

Life Story of Roxsana Othelia Reed Goodman
By her daughter Thelma G. Malloy, 1975

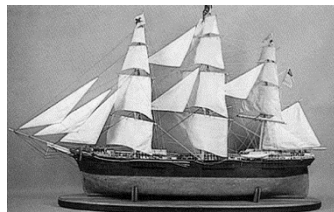
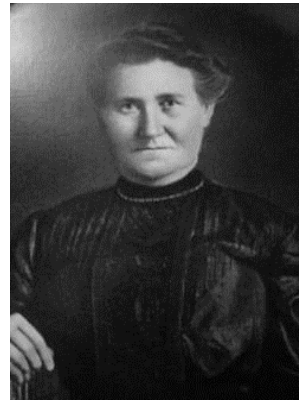


I am writing this biography of my mother that my children and grandchildren may become acquainted with their grandmother that they never knew in this life. Our oldest daughter, Norma, was four years old and our second daughter Janet was one year old when she passed away. Roxsana Othelia Reed was born to Heber Curtis Reed and Louisa Sheen Reed the 25th of October, 1875 in Salem, Utah, Utah. She was the fifth child of fourteen children.

Heber Curtis Reed was born the 7th of September in 1847 in Potmie County, Iowa. Later he moved to Salem, Utah County, Utah. His father was Calvin

Reed and his mother was Mary Curtis.

Louisa Sheen was born on the 4th of February, 1850 in Worchester, England. When she was six years old she came with her parents Robert Sheen and Eliza Taylor and three sisters May, Annie, and Emma to America. They left Liverpool, England the 23rd of March, 1856 under the direction of Mormon ship leader James Ferguson on the ship, "Enoch Train."

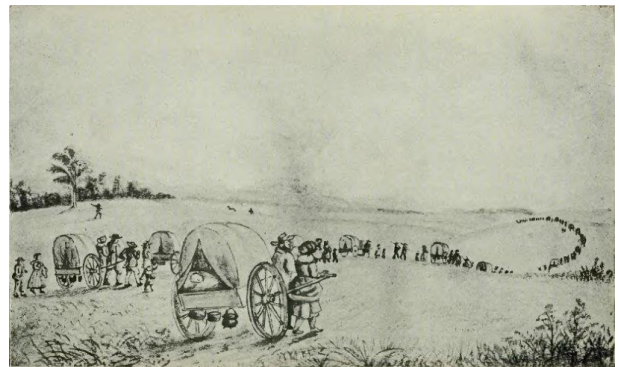


Enoch Train replica

The journey was long and sickness came upon them. Food was rationed very closely. They landed in Boston May 1, 1856, and from there the saints traveled by rail to New York City then to Iowa City, Iowa. From there they journeyed across the plains by wagon and handcarts (in the first handcart company). They buried one child, Emma, on the plains. They arrived in Salt Lake in September 1856.

They moved on to Payson, Utah and then on

to Salem, Utah. It was here in Salem that Heber Curtis Reed met and married Louisa Sheen the 10th of May, 1868. To this union six children were born in Salem: a daughter (stillborn), Mary Eliza, Heber, Louisa Ann, Roxsana Othelia and Lillie. They then moved to St. David, Cochise County, Arizona. It must have been soon after the last daughter, Lillie, was born in Salem in 1878 because they had another daughter (stillborn), who was born (no date) in St. David. Their next son, Robert Calvin, was born the 1st of August, 1881 in St.



David. They had six other children born in St. David: James William, Fred, Polly, Ethel, Nora and Agnes.

Roxsana grew up in St. David and had a happy home life. She attended what would be considered very little schooling as to the number of years. I have heard of her talk of the good time she had with her friends at parties and dances.

She married George Edward Goodman the 13th of February, 1893. They were married by Justice of the Peace J.A. McRae.



George E. Goodman and Roxsana Othelia Reed 1893

They had a lovely wedding. These were always great occasions where all relatives and friends attended. This was in St. David.

Their first child, a daughter was born the 19th of December, 1893 and was given the name Iva Othelia. George Nicholas, a son, was born September 5th, 1895 in St. David.

As the temples in Utah were far away, and means of travel not so good, and not having the finances to make the journey, an apostle was sent to seal wives to husbands. On March 9, 1897 Mother and Father were sealed. Thus it was that Iva and George were not born under the covenant. They were told as soon as possible they could go to the temple and get their endowments.

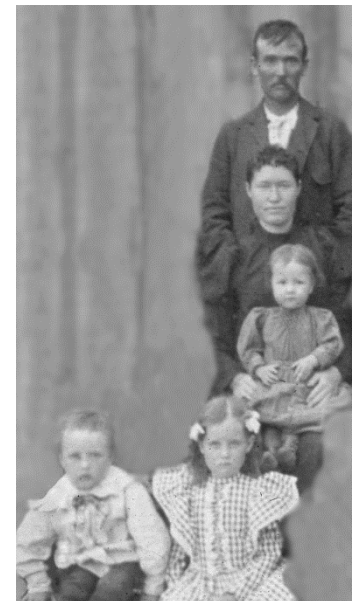
Four more children were born in St. David, a daughter Louisa the 13th of November, 1897, a son James Richard the 24th of March, 1901, and two more sons, Clarence D., The 29th of August, 1903, and Robert Calvin, the 3rd of July, 1905.

At this time, they decided to move to Safford, Arizona along with Dad's brother Francis and family. They moved by wagons herding their cattle. It took them four or five days. Today we can go from St. David in one and one-half hours.

I remember so well of Dad telling how mother cried every day for a year to go back home, so he said he decided to go back for a visit and if Mother still wanted to live there, they would move back. The first evening they were there he said Mother went out in the street by their old home and looked up and down the road and then said, "George, let's go home." He said never once again did she want to move back and was always very happy in her home.

They lived in what we used to call the "Martin Jacobson home" when they first came to Safford and then in June 1908 they bought a home from Mamie Wish for \$500. This was their home until 1929 when they made an exchange of homes with a Mr. Merkham. This was at 407 Second Avenue. The home they bought from Mrs. Wish was on Eighth Avenue. Of course, then streets were never named or houses numbered. Lloyd Hill lives in the same home today (1975).

On January 3rd, 1909, I (Thelma) was born. My mother said the reason I was named Thelma was because my sister Iva had just finished reading the book, "Thelma" and liked the name so much she wanted to name me Thelma.



George and Roxsana Goodman and family 1898 in St. David

Dad did farming when he first came to Safford and then went to work for George Jacobsen in his lumber yard, which was later sold the J.D. Hallsted Lumber Company and later sold to Paul Brooks. He worked at the same lumberyard for 32 years.

On June 28th, 1913 another girl was born, Faye Grace. This was now eight children, four boys and four girls.

We had a very happy home and the love and devotion my Mother and Dad had for each other was always an inspiration to me. Mother never liked to be away from Dad and this very seldom was.

Mother helped with sickness and helped women with their babies. She was such a good neighbor, always sharing a loaf of bread, a bowl of beans, stew or whatever she was cooking. She would never turn a tramp from the door. We used to tease her about never turning a tramp away and saying they all knew where to come for food.

Her neighbors all loved her and I remember how they used to come over to visit in the afternoons. We all had time to enjoy one another.

Mother was a wonderful cook and housekeeper. Everything was always in order. She always had us put our clothes in order at night where we could put our hands on them because we never knew when we would need them.

A highlight of our lives was to visit relatives in St. David and to have them visit us. It would always be for a week's visit when we went there or when they would come to Safford.

I can remember of being awakened in the night by someone coming to get Mother to help them as someone in their home was sick. When any of us were sick in the home we were the ones that received very special care and attention.

In 1919 sadness was brought into our home by the word that mother received that her mother, Louisa Sheen Reed, was dying. Dad took Mother and Faye to Tombstone, and this was where Grandma passed away the 2nd of April, 1919.

Another highlight was to have Mother's aunt, Eliza Ellen Sheen Clifford, who lived here in Safford, come to spend day. As we came home from school and heard loud talking we knew aunt Eliza was there. She was very hard of hearing and Mother would have to talk loud so she could hear.



Roxsana Othelia Reed Goodman and George Edward Goodman

We always brought our friends home and our place was welcome to all. My girlfriends loved mother and she loved them. I never had to wonder if they would be welcome or if there would be something good to eat or if the house would be in order as I always knew this could be done. We had lots of parties in our home. I used to say the reason I was always assigned to bring a cake to a party with because of the delicious cakes mother made.

She taught me as well as the other children to pray and have faith in Heavenly Father. She was a very spiritual woman.

She loved Relief Society and was a visiting teacher for so many years and a very devoted one. They did not have a car, she or her partner, to go teaching. I can see them walking hot or cold weather with a

long way to go. Never did I hear her complain. She always showed how much she enjoyed this assignment.

We always had family prayers in our homes. The general authorities, ward and stake leaders were honored and never found fault within our home.

One by one the children were married; Iva to William E. Norton, the 15th of October, 1915, George to Clara Platt, the 30th of June, 1916, Louisa (we always called her Lou) to Glen Bingham, on the 17th of September, 1918, (divorced later) then she married John William Oliver, the 8th of October, 1923, Richard (we called him Dick) to Mary Hobbs the 5th of January, 1929 (he later divorced), then married Emily LaPreel Hancock the 16th of September, 1939. Clarence married Dorothy Emily Berryhill on the 16th of August, 1924.

Three of us were at home for four years with Mother and Dad. These were also happy years for Robert, Thelma and Faye. It was a joy to have our brothers and sisters and grandchildren come to visit.

Mother truly loved her children and grandchildren and they were always welcome in our home. We had wonderful Christmas and Thanksgiving. We always had something special for our birthdays and always a lovely cake.

I married Weldon Stanley Malloy the 3rd of July, 1928. Robert married Marjorie Palmer the first of September 1928. Faye was left home alone with Mother and Dad. It was soon after this took sick that Mother took sick and her health failed. She was operated on for goiter in Phoenix in 1931. She finally went blind and was unable to walk, talk, or feed herself. My Dad gave her such wonderful care. We all helped in any way we could. Faye was the only child at home at this time.

Mother passed away at the age of 57 at her home, 407 Second Avenue. She went very peacefully. She was survived by her husband, four sons and four daughters and 16 grandchildren. She passed away the 31st of May, 1933. She was buried in the Safford Union cemetery on June 2nd, 1933.

At her funeral service, Spencer W. Kimball, now president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints sang the hymn, "I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go, Dear Lord."

Two things that I left out and should have mentioned are: In July of 1924. Louisa (Lou) came from Globe to have mother care for her when her baby came. The baby was born the 22nd of July, 1924, a beautiful baby girl. She was given the name, Marjorie Louise. She died at the age of two weeks, the 8th of August, 1924. This was the first death in the family of her children or grandchildren.



On May 28, 1928, Mother and Dad went to the Arizona Temple and had their endowments. Their son George and his wife Clara, with their children, went with him and were sealed as a family. George was sealed to Mother and Dad also. This was a most happy occasion for everyone.

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