

# Character List for Ship Brooklyn – A New Musical

Directed & Written by Kimberly Nearon • Music by Mariah Wilson • Inspired by Richard H. Bullock's account of Ship Brooklyn Saints

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## **John Horner, Age 25**

Our Protagonist. He is a young farmer, newly married, and on a journey to a new land. Has faith, but a great deal of fear that he overcomes on this journey. Must be a great singer and actor. His ability to bear testimony is important! Please see Soloist Music Notes.

## **Captain Richardson**

Age Unknown, Abel W. Richardson. Very experienced sea man. I see him as an older man with a fatherly disposition. A large acting role, must be able to memorize a great deal of lines. A soloist, please see Soloist Music Notes.

## **Joseph W. Richardson - First Mate, Age 27**

I would like to have him be *older*.

Joseph W. Richardson, the Captain's brother. He is our important narrator. A friendly man, great story teller, can easily break the fourth wall with our audience! A non-singing role, but a lot of lines that need to be delivered well!

## **Clarissa Bullen, Age 35, mother of 3 boys**

A lovable woman of faith shown in strict obedience to the Lord. She must be a great singer. Some dancing or movement required. Must work well with children. Please see Soloist Music Notes

## **Sarah Burr, Age 24, mother of 1, pregnant with #2**

On this trip she gives birth to a beautiful baby and also loses her other child to death. She sings with her husband a beautiful song on birth and death and God's eternal plan. This couple represents all those who lost a child on this boat. Please read Soloist Music Notes.

## **Charles Burr, Age 29, married to Sarah Burr**

He sees the birth of one son and witnesses the death of his only other son. Sings a beautiful song with his wife. Please read Soloist Music Notes.

## **Caroline Joyce, Age 21 (The Mormon Nightingale singer)**

Gave up everything, including a music career for the Lord. Some acting and a solo. See Soloist Music Notes.

## **William Glover Jr., Age 33, a Scottish immigrant**

He is known for his boldness in faith. If God tells him to go to California, then he IS going to California. Comforts John. Small solo part, mostly acting.

## **Mary Murray, Age 36**

A single woman on ship who left her millinery job to take ship and move out with the Saints out west. A very small singing part, but has a monologue that reminds us of the blessing of *Waiting Upon the Lord*. She meets her husband in Hawaii and have a wedding.

## **Samuel Brannan, Age 27**

Well-known figure in California History. A difficult person to write about. He was a great man on this ship, but later in his life he leaves the church and has a very different background. In general, a very charismatic man, good-looking, well liked. Gave powerful sermons. He was asked to lead this trip by the Prophet, Brigham Young. He felt important in that position. **No singing, just acting!**

## **Laura Goodwin, Age 33, mother of 7, pregnant with #8**

Small singing and acting part, but significant. She has a bad fall and dies.

**Woman at the Pier, any age.** A monologue.

**Child 1,** small speaking and singing role

**Child 2,** small speaking and singing role

**Child 3,** small speaking and singing role

**Child 4,** small speaking and singing role

**Horace Skinner, Age 28,** Passenger, minor speaking role

**George Serrine, Age 27,** Passenger, minor speaking role

**Passenger 1**

**Passenger 2**

**Polynesia Culture Dancers**

**Ensemble**

- Passengers
  - Children
  - Sailors
  - Elizabeth Horner
  - Issac Goodwin
  - Henry Harris
  - Commodore Robert F. Stockton
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