

LEMUEL HARDISON REDD 31 July 1836 - 9 Jun 1910 and
KEZIAH JANE BUTLER, 25 Feb 1836 - 15 May 1895, married 2 Jan 1856
SARIAH LOUISA CHAMBERLAIN, 8 Oct 1849 - 2 Mar 1908, married 5 Nov 1866

(A brief summary of histories written by Lura Redd and Maria Luella Redd Adams, condensed in April 2006 by Merne L. Livingstone, Lethbridge, Alberta, great granddaughter)

Lemuel Hardison Redd drove a wagon and team of oxen across the plains in 1850 when he was 14 years old. During the journey, he and his father both had an attack of cholera which claimed many lives, but they managed to survive. The pioneers also survived buffalo stampedes, Indian attacks, as well as other hardships. Lemuel had been taught to do most everything by Luke, his bodyguard, mentor and friend. Luke was about seven years older than he, the son of a negro slave of his parents. John Hardison Redd and Elizabeth Hancock had owned a plantation in Tennessee, and had several slaves as workers. But when they heard the gospel from John D. Lee, they readily accepted it and were baptized. They immediately freed all their slaves, but some of the negroes did not want to leave the Redds. Venus and Chaney were mothers who took three of their children with them to Utah, as they accompanied the Redds to Spanish Fork.

There, Lemuel helped his father with the farm work etc., and took an active part in the Walker Indian Wars in Spanish Fork, where he was an officer and soldier, thus carrying on the patriotic characteristics of his forefathers. He was a direct descendant, on his mother's side, of John Hancock, one of the first signers of the Declaration of Independence. He was also an alderman in the town before his marriage.

Keziah Jane Butler was also born in the southern states, in Kentucky, and came west with her parents, John Lowe Butler and Caroline Skeen, when she was sixteen. They too ended up in Spanish Fork. The two young people, Lemuel and Keziah met there, courted and were married when they were nineteen. Lemuel's father had received a call to go to Las Vegas to work in the lead mines there (to make ammunition), but as John was unable to go right then, he fitted out Lemuel to go ahead and he would follow later. Lem and Kizzie, as she was fondly called, had just been married a month, but they set out, with a cow tied behind their wagon. It took them about two months to get there. They helped build a fort at Vegas and planted some cottonwood trees, but the lead mines were not a success, so they returned to Spanish Fork in the fall, not long before Lemuel H. Jr was born.

About three years later, the United Order was initiated in Spanish Fork and the Redds lived it for three years before they were called to go to southern Utah to settle. They took their children, Lemuel Jr., Mary Jane, John Wilson and William Alexander, and were there by 15 June 1862. Four years later, Lemuel was asked to take another wife, so he and Keziah talked it over. Finally it was decided that he would marry Sariah Louisa Chamberlain, whom they knew well. She had assisted in their home in time of sickness or other need, so they were married in Nov. 1866, and Louisa came to live in the little home.

In 1870 Lemuel bought the farm of John D. Lee, and built a brick duplex for his two families, both sides being identical. The families lived together in love and harmony, with children running in and out of both homes. Luella Redd Adams, Keziah's daughter, writes in her book "Memories," "Father married his second wife, Sariah Louisa Chamberlain, on Nov. 5, 1866. After mother conquered her shock and sorrow, the two women became loving friends and sisters. Both women were strong, courageous, talented, and hardworking. Both gave loving care to one another's families. Each was supportive of the other. Both knew fear when the federal marshals searched for men who

had entered into plural marriages, and many men were sent to prison." Keziah's children called Sariah Louisa, "Aunt Louisa."

In the evenings, the mothers carded wool for quilts. They spun yarns on their spinning wheels, knitted, and wove fabrics and carpets. Each child was given certain tasks and taught to do them without prompting. They cooked big breakfasts of meat such as sausage and bacon, eggs, potatoes and gravy, and hot bread and butter, always hot biscuits, like they loved in the South.

A professional tailor by the name of Sandeen came to town with fabrics to sell and a case full of patterns. He needed a place to make the suits he would sell, so Keziah offered him the use of her kitchen with its big table in exchange for lessons in tailoring the suits. She worked hard, and learned well--she learned how to measure and draft patterns, how to baste in the stiffening, pad the shoulders, finish the lapels, set in pockets etc., and made countless handsome suits for men in the area, as well as teaching other women to do the same.

But this was not her only talent, she made all the clothing for her family, crocheted, made hooked rugs, and many other crafts, made her own dyes for the wool she spun, made starch from the tiny potatoes in the fall, and sewed buckskin gloves of fine workmanship that brought a pretty price in Salt Lake City. She raised bees and extracted the honey, made her own soap, and made hominy from kernels of corn which was a favorite of the family. After butchering their own hogs, she salted and cured the hams and bacon, and smoked them for future use. They had a large orchard on the farm and raised peaches, apricots, plums and apples. Much of the fruit was picked, cut and dried for preservation. She often organized work "bees" for her own children and their friends, and thus was able to accomplish the huge task of taking of all the fruit. She rewarded the workers with treats such as candy pulls, etc. One of the children who spent a lot of time in her home was Verena Bryner, a chum of Caroline's, who eventually married her son William Alexander Redd. Verena says she learned so much from Mother Redd, as her own mother was obliged to help Verena's father, Hans Ulrich Bryner, in the fields because he was blind.

In New Harmony Lemuel was chairman of the school board, justice of the peace, a member of the Kane co. court for six years, probate judge, counsellor to the bishop for twenty years, and helped establish Kanarra and New Harmony Cattle and Sheep boards and served as director and treasurer for twenty years. With the help of the big book, Dr. Gunn's Medical Adviser, he was able to set broken bones, replace dislocated joints, extract teeth, etc. all without charge. Keziah had learned from her mother, the old Indian remedies with herbs and roots that had been taught her by Grandma Squaw, and this was all very useful in pioneer families in the outposts.

Lemuel and his families gave away wagon loads of winter apples and watermelon, etc. They were very hospitable to anyone needing a meal or a place to stay. Lemuel was an extensive and intensive reader, studied history, biology and current topics. He was active in politics and an enthusiastic republican, wishing to establish home industries. He was an untiring student of the gospel and a very pleasing speaker. He loved to sing and could chord on the organ for his family to join in singing old favorites. He was gentle and happy, widely known and blessed with many friends. As a younger man he was called "Uncle Lem Redd," but later generations called him "Grandpa Redd." His children called him "Pap."

In 1877 they attended the dedication of the St. George Temple and began to do ordinance work for their kindred dead. That same year, the U.S. Congress passed the Edmonds-Tucker law making more stringent laws against polygamy. While Lemuel spent so much time dodging the marshals, his sons Wayne and Ben, 17 and 15, ran the farm and looked after his affairs until William Alexander came home from his mission and then he took over.

Again, from Luella Adams' book "During the years when men were hunted and imprisoned for conscience' sake, we knew fear and tragedy. Whenever father was home with us, he was continually on guard not to be caught. Not daring to sleep at home, he put up a tent near the mountain in a canyon where no one ever went, and there he slept, among the rattlesnakes and wild animals....Each morning mother put a white flag on the upper pasture gate if it was safe to come home after daybreak....Threats were continually made by the U. S.marshals that they would catch father, but they were never successful."

In 1879, eighty families were called by the church from Iron, Garfield and Washington counties to colonize the valley of the San Juan river in south-eastern Utah. Lemuel, along with George B. Hobbs, George Sevy and George Morrill, was sent as an advance party to scout a route from the eastern bank of the Colorado river to Montezuma. They set out with a burro, a small pony, and two riding horses, with sufficient food to last eight days, but it took them 25 days rough travel in that inhospitable country with its timbered country, box canyons, slick rocks, deep snow, blinding blizzards, etc. How they ever found their way is a wonder. They ran out of provisions, and even water, were four days without food, but they survived for 25 days and found the gorge through which the pioneers later were able to continue their journey to Bluff. When they reached their goal, a letter was there telling Lemuel that his children were sick at home and he was needed there, so he saddled his mount and went home alone over that long lonseome trail, to find that seven of his children had had diphtheria but were now recovering.

In August 1888 he moved Louisa and her family to San Juan, and had a very difficult journey. But the marshals soon found out where he was, and things were as bad as before, so he decided to take this family to Mexico where he would be safe from persecution. It took weeks of planning and organizing to get nine children ready to go. The journey took nine weeks, reaching Colonia Dublan in Jan. 1892. There they found a one-roomed log home, which with tents and wagons, filled their needs for the time being. They next bought a fruit farm in Colonia Juarez and moved there. Lemuel took a trip back to New Harmony, and found that he had been released as counselor in the bishopric and his son William A. had been made bishop. In 1893, Lemuel, Keziah, Ellen and William A. went to Salt Lake for the dedication of the Temple there.

Back to New Harmony, a chimney on the duplex fell down so Keziah and her daughters could no longer live there, and went to live with William A. and Verena. Some of the girls got married soon and Keziah became ill with cancer of the stomach, passing away 15 May 1895, just two days after Louisa's youngest daughter, Hazel, was born. Keziah had been a counselor in the Relief Society for twenty-five years and had the responsibility of dressing the dead for burial. No one else knew how to do it, so her son William rode horse-back to Cedar City and wired the Stake President in St. George for instructions so that it would be done correctly.

In Mexico, Lemuel was counsellor to Stake Presidents McDonald, Romney and Thurber and then became a patriarch. He died 9 June 1910 in Colonia Juarex and was buried there. He was 74 years of age, and had lived a long and eventful life.

The children of Lemuel and Keziah were:

Lemuel Hardison Jr. born 5 Oct. 1856 at Spanish Fork
Mary Jane born 27 Apr 1858 at Spanish Fork
John Wilson born 23 Dec 1859 at Spanish Fork
William Alexander born 19 Sep 1861 at Spanish Fork
James Monroe born 24 Aug 1873 at New Harmony
Caroline Elizabeth born 18 Feb 1866 at New Harmony
Amos Thornton born 25 Aug 1868, died at 2 years
Sarah Lancaster (Della) born 27 Apr 1870 at New Harmony
Farozine Ellen born 6 Jan 1872 at New Harmony
Lorraine Edward born 1 Dec 1873 at New Harmony, died at 6 months
Maria Luella born 16 Jun 1875 at New Harmony
Charity Alvira (Vilo) born 7 Jul 1877 at New Harmony
Alice born 22 Feb 1879 at New Harmony

The children of Lemuel and Louisa were:

Moriah Violate 14 Sep 1867, New Harmony, died 19 Dec 1867, at 3 months
Wilford Solomon 23 Jan 1869, New Harmony, died 25 Jan 1869, at 2 days of age
Wayne Hardison born 27 Feb 1870, New Harmony
Benjamin Franklin born 27 April 1872, New Harmony
Terressa Artemecia 14 Aug 1874, New Harmony
Lemuel Burton 17 Sep 1876, New Harmony
George Edwin 7 Dec 1878, New Harmony
Susan Elizabeth 14 Dec 1880, New Harmony
Parley 7 Feb 1883, New Harmony
John Wiley 18 Feb 1886, New Harmony
Jennie May 9 May 1888, New Harmony
Effie 13 Jul 1890, Bluff
Ancil Rey 27 Aug 1892, Colonia Juarez, Mexico
Hazel Lurena 13 May 1895, Colonia Juarez, Mexico

Many of these children were leaders among the men and women of the church, also in civic life and careers. There were bishops, stake presidents, mission presidents, temple presidents, general authorities, and leaders in the women's organizations of the church, ward and stake capacities, and many artists and musicians, other talents. All were dedicated and capable people, all proud of their pioneer heritage and successful in their undertakings, and are raising fine families of their own.

Note: For much more detail, consult Lura Redd's book "The Utah Redds and Their Progenitors, 1973"

- This book is currently out of print, but preparations are being made (April 2006) to publish it again.
- If you are interested in owning a copy, get in touch with Jan Garbett, 8438 So Gad Way, Sandy, UT 84093 or e-mail at garbettjan@hotmail.com or phone (801)943-1343. Cost expected to be approximately \$20, plus postage.
- There will also probably be a CD made of the book, with genealogical data as received in 1973. Cost will be nominal. This may be included in the book.
- A Redd Family website is being created at www/reddfamily.org. Do you have anything to contribute?
- Have you pictures of any artifacts of the Redd ancestors? Contact Jan.
- If you would like to contribute to further Redd research, contributors will have tax reductions if made to: Family Ties Research c/o Jan Garbett, 8438 So. Gad Way, Sandy UT 84093