

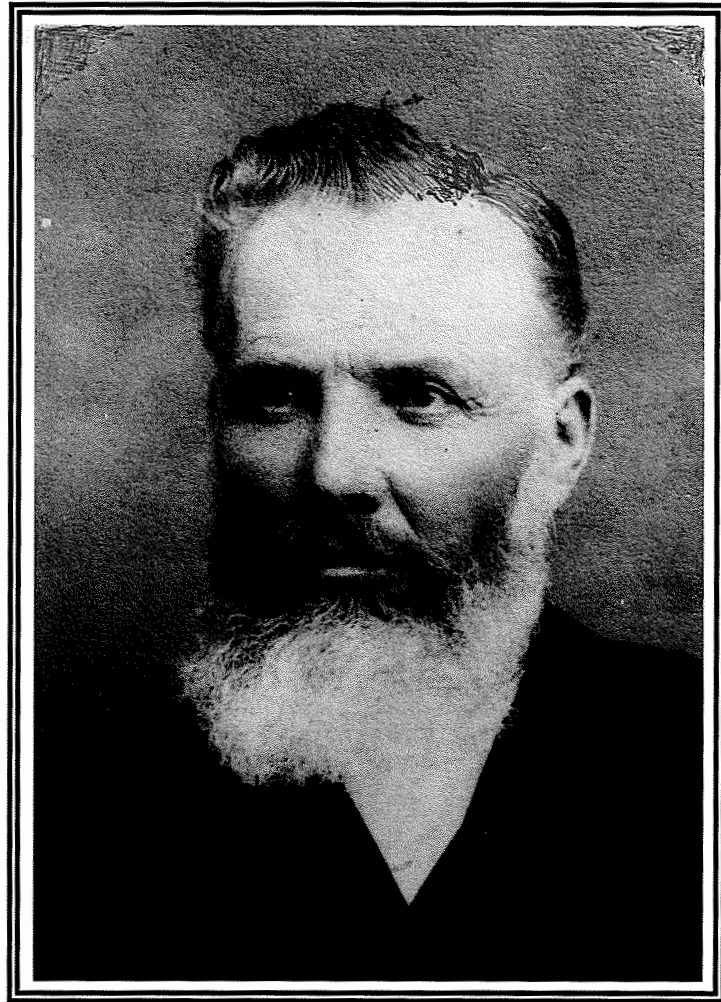
Barry Wride
1833-1913
His Family and his Journals



Edited by
W. Thomas Wride
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Barry Wride

a photo taken in the late 1800's



George Thomas Wride in describing his father, wrote "...he was in the fifth stage of life, according to Shakespear's standards—a retiring gentleman. He was greying a little and had a long waistline. He liked to wear good clothes ...He stood erect and weighed about 220 lbs. He wore a full beard which was trimmed but never shaven. ...He spoke often of his physical abilities in cradling grain or mowing hay with a scythe..."

Barry Wride

1833-1913

A brief biography

by

W. Thomas Wride, a great-grandson

Barry Wride, who was named after his grand father, was born on a warm and sultry day in the latter part of the summer—August 4, 1833 in the family home in Llantreasant, Glamorganshire, Wales, to the proud parents, Danson and Ann Wride. Barry was the second child and first son to bless this marriage. This was the beginning of a new generation of Wrides to be Welshmen. Danson was born in Kent County, England and his father Barry moved his new wife and baby to Wales shortly after he was born. The older Barry was likely looking for the greater economic opportunities that existed in this busy part of Wales at the time, with the productive coal mines and iron works and lush farms of southern Wales.

Barry's father had a nice farm adjacent to their home in this small town in south Wales near the larger community of Cardiff, which was about eight miles to the south and east of the Wride home at Miskin Place in Llantrisant. We don't know the size of Danson's farm but George Thomas Wride in writing about Barry, his father, indicated that he (George) often overheard Barry talking to other men about the ways of the "English farmer." George wrote, likely referring to both his father Barry and his grandfather Danson: "...he practiced the ways of the English farmer. He took great pride in plowing a straight furrow, in making a symmetrical stack of grain—laying the bundles round and round until it tapered to the top. His haystacks were also his pride. When registered and pedigreed milk strains of cattle began to be imported, he was among the first to own some of the best Jersey and Durham cows and Berkshire hogs." Writing about Barry, George continued: "Old 'Betsy' was a choice mare that he bought from Uncle David John for \$120. That was a lot of money in those days." George went on to indicate that this horse was of such quality that it was much admired in the community of Payson. Lewis Wride also wrote of Barry's great ability in picking out excellent quality livestock. This would indicate that he grew up with farming and livestock being taught by his father and probably others in the neighborhood.

The earliest record we have of Barry's activities after his birth come from his own journal. He wrote that in the spring of 1836 (at the age of two and a half) he went with his sister Mary, who at the time was four and a half to Mrs. Mary Day's home, which was about a mile away at Pendoylon. They were taught to spell and read. The girls also learned to sew and knit. So the children of Danson Wride received a good education starting at an early age. The Wride home was one of peace and happiness enjoyed by those who brought religious beliefs into their daily life.

Barry's good penmanship is evident to this day in the smaller journals in the back portion of this book. George T. Wride commented on his father's writing in these remarks: "...he [Barry] wrote in my first primer, 'George Thomas Wride, His book.' The capital letters were large and ornate

while the small ones were in the old English style (Copperplate) of heavy down strokes on an exact and regular slant and space. Besides this skill which he learned in school in Wales, he learned considerable arithmetic and often explained to me the 'rule of three' of percentage and 'practice.' This together with an ability to read well, to speak fluently, a love for learning and the use of an unabridged dictionary made him pass as an 'educated man.' It gave him considerable preference and his service was in demand in the settlements of the Utah pioneers, where minutes were to be kept and records made. He was usually the secretary of an organization or company." This critique of a father by his son is even more poignant considering the fact that George was a college educated teacher. Also it is interesting to contemplate the fact that Barry likely learned both the Welsh Celtic language as well as the English language.

By the time Barry was six years old he was going to school at a Methodist church building at Cross Vane where the teacher was a Scot named Mr. Richardson. Two years later he moved on to Zions Chapel Methodist church building where a Mr. Robert Jones was his teacher. He continued to progress well with the basic arithmetic, writing and spelling. He mentions in his journal that he learned compound numbers and the "Rule of Three" from David Davies, a Methodist Preacher. Sometime after 1846 he wrote that he learned Welsh, though they were forbidden, by English law to speak it in school or any public place.

At age fifteen Barry was required to quit school and work on the family farm. In 1848 the family moved from Llantrisant to Graig Farm, which was closer to Cardiff. This meant more work for Barry, not only on the farm, but common labor for others. In 1850 he worked for Yyndham Lewis, Esq., who was a prominent landowner. Barry hauled building materials for the construction of a new home for Mr. Lewis—the Heath House. Also at this time Barry had a great interest in world affairs and followed the current events in the newspapers. During the next few years he continued working on the farm and other jobs in the community. He writes that he was "somewhat worldly inclined" though he often attended Sunday school at the Baptist Church, read in the scriptures, pondered them and theology, enjoyed listening to good speakers on religious topics. He also "delighted in lines of poetry ...and rhyme", often traveling some distances to attend gatherings for their competition. During these years he was aware of the Elders of the Mormon Church preaching in the community and even knew some of their converts who migrated to America.

As early as 1855 some of his relatives had joined the Mormon Church and they often visited Danson's home and were quite zealous in advocating that religion with great sincerity. Barry says, "I was a close listener, said but little." In writing about those relatives, Barry continues, "She and family were preparing to emigrate in the winter of 1857. I visited their home in Cardiff several times that winter. [My] sister Mary joined their cause before they started. I was impressed to join and was baptized on the 27 of March and Sister Ann (Stubbs by marriage) was baptized soon after. I was baptized by Elder Wm Miller and also confirmed the same day in the tail race of what was called the Little Mill near Cardiff and was ordained to the office of Priest by Sam Roskelly Mar 31st 1857 and did my first attempt at preaching that summer and was ordained an Elder and presided over district of three branches—Cardiff, Whitchurch and

Pentyrch.” He labored in the kingdom under the direction of President Edward D. Miles, who was presiding over the Cardiff Conference. When Pres. Miles migrated to America in the early part of 1860 Barry was called to take his place. He wrote, “I took leave from home immediately for the ministry and was received by the Saints through the Branches with a degree of respect. Llanvabon, I remember, was the first Branch I visited. Johnathan Isaac being the President, I delighted at all times to visit his place. He was a genial and pleasant talker and companion and his family were kind to all traveling Elders and furnished food and lodgings.” One of the pleasures of his ministry was being able to show Elders Charles Rich and Amasa Lyman around Cardiff and Swansea to see some of the old castles. The large beautiful castle at Cardiff was of particular interest to them. Barry wrote of this occasion, “Cardiff Castle and the grounds was a privilege not always granted to visitors, but on the occasion now referred to a very liberal grant was given and in roaming around the lawns and parks with these Apostles we violated some of the rules in crossing and not following the walks and turns we made tracks in descending off a mound and were discovered and called to an account by the Steward and reprimanded, but on asking pardon and being somewhat humiliated the matter was looked over and passed by and we left feeling that we had escaped in a wonderful manner.”

By the spring of 1861 emigrating to America was uppermost in Barry’s mind. Over the years he had assisted many of the Saints in raising money for their emigration, now his thoughts were turning to having to do the same on his own behalf. By the time he was released from his position as President of the Conference (a term for what is now a Mission District) he returned home to make serious preparations for his departure with some other Saints. Barry’s sister Mary, who was by then married to Elder David John, was also making preparations to leave. Barry’s father came to his financial aid by giving him Fifty pounds sterling. This, along with some other savings, provided the funds needed for the trip. Barry writes, “Spent some time in preparing sacks for our baggage although mine went into a small compass.”...”Myself and two sisters parted with Father and Mother, Brothers and Sister for the Gospel’s sake. The date of our departure from the Graig Farm was April 10th 1861. For Cardiff, where we lodged that night. Elder David John [Mary’s husband] was along in the Company. Also my wife Hannah, then a single [woman] who was joined in Wedlock to me at Liverpool on the 13th [of] April 1861 by Apostle C.C. Rich at the office—42 Islington. This was a noted Circumstance in my life. I had formed an association and kept Company with this Lady some time but had set no date for this union. Bro. Rich thought then the set time. It was so arranged. Arrived at Liverpool on the evening of the 11th [of] April, arranged for our tickets...to sail on the Packet Ship Manchester under Management of Captain Trask.”

Though much has been written about the cramped and extremely uncomfortable conditions onboard ship for the emigrating Saints in those years, Barry makes little comment about the trip across the Atlantic Ocean and subsequent carriage, boat and train travel to Florence, Nebraska. We can only suppose that in the context of being a honeymoon cruise and other related travel this young couple enjoyed a certain amount of bliss. These were exciting and adventurous times for these two young couples and their sister from Wales who were traveling with friends and other Saints from their homeland in pursuit of religious freedom. An abundance of Church history

books and even videos describe the trek from Winter Quarters and Florence to the valleys of Utah, so we have a good idea of the great effort by Barry and his group that made that great crossing of the American wilderness in the summer of 1861, with this close family group settling in Provo. In 1863 Barry and Hannah resettled in Payson, where they felt farming would be more successful.

The Wrides soon started their family with their first child being born the next year, in 1862. The children to bless the home of Barry and Hannah are as follows:

Lewis William Barry	Sept. 22, 1862	born in Provo
Annie Jane	April 2, 1864	Payson
Margaret	July 25, 1869	Payson
Hannah Sophia	Aug. 1, 1871	Payson
George Thomas	Nov. 7, 1874	Payson
Minnie Nettie	Jan. 23, 1877	Payson
Francis Moroni	July 20, 1879	Payson

In the April conference of 1865 Barry and several others were called out of the congregation to serve missions in Wales. Before the end of the month these missionaries were in Salt Lake City getting instructions and being set apart for their callings. Because of snow in the mountains the group didn't get underway until the latter part of May. Barry's journals are quite complete in describing the next few years of his missionary travels and experiences. An interesting study could be made of the various locations cited in his journals as he went about preaching the Gospel and old friends and relatives visited in his home country. One such contact could be mentioned in this text—that of Evan Wride, Barry's cousin. Evan was the son of Thomas and Ann Wride. Thomas was a younger brother of Danson Wride, Barry's father. Barry baptized Evan while on his mission in Wales, then Evan emigrated to America and settled in Provo (a grandson of Evan is a neighbor of the author of this text, in Bountiful, Utah. Coincidentally, his name is also Barry Wride.).

When Barry returned from his mission he immediately re-established himself as a farmer, attending to his livestock and land. He had originally started with a modest five acre plot near the Salem canal road east of Payson. Over years of patient saving and provident living he was able to add three other plots. He especially enjoyed raising good crops of potatoes, which he would contract to provide the winter supply for the mines at Eureka. He also enjoyed good horses and cattle and for the former he favored Percheron for draft purposes and French Coach for general use. In cattle he chose Roan Durham for its milking qualities and kept a bull with his small herd. He also raised Berkshire hogs which weighed up to five hundred pounds, supplying the needs of the family, and the finest ones going to market where cash was obtained to provide items the family couldn't produce. All the members of the family, who were able, helped in various chores on the farm to make their contribution to the family effort. George Wride said in his writings: "Five children grew to maturity—all of whom kept his [Barry's] faith and partook of his zeal for education. Each one in turn embraced the opportunity provided to go away from home [to Provo] to attend higher schools. The cost of this must have drained the family treasury

considerably, but the sacrifice seemed to be made without a second thought of the cost. In my own case, I remember driving a fat cow to Provo to turn in to a butcher shop to apply to my expenses there and at another time I remember paying my tuition with a bright twenty dollar gold piece. These were days when men worked for \$1.25 a day and a fat cow brought thirty dollars."..."It was customary for the children to get things at the store and services at the shops [in town] by saying, 'Charge it.' I didn't realize much what that meant, but now I know that bills had to be paid. The settlement came in the Fall and the ending of the year."

Besides being quite occupied with his farm Barry took many opportunities to serve in the community with such positions as head of the school board, Justice of the Peace, City Councilman, Sexton of the Cemetery, Board Member at the bank. In all these duties he worked hard and was respected by the citizens for his fairness, integrity and diligence in carrying out his responsibilities. Because of his good writing skills and abilities he was asked to be the secretary of a given meeting. When the Utah Territorial laws made provision for fees and taxation Barry was one of those voting for its adoption. George again writes, "It was customary for the trustees [school board members] to visit the schools periodically and I was always thrilled to see my father walking and looking sagely about. I distinctly remember an incident when he was treasurer of the board. When the allotment of county taxes were made father went to Provo and brought home what looked like a hat full of twenty dollar gold pieces and kept the money about the home until the teachers and expenses were paid since there were no banking facilities and few safes in town." George continues, regarding Barry's work as a JP, "During this period, I remember his law book, *Compiled Laws of Utah* [he also had on his desk *Blackstone's Commentary*]. This office carried the authority to consummate marriages which he had some occasions to officiate that I remember well because one came in the middle of the night and I was awakened to make room." There weren't many young men in the community that didn't occasionally break the law and get brought before magistrate Wride to answer for their acts. Though they jested of him and his inevitable justice, he was still respected by all and considered fair in his pronouncements.

Barry was a religious man and always lived the standards he accepted with the Mormon faith. He kept the Sabbath day Holy, never making arrangements to do any labor. He had a testimony of the truthfulness of the Restored Gospel and answered the call to serve early in his life as a missionary, to gather to Zion in the mountains of the West, to return to Wales on another mission for three years and to support his Ward leaders, answering to the ordinary duties of an Elder in ward teaching, going to the regular ward and stake meetings, fasting, tithing and home missionary appointments. He took special pride in his assignment to "break-in" the young men in the ward through the Ward Teaching program. Bishop's courts were common in those days and he was often called to take the cause of one side or the other. When disputations arose among members he was also a common favorite for his decisions and fair judgements. He regularly made the trek to General Conference and his enthusiastic reports were always welcomed and enjoyed by the members at their Sunday meetings. In those days the men and women sat on opposite sides of the room during the worship services. In his meetings, Barry was ardent in testimony and diligent and constant in his teachings of the principles of the Gospel, however he was usually engaged in writing minutes and reading reports. He accepted many calls to serve as a

“County Missionary” which required him to go to the various wards in the stake and preach on Sundays. He recorded that they made these trips on the railroad at half price. Other trips out into the west valley branches and wards were more eventful with their transportation being by horse and carriage. He tells stories of losing horses and facing snow storms and other inclement weather during some of these journeys. For a period of time in the 1880's he served in the Tithing Office supervising the acceptance, storage and distribution of the goods.

The Wrides of Payson were very sociable people, often entertaining friends and neighbors in their home. Big dinners were common when friends from the old country would gather at the Wride home. Many of these Welsh folks would come for a day or two, while some thought a month or two was more to their liking. Barry and Hannah likewise would often go to nearby towns to visit their favorite Welsh Saints. Often the children would accompany their parents on these visits and they had grand time playing together in or out of doors, while the “old folks” were visiting around the kitchen stove. Besides their Welsh circle of friends Barry had a good fellowship with many of the town “intellectuals” who would frequently gather at the shop of the town “tinker” to discuss the issues of the day. Included in this group were the local justice, lawmen, notary and other civic leaders, bible student and preacher as well as artist and traveler.

Though Barry enjoyed the big dinners at their social gatherings his everyday meals were usually made up of bread and cheese along with whatever produce was available from the garden or root cellar.

By 1880 Barry had begun acquiring land near the Salem Canal which had marginal value for agricultural purposes and through his labors and knowledge of farming he would improve the quality of the property and increase its value. He would then sell the property, acquire another piece and start improving the new land, adding manure, irrigation and crop rotation all over again. Repeating this process with several tracts of land in the area, he accumulated enough money to invest \$500 in stock of the Payson Exchange bank and was elected to serve on the Board of Directors after it was incorporated in 1891. He was re-elected for subsequent terms, even up until he wrote his journal entry on the matter in 1903, and beyond. He came to depend on his board of director fees for the payment of his taxes and other support of his family and self.

Prior to his banking experience he had been elected a member of the Board of the Co-operative Mercantile Institution for two terms. He wrote in his journal concerning his experience at the co-op, “I profited much in the knowledge of the running of that Institution of running the business of Merchandising and the like Milling Dairying and Cheesemaking which proved a failure in Payson result of poor management & lack of economy I acted on the business committee with Joe S. Tanner one term while Franklin Fairbanks was manager of the Store it became a regular wreck and was purchased and turned into a private [company] store under the Management of T. H. Wilson Jr. and has made good returns ever since now 1903.”

To usher in the new century Barry had gone to visit his daughter Annie, who was living in Juarez, Mexico. He wrote that it was there that he heard of the “demise” of Queen Victoria of England.