

LIFE SKETCH OF LEMUEL HARDISON REDD

Lemuel Hardison Redd, the subject of the sketch, was born in Onslow County, North Carolina, July 31 1836. He was the second son and sixth child of John Hardison Redd and Elizabeth Hancock Redd, both of whom were born in the same mentioned county and state.

His father, better known as Captain Redd, as he followed a seafaring life, was a man of letters and was well known and highly respected in the community where he lived. The names of his eight children were Edward and Harriet, who died in infancy, Ann Moriah, Elizabeth Anne, Mary Catherine, Lemuel Hardison, John Holt, and Benjamin Jones.

At the age of six years, Lemuel's parents heard and obeyed the Gospel at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, where they moved in 1838. The family moved to Salt Lake Valley in 1850. Lemuel, who was now fourteen years of age, drove an ox team across the plains from St. Joe, Missouri, to Salt Lake. At this time the Saints were visited with the cholera plague, Lemuel and his father both being attacked but fortunately survived the dread disease. The story of this well known exodus is familiar to all readers of Church History so it is unnecessary to tell details, yet the impression gained by seeing hundreds of the company buried by the road side, by fearing the attack of the Indians, and by witnessing the stampeding of thousands of excited buffaloes which then covered the great plains, ever remained fresh in his memory and served as charming stories for his children and grandchildren.

Captain Session, in whose company he travelled, arrived in Salt Lake Valley in October 1850. He attended school in Provo, then a hamlet of about fifty families. This was in 1850-51.

The following spring he, with his father's family, moved to Spanish Fork, they and the family of William Pace being the pioneers of that place. Here his father helped to build the first saw mill south of Provo. In 1853, the Indian war broke out, causing the destruction of the mill and town, with a loss of \$6,000.00 to the family. After this they moved to Palmyra for safety.

Lemuel was baptized a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, June 2 1852, by W. W. Willis of Mormon Battalion fame, and was confirmed by Stephen Markham, who was then presiding elder at Spanish Fork. President Markham also ordained him a priest on the same date. From that day to the present date, September 20, 1909, he has been faithful in discharging his duties in the Priesthood, wherever his varied circumstances and condition of life has called him to live.

In July 1853, the Walker War began. He took an active part in this war and served as an officer and soldier in all the wars in Utah since, thus portraying the patriotism characteristic of his forefathers, for he was a direct descendant, on his mother's side of John Hancock, the first signer of the Declaration of Independence.

On January 2, 1856, he married Miss Keziah Jane Butler, a girl of sterling qualities, amiable and reserved, who proved a faithful wife and a loving mother of thirteen children. Their names were as follows: Lemuel Hardison, Mary Jane, John Wilson, William Alexander, James Monroe, Caroline Elizabeth, Amos Thornton (who died in infancy), Maria Luella, Charity Alvira, and Alice. The marriage ceremony was performed and solemnized by bishop William Pace and the following year they received their endowments and were sealed by Daniel H. Wells, who was counsellor to President Brigham Young, the President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Shortly after their marriage, they with a company of others filled an Indian Mission at Las Vegas, Nevada. On his return, by counsel of President Brigham Young, he was ordained an elder, and soon after this ordination he was called to the office of a seventy and became a member of the fiftieth quorum.

Because of false reports, the U.S. Army, commanded by Col. A. Sidney Johnston was sent to Utah against the Mormons. Afterwards, this same Johnston became a great commander in the Civil War on the confederate side and was killed in the battle of Shilo. With this army came Alfred Cumming, who was sent to be Governor of Utah Territory. He acted in this position for several years and proved a faithful friend to the Mormon people.

Lemuel served as a soldier against this army. Soon after the compromise and peace was restored, he assisted with oxen and wagons to gather the saints to Utah across the plains. He was called to serve as one of the standing army of 2,000 soldiers.

In the spring of 1862, with his wife and four children we find him again on the frontiers helping to found New Harmony in Washington County, Utah, in compliance with a call made by President Brigham Young to settle Dixie. In Harmony, he was a leader in civil government of that place, and also a member of the county court of Kane county for six years. In the year of 1866, during the Black Hawk and Navajo War, he went with Capt. Andrews company of soldiers to Green River by way of Escalante to ascertain the plans of the Indians. The company was gone one month. During the time they suffered many hardships and privations and the loss of one man and one horse killed by Indians.

The same year he married, as his second wife Miss Sarah Louisa Chamberlain, an intelligent and ambitious young woman, who five years previously was miraculously

saved from being drowned in the Santa Clara River through her own heroic effort to climb a tree, and helped her aged father up, where they stayed over night. This wife bore him fourteen children. Their names are as follows: Moriah Vilate, Solomon, both died in infancy, Wayne Hardison, Benjamin Franklin, Terresa Artemecia, Lemuel Burton, George Edwin, Susan Elizabeth, Parley, John Wiley, Jenny May, Effie, Ancil Rey, Hazel Lurena. The ceremony of the second marriage was performed by Apostle Woodruff in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City.

In the year 1870, he purchased the John D. Lee homestead and completed an unfinished brick house which served as a home for both families for twenty years. In 1874, the United Order was established by Erastus Snow in Harmony with Lemuel H. Redd as Vice President and secretary.

He also assisted to build up and establish the Harmony and Kanarra cattle and sheep herds, under the cooperation, and acted as director and treasurer for about twenty years. In 1874 he was set apart as first counsellor to Bishop Wilson Daniel Pace under the hands of Charles Price, which office he held for about twenty years.

In 1877 he with his wife Keziah, attended the dedication of the lower part of the St. George Temple. In April the same year they attended the forty-seventh annual conference at St. George which was held in the Temple when the whole building was dedicated. The services were presided over by President Brigham Young. At the opening for endowment work, we find him with his family among the first to labor for the dead. He continued this work whenever practical, until he was compelled to live in exile after the passing of the Edmonds bill, also afterwards, whenever possible.

During the seven years of persecutions, he was forced to absent himself from his family, friends and loved ones for months at a time, leaving his entire business in the hands of mere children until the return of his son William from South Carolina, where he filled a two year mission.

His sons Wayne and Ben, aged respectively fifteen and seventeen, narrowly escaped an awful death in a blinding snow storm while caring for their father's sheep in his absence. It was through Ben's courageous efforts and by aid of providence, that Ben made his way to town and obtained help, thereby being the means of saving his own life and his brother's also.

Lemuel was many times driven into the hands of the marshals. Providence seemed kind to him in preserving to him his freedom. Never once was he known to falter or forsake either family during all of his troubles.

In the year of 1887, he moved his cattle and horses along with his own, Monroe's family, daughters Della and Ellen to Bluff, San Juan County for the purpose of bettering

his financial affairs, as well as for his own personal safety, being at that time under two indictments. The penalty for each offence was six months imprisonment and three hundred dollars fine, \$300.00.

This was an eventful trip, owing to the fact they were followed by the Marshals. The daughters were compelled to share the responsibilities of the journey, Della riding horseback and driving cattle and horses, while Ellen drove one of the teams. This however was only a pleasure to his devoted daughters for they realized the precarious conditions and were able to assist him. Lem, his eldest son, met them at Grave Valley, which proved a help to them for his excellent judgment as a pilot was indispensable through the remainder of the journey.

On arriving at the Colorado river they met with disappointment, there was a mere skiff instead of a good boat which they expected to find, to ferry them across the river. Therefore, they encamped on a sand bar in the middle of the river intending to ford from there over the next morning. During the night a storm came up, causing the river to rise. The terror of the night was an experience never to be forgotten, for by morning the sand bar was almost submerged. After fording the remainder of the river the next morning, they dried their clothes and bedding and soon were on their way again, feeling that an over-ruling Providence had preserved their lives through the night.

The following year they returned. This trip was full of exciting events, especially for the girls who were forced to take the responsibility of the trip, as their father was safe only in concealment from everyone they met, as he was widely known and closely watched and followed by the Marshal.

On reaching home, he lived in concealment from everyone except his family, and in a few weeks, in company with his son-in-law A. P. Spilsbury and Harvey Pace, he made a trip to Mesa City, Arizona, where he spent a few weeks in exile with his daughter Jane, returned by way of California, visiting the places of note along the way.

The following summer was the most critical period that he had spent at home, never feeling safe to spend a single night under his own roof. This summer the peace of his mind was disturbed by Marshals Dyer and McGarry invading his home. They found the infant babe in the cradle of Louisa; she was warned in time to leave the house and hide in the willows for safety. Feeling they had been out-witted, they could do nothing but subpoena Luella and Wayne, who afterwards appeared in court to testify against their father. They told their story in a straightforward way, though the Marshals did not get the satisfaction they wanted.

The following August, he moved his wife Louisa and family to Bluff. Four of her children, however, remained for a while with the other family. When they had crossed

the Colorado river, they expected to find water, but were disappointed as the stream had dried up. Providently, an unexpected rain storm came up which flooded the whole country, filled the hollow rock, and was the means of saving them from much suffering.

Before they reached Bluff, next to the last day, their horses gave out and they were compelled to send Wayne ahead for help. While he was gone, the horses left camp and a long search had to be made for them. This necessitated Louisa with her little children to be left alone at camp for some time, within hearing of a large camp of Navajoes on the San Juan River. The next day Wayne and Monroe, who had already started out with a fresh team, met them with supplies, among them some watermelons which gave them the first good impressions of Bluff.

In 1891 he thought it was necessary, for his own peace of mind, to further move his family from Bluff to Mexico, where they have since remained. Lemuel had previously made a visit there with his son-in-law James Adams. The entire journey was made by team with his family alone through almost unknown waste and Indian reservations. As soon as they were comfortably located, he returned to home and family in Utah where he remained eighteen months. Ever since, he had made it a practice to visit his family once a year.

Previous to the persecutions in 1879, he helped move his son Lemuel Jr. and family to San Juan where he had been called on a mission. His son Monroe accompanied them. When they arrived at the Colorado river, the company camped and an exploring party was formed for the purpose of finding a suitable route from the Colorado river to the San Juan river. The party consisted of Lemuel H. Redd Sr., George W. Sevy, George Morrill, and George Hobbs. The country over which they traveled was unknown to them, therefore the necessity of this party going ahead to bring in reports before the company could make further progress. The trip was long and hard. They were out twenty-five days.

During most of the time they traveled through snow three to four feet deep, and many days through timber so dense it was impossible to tell which way they were traveling. Several times when they were completely lost and discouraged, Lemuel H. Redd had several miraculous dreams, which were nothing short of revelations which, by following their dictates, proved to be their salvation. During the last few days of their explorations, their provisions gave out and they suffered for food. In fact it became so low that they were forced to subsist on rations for a number of days, but through the guidance of Providence, they came out all right, and submitted a report of their exploration to the company of which Jens Neilson had charge. (Bishop Neilson was a man of indomitable courage, and has since served as Bishop of Bluff for twenty-four years.)

A permanent road was afterwards made over the route explored by this party. On his return to the company, Lemuel found letters bearing the news of sickness and distress in his family, and he immediately made preparations to return. As he traveled alone, the trip and journey was a dreary one. When he reached home, he found seven of his children down with diphtheria, though in an improved condition.

An important event of the subject's life was that he was captain of twenty-two men that escorted Pres. Brigham Young on his last trip south.

In 1893, in company with his wife Keziah, his daughter Ellen and son William, he went to the dedication of the Salt Lake Temple where he met his sons Monroe and Lemuel Jr. who lived in Bluff, and his daughter Caroline, who lived in Parowan. In 1895, he was called from Mexico to the death-bed of his wife Keziah, who died May 15 of the same year. During the four months of illness, she displayed a fortitude and patience that could not be surpassed, and she remained perfectly rational until the last breath. During the long persecution that the family underwent, she remained at the homestead, acting the part of mother and father to her own family, as well as to the four members of the other family who remained at Harmony with her for one year.

During the last ten years of her life, she suffered the trials incident to the worst of persecutions without any complaints. Six of her children surrounded her bedside, three of whom were unmarried. "Better suffer wrong than do wrong," was ever her motto through life. She lived the life of a true Latter Day Saint, devoted, brave, noble and generous, saintly, and her children can truthfully say no harsh word ever fell from my mother's lips.

In company with his two daughters Vilo and Alice, Lemuel attended the Pioneers Jubilee in Salt Lake City, where they were joined by his son Lemuel H. Jr. and daughter Hattie and sons-in-law James and Thomas Adams.

During a great deal of the time he was away from home, his son William A., Bishop of Harmony Ward, took charge of his financial affairs. Lemuel H. Redd Jr., now resides in Bluff. He has served two terms in the Utah Legislature, and has acted as counselor to Bishop Neilson in that place for twenty years, and finally succeeded him in that office of Bishop, which he holds. Jane Spilsbury now lives in Mexico. John, after spending a term in the B. Y. Academy, went to Arizona and was engaged as bookkeeper for John W. Young in Arizona while the A. P. Railroad was being built and completed. From Arizona he went to Mexico and was supposed to have been drowned in the Yacqui river in 1888. For more details concerning the death of John Wilson Redd, please refer to "The Utah Redds and Their Progenitors" pages 138-139.

Monroe and George have each filled honorable missions in the United States, and Luella, in company with her husband Thomas D. Adams, filled a mission to the

Friendly Islands, spending most of the time in teaching school among the natives. Nine others of the same family have been teachers and are successful teachers.

His daughter Caroline Adams managed his business correspondence during his absence from home in Bluff. In 1887-1888, when she was the mother of eight children, she was attacked with a severe case of pneumonia, from which she was unable to survive. She died 3 September 1904. If there ever lived a good, noble, self-sacrificing woman, she was one, and she was a noble woman and mother, highly respected by everybody who knew her.

Wayne now resides in Bluff. He filled a mission to the Southern States and has been a counselor to three presidents of the San Juan Stake, and still holds that position as an untiring worker in the church. He was a member of the Legislature of Utah for one year.

William obtained an honorable release from the Harmony Bishopric, and has moved to Raymond, Alberta, Canada, where he is comfortably located, has prospered and is highly respected in the community.

Della and Ellen with their husbands W. H. Ivins and C. F. Bryner, respectively, were pioneers to the Mormon Colonies in Nevada. Artemecia is now settled in Mexico. She with her husband George S. Romney, in the winter of 1901-02 filled a home mission to Panguitch Stake.

Burton L. has mastered the Spanish language. He was clerk in the Juarez Co-op. store for many years. During George's mission, he most liberally contributed to his support. He is now a good noteworthy worker as a missionary in the city of Mexico.

Ben lives now in San Juan County. He previously lived in Mexico from 1891 until recently. He is a carpenter by trade.

Louisa still lives in Mexico, surrounded by all of her children except Wayne and Ben.

Thirteen of his twenty children are married and at the date of writing there are one hundred and four grand and great grandchildren who call him Grandpa. He has a very great record of dead relatives, most all of whom have been baptised for and many have been endowed for. A striking feature of his ancestry is the fact that both his grandfathers had three wives separately and families, for which he had done the Temple work.

Lemuel Jr. was educated in the U. of U. under the principalship of Dr. John R. Park. Ellen received her education at the Agricultural College at Logan. His unmarried

children in Mexico have received and are receiving their education from the Juarez Academy in Juarez under Guy C. Wilson as principal. Jennie graduated from the school and is now a good teacher in the Colony.

The aim of his life is to live his religion, and it can be truthfully said his children have followed in his work. His present residence is in Colonia Juarez, the headquarters of the Mexican Mission. He has acted as first counselor to President A. F. McDonald, who is dead; also to Miles P. Romney, who is dead; and now to President Albert A. Thurber, who presides over the High Priests of the Stake of Juarez. He has held the office of High Priest for about thirty years.

In Salt Lake City at the October conference, he planned a reunion of the first family, and all those living, with the exceptions of Monroe and Luella, who were necessarily detained away, were present. At this reunion, his second wife Louisa and baby daughter Hazel Lurena were present from their home in Mexico. Wayne came, out of his love and respect for the family. Convenient rooms were rented and all had a happy and long-to-be-remembered time. The visit with each other, especially with Jane, whom most of the family had not seen for seventeen years, was a treat of priceless value.

While they were in Salt Lake City they procured a family group picture on which were the faces of Father, Mother and eleven grown children, Mother's, John's and Luella's being copies from photos previously taken. They enjoyed conference and when the Temple was opened, they all worked one day in the Temple and attended to other business in that renowned house. This privilege alone was considered well worth the expense of the trip by all who engaged. During their entire visit in the city, the weather was beautiful and good health prevailed to increase the success of what they all considered one of the greatest events of their lives.

He has almost equally divided his time, since that event, among his family in Mexico and his children in Utah and Nevada. To the latter, he has made three trips in the last three years, to visit his daughters living there.

While in Utah on one of these trips back from Mexico in the winter in 1904, he with his daughter Luella and her husband Thomas Adams, went through the coldest weather to the St. George Temple. They were there one week, and in that time, they were endowed for a number of the dead, and sealed thirty-three couples, and received second anoints for his brother Ben and wife, who are dead.

He is now in his seventy-second year, is strong mentally and in ordinary health, and still retains the love and respect due him of his family and a large circle of friends among whom he wishes the honorable mention of those who proved staunch friends to

him in time of exile: President Hammond, Apostle Brigham Young, Bishop Neilson, President Platte D. Lyman, and William Adams, counselor to President Hammond.

The above sketch of my life was written by my daughter according to my directions in Lund, White Pine County, Nevada, September 1907.