

History #13

**A History of James Anderson and
Julia (Ekins) Loveless. Edited by
Cyril M. Kearl from a number of
documents about James and Julia.**

History #13 - Biography of James Anderson Loveless
and Julia (Ekins) Loveless

James Anderson Loveless was born on 19 July 1853 in Provo, Utah County, Utah. A son of Bishop James Washington Loveless and Matilda (Mc Clellan) Loveless.

He was born in a one room adobe house located on the North-West corner of Ninth West and Sixth South Street in Provo, Utah. His parents had arrived in Salt Lake City, Utah on the third of September 1852 and had been counseled to settle in Provo, just as his Grandfather John Loveless, had also been counseled to do the year before when they arrived in Utah. James was their third child. His parents had been married on 9 March 1847 at Council Bluffs, Iowa and had lived there and in Indiana before they came to Utah.

His parents had filed on a homestead on the Provo Bench (what is now Orem) and started farming. The Indians then became so hostile that they had to move into town. Here they built a home which was located at 677 W 2nd South. The house consisted of two parts, one for each of his first two wives. It was here in Provo, Utah that James lived during his childhood. His father was polygamous having 3 wives. James A. was the oldest son of the first family. He loved to tell his children how at the age of 12 he would take their team and

wagon up the canyons near Provo and haul wood to heat the homes of all three families in the winter. He recieved some education in the Provo Schools and at the Brigham Young Academy.



James A. and Julia (Ekins)
Loveless

On 23 October 1876 he married Julia Ellen Ekins, a daughter of George Ekins and Eleanor Sykes. Julia had been born on 21 August 1856 in Goshen. She came to Provo with her Parents when she was a child. She recieved her education in the Provo City Schools and taught school for several years after her marriage to James.

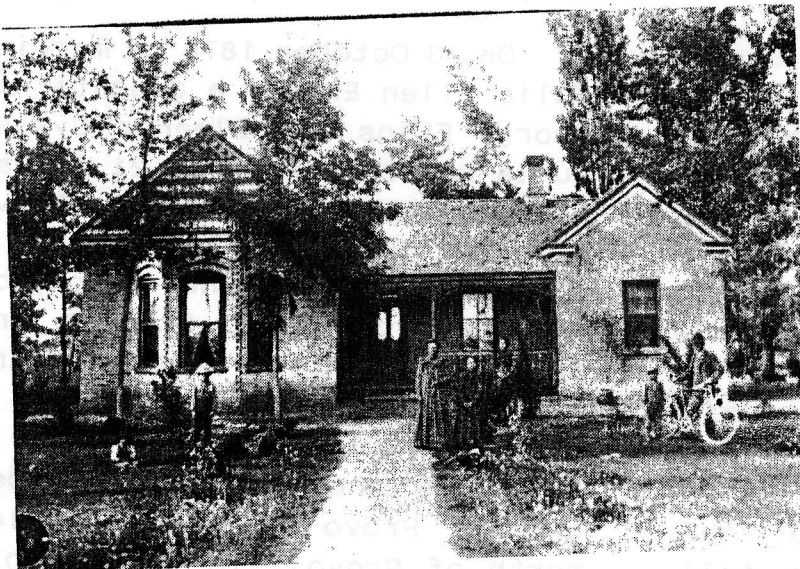
James and Julia homesteaded on the Provo Bemnch (4 miles north of Provo). To be eligible to buy homestead land at \$1.25 an acre, a homesteader must live on

his land for five years without leaving it for more than six months. He had to build a house and make other improvements on the property. Their patent was #1775 (section 23) granted on Nov. 20, 1882.

They were among the first families to homestead on the bench. The Provo Bench was an aluvial plane at the foot of the magnificent Mt. Timpanogos. It was left by glacial action in the Provo Canyon and was covered with sagebrush and rocks. It was a desert inhabited by jack rabbits, rattle snakes, and coyotes. The land had to be cleared of rock and sagebrush and irrigation ditches and canals had to be dug to water the thirsty land. Food was very scarce and the early settlers depended on wild animals for meat and gathered wild berries much as the indians had done.

Relatives and friends thought that they were making a mistake to settle in such a desolate place. Julia was a wonderful wife. With hard work and cooperation they made a success of their farm. They lived in Provo while they cleared part of their land and built their first home, a two room adobe house that served them for several years. Two or three of their eight children were born there.

They were primarily fruit farmers. They raised of fruit of all kinds. Strawberries, raspberries, apples, and peaches. They also grew of potatoes. They used to store them in a root cellar during the winter and during a hard winter would lose a lot of them to the frost. They also raised a few horses to sell to the army and to other farmers. There were no tractors in those days and all farming was done with horses. A good horse sold for \$250.00.



The Loveless Farm House

James had an ice house where he stored the ice he had cut in the winter from a pond behind the house in sawdust and they had ice all summer long. The children went to the Spencer School. It was a log house that served both as the school and church. Later a frame school was built.

James had a husky build and had a little mustache. The neighbors always thought that he was a good man, a good farmer, a family man, happy and congenial.

There were folks who said that he didn't like to work too much and that Julia was the real worker in the family. That she wasn't afraid to get out the gum boots, the shovel, water gate and irrigate when necessary. Many who farmed in that area lived on their farms in the summer and returned to the city in the winter. They were known as "Summer Farmers".

Money was scarce and they had to sell 40 acres to buy the equipment they needed to farm and to buy trees and bushes to plant their orchards and berry fields. When their oldest son, James, was born they built a nine room brick house. It had four bedrooms, a parlor, a large kitchen, pantry and a bathroom with a built in tub.

Hazel Ellen Una Vilate
Ray George James Jr. John



Julia James A. Ellen

The Loveless Family

When he was 47 years old James served on a mission in the Eastern States. He left behind a family of eight children when he went on this mission. They ranged in age from three to twenty one years old. James and Julia and their whole family were all devoted members of the LDS Church.

James was a member of the Bishopric of the Timpanogas Ward for more than twenty three years. He was a councilor to Peter Wentz (Mima's Aunt Vida's father-in-law). While he was in the Bishopric they built the Ward Chapel. He also served as President of the YMIA for a number of years. Julia and James were members of the Old Folks Committee for over 20 years.



James A. Loveless at a Pioneer Day celebration making like he was a pioneer crossing the plains.

He was very active in civic affairs. He was on the Lincoln District School Board for 10 year, President of the Provo Bench Canal and Irrigation

Company, and a Director of the Farmers and Merchants Bank. He was a member of the State Legislature from 1913 to 1914.

As his boys grew up and were married he gave each of them a team of horses, 10 acres of land and helped them build a home.

When his health failed him James could no longer farm and in 1918 he sold the 36 acres that remained of his original 160 acre homestead to his son George and moved back to Provo. They made changes, remodeled and moved into the house that had been his birthplace on 4th South and 5th West. The farm was later sold to the LDS Church and became the Sharon Stake Welfare Farm.

James Anderson Loveless died on 7 February 1924 and was buried on 10 February 1924 at the Provo City Cemetery. After his death Julia still lived in the Provo home. She spent several years working in the S.L. Temple and doing Genealogical work. Her last years were spent visiting among her children. She died at the home of her oldest son, James A. Loveless Jr. on 9 January 1933 and was buried by the side of James.



The Loveless Family