

Lavina Campbell  
A Brief Sketch

Lavina Campbell, daughter of Joel Campbell and Mercy Miranda Hill, was born June 26, 1827, in Pennsylvania. We know little of her early childhood. She was married to Solomon Campbell, son of Benoni Campbell and Mary Leonard Campbell, December 18, 1848 in Holt County, Missouri. They lived in Holt County for two years after their marriage and their first child, Joel, was born there January, 16, 1850. Her husband's family had been driven from Kirtland, Ohio in 1845, moving to Nauvoo, Illinois. They lived there for one year and then moved from Nauvoo to Holt County.

In the spring of 1850, Lavina with her husband, son and her husband's family joined a company of Saints and started West to Utah. Like others they walked most of the way and encountered some trouble with the Indians and buffalo. In June the company was stricken with cholera, Solomon's father, mother, little brother, a cousin and a brother-in-law were taken ill. The mother was the first to die. Later it was told that her son John (brother of Solomon) was traveling ahead and helped dig the grave for a woman who was thought to be dying, however this woman recovered and John's own mother was buried in the grave he helped dig for another.

They arrived in Salt Lake in November 1850, and in the Spring of 1851, Lavina, with her husband Solomon and son Joel made their way to North Ogden, where some of Solomon's relatives had settled the previous year. They located in the center of the present town of North Ogden just south of a natural spring of fine cold water. They were the parents of the first white children born in North Ogden. Twins Mary Lavina and Solomon Benoni were born December 15, 1851. They built the first log house in North Ogden. Solomon was handy with tools and Lavina was a good seamstress and housekeeper so they soon had a good pioneer home.

Lavina experienced the early Indian troubles and the grasshopper plague which made food very scarce. One of the early winters in North Ogden was later referred to as "The Hard Winter" because the snow was so deep and the weather so cold considerable suffering was experienced by the people and many of the cattle froze to death.

Lavina was long remembered for her pleasant and generous ways. Her home was one of order but in the early days she liked to open it up for the entertainment and amusement of her neighbors. When an English family named Storey came to North Ogden she took them into her home and had all the neighbors come to get acquainted with them. They staged a little play in her best room.

She had a room for her sewing where among other things she made overalls to be sold by the Sidney Stevens store. She also made beautiful quilts, tidies and cushions for chairs. She loved beautiful hand work. Among her other activities she dried much fruit.

Lavina was a good mother; she had twelve children, seven boys and five girls. She loved her religion and taught her children to love it. She sent them to the ward meetings even after she and her husband were disfellowshipped. Solomon had worked nearly a full year without pay in the erection

of the ward meeting house, while Lavina made overalls to support their family. When Solomon was asked to pay their tithing he thought his work on the meeting house should suffice for that, but they were disfellowshipped for non-payment of tithing. Solomon had also declined to take a second wife. This experience saddened their lives but they remained true to their religion and taught their children to do the same. Their children were active in the Church and their son Warren later became a counselor in the Liberty Ward Bishopric.

After being disfellowshipped they did not go out very much in public but they were very happy in their home together. They visited much with their neighbors and were loved and respected by them. For a time they owned a saw mill in Ogden Valley and in 1861 they lived for a short time in Providence, Cache Valley where their son Warren was born.

Solomon, her husband died while visiting at Lake Point, Utah, March 5, 1903. It was their wish that they not be separated for long and they were not, for Lavina died August 25, 1903. A beautiful stone marks their graves in the North Ogden Cemetery. The necessary temple work to reunite them has been performed by the family.

The following children were born to them:

Joel	January 15, 1850
Mary	December 15, 1851
Benoni	December 15, 1851
Charlotte	November 28, 1853
Willie	1855
Lemuel	November 6, 1856
David	August 10, 1858
Warren	March 31, 1861
Mercy Miranda	February 10, 1864
Delita	September 16, 1866
Rosanah	May 12, 1869
Welcome	October 4, 1872