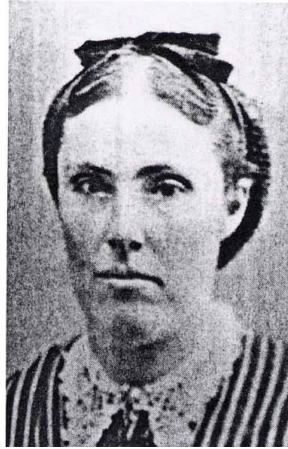


Lucretia Proctor Robison Owens

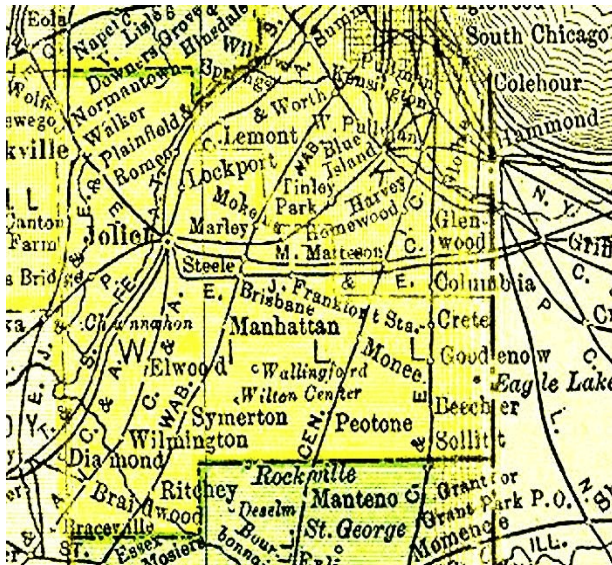


Sketch by Lucretia Proctor Robison Owens, Snowflake, Nauvjo Co. Arizona, March 24, 1920

I was born in Oswego Co. N.Y. May 18, 1841.

My ancestors fought in the Revolutionary war. Benjamin Hancock's ancestors trace back to John Hancock who signed the Declaration of Independence. The Robison's also fought in the Revolutionary war.

My father was a Methodist Class Leader. Mother was not satisfied with any Church. In February 1841 two Mormon Elders came to their house. When they heard the Elders preach they were ready to join the Church of Jesus Christ. They were both baptized in the river after cutting the ice.



Will County Illinois is on the opposite side of Hancock County Illinois

In April 1844 Father and Mother with six children started for Nauvoo. When they arrived at Crete Will Co. Ill. It was very muddy and rainy. Father stopped to rest teams and rented a house. When soon after two Mormon Elders came and stopped with us. They told Father it was now time for the emigrating saints to remain where they were; till trouble was settled, as the Prophet and Patriarch were killed by a mob. I was then three years old. One Elders name was Gool. I forget the others name. I would sit on their knee, and hear them tell of the mobbing and sing songs of the persecutions of the saints. I would shed tears. Father remained there and made a home. When old enough I went to school and to Sabbath

School and meetings. Presbyterian and Methodist. There being only one other family of Mormons in the country. We were never mistreated on account of being Mormons. Our parents taught us to do right and set good examples. They were true Latter-day Saints, lived and died as such. Father was April 12, 1814 ordained to High Priest. Father, Mother with 14 in family started for Utah. One horse team and three ox teams, 4 wagons, 4 yoke of cattle on a wagon, Gary Green Sessions as captain, 14 wagons in company. We had not sickness neither loss of cattle or horses, nor Indian trouble. The company would lay by Saturday and Sunday when we found feed and water and would wash and bake and generally hold meeting on Sunday. A guard was kept out day and night with the teams. We arrived in Salt Lake valley Aug. 5, 1854. Father, Mother and brothers went to see President Young and paid their tithing.

President Young told Father to go to Fillmore and settle 150 miles south. Father obeyed. I was baptized in May 1855 by Wm. Ristowell in Fillmore, Millard Co. In Jan 16, 1856 I was married to James Clark Owens by President Brigham Young. In the spring of 1854 James was called to go to Salt Lake and cut stone for the Temple. We started the 30th of March and arrived the first of April in Salt Lake. We were re-baptized and received our endowments, went to conference, then we went to the mouth of Big Cottonwood with others. We lived in a tent till some slab houses were put up. James went to cutting stone. All the stone cutters had to get their supplies from the Tithing Office in Salt lake 12 miles from camp. We fared slim as there was not enough in the Tithing Office for the Clerks and workmen. He was released to go home in October 1857. I joined the Relief Society when first organized in Fillmore in 1876. I was Treasure. I have been a member ever since.

We went to the dedication of the St. George Temple and received blessings there in and with permission and a recommend from President Taylor we started for Arizona in November 1878. We arrived at Showlow on Christmas day. We lived in a tent and our wagons all winter. In the spring we went to Bush Valley, now Alpine. Stayed there during the summer.

At a conference at Snowflake Apostle Erastus Snow and President Wilford Woodruff called James C. Owens to go to Woodruff. Erastus Snow set him apart as Bishop of Woodruff ward. We arrived at Woodruff the first of December 1879. The Relief Society was organized at Woodruff in 1881, by President Jesse N. Smith and President Lorenzo H. Hatch and Stake President Emma W. Smith, with Catherine Hatch as President with Lucretia P.R. Owens as first councilor. I was set apart by Lorenzo H. Hatch and President Jesse N. Smith. Sister Hatch soon went to Utah and I was called to preside in 1882.

I was first counselor to Mary Gardner in the Primary and I have been President of the Primary and received a diploma from President Woodruff. I was teacher for years in the Relief Society both in Utah and Arizona. My occupation has been to care for my home and family of 12 children and labor in the wards when called. I have also been a Sunday School Teacher for years.

When I was a child I would take my Testament and go off alone and read it. I learned to read and spell very young. I never was a novel reader, but love to read the words of the Lord and

his followers. When a child I always went to the Lord with my little troubles and I have continued that practice thru life.

I have had many testimonies of the truthfulness of the gospel. I have been healed many times thru the prayer of faith and anointing, and the blessing of the Lord, also my children. I have never doubted the truthfulness of this gospel. I know Joseph Smith is a Prophet of God and all his successors till the present time.

I heard Heber J. Grants patriarchal blessing read when he was about four months old. It said that He would become an apostle. I have seen it fulfilled and more. He has become the President of the Church of Christ chosen of the Lord. I desire to live to help in Temple work, I have done some work. If the Lord will share me with health I wish to do more. My only desire is to do good. I will be 79 years old next May.

Lucretia P. R. Owens