

[Important note: Maria Ann Tripp's birth date in this divorce petition is given as August 18, 1861, which is not correct. Her mother Eliza Reed was married and sealed to Nathaniel Vary Jones as his third wife on 27 March 1857 in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City. There is family tradition that this marriage may have been arranged by Brigham Young. Their daughter Maria Ann Jones was born two years later on 9 April 1859. In the Fall of 1859 Nathaniel was called to go to England on a mission, from which he returned in the Fall of 1861. While he was in England, Eliza was unhappy in the living conditions with the other wives. According to family tradition, Eliza complained to Brigham Young, and he granted her a divorce while Nathaniel was in England. Accordingly, there is no civil divorce record for Eliza and Nathaniel. Subsequently she married John Tripp, apparently in December 1860. As indicated in her divorce petition below, she was unhappy with Tripp as a provider. She left him in the gold fields near Virginia City, Montana, and returned with her daughter Maria to Salt Lake City, and filed for divorce. In her divorce petition, she states that Maria was her daughter from John Tripp, which was not true. Why would she say that? Perhaps she felt that if she disclosed her previous divorce from N.V. Jones, the judge may not look favorably upon her petition for divorce from John Tripp -- her second divorce within six years. Whatever her reasons may have been for stating in her divorce petition that Maria was her daughter from John Tripp, the 1860 Utah Census provides proof that Maria, age 1, was living with Eliza in the N.V. Jones household on 6 July 1860. At some point after Eliza returned from Montana to Salt Lake City, she asked the Colebrook family to take care of Maria, which they did until Maria married Ebenezer Young Taylor in the Logan Temple on 21 May 1884.]

Eliza Tripp

vs

John Tripp

Complaint

Filed (January 6?) 1866

Territory of Utah)
County of Great Salt Lake) ss

In the Probate
Court for said county
[Dec Term?] 1865

Eliza Tripp)

vs) In Divorce

John Tripp)

To the Hon Elias Smith, Judge of the Probate Court in and for said County. Your petitioner Eliza Tripp humbly complaining saith that she is a resident of Great Salt Lake City in said County and the lawful wife of the defendant **John Tripp to whom she was married on the ___ day of December 1860** in said city, that she has from the time of her marriage with the said defendant been to him a dutiful and faithful wife, and has to the extent of her ability endeavored to make him comfortable and happy which has not been reciprocated by her said husband who being of intemperate habits and addicted to the excessive use of intoxicating liquor [?] has not always provided for the support of your petitioner nor treated her with that consideration and kindness due from a husband to a wife, which has made her at times very unhappy and discontented but which your petitioner has endured as patiently as she could, hoping that her said husband would [reform?] as he often promised to do and make all things right – promises which he has not fulfilled [_____?] and, as your petitioner believes never will. **Your petitioner would further represent that the fruits of her marriage with the said defendant are two children, Maria Ann Tripp born August 18, 1861, and George Henry Tripp born January 23rd[?] 186_ [?].** That after moving about from place having no permanent place of residence defendant in the fall of 1863 [?] went from Great Salt Lake City to **Logan**, Cache County, in said Territory [Note: A story in FamilySearch about the brother of Eliza Reed, John Francis Reed (1833-1907 • K2HZ-SH2), says he arrived in Logan, Utah sometime in the fall of 1861 where he purchased a tract of land in the townsite of Logan and owned a store. Could that have been a reason for Eliza and family to move to Logan?] taking his family with him for

