

Hannah Griswold
6 June 1790 - 16 October 1845
by Elaine Johnson

Hannah was the daughter of John and Hannah Peck Griswold of Hartford, Hartford, Connecticut. She married the widower James Webb who had three children. She was older than most brides of that time at twenty-one. Their first child was born October, 1811, in Hanover township, Chautauqua, New York. Chautauqua is the western-most county in the State of New York.

Settling the land was hard work. The men would gather and work as a team to clear land while their wives came to provide meals and help where they could. A woman who lived in Chautauqua then said, "It is not fashionable to be weakly." Hannah and James lived there for twenty-four years.

In 1834 they joined the L.D.S. church and moved to Kirtland, Ohio, less than fifty miles west. It is little wonder they heard of those 'Mormons'. In 1838 they moved to Missouri where the main body of the Saints were gathering. Their Missouri home was at Adam-ondi-Ahman. In November 1839 an army sent by Governor Boggs forced them to abandon their home and flee to Far West. Soon they were driven from Missouri and sought safety in Illinois. Hannah's twenty-five year old son Lorenzo died that year in Payson, Illinois, a tiny town southeast of Quincy.

On the 13th of Dec. last Lorenzo D. Webb died in this place aged 22 years 7 mo. and 11 days. He has been a member of the church about five years, he was a person of gentle and affable disposition, kind and generous hearted and his loss is severely felt by his friends and acquaintances, but while we mourn we do not mourn as though we had no hope, he died in the faith of the gospel and in hope of a glorious resurrection and immortality. His health has been poor for two or three years, but his last illness (which was short but violent) he bore with the greatest fortitude and resignation and when informed we thought he could not live he expressed a willingness to depart and be with Christ, he fell asleep without a struggle or a groan.¹

Her daughter, Hannah, died the same month. Early the next year they moved to Quincy. The Webbs were living in La Harpe about fifteen miles east of Nauvoo when Hannah died. Her obituary appeared in the *Nauvoo Neighbor*, "the 16 Oct, 1845 at 55 years, 4 mo, 10 d La Harpe, Ill." The Webb lot in the Old Mormon Cemetery at Nauvoo, also called the Pioneer Saints Cemetery, is in the southeast corner. Hannah's grave is number 25 in block 14, lot 6.

¹ *Times and Seasons*