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September 24, 2003

A Brief History of
ZINA D. H. YOUNG

By

Oa Jacobs Cannon,
a Granddaughter

Researched by

David Henry Jacobs,
a Great Grandson

The next morning I was taken sick and in a few days my father and brother, Oliver, were also prostrate. My youngest brother, John, twelve years of age, was the only one left that could give us a drink of water, but the Prophet sent his adopted daughter, Julia Murdock, to assist us in our affliction, and she saw to our being taken care of as well as circumstances would permit, for there were hundreds lying sick in tents and wagons who needed care as much as we. Once Joseph came himself and made us tea with his own hands, comforting us and all the sick and dying.

Early in the morning of July 8, 1839, just before the sun had risen, the spirit of my blessed mother took its flight, without her moving a muscle, or even a quiver of the lip. Only two of the family could follow the remains to their resting place. Oh, who can tell the anguish of the hearts of the survivors, who knew not whose turn it would be to follow next.

Thus died my martyred mother! The Prophet Joseph often said that the Saints who died in the persecutions were as much martyrs of the Church as was the Apostle, David Patten who was killed in the defense of the Saints, or those who were massacred at Haun's Mill. My beloved mother was one of the many bright martyrs of the Church in those dark and terrible days of persecution.

After the death of her mother, Zina and her two young brothers were taken into the home of the Prophet Joseph. He and Emma were very kind to them.

A very important event took place in the life of Zina during these early days in Nauvoo. Her father married Lydia Partridge, the widow of Bishop Edward Partridge who died on May 27, 1840, as a result of the Missouri persecution. This marriage took place on September 29, 1840, some fourteen months after the death of Zina's mother. It was also during these eventful days that her sister Prescindia had to leave her irresponsible husband. She was at that time sealed to the Prophet Joseph. Matters changed for the better thereafter.