

JANUARY 2018 LESSON, ARTIFACT, AND MUSIC

January 2018 DUP Lesson

Utah Pioneer Family and Friends of Martin Harris”

Lynnette Pieper Hanson

The International Society Daughters of Utah Pioneers is a history-saving organization. Every daughter belonging to ISDUP is encouraged to write family pioneer histories to be read in camp meetings, submitted, and filed in the ISDUP permanent history collection. The lesson committee pulls segments from these histories as a resource when writing the monthly DUP lessons. Each year the nine previous lessons are compiled into a hard-bound book volume to be sold, preserving pioneer history for future generations.

As of September 2017, ISDUP had on record approximately 43,300 individual pioneer history files. Every month histories are received for Utah pioneers not yet documented, as well as additional information added to existing pioneer history files. The ISDUP history collection has become a valuable resource for thousands of individuals, both inside and outside of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Part 1—

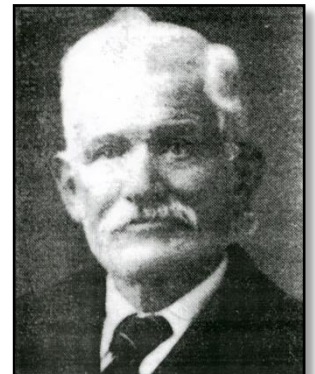
The ISDUP History Collection has been invaluable in supplying information for this lesson, especially the histories of Caroline Young Harris. Her history file contains only two, both recent histories, one donated in 2001 and the second extensive history donated in 2011. Thanks to dedicated family members, stories of Caroline are now known about this exceptional pioneer. Her documented history expands and enlightens further history for the Martin Harris family, as well as increased information for LDS Church History, significantly expanding the legacy of the history-saving DUP organization.

Located among the history files at the Pioneer Memorial Museum is an extraordinary account of Martin Harris, on “the three witnesses” to The Book of Mormon, written by **William H. Homer**. Following is a small account written by William, meeting Martin Harris in Kirtland, Ohio. It was this special history that inspired the January lesson.

Sections from William’s account read, “On my return from a mission to England in the fall of 1869, traveling with my cousin from Pennsylvania, we spent a night in Kirtland, Ohio. The next morning, we inquired concerning the Mormon Temple. Our landlord informed us that Martin Harris was the custodian of the Kirtland Temple and directed us to him.”

“We went to the door of Martin’s cottage and knocked. A poorly-clad, emaciated little man came to the door. It was Martin Harris. His face revealed something of the story of his life. He was a pathetic figure, and yet a figure of strength, showing that although he had endured hardships and disappointments he had lived richly.”

“I introduced myself as a brother-in-law of Martin Harris, Jr., who had married my old sister. As an elder of the LDS Church, I was returning from a foreign mission. The effect this introduction upon him was electric! The relationship was obscured by the face of our Utah Mormon identification. The old man bristled with vindictiveness, ‘One of those Brighamite Mormons, are you?’ he snapped; then railed against Utah and the founder of the Mormon commonwealth. In vain I tried to turn the old man’s attention to his family. He was so obsessed with his indignation that he would not pause to understand that there stood before him a man who knew his own wife and children. After sometime, he said, ‘You want to see the temple, do you?’ and went and got the key. As soon as we started to



William H. Homer

look through the temple, Martin Harris radiated with interest, stopping only occasionally with an outburst of his former ire.”

“After the old man was somewhat exhausted he turned to me and asked, ‘Who are you?’ I again told him about myself and explained our relationship. ‘So, my son Martin married your sister?’ he mused, shaking his head, ‘and you know of my family?’ Yes, I replied, wouldn’t you like to see your family again?”

“I should like to see Caroline and the children, he said thoughtfully, naming each one. But of course, I can’t do that.” Did Martin Harris ever see his Utah family again?

Part 2—

MARTIN HARRIS and LUCY HARRIS

-Married his first cousin, Lucy Harris.

-Hired Joseph Smith Jr. to work in his corn patch for 50 cents a day which were the top wages for that time.

-During this time, he first heard of Joseph Smith Jr.’s vision of the Father and the Son.

-Due to the active interest Martin exhibited in the affairs of his neighbor’s boy, Joseph Smith Jr., and the financial support Martin tendered to Smith, there arose dissension between Martin and his wife, Lucy.

-Followed Joseph Smith Jr. to Harmony, Pennsylvania, where he acted as Joseph’s scribe from April to June 1828 as Joseph began translating the Book of Mormon from engraved gold plates.

-Martin took copies of the Egyptian characters from the golden plates and their translation to New York City to show to an ancient language professional, Professor Anton, who pronounced them authentic.

-Begged Joseph to allow him to take the manuscript to Palmyra to show family members. After repeated requests Joseph relented. Unfortunately, the pages became lost, causing great despair for both Martin and Joseph.

-Through many dark days, Martin remained committed to the work and offered continual aid.

-In June 1829, Martin Harris became one of the Three Witnesses to the Book of Mormon, along with Oliver Cowdery and David Whitmer, who had the privilege of viewing the golden plates.

-That same year in August, Martin mortgaged his farm for \$3,000 to finance the first printing of the Book of Mormon.

-Martin became one of the first members of the newly organized LDS Church on April 6, 1830.

-In 1831, due to local harassments, Martin led about 50 church members from Palmyra to Kirtland, Ohio, by way of the Erie Canal. He continued to travel back and forth between Kirtland and Palmyra, guiding Saints to Kirtland and visiting with his wife and children in Palmyra where Lucy remained.

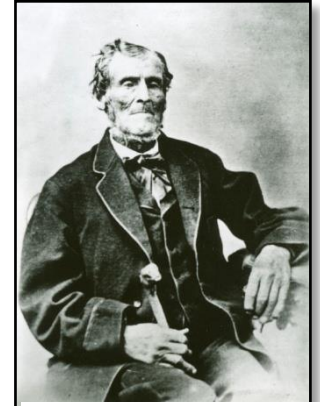
-Lucy was well provided for by Martin who gave her their fine Palmyra home, as well as the deed to 80 acres of farmland.

-As strains on Martin and Lucy’s marriage continued, they separated but never divorced. It was not until after Lucy’s death in early 1836, that Martin Harris married his second wife, Caroline Young.

CAROLINE YOUNG HARRIS DAVIS HARRIS

-Her mother was Theodocia Kimball, a distant relative of Heber C. Kimball.

-Her father was John Young, Brigham Young’s oldest brother.



Martin Harris



Caroline Young Harris

-As a charming young lady of 20, Caroline was living in Kirtland, Ohio, and working in the home of Lucy Mack Smith, or "Mother Smith," as she was known. Lucy and Martin Harris had been good friends for years. It was Lucy Mack Smith who introduced Martin to Caroline and a courtship began.

-Caroline Young and Martin Harris were married by Heber C. Kimball in Kirtland, Ohio. Martin was 53 years old, 33 years older than his young 20-year-old bride.

-Martin had always been highly admired among the LDS people. Caroline was an attractive young woman and a member of two of the most prominent families in the LDS church.

-Caroline and Martin lived in a comfortable Kirtland home as respected members of the community. However by May of 1837, church members in Kirtland were suffering from internal dissension. Caroline's world was shaken when her husband, Martin, was dismissed from his position on the Kirtland High Council. Most of the LDS leaders and the main body of the Church, including all of Caroline's family members, vacated Kirtland for Far West, Missouri, then Nauvoo, Illinois and finally followed Caroline's Uncle Brigham to cross the plains to the Salt Lake Valley.

-Caroline wanted to join the exodus, but Martin refused feeling that he rather than Brigham Young should lead the Church. Caroline and Martin continued to live together in Kirtland during those hectic years of discord and apostasy, as Caroline continued to encourage Martin to reconsider and join the Saints heading west. She was determined to make their marriage work.

-While living in Kirtland, Caroline and Martin's first baby, Martin Harris Jr., was born followed by Caroline, Julia, John, Sarah, and Solomon. Martin was at this time 71 years old.

-Again pregnant in early 1856, Caroline took her surviving four children and left Martin in Kirtland and traveled to Council Bluffs, Iowa where she gave birth to her youngest daughter, Ida May. They stayed with her sister and family.

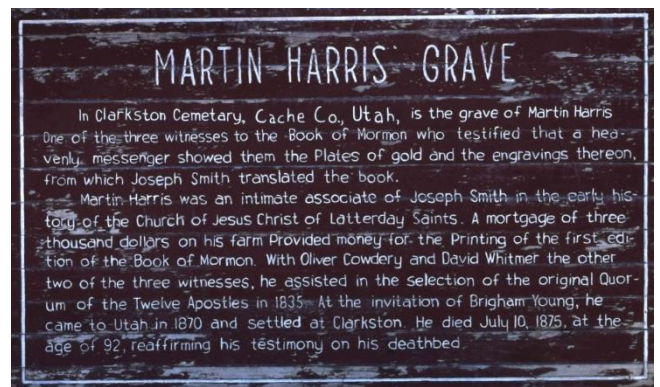
-Caroline worried whether she would ever see her husband again. They remained in the Council Bluffs area for about three years. Besides her sister Louisa's family, there were other friends living in the Council Bluffs area that cared for Caroline and her family. Russell King Homer had been a friend to Martin Harris in the Palmyra area and then moved to Pennsylvania. Martin had taken one of the first copies of the Book of Mormon and delivered it to Russell King Homer and his family. After reading the book a few times, the Homers moved to Kirtland, Ohio and were baptized.

-By the time Caroline arrived in Council Bluffs, the Homer family had been there for at least eight years.

-Other friends included the John Catley Davis family from England. They endured many deaths in their family on their trek west.

-Four and a half months after arriving in the Salt Lake Valley, Caroline Young Harris and John Catley Davis were married by Caroline's brother-in-law, Lyman O. Littlefield, at the home of her father, John Young. Although Caroline was never divorced from Martin, she had not heard from him and it was rumored that he had died.

-When Martin Harris arrived in Utah, 14 years after his wife Caroline had left him in Kirtland, he learned that she had been married to another man. The dilemma in which Caroline found herself at this time was appalling. Here she was residing in the same general locality with two living husbands, separated from both, but not divorced from either.



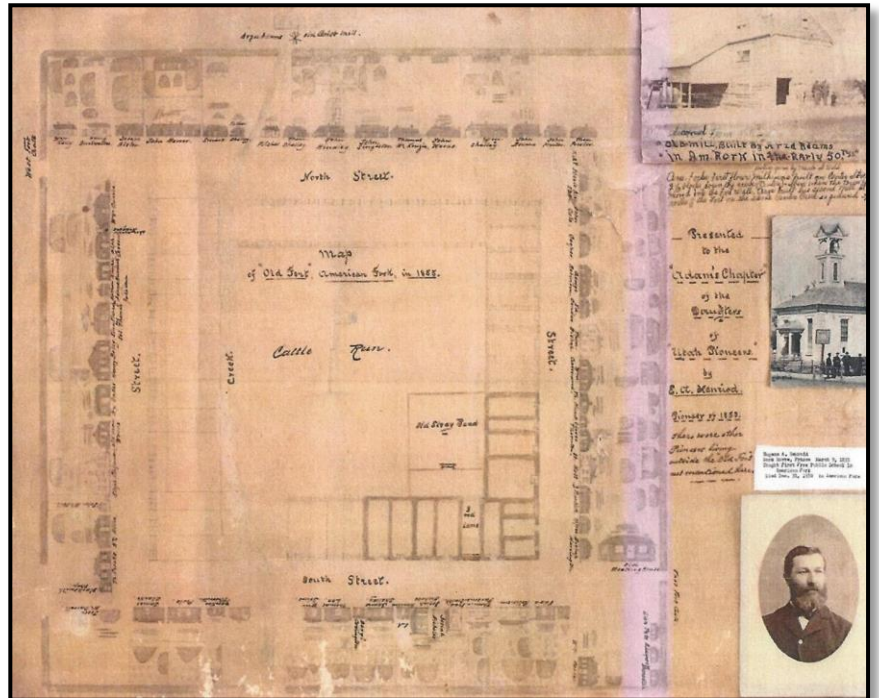
January 2018 DUP Artifact

January 2018 DUP ARTIFACT “Map of Lake City Fort — 1854”

“Map of Lake City Fort — 1854”

Where: American Fork DUP Relic Hall
50 South 100 East
American Fork, UT 84003

Open: June through August
Monday and Friday
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm or by
appointment
Free Admission
Phone: 801-756-3724



Eugene Henroid dated his hand drawn map of Lake City (American Fork) in 1855. Shown on the map is the placement of fort wall and gates, cattle run, water sources, and most important the names of individual family occupants. Three photos are included within the frame. Photos are of Arza Adams Flour Mill, the first city hall, and E. A. Henroid. The map was presented to the Adams Chapter of the Daughters of Utah Pioneers by E. A. Henroid. In December 2011, this original Lake City Fort Map was encased in mylar and relocated for preservation purpose into a dedicated historical map drawer at the American Fork City Public Works Building. A copy of the map is hanging in the museum.

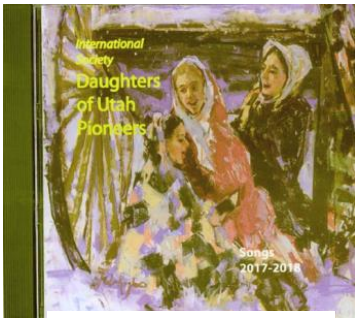
January 2018 DUP Song

“Oh Dear, What Can the Matter Be?”

Pioneer Songs Music Book #207
Sung by Camille Case on the 2017-2018 Music CD

This song came to America from England and dates back to the 1770s. It made its way to America soon after the Revolutionary War and American independence. It became well known in the late 1780's as a lyrical, fun loving song on both sides of the Atlantic, and has been popular in America for over 200 years. Children continue to sing it to this day. As a folk ballad there are several variations of the lyrics. The verses given in our Pioneer Songs are considered to be the traditional lyrics.

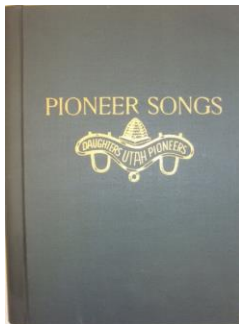
LeeAnn Nelson, Music Chairperson, ISDUP
Dr. Morris F. Lee, Instrumental Accompaniment



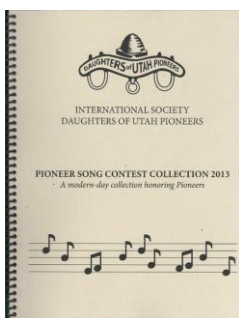
2017-2018 Music CD

Front cover: The painting of pioneer women huddled near the handcart is by artist Julie Rogers. She has said, "I paint the stories for people to enjoy. I especially love the women of the trail." Her permission was graciously given to use this picture.

Songs include: Oh! Willie We Have Missed You; Rosy Neil; The Vacant Chair; I Heard The Bells On Christmas Day; Oh Dear! What Can The Matter Be?; Grandpapa; The Way We Crossed The Plains; Echo Canyon; Grandmother's Old Arm Chair; Salute To Our Utah Pioneers.



Pioneer Songs music book: compiled by Daughters of Utah Pioneers and arranged by Alfred M. Durham, was first published in 1932. Music for the pioneers served as a source of enjoyment as well as inspiration. The songs have a legacy, each one with a story that could be told about life's trials, hardship, and joy.



Pioneer Song Contest Collection: To commemorate Pioneer Day of July 24, 2013, ISDUP had a song writing contest of modern-day composers and lyricists. They wrote in honor of a rich pioneer legacy of faith, fortitude, courage, freedom and industry.

Eighty-nine entries, representing over eleven-hundred DUP Camps, were divided into six categories for assessment. The songs of all the winners and twenty "close contenders" entries are published in this collection.

This volume represents the first modern-day song collection ever printed in the history of DUP other than the original book of Pioneer Songs published in 1932.

The CD, Pioneer Song Contest Collection, and hardbound Pioneer Songs music book, are available for purchase at the Pioneer Memorial Museum in Salt Lake City or from our online shop at isdup.org.