

of Aunt, Ann's relation  
by Ellen Chaffey

Name Ann Power Leunt

Born October 10<sup>th</sup> 1844 - Where Wadersburg, Staffordshire, England

Parents Thomas Power and Jane Grosswell

Ann's father and mother joined the L. D. S. church in England when she was six years of age. She, with her parents, brother and sister, sailed for America, Jan 8, 1850, arriving in New York in March. They sailed the Mississippi, and settled at St. Louis, where her father Thomas works in Snow works nearby. It was here that the Mother, Jane, and the brother and sister took the dread cholera, and died, leaving Ann alone with her father. She was put in charge of the neighbors, and was kind to her. Two years later her father married Martha Tidwell, a young widow.

At age eleven, Ann's father took his family and moved to Council Bluffs, where they taught. They arrived in Utah in the Joseph Fielding Co. Many hardships were encountered on their journey of Bishop Henry Leunt, Ann later came to Cedar City to work in the Iron mission, under the first wife, Mary-Anne Wilcox the 2<sup>nd</sup> wife. They all lived in harmony.

Ann became very proficient in braiding and making straw hats - helping the family income and carded the wool ready for Aunt Ellen to weave into cloth. She taught her daughters all of the other wives, Ellen and Sarah - and Sarah's family. They made a lovely home there, only to be d and had to leave Mexico due to the Mexican uprising. Her husband Henry had died there, so she her children for Cedar City, where she was welcomed into the home of her daughter, Rose Leunt.

In 1889, she left her home in Cedar City for Mexico with her husband Henry. Her family and had to leave Mexico due to the Mexican uprising. Her husband Henry had died there, so she her children for Cedar City, where she was welcomed into the home of her daughter, Rose Leunt. She died in Cedar at the age of 70 years.

## SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF ANN GOWER LUNT

UTAH PIONEER OF 1854

Given by her daughter Ellen Chatterly  
For the Organizing Camp of Cedar City, Utah

Ann Gower Lunt was born October 10, 1844 at Wedensburg Staffordshire, England. She was the daughter of Thomas Gower and Jane Crosswell.

Her father having joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints was very anxious to be with the Saints in Utah. So at the age of six years Ann sailed with her father, mother, brother and sister on the Ship Argo, January 8, 1850 arriving in New Orleans in March. They then sailed up the Mississippi and stopped at St. Louis. It was here where Ann's father decided to stay and work in the Iron Works whereby he could obtain means to come to Utah.

Soon after their arrival in St. Louis the cholera broke out. Ann's mother, brother and sister took the dreaded disease and died leaving Ann alone with her father.

She was then put in charge of the neighbors to be taken care of and often told of being locked in dark attics because she cried of lonesomeness for her mother.

Two years later her father married Martha Tidwell, a young widow, who had lost her husband with the cholera. From this time on Ann was raised by her step-mother.

At the age of eleven Ann's father took his family and went to Council Bluffs. Here they bought an outfit to cross the plains and stayed long enough for a company to be organized and left Council Bluffs with four oxen and two cows in Joseph Fielding's Company.

They endured many of the danger and hardships of those who crossed the plains. At one time being surrounded by the Shoshone

Indians with their war paint on. The Indians demanded provisions which they had to give and of course shortened their supply. One day while walking slowly behind the wagons she was prompted to look back of her and an Indian was creeping very near her so she lost no time in gaining the wagons.

They arrived in Salt Lake Valley the fall of 1854. Where they remained for a time when they heard the call to settle Iron County and located at Cedar City or as known now as the Old Fort. When Brigham Young saw the place the people had selected for a settlement he could see the result of floods and advised them to move to where Cedar City now is. Many had moved up to the new town - sight before Ann's father and some few others had done so and it was sometimes necessary for Ann to do an errand to the new place. On one such occasion she was a little late in returning a storm was approaching and as it was very dark she would walk slowly till a flash of lightening would show her the road for a short distance, when she would run and more than once she heard an arrow speed past her. Ann, being the oldest child was her father's chief dependence for help and spent much of her time in the fields doing a man's work, she also had to help do the carding and spinning of the pioneers. They had to prepare the wool from the sheep's back to make their clothing. They suffered considerably for the want of sufficient food. As did many others who came here at first. They were glad to have bran bread, wild honey and molasses made from carrots. At one time Ann was so famished from the want of something to eat that she fainted away and was unconscious for some time. They had to soften the water with cotton wock ashes, as it was impossible to get lye. They used the tops of rabbit brush, and coprus in the canyon to color with.

On the eleventh day of April 1863 she entered the holy bonds of matrimony becoming the wife of Bishop Henry Lunt. She still continued to work hard both indoors and out. The wool had to be carded and spun and ready for Aunt Ellen, the first wife, to weave into cloth. At harvest time and the farm help scarce she and Mary Ann, the second wife, had taken their babies into the fields placing them under a shack of grain in the shade to sleep and watched by an older child, while they bound grain all day.

Ann became very proficient in braiding and making straw hats both for men and women, often making beautiful trimmings from the split straw. She helped to earn for her family in this way. Many girls learned from her but she never accepted anything for her instructions. She was a faithful wife and mother and labored unceasingly to help provide them with a comfortable home but remained to enjoy it only a comparatively short time because they left Cedar City in the fall of 1880 to join the colonization of Mexico and was compelled to commence her life work over again. Here she again took up hat making but not being able to obtain straw she used corn husks instead. She made beautiful little baskets of these as Christmas gifts for the neighbors children. They also had to go back to spindle and reel. Annie being very broken in health her little daughters Ellen and Esauel then ten and twelve respectively carded and spun many pounds of yarn. One time they did several pounds to earn enough to buy material for underwear for best wear, paying fifty cents per yard for bleached muslin.

Finding the country in a wild state and isolated from civilization, food became scarce and the hardships of this second pioneering proved too much for her health. She was a faithful

worker in the Relief Society as a teacher and was ever found true to her duty until her health failed and she became unable to attend meetings. She also previous to her sickness when to help with the sick very often being called in the night to go and help someone who was ill and several times acting as midwife. Working and living to see the colonies develop until the country became dotted over with modern American homes, through surrounded with the semi-civilized Mexicans who however, partook to a certain extent of the thrift of their person neighbors and advanced along the lines of civilization.

Yet these comforts, so hard earned were not too last. The uprising and civil war that broke out in Mexico afforded an opportunity for the covetous anti-American element surrounding them to demand their homes and property and they were given summary order to leave the country. Tho an invalid of many years and unable to ride in any kind of vehicle, nerved by the excitement she made the journey of twenty five miles to the nearest railroad station in a lumber wagon and with her son Thomas and family, Ellen and family and other refugees boarded the train that carried them to El Paso. Taking nothing with them except a small trunk of clothing and a roll of bedding. Their property was left for the Mexicans to do as they pleased. A week later with myself and four little girls, mother arrived in Cedar City. Though the builder of two homes she was now homeless, but found a warm welcome with her daughter and her husband, Joseph H. Hunter.

She was a mother of ten children two of whom she buried while infants. She was a very devoted mother and constantly reminded her children of their duties to the church of Latter Day Saints. A year and six months later after her arrival here in Cedar she passed to the great beyond and her last dying words to her children who surrounded her bedside were, an exhortation to remain true to the

faith. She was seventy years of age at the time of her death.

She buried her husband ten years previous in Mexico.