



# Religious Educator: Perspectives on the Restored Gospel

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## Immigrants

Carma de Jong Anderson

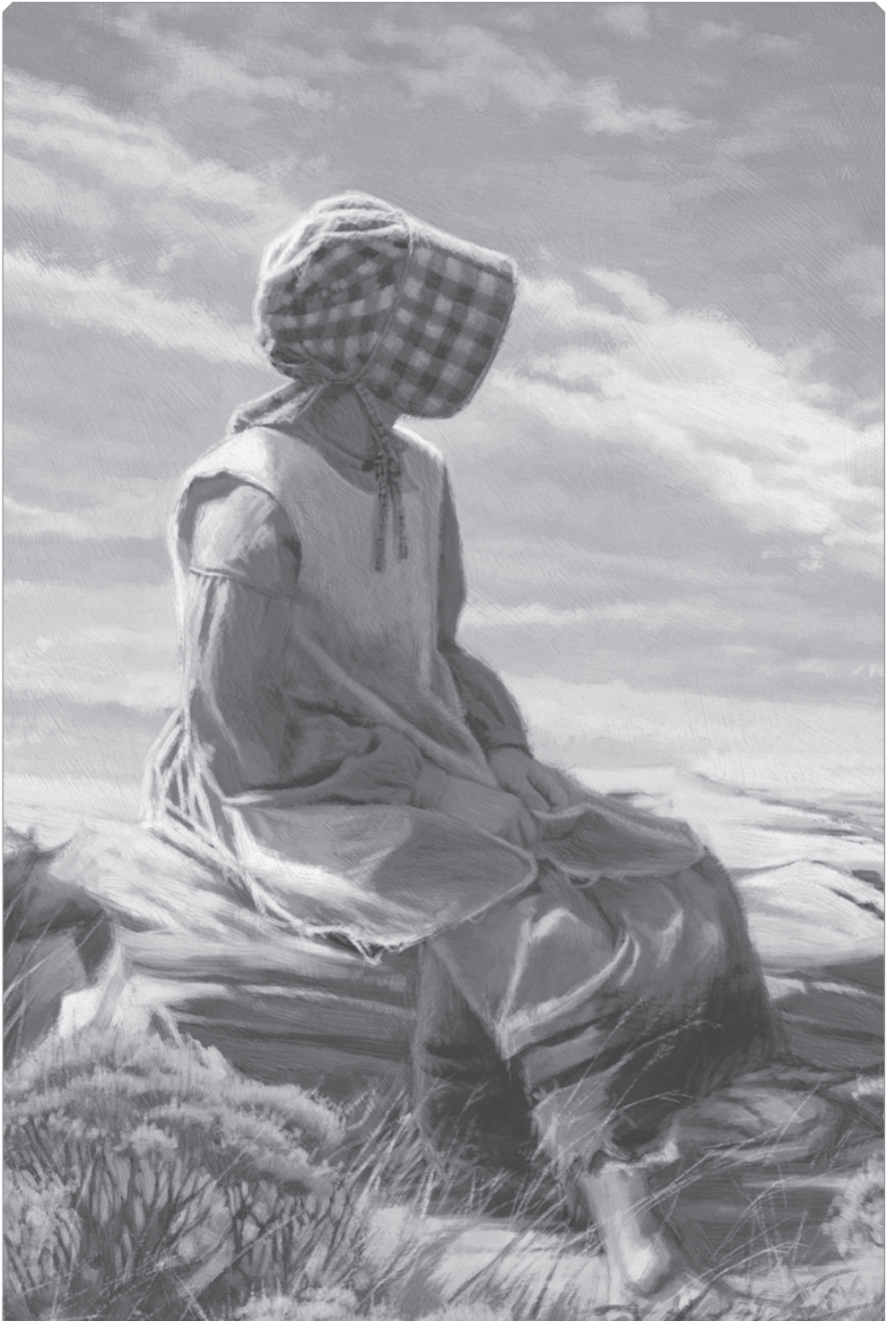
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Dan Burr, painting from *The White Ox*, (Honesdale, PA: Boyds Mills Press, 2009).

Thousands of pioneers faced insurmountable odds as they came to America to make a better life for themselves.

# *Immigrants*

CARMA DE JONG ANDERSON

Carma de Jong Anderson (carmacostume@yahoo.com) is a historic clothing designer and textile consultant.

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**M**using on my Shaw ancestors from the Staffordshire Potteries in  
England, 1840s

How many west winds,  
tossing wild,  
drown the cries  
of a pioneer child?

How many mothers  
in birthing travail,  
suffer on board  
under listless sail?

How many pieces  
of hardtack left,  
how much water  
before they're bereft?



How many fathers,  
pacing the deck,  
plan and pray  
for a merciful trek?

How many winsome  
girls brave the foam,  
crossing an ocean  
for mountain home?

How many miles  
of song and shout  
does it take until  
all the shoes wear out?

Dan Burr, painting from *The White Ox*.

How many promises  
heaped with stone  
left against wayside  
wolves alone?

How many moonlights  
comforting boys,  
curling for sleep  
with rocks for toys?

How many couples  
shaping the clay  
with straw for adobes?  
Determined to stay. **RE**