

Charlotte Welch was born on 25 September 1856 in Centerville, Davis, Utah Territory to John and Elizabeth Billington Welch. She was the eighth of thirteen children, ten girls and three boys.

Charlotte's father John was apprenticed at age fourteen to learn the cutlery trade. The Welch family learned of the gospel and converted to the Church, but John stayed behind to finish his apprenticeship when the family sailed to America in the spring of 1842. A few months later, he began having the same dream every night where his father looked at him with a troubled expression. John felt that his family needed help, and one night he left through the dormitory window to join some missionaries sailing to America.

Due to ice on the Mississippi, the group was stranded in St. Louis all winter and arrived in Nauvoo in the spring. He fell in love with Eliza Billington who had also come on the ship. When John arrived in Nauvoo, he found that his father and two brothers had died, and his mother and sister were destitute. From his apprentice days, he took orders and started making Bowie knives. They were there when the Prophet Joseph Smith and his brother Hyrum were killed. He stood guard over the Smith bodies as they lay in state.

They were there when the mantle fell on Brigham Young. They went on to Winter Quarters and shared their oxen to feed many in the camp. They couldn't travel in the spring because of no oxen. They moved to Missouri to dig wells to earn money to travel west. Their young son died while they were in Winter Quarters.

They had two children while in Savannah, Andrew Missouri, Elizabeth Preston born in 1848 and Maria Keziah born in 1850. They started the William Snow/Joseph Young Company in 1850. They departed on 21 June 1850 with 487 individuals and 42 wagons in the company which began its journey from the outfitting post at Kaneshville, Iowa, (present day Council Bluffs). It was originally organized near the Missouri River and more than tripled as they crossed the plains. Apparently they did not make it because of lack of oxen.

Eliza Ann was born 16 July 1852 at Chimney Rock, Morrill, Nebraska. They ended up with the Betz Company which was very small—only 18 people in the company. He was 28, his wife Eliza was 25; Elizabeth Preston was 3; and Maria Keziah was 1. They also had his mother Elizabeth with them who was 52 years old.

From the journal of Robert Crookston came the following: "We started once more to try and reach the Valley, as we called it, early in the season or as early as possible. There were ten wagons. Captain Betz, a blacksmith, John Welch, Mr. Workman, Sergoy and myself. The Indians were bad at times on the plains so it was advised that the people travel in large companies. We traveled between large companies, sometimes being one day apart from them, but in Indian country we traveled with other small companies when there were signs of danger.

We killed a large buffalo and divided the meat, each getting a washtub full. We jerked the meat by hanging it in the smoke of the campfire at night to dry it and prevent it from spoiling. We saw Indians every few days but had no trouble with them. We had our wagon box made with projecting boards so our beds would be made up at night with our provision boxes underneath. We arrived in the valley in September 1852."

They first settled in Centerville where they had a baby girl who was born and died on 2 September 1855. Charlotte was born on 25 September 1856. Martha Jane was born in 1859 and Annie was born in 1861.

From there they moved to Three Mile Creek, Box Elder, Utah Territory. They had three more children, John born in 1864; William Wallace born in 1867; and Flora Veletti born in 1870. His mother died on 7 January 1867 in Perry, Box Elder, Utah Territory.

Charlotte was baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on 2 June 1867 at the age of ten. She married Heber Coleman Boden on 9 October 1876 in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah Territory at the age of 20. He was also 20.

Heber Coleman Boden was born on 20 October 1855 in Aberdare, Glamorganshire, Wales to James and Annora Coleman Boden. His parents were married on 10 March 1847 in the Sharon Chapel, Tredegar, Monmouth, Wales. They joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on 1 September 1848. He was 25 years old and she was 20. Heber was baptized into the Church on 20 October 1863 at the age of eight.

They wanted to join the saints in Utah Territory so worked to earn their passage to America and to Utah Territory. They had twelve children, seven girls and five boys. All of the children were born in Alberdare, Galmorganshire, Wales, except the first and the last. The first child was born in St. Martins, Worcestershire, England and died shortly after. The last child was born on the trek west.

They departed on 14 August 1868 with 411 individuals and 51 wagons in the company which began its journey from the outfitting post and Benton, Wyoming. His father James was 45; his mother Annora was 40; Brigham was 16; Heber Coleman was 12; Willard was 10; James was 8; Ann Mariah was 6; Eleanor Jane was 3; Elizabeth was 2; and John was an infant, born on 16 August 1868 at Sweetwater, Sweetwater, Wyoming. He died just before they got to the Salt Lake valley on 30 August 1868 at Echo Canyon, Summit, Utah Territory.

From the summary of the company: "Daniel D. McArthur, from St. George, led a group of out-and-back teamsters to Benton, Wyoming. They left Salt Lake in mid-June, traveling east by way of Parley's Canyon, where they encountered a blinding spring blizzard. It also took them a full day to swim their herd of oxen across the Green River, which was swollen from the spring runoff. They reached the end-of-track terminus of Benton in July and waited about six weeks for the emigrants, most of whom had crossed the Atlantic on the steamship "Colorado". It took the emigrants about a week to travel from New York to the outfitting place on the train.

The emigrants arrived in Benton, where they met their teamsters on August 7 and left a week later. The company included 411 passengers and 61 wagons. Twenty-five of the wagons were loaded with goods destined for stores in Salt Lake, including the new Zion's Cooperative Mercantile Institution. They traveled in a northwesterly direction from Benton through Whiskey Gap and northward from there until they reached the Sweetwater River and joined the old

emigrant road. They arrived in Salt Lake on 2 September 1868. Seven people, mostly young children, died en route."

They first settled in Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah Territory. His father James died on 4 September 1868 at the age of 45 just two days after they got to the Salt Lake valley. He was buried on 6 September 1868 in Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah Territory. Annora was sealed to James on 18 January 1869 in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah Territory.

Heber and Charlotte had seven children, four girls and three boys, all born in Brigham City, Box Elder, Utah Territory. Heber Wallace was born on 26 September; Eliza Annora was born on 22 October 1879; Charlotte Winifred was born on 16 January 1881; Hazel was born 9 October 1883; Mildred was born 8 May 1887; James was born 11 November 1890; and John was born 16 May 1896.

Heber helped to build the Utah Northern railroad through the section near Brigham City. He also spent time in Dillon, Montana and officiated as road master of the Utah Northern Railroad for a number of years before returning to Brigham City. He also worked at Swan Lake, Idaho from 1883 to 1886 on the railroad.

In 1890 he was elected to the position of city marshal. He worked in that office until 1892 when he became the first chief of the Brigham City Fire Department. He took a break and served a mission to England from April 1893 to the end of the year. After returning home he was elected mayor of Brigham City and served two terms. He was one of the presidents of the 48th quorum of Seventies for many years and was a High Priest at the time of his death. He died on 17 February 1916 in Brigham City, Box Elder, Utah at the age of 60 and was buried on 20 February 1916 in Brigham City, Box Elder, Utah.

Charlotte served for eight years as president of the primary and for twenty years as president of the Relief Society. She died on 22 January 1922 in Brigham City, Box Elder, Utah at the age of 65 and was buried on 25 January 1922 in the Brigham City Cemetery, Brigham City, Box Elder, Utah.