

CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH BUTLER WILSON

Charlotte Elizabeth Butler Wilson, daughter of James Butler and Charlotte Elizabeth Topham, was born in Paragonah 21 Jan. 1875. Her family moved to Richfield, Utah about 1882. She received her early education in Richfield and in 1895 left home to attend normal school in Provo. She returned from Brigham Young University and taught school in Richfield for four years.

In 1899-1900 her father and mother moved to Colonia Juarez, Mexico. Her mother was ill and it was thought that the change would do her good. Her father became ill and was taken back to Provo where he died 27 Mar. 1900; bur. in Spanish Fork.

Elizabeth (or Lizzie) was going to teach school in Manti, but she received word that her mother too had passed away, and since she was the oldest child, she felt it was her duty to go to the children. She went to Colonia Juarez and taught for four years in the Juarez Stake Academy, part of the time being Matron of Women.

A few months after arriving in Mexico she met John W. Wilson, a convert to the church from Memphis, Tennessee. John and Lizzie were married in the Salt Lake Temple 17 Mar. 1905. They returned to Colonia Juarez, where John was made manager of the Juarez Mercantile Company. They became the parents of six children, Ruth, John, Elizabeth, James, Melvin and Grace.

During the next few years the Mormons were harrassed by Mexican rebels led by Pancho Villa. The bands of bandits would come through town looting and taking all the food and clothing they could carry. At one time John was held for ransom for \$2,000, which had to be paid to save his life. During 1912-15 the family had to go to El Paso, Texas three times for safety. After 1915 they did not return to Mexico.

In 1916 John and others organized the Union Mercantile Co. in Cuidad Juarez, across the Rio Grande from El Paso. About 1926 he withdrew from the company and secured the Maytag washing machine agency in El Paso, which he operated until he retired about 1947.

During these years in El Paso, Lizzie was busy raising her family, always finding time to do some church work. She was president of the Y.L.M.I.A., taught classes in all the church organizations and was counselor to the Relief Society president.

On 28 Jan. 1951, at the age of 76, Lizzie fell and broke her hip. She was cared for by her husband until he was stricken with a heart attack and passed away 21 Sept. 1952. This was such a shock to Lizzie that she

suffered several cerebral strokes. She has been cared for since this time by her daughter Ruth in Mesa. Died 31 Mar. 1962. Bur. El Paso, Texas.