

The History of James Radford Millard and His Wife Catherine Richards

by Julie Cannon Markham

My mother, Beth Innes Cannon, deeply loved her grandmother, Cecelia Millard Grover, and often spoke of her. Mother referred to her grandmother as Celia and did not know until I told her that her given name was Cecelia.

Cecelia was a daughter of immigrant LDS pioneers, James Radford Millard of Biddisham, England, and his wife Catherine Richards of Wales. I was surprised at what I learned in researching their lives. For example, I had no idea Catherine's family included many LDS converts, and that James was the only member of his family to join the Church.

I am extremely fortunate that Cecelia wrote biographies of her family members, as did her siblings. I used these extensively. It became clear to me that some of the sources Cecelia used, such as the writings of Frederick Piercy as he emigrated to the United States, were sources that I also used. There is nothing better than first person accounts, and Cecelia and her siblings have provided those for their descendants. I hope some day to thank them.

I initially researched and wrote this biography in 2012. In the fall of 2017, I have revisited this, cleaning up minor errors and changing the format from one long document to chapters.

Chapter 1: A Brief History of Wales	Page 1
Chapter 2: Catherine Richards and James Millard Join the LDS Church	Page 7
Chapter 3: James Millard Emigrates to the United States in 1853	Page 12
Chapter 4: William Richards and His Daughters Catherine and Cecelia Leave Wales	Page 32
Chapter 5: James Millard Marries Catherine Richards	Page 33
Chapter 6: Morgan Richards Emigrates to Utah	Page 40
Chapter 7: Life in Early Farmington	Page 46
Chapter 8: Catherine Richards Millard Dies	Page 53
Chapter 9: Family Members of Catherine Richards Millard Immigrate	Page 59
Chapter 10: James Millard and his Son William Serve Missions	Page 65
Chapter 11: James Millard Ordained a Patriarch	Page 75
Chapter 12: James Millard Dies	Page 81
Sources	Page 85