

Enid

Henrietta Adams

HENRIETTA ADAMS MORRIS

Written by Ruth M. Pickett

Henrietta Adams Morris was born November 3, 1859, at Nephi, Utah. She was the daughter of Samuel Lorenzo and Emma Jackson Adams.

When she was five years of age her parents were called to the Dixie Mission. They arrived in St. George November 7, 1864. While in her teens she became a member of the Relief Society. The meetings were held in the Gardner's Club Hall. Mary Ann Woodward taught the art of quilt block making. This work didn't seem to appeal to her but soon after being married she was assigned the work of visiting teacher.

In 1903 she was chosen first counselor to Mary Ann Sullivan in the East Ward Primary. Isaac C. Macfarlane was bishop. She held this position until 1908 when she was chosen president of the East Ward Relief Society which position she held until 1921, serving more than eleven years.

During the time she was Relief Society President Bishop Macfarlane became very ill and Frank Miles was set apart as bishop of the ward.

The work of the Relief Society sisters in those days became very difficult at times, but with it all Sister Morris had wonderful support from energetic women who were Rachel Cottam, Ida Foremaster and Mary Jarvis as counselors and members.

During most of the years she was in the Relief Society work there were no cars and very few telephones so where she went she walked. I can remember well when she thot of saving herself long walks to see her counselors the boys would take the message or she would write a note and they would deliver it on horseback.

Since there was neither mortuary or hospital she and the relief society sisters spent many hours calling on the sick, preparing the dead for burial and doing the sewing. I regret very much that we daughters did not keep account of the many burial shoes, robes, caps and men's trousers she made during her term of office. I think perhaps the most difficult bit of sewing she did was men's trousers. She was never satisfied until she thought the trousers looked perfect. Of course, most of this sewing had to be rushed job as few people were converted to embalming.

During the last few years as president she became painfully ill with rheumatism and asked to be released. As the years passed the disease crippled her to the extent that she was confined to a wheel chair. Even with almost deformed hands she continued to do beautiful hand work.

She died at her home in St. George December 23, 1940, at the age of 81 years.