

Robert Dowdle

From the original Sexton Records:

Name: Robert Dowle

Age: 50y; 0m; 16d

Relationship: Husband of Sarah Dowdle

Deceased: Sep.1st, 1847

Disease: Lung fever

Birth Place: Pendleton district, South Carolina

Birth Date: Sep. 16th, 1797

Grave No. 223

Birth Date: 15 September 1796/1797

Birth Place: Pendleton, Caswell, South Carolina

Death Date: September 1, 1847

Cause of Death: Lung Fever

Burial Place: Winter Quarters Grave #223

Father's Name: James Dowdle

Mother's Maiden Name: Ann Pickens

Spouse's Name: Sarah Ann Robinson

Which Winter Quarters Ward or Iowa Branch was the family: Unknown

Where was the family in the 1850 U. S. Census? Listed as family #660 in District 21, Pottawattamie, Iowa

Which Pioneer wagon train took the family west? Came with the James C. Snow Company in 1852

Any interesting facts or stories that might have been submitted.

On the company roster her family's surname is misspelled as "Dougle." Also, her first name is written as "Sary." She was a widow traveling with her three sons. Her little family traveled very closely with another widow and her daughter, Mary Clark (senior) and Mary Clark (junior).

This company journal indicates that the Clark and "Dougle" widows received assistance in the form of flour. On 23 September both of the widows left the company without permission. The last mention of them is "...in this we have been disappointed and they have left us not in A very good fix." It is unclear if the families left with them or if they made it to Utah. The families are

not mentioned in the rest of the journal again. John Clark's journal provides a bit more information.

There was much sickness and death among the Mormons at Winter Quarters. They did not have sufficient food nor shelter. The Dowdle family was one who was hard hit, when the grim reaper-death visited them and took the husband and father, Robert Dowdle on the 5th of September 1847. He was only 51 years old and was needed so badly to care for his family. No doubt through the hardships and toil of the long journey was the cause of his days being shortened. He was unable to recover from his sickness. This loss was greatly felt by all. They were left strangers in a strange land, and this was not being the worst, entirely destitute of the things of life. They were in the midst of a people scarcely any better off than themselves. However some of the saints had arrived in time to plant some crops, corn, potatoes and etc. And they could get some good from their crops. After the death of Robert, two sons, Robert Hughes and James Pickens and a daughter, Sarah Ann returned to Missouri to seek some kind of work so as to get something to support the family. They heard nothing from them for several months. John Clark and William Franklin stayed with their mother, Sarah Ann. They were in very destitute conditions. They were able to obtain through the kindness of some friends a poor frost bitten ear of corn once in a while. They would parch the kernels by a scanty fire and thank God that they were that well off. This diet lasted for weeks at a time. Throughout these hardships they trusted in the Lord and kept the Faith.

([https://www.familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/8396389?p=17025822&returnLabel=Sarah%20Ann%20Robinson%20\(KWJL-WB2\)&returnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.familysearch.org%2Ftree%2Fperson%2Fmemories%2FKWJL-WB2](https://www.familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/8396389?p=17025822&returnLabel=Sarah%20Ann%20Robinson%20(KWJL-WB2)&returnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.familysearch.org%2Ftree%2Fperson%2Fmemories%2FKWJL-WB2))