

HISTORY OF JOHN LOWDER

UTAH PIONEER OF 1851

Written by his daughter, Ida M. Paxton
For Camp Elizabeth, Parowan, Utah

My father, John Lowder, with his parents, Jesse and Zilpha Briggs Lowder, one sister, Catherine Lowder Burrows, and one brother, Richmond, came to Utah in 1851, from Nauvoo, Ill. They lived for sometime in Salt Lake City, then they helped to settle Parowan Panguitch and Paragonah. They are still remembered for their kind acts among the poor and needy. They always divided the milk from their cows to help feed the babies of the village.

They were personally acquainted with the Propnet Joseph Smith. Father drove the first mail route from San Bernardino to Salt Lake for nine months, making the trip once a month.

He was Captain in the Black Hawk War. He was always considered very brave, fearing nothing. He after acted as an interpreter for the Indians and the White men.

He was the first man to pick up a gold nugget in Bingham Canyon. He took it to President Young, who told him the time had not yet come to develop those mines.

He played a violin and with his mother and his sister furnished the music for the dances and entertainments among the bands of pioneers. He was always very active in the Church and spent many years working in the St. George Temple, dying while laboring there, February 14th, 1917.