

FAMILY
OF
SAMUEL AND HARRIET ELLA JACKSON
1921



backrow: LaMone, Sara, Harriet, Lois
frontrow: Richard, Hannah, Samuel, Elda



Glenn on mission

SAMUEL JACKSON, JR.

Samuel Jackson, Jr., the oldest child in the family of three sons and two daughters of Samuel Jackson, Sr. and Hannah Maria Jacques/Jaques, and three daughters of Samuel Jackson, Sr. and Martha Jackson (no relation to the Samuel Jackson family) was born in Nephi, Juab County, Utah on September 15, 1869.

The family came from Nephi to make their home in the San Luis Valley in southern Colorado on March 1, 1889 when Samuel Jr. was nineteen years of age.

Samuel Jr. had a keen mind and a wonderful memory. He did a lot of reading in his later years and could remember in detail practically all he read. At times he would reminisce telling me, his daughter Lois, about his life. As he spoke, I wrote. The following is pretty much in his own words.

We used to raise sugar cane in Nephi and then take it to the mill to be ground. We took our own wood to make the fire that boiled the juice to the molasses stage. We used to also raise our own popcorn - it was allowed to dry in a room of the house. Candy was made of the molasses and sometimes this was poured over the popcorn. Tea was sweetened with molasses. After molasses was kept a year it would turn into sugar.

There used to be quite a dread of diphtheria and Samuel's mother, Hannah Maria, said molasses and molasses candy must have cured their sore throats and mouths.

We used to have graham (wheat with its bran) mush each night for supper. Molasses and milk was used on the mush. "It was good for us" said Samuel. We used to store apples in a bin for winter use - stored carefully without bruising. Samuel's mother picked bunches of grapes in Nephi and dipped the stemend in wax. This would preserve them for a time. The grapevines grew all through the apricot trees and I would climb into the tree and eat gapes until my tongue would become very sore. (they were concord grapes).

We killed our own beef, and when we first went to Colorado we would "stretch" or preserve it as the Indians and Mexicans did. Beef was cut off in strips and dipped in saltwater and then put on strings or wires to "or cure". Soon a white coating formed and then flies would not bother the meat. When it was thoroughly dry, it was stored in sacks. The family used to eat "stretch" (similar to our modern day jerky) without cooking. Some people cooked in water. Squash and all types of fruits were dried by the sun. This method took the place of our modern refrigerators and deep freezers.

Molasses sugar was used to preserve some of our fruits. After we went to Colorado from Nephi, Utah, my father, Samuel Sr., sent to Mexico for his barrels of molasses.

We used to spend the winter evenings skating, (my grandfather, Benjamin Jackson, made our skates) popping corn, making molasses candy, and sleigh riding.

We had dances in the old social hall in Nephi. We danced square dances, waltz quadrille and lancer quadrille. A waltz was played about the middle of the dance and then the home waltz at the end. "They had a good orchestra, I thought," said Samuel. We also

had home dances. The fiddle and organ were used in Manassa, Colorado most of the time after we went there.

We had a good brass band and a choir in Nephi - the seats were always filled. Leaders of band choir were from the old country - England. They seemed to take more interest in that type of thing then than they do now. Brother Hawkins and Brother Morris were two of the leaders. We had the theater - not movies in those days. Samuel said, "the actors were very good I thought." We enjoyed sleigh rides in Nephi. The sleighs were mostly two seated and decked with bells. When one team of horses got tired we would switch to a second.

We had to get water for the home from the ditch. My brother William and I would go for the water with wagons and sled in the winter time. We would fill the tub and/or boiler with water and put snow on top of it to keep the water from splashing out. There were times just as we were nearly home the sled would tip and over would go the water. We all used the same water for bathing in a big size tub. A tub full of water was heated - one would bathe and then when the next got in and a dipper or so of fresh hot water was added. Roily (Samuel's word to describe cloudy or muddy water) water would have to settle and then be used. The year we left Nephi plans were underway to pipe water into the town.

Upon one occasion Will and I were given a colt and while mother was away we tied him to a chair in the house. The colt became frightened and started running round and round and really knocked things up in the house. We really got it when mother returned.

I liked telling jokes and relating the funny things that happened to members of the family and others I knew. Once while at a dance I was acting a little strange. My sister, Bernecia thought I must be drunk. She got worried and tried to persuade me to go home with her. When I refused she tugged and pulled at me and finally got me home and in bed and then I threw the covers back and laughed at the joke I had pulled on her.

My, father Samuel, Sr. freighted to earn a living for his family. My brother, William, and I also helped support the family by managing the little farm and doing the home chores. William and I also did this and other odd jobs to support our father as he served a mission for the church. I helped bring timber from Mt. Nebo to Nephi to build our house in Nephi. We were not wealthy, but we were industrious and saved our money and made a pretty good living.

Samuel, Jr. felt very unhappy when he recalled how his father had to hide from the deputy marshals while he was living at Nephi, Utah with his two wives: Hannah Marie Jacques and Martha Jackson. Samuel Sr. treated his two families equally and the two families got along very well and were happy. The children of the two families always greeted each other with a hug and a kiss.

Samuel Sr. was never caught but Martha (Mac) was suspected of being a polygamous wife and she went to court carrying her baby, Vida, in her arms. Hannah Maria went along with "Mac" to court. The law could do nothing, however, for Samuel Sr, wasn't present.

Samuel Jr., recalled that at one time his father slipped around the outskirts of the town of Nephi while he, Samuel, Jr and his mother, Hannah Maria, drove the wagon through town and met Samuel, Sr. later, and put him on the train at the mouth of Spanish Fork Canyon where he went on to Spanish Fork. Samuel Sr. had to leave Utah and go to Colorado because it was unsafe to be out in the day time, because of the persecution the polygamists were receiving. The family sold out at Nephi. Martha had gone on ahead of Samuel Sr. and Hannah Maria to Colorado. She stayed with John Morgan and Josephine Smith (mother of Nick and Joe Smith) until Samuel Sr. came.

It was sort of sickening to see the place Samuel, Sr. and Martha had to live in. Part of the small house had been used as a stable and had a flat roof. Hannah Maria had to live in a barn when they first came to Colorado. This made her so unhappy she became ill and was dissatisfied. After the barn was cleaned, sheets were hung to partition off the rooms. Hannah soon began to recover as plans for the new house were made.

Samuel Jr. said they had about 35 or 40 acres of land and a house in Nephi all of which they sold for \$1800.00 Samuel was only nineteen years old when they left Nephi and went to Colorado. Sam Jones and another fellow helped Samuel Jr. load the family belongings on the train at Spanish Fork. There were two cows, two pair of horses and furniture. William the younger brother had left in the fall with some horses. There was no Monarch pass at that time so Samuel Jr. went over Tennessee Pass and switched off at Mears Junction and on to Villa Grove where Samuel Sr. and William met him and helped him get the things home.

They rode horses bareback to look over a ranch three miles east of Manassa, Colorado. They moved to this ranch March 1, 1889. There was a mortgage on the ranch. They paid Will Martin, who owned it the, \$800.00 and assumed the rest of the mortgage which amounted to \$300.00. They bought only 80 acres at first and then bought the rest as they could. As time went on they purchased the following pieces of land: Summers, Bills, Island, Maestes west of the brick house, twenty acres near town, Bountiful and then fifty acres of farming land called the Silo. All this time one of the three boys was on a mission.

A crop was planted soon after the family arrived in Colorado and they began to "feel pretty good" even though they had little to eat that winter.

The next spring, after the crops were in, Samuel, Jr and Will plowed land on the Excelsior for \$1.50 an acre. Enough money was earned to send Samuel Jr back to Nephi in November to get the rest of their cattle and horses.

Samuel Jr. and Will worked the following winter up the Alamosa Canyon for Cornelius Decker. (Harriet Ella Mortenson Jackson's uncle). There was a very bad storm which caused them to tip over because they could not see the road. When they got to Stunner the next day Cornelius Decker told them he was going home because there was too much snow -what a disappointment- so Samuel Jr. and Will got a job hauling cord wood for a mine at Stunner. They

worked there all winter. Often their clothes were so frozen they would rattle like boards and their clothes would stand up alone when they took them off.

The following winter they again planned to haul wood, but very heavy snows came again. Will had to leave his provisions and dig a trench to put his horses in so they would not freeze. Samuel had gone back home, but returned to help his brother. It took them eight days to get the horses from Stunner to Jasper. (around the Creed area) The miners had to come for provisions on snow shoes. Samuel Sr. met them with hay and grain so they turned back. By this time the road was getting so packed that horses could walk on it.

About this time, the miners thought they had struck rich ore and wanted Samuel and Will to haul ore to Monte Vista. The ore was found to be very low grade. Samuel and Will didn't get their pay. The miners kept giving them vouchers on a wealthy man who was interested in the mine for a time and then he "pulled out" and went back to Denver. He ignored the vouchers. They lost \$1,000.00 in wages, and fed grain and hay away for nothing.

A short time before this, they had purchased seventy head of sheep. They gave a voucher for the sheep, but it was not good, so they had to dig up money another way. Then they sold some cattle for more sheep after they got established in the sheep business. "We did pretty good", said Samuel.

In the spring, after Samuel Jr. came home from his mission in Virginia, he learned that the previous winter had been a very hard one. Seven hundred sheep were lost. "After this, times again were better," he said.

They worked long and hard for what they got. They were not afraid of work, and would do anything to help. He recalled how very hard his mother worked, and how careful everyone was to see that nothing was wasted or thrown away that could be used. His mother gathered wool, spun and made cloth and sewed clothes. She churned butter and sold it for 25 cents a pound to Jim McDaniels grocery store in Los Cerritos. They never saw any money, because they practiced the barter system. Sam Jr youngest sister, Mary, herded and milked cows for the family, and at times, for others.

The authorities thought the Deputy Marshals were coming to Manassa, Colo. so Samuel Sr. had to leave and go to the small town of Beulah on the Conejos River near Albuquerque. (Not the Albuquerque on the Rio Grande.) While he was there he helped organize a small branch of the Church at Beulah.

Samuel Jr. helped haul wood for the house they built for Samuel Sr second wife Martha. When things began to settle down, Samuel Sr. brought Martha back to Colorado. He had taken her away for a while.

While Samuel Jr. was on his mission to Virginia, John Henry Smith "came out" and selected Samuel Sr. for Bishop of the Manassa settlement. He had no home in Manassa, so at first he rented the house where Koch, (Mrs. Beck) lives now. This was two blocks south of the brick house he built in Manassa. Samuel Sr. had been on the ranch (we called it the Brick House Ranch) about four years before

he was made Bishop. When Samuel Sr. and Hannah Maria went to Manassa to live, Martha went to live on the ranch near Los Cerritos. The family attended the Los Cerritos Branch at Los Cerritos. They also attended dances there. First a house of hewn logs was built on the ranch east of town. It was a very nice looking house, but it burned down, so Samuel SR. built a house of red brick there.

After living in the Koch house, Samuel Sr. rented the Marshall "place" across the street from Will Christensen, The, he built the brick house in Manassa and lived there until his death. Samuel Sr. burned the first kiln of brick in the vicinity of Manassa.

Samuel Jr. said he couldn't remember how far he got in school. He said he didn't get to the fifth reader. He couldn't attend school regularly because he had to work to help support the family.

He liked arithmetic and excelled in it. I, Lois, remember how well he could add, subtract and multiply "in his head" without the aid of paper and pencil. He said he never could learn to spell. He said he took after his mother in this respect. All families contributed to the teacher's pay.

Right after the Samuel Sr. family moved to their new red brick house at Manassa, Samuel Jr. and Harriet Ella were married, 16 January 1901 in the Salt Lake Temple. They rented two rooms from Sister McCarrol and then later bought the frame house in Manassa. They paid \$600.00 for their first home. It took all the "lamb money" to do it. They purchased it from Jim Keel who had purchased it from Thatcher Moyer who had built it. Harriet Ella discovered years later, when she started a remodeling job, (she did the remodeling herself) that originally it was a log house.

Samuel Jr. said he had seen Harriet Ella several times. She came with some of the Jensens from Eastdale to a conference in Manassa and he saw her then. One time when he was looking after sheep near Eastdale, there was a dance and he went with some of the Holmans, and he saw her there. He remembered she was wearing a white apron and was dishing up ice cream. The ice cream was frozen by turning a bucket in ice. (they had no ice cream freezers.) He couldn't remember whether he danced that night with her. He had overalls on and was not expecting to dance.

Another time he went as a missionary to the Mortensen home and again saw Harriet who had been called home because her mother, Sarah Vilate Decker Mortensen, was ill.

Samuel Jr. did not marry until he was thirty-two. He felt he had to stay single and help support the family. But, at the urging of his mother, he finally married.

Samuel was known for his honesty, fairness and tolerance. He was always a friend and extended a helping hand to those who were "down on their luck" or were in less favorable circumstances than he and his family. He possessed charity, compassion and understanding. Many, including widows, came to him for help and advice. He always had time to listen to his mother-in-law, Sarah Vilate Mortensen, concerning her troubles. He would offer her the advice, comfort and reassurance that she needed. He taught by example as well as by precept the truths of the gospel.

He was well read in the scriptures, and often quoted from them. "The Jackson family was a missionary family." Samuel Jr. and his two brothers each served two missions. Samuel Jr. served a 26 month mission from 1894 to 1897 in the Southern States. (Virginia traveling without purse or script.) After he was married, he served a two year mission to England from 1906 to 1908. He was ordained and set apart for this mission by Apostle Francis M Lyman at Salt Lake City. He didn't get his temple endowments for his first mission because he left from Colorado. He was ordained an Elder by "Tommy " Crowther.

Samuel Jr. also served in the San Luis, Colorado Stake Presidency. He was second counselor to Rastus Christensen, first counselor to William Crowther and first counselor to a Brother Harris.

He served as a ward teacher and as a teacher in many ward organizations. Shelton Soward, who was his partner part of the time said he taught him by example more than he ever learned in his religion classes or in his reading.

He was ordained a deacon at Nephi, Utah by Bishop Udall. "I wasn't around so I could be ordained a teacher or priest because the family was on the "underground", he said. J. Golden Kimball ordained him a Seventy, and John Henry Smith ordained him a High Priest.

On Jan. 16, 1901 he was married to Harriet Ella Mortensen in the Salt Lake Temple. Winford Haynie said: Harriet was a good wife and did so very much for her family and for her community." To them, were born the following children:

Samuel Glenn	Born: Nov. 14, 1901	-Died Aug. 25, 1970
Arnold Benjamin	Born: Mar. 14, 1904	-Died May 14, 1904
Merriel	Born: July 7, 1905	-Died Nov. 17, 1905
Sara	Born: Mar. 30, 1910	
LaMone	Born: June 10, 1911	
Lois	Born: Mar 17, 1913	
Elda	Born: Apr 30, 1915]	
Richard Lars	Born: Oct 5, 1916	-Died May 12, 1952
Hannah	Born: Jan 17, 1920	

It pleased me very much when my father, Samuel Jr., told me, "Lois, your mother is the only woman I ever wanted or ever will want." Hannah, the youngest daughter, had been told by mother that she was to have her gold wedding band when she passed away. I told my father this as mother lay dying. Father said, "No, that is her wedding band and it stays on her finger."

Winford Haynie said, "when I was a little boy, my father would say, 'I like to hear Sammy Jackson talk. When he opens his mouth he always says something.' " Winford further stated, "He, Samuel, did not participate in idle talk. He did not have time for it. Like his father before him, he was a hard worker; always busy, having started early in the morning and he accomplished much. Yet, he had time to do other things when it was necessary because he knew how to use his time wisely. As his bishop, I observed that he always had charity, compassion, sympathy, understanding, and always

faith."

Harriet Ella always honored her husband in his Priesthood callings, and the children were taught by her to respect and love their father.

The following are comments made by his daughters:

"He was kind to animals. He always made sure they had plenty of food and water. He often fed the chickens after Mama had fed them, making double sure they didn't go hungry. In the winter, when it was very cold, the hay and tubs of water were placed in the barn and cows were kept there. As sheep were brought in from the pastures, sometimes a little lamb would fall behind. Papa would pick the tired little lamb up and carry it."

"He would tend my children", said Hannah, "when I went out to do the evening chores. He would often rock Robert and sing to him. One day Robert began to have a little hacking cough. He was not ill, nor catching a cold; he had picked this up from papa who had this same kind of cough. Often he would put Robert on his leg near his foot and swing him as he sang.....

"In my merry Oldsmobile tut tut tut tut tut
tut tut tut tut tut tut tut tu tu tut"

That is as far as he ever got in the song, but Robert loved it. John Brady said papa was the best man he had ever known. Doc Van Fradenburg, in Manassa, always considered him a trusted friend. Edwin Van Fradenburg, the banker at Colonial State Bank in Manassa, said he was the most honest man he had ever known."

The grandchildren loved to hear him sing a song about Charlie Chaplin. They would laugh and the song would be repeated again and again.....

"The sun shines bright on Charlie Chaplin
His pants need patching where he's been scratching
for mosquito bites."

Sara said: "I got my first job at a bank in Denver after completing business school because the President, Mr. Upton, had known my father.: He said, "Samuel Jackson's word is as good as his bond, and if you are his daughter, you have a job here."

Our father and the Catholics were always on friendly terms. They trusted one another. When the Catholics built a chapel, Father contributed to the building fund. Then, when the Mormons build a chapel, the Catholics contributed toward the construction of their chapel. We often heard him speak of a Mr. Maestas, a Mr. Cantu, Pedro Salazar and "Old Andreas."

He had nicknames for all of us, and also our friends. Some of the names were: "Old Blossom", "Buttercup", "Foxy Lady", "Peacemaker", and Jim the Diedler". He had flower names for all our friends.

Often times when some of his grandchildren (Madelyn, Harriet, Jim) were left in his care, he would tell them to open the low cupboard doors and drawers and pull out all the pots and pans. What a sorry sight greeted the parents eyes when they returned home.

Groceries for the sheep camp, and also some for the house were bought on credit a Brother Sellers store. When settlement day

came, Brother Sellers would fill a large sack with candy for father to bring home to the children. Those times we loved.

He always wanted the house to be clean and neat, yet he would often ask us, "How can you get dirt out of a clean house?" It bothered him if an ironing board was left up.

As soon as he got home, he would immediately call for Harriet, or ask one of us, "Where is your mother?"

The cows had to be milked at the same time everyday both night and morning. As we were milking, the cows would often hit us in the face with their tails, or step on a foot. Even so, he would tell us that it wasn't lady-like to say hateful, mean things or cuss at them.

Early each morning, mama would call us saying, "your father is back from doing chores at the Silo, and the cows are not milked." Or, papa would say, "girls, get up. The sun is up and the day is half gone."

He always wore two pair of underwear. One was made of wool. He'd say, "What keeps out the cold, keeps out the heat."

As Elda combed Madelyn's hair, Madelyn would squirm and protest, and Elda would scold. Papa said. "Don't scold like that: it could become a habit."

Years ago girls and women wore scarfs on their head as protection against wind and /or cold. Papa would say, "Madelyn, why do those girls wear rags on their heads?" Madelyn's reply would always be, "They are not rags, Grandpa, they are scarfs." This was repeated several times each week.

Thelma Jukes kept Jim for a time while his mother, LaMone, was working. Thelma was very good to him. Her kind treatment didn't go unnoticed by Jim's grandpapa who told LaMone to buy a nice bible and give to Thelma. Jim spent lots of time with his grandfather during his early years, and picked up some of his expressions. One was, "hold on, hold on." Jim is a grown man with children of his own, and he still says when he wants someone to wait, "hold on, hold on".

Samuel Richard, Sara's youngest son, lived with his grandparents one year. He and grandpapa were real pals, and watched out for one another. While both had colds, Sam asked his grandfather how he felt. His grandfather said, "Sam, I feel pretty bad;" to which little Sammy replied, "Well, Grandpa, I feel 'worster' than that."

When he called any of Hannah's children he would go through all the names adding "Ann" to each name: Judy Ann, Nancy Ann, Ella Ann and all the other little Ann's.

Mama often cooked for the men who sheared the sheep at the Brick House Ranch. Some of us girls always went with her to help. We enjoyed, along with the men, the home cooked meals. The jam from the ten pound buckets we thought was a real treat.

Richard and his father often enjoyed swapping tales. He tried his very best to bring happiness to Richard in any way he could. After mama died, he used to say to me as Richard grew older, " your mother wants Richard to come to her." Papa told me several times that if he had had Richard to help him he would be wealthy.

Papa told Elda she made the best soup ever... "See all that fat floating on top? Elda, you should can this soup and sell it."

He told Elda he couldn't leave us any money - just a good name. What a priceless gift....

Since mama passed away in 1947, papa had been ready "to go", too. He passed away at his oldest daughter, Sara's, home in Denver on July 18, 1951, at the age of 81 years, 10 months and 3 days. Like his maternal grandmother, Sarah Clower Jacques, before him he lived and died a faithful saint.

This history was written by Lois Jackson Howell, daughter of Samuel Jackson, Jr. Most of the information and experiences were written just the way he told them to her.