

IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

REFERENCE SERIES

JAMES HUTCHINSON

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James Hutchinson was born November 18, 1837, to Joseph and Eleanor Hutchinson of Yorkshire, England, of a long line of miners and shepherds. In 1848, they crossed the Atlantic in a sailing vessel and settled in Dubuque, Iowa, where in 1851, Eleanor died of Cholera. James worked on his father's farm and in the mines. On January 25, 1863, he married Susan O'Neill of Wisconsin, and the next day they left by stage for Colorado. They lived in Central City, Colorado, for twenty years while James Hutchinson was superintendent of the Gregory Lodge and the Robinson and Aspen Mines. During this time they became the parents of six children: Joseph H., Mary E., Margaret A., Nellie A., Charles J., and Eleanor. In 1889 James Hutchinson became Colorado State Inspector of Mines.

Also in 1889 his wife, Susan, died. On December 6, 1893, he moved his family to Silver City, Idaho, where on January 17, 1894, he became manager of the Trade Dollar Mining and Milling Company. He built it into a valuable and profitable operation. When he retired to Boise, his youngest daughter, Eleanor, attended St. Margaret's Episcopal School. She died suddenly on May 19, 1901, at the age of 15. Funeral services were held both at St. Margaret's and at the Masonic Cemetery grave site. It was thought that the distraught father never fully recovered from his daughter's death, and that it contributed to his own death on December 31, 1902, in Boise. He is buried in the Pioneer Cemetery, beside his daughters, Eleanor, Margaret, and Nellie.

James Hutchinson was active in the Masons and became a Master Mason in the St. Louis City Lodge, No. 6, A. F. & A. M. In 1865 and was also a member of the Temple of the Mystic Shrine in Boise. He was also a Knight Templar.

By Edith Hayes