorado. In 1886, they moved to Monticello, San Juan, Utah Territory. Sarah sought a church blessing for her health, so James and a neighbor carried her to church in a chair. She soon felt better.⁷ By 1900, the family was farming in Moab, Grand, Utah.⁸

James was very efficient with machinery and worked at a sawmill, then constructed a shingle mill of his own. Sarah went live with her daughters and granddaughters in the Blue Mountains of Monticello for the summer to make butter and cheese. She was expert and won many awards and operated a dairy. She was among the first to operate a boarding house. Her profit was very little as many people took advantage of her goodhearted nature and ate without paying. However, she never turned anyone away. Sarah was a mother to everyone she was one who never had a bad word to say about anyone. She always told her children if you can't say something good don't say anything.⁹

On the 1910 census, the family was farming in Monticello.¹⁰ James died of senility in 1919 and was buried in the city cemetery.¹¹ Sarah went to live with her youngest daughter.¹² She continued living when they moved to Price, Carbon, Utah¹³, until her death from a broken hip and pelvis from a fall on 7 October 1941 in Cedar City. She was buried in the city cemetery.¹⁴

¹ United States Census, 1860, 1870.

² James’ birth name was Endymion Baker Hilton, but after the Civil War he started going by James Baker, a combination of his father’s name and his middle name.

³ US Western States Marriage Index.

⁴ Sherratt Patterns, by daughter Alice Baker Jones, at Familysearch.

⁵ United States Census, 1880.

⁶ Familysearch.

⁷ Brief autobiography of Alice Jones, at Familysearch.

⁸ United States Census, 1900.

⁹ Sherratt Patterns, by daughter Alice Baker Jones, at Familysearch; Brief autobiography of Alice Jones, at Familysearch.

¹⁰ United States Census, 1910.

¹¹ Utah Death Certificates, 1904-1964; Findagrave; BillionGraves.

¹² United States Census, 1920.

¹³ United States Census, 1930, 1940.

¹⁴ Utah Death Certificates, 1904-1964; Utah Death and Military Death Certificates, 1904-1961; Utah Death Registers, 1847-1966; Utah Cemetery Abstracts; Iron County Record, 16 October 1941, p. 1; Findagrave.



Sarah Christina, James, Alice Luvenia, Isabella, and Maybelle Baker
(image from Familysearch)



Remains of Jones Blue Mountain Home in Monticello
(image from Familysearch)



Isabella (images from Familysearch)



(Image from BillionGraves)

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