



*LDS Emigration
Dunsdon
3rd June 1864
"Hudson"
London to New York*

Surname	Dunsdon
Given Names	James
Birth Year	1838
Age on Entry	25
Gender	Male
Occupation	Farmer
Native Place and County	Steeple Ashton, Wiltshire ** See OPC Note
Parents	John Dunsdon and Mary Blake
Name of Ship	Hudson
Port of Departure	London
Date Sailed	3 Jun 1864
Port of Arrival	New York
Arrival Date	19 Jul 1864
Name of Overland Company	N/A
Set Out From	N/A
Date Set Out	N/A
Date of Arrival In Utah	N/A
Town of Settlement	Lyons, Iowa; Rawles, Iowa; Fremont County, Iowa
Relatives in	
Remarks/Description of Entrant	<p>Nephew of James and Thomas Dunsdon who emigrated in 1849. James did not travel overland to Utah with his wife. Joined the RLDS Church in 1884 Married: Virtue Barnett, 10 Dec 1856, Steeple Ashton, Wiltshire Married: Marion Montgomery Thornton, 1875, Iowa Died: 2 Apr 1909, Fremont County, Iowa Buried: Gaylord Cemetery, Fremont County, Iowa</p>

Surname	Dunsdon (nee Barnett)
Given Names	Virtue
Birth Year	1834
Age on Entry	30
Gender	Female
Occupation	
Native Place and County	Steeple Ashton, Wiltshire
Parents	James Barnett and Ann Berrett

Name of Ship	Hudson
Port of Departure	London
Date Sailed	3 Jun 1864
Port of Arrival	New York
Arrival Date	19 Jul 1864
Name of Overland Company	Warren S. Snow
Set Out From	Wyoming, Nebraska
Date Set Out	17 Aug 1864
Date of Arrival In Utah	2 Nov 1864
Town of Settlement	Ogden, Utah
Relatives in	
Remarks/Description of Entrant	Virtue's widowed mother Ann (Berrett) Barnett and siblings George and Serena emigrated at the same time (See Barnett 1864). Travelled overland to Utah with her mother and siblings. Husband James stayed in Iowa. Married: James Dunsdon, 10 Dec 1856, Steeple Ashton, Wiltshire Died: 13 Nov 1864, Ogden, Utah Buried: Ben Lomond Cemetery, Ogden, Utah

Surname	Dunsdon (nee Blake)
Given Names	Mary
Birth Year	1796
Age on Entry	68
Gender	Female
Occupation	Widow
Native Place and County	Westleigh, Devon
Parents	William Blake and Elizabeth Molton
Name of Ship	Hudson
Port of Departure	London
Date Sailed	3 Jun 1864
Port of Arrival	New York
Arrival Date	19 Jul 1864
Name of Overland Company	N/A
Set Out From	N/A
Date Set Out	N/A
Date of Arrival In Utah	N/A
Town of Settlement	Tabor, Iowa
Relatives in	
Remarks/Description of Entrant	Did not travel overland to Utah. Joined the RLDS Church Married: John Dunsdon, 24 Jun 1833, Woolwich, Kent Died: 30 Dec 1876, Tabor, Iowa Buried: Iowa

Surname	Dunsdon
Given Names	Mary Ann
Birth Year	1834
Age on Entry	29
Gender	Female
Occupation	Servant
Native Place and County	Steeple Ashton, Wiltshire ** See OPC Note
Parents	John Dunsdon and Mary Blake
Name of Ship	Hudson

Port of Departure	London
Date Sailed	3 Jun 1864
Port of Arrival	New York
Arrival Date	19 Jul 1864
Name of Overland Company	N/A
Set Out From	N/A
Date Set Out	N/A
Date of Arrival In Utah	N/A
Town of Settlement	Tabor, Iowa
Relatives in	
Remarks/Description of Entrant	<p>Did not travel overland to Utah. Joined the RLDS Church in 1865. Husband George Kemp (also from Steeple Ashton) emigrated in 1854 Married: George Kemp, Abt. 1865, Utah Died: 3 Aug 1878, Tabor, Iowa Buried: Gaylord Cemetery, Fremont County, Iowa</p>

OPC Note:

The Barnetts, also from Steeple Ashton, were on the same voyage as this group of Dunsdons, and included Virtue (Barnett) Dunsdon's widowed mother Ann Barnett (nee Berrett), her siblings George and Serena, and assorted nieces/nephews.

Two of James' uncles, Thomas Dunsdon and James Dunsdon, emigrated in 1849, along with their families.

There is another person listed with the Steeple Ashton contingent on the voyage's ledger, Samuel Alder. Samuel was from Trowbridge and doesn't have known links to Steeple Ashton, other than the ledger entry.

In 1884, James was baptised by Henry Kemp into the Reorganised Church of Latter-Day Saints (Called The Community of Christ since 2001). James' mother and sister also became members of the RLDS. The RLDS split from the original LDS after the death of founder/leader Joseph Smith. Doctrines differed, particularly about church leadership and polygamy (which was banned).

** Some records show that James and his sister Mary Ann were born in Woolwich, Kent, rather than Steeple Ashton. Their father John was in the army and stationed in Woolwich in 1841. This census indicates that none of his children were born in the county of Kent.

Mary Ann's Connection to Unsolved Iowa Murder Cases

George and Mary Ann's youngest daughter Lucy Ann was allegedly murdered by their great grandson Lyman Harvey Elefson (Lucy's grandson).

Lyman was suspected of poisoning his grandparents Lucy Ann (Kemp) Rhode and Alonzo Lyman Rhode, and his mother Winifred (Rhode) Elefson.

Lyman's step-great grandmother Anna Pearl (Erickson) Kemp (George's third wife) survived suspected poisoning.

After these incidents in 1948/49, investigations (inconclusive) were made into his father Harvey Elefson's death in 1941.

Lyman was never found guilty, due to lack of sufficient evidence even though he was with each person right before they became ill.

Information from article by Nancy Bowers at

<https://iowaunsolvedmurders.com/the-murders/the-poisoned-family-rhode-elfson-murders-1948-1949/>