

The Life of Simeon F. Howd and Lucinda Morgan Howd
Written by
Granddaughters Mrs. Rosella Murdock Eyre and Susie Veater Goff.

Lucinda Morgan Howd was Born November 1, 1820, at Monroe County Ill. She was the daughter of Samuel and Sarah Tolbert Morgan. Her mother died when Lucinda was a small girl. Lucinda was reared by an older sister. The care of a mother she never knew. Perhaps that is why she made such a wonderful mother.

Her first marriage was to a man by the name of Turner. They joined the L. D. S. Church at a very early date and with their chosen people went to Nauvoo.

After the death of Prophet Joseph Smith, Mr. Turner desired to leave the Saints and go to his people. Grandmother knew very well that if she left with him that she would never again be with the Saints. She had a strong testimony so she remained with the people she loved so much. Mr. Turner took all his belongings and left grandmother and their little daughter Martha, penniless and alone to face all dangers.

In a short time they were driven from their home in Nauvoo. They crossed the Mississippi River in , February 1846. They camped on Sugar Creek in zero weather in view of their comfortable home. Grandmother and Martha moved along with the body of Saints to Winter Quarters. It was at Winter Quarters where she met Simeon F. Howd. Simeon F. Howd was born May 13, 1813 at Comden New York. They were married March 16, 1847.

Grandfather being a member of Brigham Youngs Co. left his bride of only a month to travel the trackless plains in search of a place of peace and rest for the Saints. Perhaps no march in history was accompanied by so many disheartening incidents and such suffering as did the Mormon Pioneers over the trackless wilderness they traveled.

After one hundred days of the toilsome journey he heard Pres. Brigham Young say, "This is the Place." The company entered Great Salt Lake Valley, July 24, 1847.

This noble band was organized into companies of hundreds, fifties and tens. Grandfather was a member of the sixth ten with Charles Shumway as Captain. The final start was made Saturday April 17, 1847. Grandfather intended to return to Winter Quarters for his wife but to his great surprise, in September of the year she arrived in company with Elvira Coles and O.M. Allen.

Grandfather helped to build the fort that was their first shelter. They lived at Salt Lake City for years, enduring the hardships and privations of those early days. They witnessed the coming of the crickets which threatened to destroy their crops. Grandfather and Grandmother also witnessed the coming of the Sea Gulls which destroyed the Crickets and saved the crops. Their first home was south and east of Eagle Gate where the Police Station now stands.

Because of food being scarce, Grandfather killed a crow, thinking it might be a species of native wild turkey. Grandmother said it was so tough that it was almost impossible to pierce it with a fork and she also said that it was so tough and had such an odor that it was next to impossible to stay in the house.

Soon after my Grandparents had built themselves a comfortable home they were called by the Church authorities to assist in making a settlement in the Little Salt Lake Valley. Accompanied by other pioneers they left Salt Lake City December 1, 1850 and traveled by Ox team and arrived on Center Creek where Parowan now stands January 13, 1851.

Now the Indians were not friendly so a fort was built for the people to live in as a place of protection against the unfriendly Indians. Soon the Indians become friendly because the Pioneers would rather feed them than have to fight.

In the early part of January 1856, a public mass meeting was called at Parowan to consider the advisability of a number of its citizens colonizing

one Beaver Valley in answer to a call made by the authorities of the Church. Because of a decision made at this meeting a Company of 14 left Parowan in the early part of February with Simeon F. Howd as Captain to make a settlement in the Beaver Valley.

They arrived on the south bank of the Beaver River February 6, 1856. They began building homes for the people. The first home was a log house.

Simeon F. Howd was set apart by George A. Smith as presiding Elder over the Beaver Branch, of the Parowan Ward. Simeon F. Howd held the position of Presiding Elder until December of that year, when the Branch ward was changed to Beaver Ward with Philo T. Farnsworth as Bishop.

Grandfather was very active in all the enterprises of the early days. He hauled tan bark for the new Tannery. He used to get cotton from Dixie to mix with the wool to make clothes for his family. Grandmother taught the older girls to card, spin and weave cloth to be made into clothes for the family. She made the candles used to illuminate the home.

My Grandmother and Grandfathers first home was built of logs and was where the Coop Store now stands.

Grandmother was the first white woman to go to the Panguitch Lake. While there the Indians used to bring the White people fish that were caught in the Lake. Grandmother made the trip up the mountain to the lake by holding to a rope tied to old crickets tail. (old cricket was an old horse).

While at the Lake an Indian came to camp and carefully awoke grandfather and told him to take his squaw and leave because at day-break the Indians were going to attack the company. Grandfather arose and quietly awoke the other members of the group, they yoked the oxen and quietly left one at a time. All arrived home safe and sound.

Through exposure and low living Grandfather became ill with ericiplis and heart trouble, as a result of these disorders grandfathers hand became almost useless. While tending to water on his farm Grandfather died, from a heart attack, May 1878.

Grandmother was left alone, yet not idle, for she had been a member of the Relief Society at Nauvoo and had received training which had fit her for future work. She served well and after the Relief Society was organized at Beaver with Jane Lyman as President she assisted in sewing for the dead and living.

In the year 1869 Grandmother was chosen as first counselor of the Relief Society, with Harried Shepherd as President. She held this position for two years. Her enterjetic labors were of great value to the Relief Society. November 1st 1871 she became President of the Relief Society and held this position for a little less than five years. During this time Brigham Young ask the Relief Society to store grain for time of need. Grandmother was determined that this request would be obeyed so with eight women taking their lunch they went into the fields to glean. Their efforts were rewarded with five sacks of the heads of the precious grains.

September 6, 1879 Grandmother was chosen President of the Beaver Stake Relief Society, this she held for over seventeen years. Grandmother met with an accident in which she broke her hip. Because of much sickness and pain she resigned her position as Relief Society Stake President Sept. 25, 1896. Grandmother past to her final rest July 26, 1902. During her suffering her faith never wavered. She was the mother of eleven children.