

Heavens and New Earth, be associated with the
Prophets, Priests, and Kings. All these blessings are
yours, and your hearts desire in righteousness.

I seal you up to Eternal Lives and to Glory and
Immortality according to the Holy order and sealing
power given to His servant to bind on earth and for
heaven, in the name of Jesus. Amen

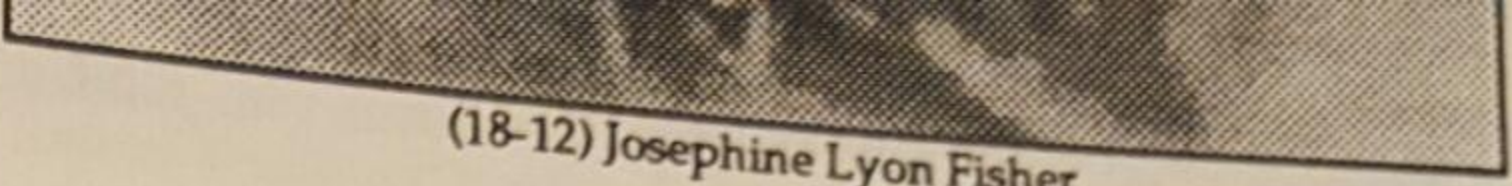
L.O. Littlefield

Josephine Lyon Fisher

I was born in February of 1844, and a few months
later the Prophet and his brother were martyred at Car-
thage Jail. But even before that, the people knew that
they would be forced to flee from their beloved city.
They knew they must go far away to some place that
was not wanted by anyone else.

First they rushed to complete their beautiful
Temple, so that they could perform the ordinances
taught by their beloved Prophet. As soon as any part of
the Temple was finished, it was dedicated, and put to
use. Endowments began in December 1845. My mother,
Sylvia and Grandmother, Patty were called to work
there, after they had received their endowments on the
16th of December. They worked day and night franti-
cally helping others to receive their blessings, not
knowing how long it would be before another Temple
could be built.

My grandparents, David and Patty Sessions, were
among the first to leave on the westward trek into the
unknown. On February 12th 1844 they bade farewell to
their children and crossed the Mississippi by ferry. They



(18-12) Josephine Lyon Fisher

were much concerned about the loved ones they had
left behind, Perrigrine and Sylvia and their families,
and young David. They hoped and prayed they would
all follow soon.

About four months later Perrigrine did join his
parents at Winter Quarters. But they were disappointed
to receive a letter from Sylvia saying that Winsor had
decided to go to Iowa City instead of joining the other
Saints. His brother, Ethiel had gone to the city the year
before and had established a drug business and taken
up land in that new town. He had encouraged them to
come and join him in the business, and take up exten-
sive land too. This they did.

Before my Grandparents left Winter Quarters, my
mother, Sylvia, and I and Uncle David went to visit
them one last time. I was very young, so I don't remem-
ber it, but my mother brought back a poem composed
for her by her good friend, Eliza R. Snow. She treasured
it all of her life.

My memory begins about the time of my Father's
death in January 1849. My mother was left with two
very young boys and me to care for. My father's other
wife, Elize Gee Lyon, also had a small son.

My Uncle Perrigrine came to Iowa City to take us
to the Great Salt Lake, but arrived too late as my
mother was to marry the prominent banker, Ezekiel
Clark, the next day, January 1, 1850. Uncle David
decided to go to Utah with his older brother.

Five years later, Uncle Perrigrine came to visit on
his way home from a mission to England. He became ill
and Mother cared for him. When he was well Ezekiel
purchased two "spring wagons", and teams, and two

cows, so Mother and I, and my two half-sisters and half-brother could go to Utah with Uncle Perrigrine, to visit our grandmother and many cousins. My two brothers had died in Iowa City, leaving me as the only descendant of the union of Dr. Winsor Palmer Lyon and Sylvia Sessions.

I can remember the long journey across the plains, as I was able to drive one of the teams some of the way, when my mother became tired. I thought it was great fun, and was looking forward to our return. But we didn't return to Iowa City. Instead my mother had a home built in Sessions Settlement, where Uncle David and Aunt Phoebe, and Uncle Perrigrine and families lived.

I met and married John Fisher, when I was very young, and we reared a large family. I have enjoyed my associations with the Church members, and have given my family the teachings that will enable them to attain exaltation, if they will only live the doctrine.

I am very proud of my pioneer heritage.

Josephine Lyon Fisher

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