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Pioneer Women of Arizona

Hannah Charlesworth

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Young University; Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2016)

Since 1981, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has experienced a dramatic increase in membership outside of the United States and Canada (vii–xii). As a result, in March 2014, Brigham Young University and the Church History Department sponsored a Church history symposium titled *The Worldwide Church: The Global Reach of Mormonism*. The symposium invited scholars to address subjects related to the increasingly global nature of the Church.

After the symposium, Michael A. Goodman and Mauro Properzi, associate professors of Church history at Brigham Young University, edited nineteen of the presentations and published them in the compilation *The Worldwide Church: Mormonism as a Global Religion*. The compilation is bookended by the keynote addresses of Apostle Dieter F. Uchtdorf and Terryl L. Givens, and in between are papers by several prominent scholars. The editors conveniently organized the articles into five sections, each dedicated to a specific region in the world: Africa, Asia, Eurasia, Europe, and South and Central America. Another article, along with Givens's speech, appears in a sixth section titled "Worldwide."

The included articles address a wide range of topics related to the global Church, from the development of Latter-day Saint humanitarian aid to country-specific studies. Some articles provide a history of the establishment and growth of the Church in a specific area (such as Afghanistan, Taiwan, and Latin America), while others discuss significant moments in Church history (such as the era of "the freeze" in Ghana). And others analyze some of the cultural problems Church members have faced (such as cultural challenges

in Europe and language obstacles in Russia). All of the articles work together to provide a greater understanding of global Latter-day Saint topics.

Anyone who is interested in Church history and the growing global nature of the Church will enjoy reading this compilation. Scholarship such as this will only become more relevant and important as the Church continues to expand throughout the world.

—Emily Cook

Pioneer Women of Arizona, by Roberta Flake Clayton, Catherine H. Ellis, and David F. Boone, 2d ed. (Provo, Utah: Religious Studies Center, Brigham Young University; Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 2017)

Roberta Flake Clayton self-published *Pioneer Women of Arizona* in 1969 after spending thirty-three years conducting numerous interviews and cataloguing over two hundred biographical sketches of the pioneer women, both old and young, who, beginning in the nineteenth century, came to Arizona by wagon or train and settled communities such as Phoenix, Mesa, Snowflake, Flagstaff, and Prescott.

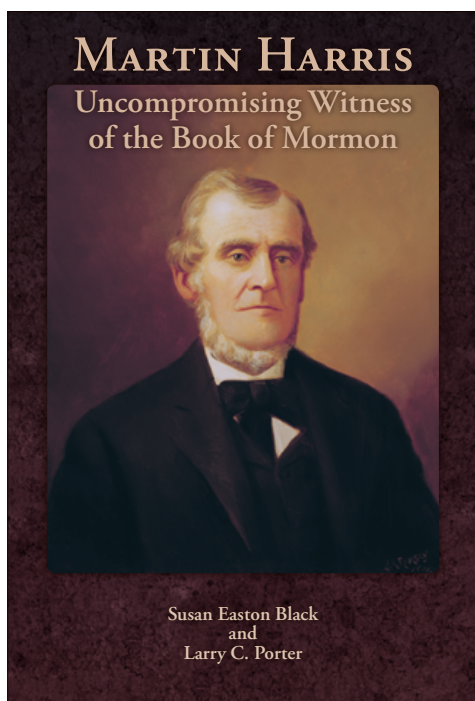
Her work fell by the wayside until Catherine H. Ellis (a fifth-generation Arizonian and BYU graduate) and David F. Boone (an educator and historian) revived the work, creating a second edition with added footnotes, maps, a biography of Roberta Clayton, a history of Latter-day Saint migration to Arizona, and hundreds of photographs.

The 207 biographical sketches featured in *Pioneer Women of Arizona* are very detailed and comprehensive. In creating these sketches, Clayton's goal was to preserve their stories, including the stories of women Clayton knew personally, and to give younger generations role models to look up to.

The fact that she decided to specifically focus on women adds to the value of this work, since women have often been underrepresented in mainstream historical narratives. Although she was encouraged to make the scope of her work “more universal,” Clayton decided to focus on women because of their great faith and resourcefulness in obeying their Church leaders and settling an area far from civilization (29).

Clayton originally dedicated this work to “the descendants of the noble women who pioneered the West” (iii), but this work is more than a genealogist’s gold mine—it is a treasure for all those interested in the history of Arizona, the history of the Latter-day Saints, women’s studies, and stories of faith.

—Hannah Charlesworth



*Martin Harris:
Uncompromising Witness
of the Book of Mormon*

by Susan Easton Black
and Larry C. Porter



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Martin Harris: Uncompromising Witness of the Book of Mormon reveals the compelling story of a man who struggled to keep his faith in the prophetic calling of Joseph Smith and the restoration of the gospel of Jesus Christ. His is a story of fascination with worldly honors, flirtations with apostasy, and pride that nearly cost him the joy of his later years in the West. It is the biography of a witness who clung tenaciously to his testimony of the Book of Mormon.

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