

Incidents and quotes from C. P. W.'s Life Sketch: -

(Speaking of his childhood home in Sweden) "We (family members) were taught to be honest, truthful, and industrious and that idleness and waste were sins."

(His comment on his adjustment after he arrived in Utah: ". . . I could always find work and hard work at that. A great deal of it was in the mountains getting poles and wood, but I never shirked when I could help in any public or charitable way. I delighted in feeling that I was interested in all things that were for the public good."

(His comment about his work on the railroad through Echo Canyon:) ". . . We did pretty well, but the grading was all sub-contract work, and in part payment we had to accept orders on stores and on different men, and some are still unpaid. But since I have lived this long without it, I have decided that should we ever meet I will shake hands and call it square."

(An incident in Battle Creek Canyon in 1872:)" ". . . I together with others, was getting out wood from back of the Mahogany mountain. We brought it back of Little Mountain and down Battle Creek canyon. At the head of the canyon we had to cross over a very poor bridge--just a few loose slabs laid across some logs. When I got to the bridge and looked down fifty or sixty feet rough with rocks at the bottom, a shudder came over me and to prevent getting too near the edge I pulled my team so close to the mountain wall on the upper side of the bridge that my right wheels went upon the wall and my cart commenced to tip. As I felt it going I jumped ahead toward the horses. I caught my foot fast in the wheel. Instantly the end of a broken slab flipped up against the hub so solidly as to keep the cart from going over any further. When I got my foot loose I got my horses by the bits. They gave a long steady pull and we were safely over. Then I realized that some unseen power was present and that I had miraculously escaped a terrible death."

(He tells about his mission call and an incident crossing the ocean.)
"In the spring of 1880 I received a call for a mission. It worried me considerably as I did not have any means on hand and my wife was in a very delicate condition. But I took my letter to Bishop John Brown and asked what he would advise me to answer under the circumstances. "Why, there is only one answer, Charlie. Tell them you will go. Of course you will. No good ever comes of putting things off." So that was the answer I sent, and in return received this: "Be ready to leave Salt Lake for Sweden on April 14th." I again sold my team and with the money realized from this sale, together with the generosity of the good people of Pleasant Grove, I was able to pay my fare. I went up to Conference where my name and thirty-six others was presented, it being customary to present the missionaries at the spring and fall conference. I enjoyed this conference very much. It was the fiftieth anniversary of the church. I returned home for a few days.

"On April 12th I bade my dear wife and two little sons, Charles L. aged 5 years and Howard B. aged two and a half years, farewell and left them in the care of kind Providence and good people. I was blessed and set apart by Wilford Woodruff, who was at that time President of the Twelve Apostles. I had the distinction of being the first missionary who had gone from Pleasant Grove for fifteen years.

"One night while sailing along (on ocean) I had a very comforting dream. I saw my wife lying on her bed looking pale and tired with a baby in her arms. I later learned that this was our third son born eleven days after I left home. This dream gave me great comfort."

(Grandma Christine Marie Warnick records this same time period in her life:) "In February 1880 my husband received a call for a foreign mission. We were happy in the thought that he was counted worthy to go out as a representative of such a noble cause to take the Gospel to others as it had been brought to him in his youth. And yet with this feeling there were other thoughts that came into our minds that gave us considerable worry. Where was the means to come from? He would have to dispose of his available property to raise the necessary funds and then leave his family destitute. We had two little boys at this time. But it seemed that the Lord opened the way and with his own diligent efforts he was able to go. He left Salt Lake City April 12, 1880 in company with thirty other elders.

"He left me with Five Dollars, and on April 23, our third son was born. I surely felt that I had a big job before me. On the third day after my baby was born, I was lying there, as I thought and still think, perfectly awake when I saw my husband standing at the foot of the bed smiling at me. As I started to speak to him he disappeared. His visit gave me great strength and courage, and I have often, when thinking about it, felt a thrill. The Lord truly sends us comfort when we need it most."

(On Dec. 6, 1891 Charles Peter was called as counselor to Bishop Joseph E. Thorne in Pleasant Grove First ward. He wrote:) ". . . My health was not good at that time but I told the Lord that if he would give unto me the strength I lacked I would do willingly what I was asked to do, and I can say truthfully that my health and strength came back to me. I worked with those men for five years and my love and respect for them grew stronger as the years went by."

(Closing paragraph of Charles Peter's life sketch;) "In closing I feel that I have not been successful in amassing wealth. I have not had the home as well furnished as I should have liked, but I have devoted every effort of my life to the end that my sons and my daughters would go from my home and, with God's blessings, be worthy citizens and faithful Latter-day Saints. There are two traits that I have always very much admired in men. These are dependability and punctuality, and it has been my aim all my life to live them, and I most earnestly desire to pass these worthy traits on to my descendants."

Submitted by Effie Warnick Adams