#### Excerpt taken from: Perry & Lora; Their Roots & Branches by Dixie H. Krauss

The author based her conclusions on research and interesting tales passed down in the family. She made a dedicated effort to present accurate information but recommends independent verification before accepting the material as fact or using the data for genealogical purposes.

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### Second Generation Ancestors

James Thompson Lisonbee Sr.

Mary Ann Callaham

Lorenzo Johnson

Ellen Amelia Johnson

Mary Lyman

John Passey

Malinda Catherine Passey

Ann New

Samuel Allen Wilcox

Asenath Viola Wilcox

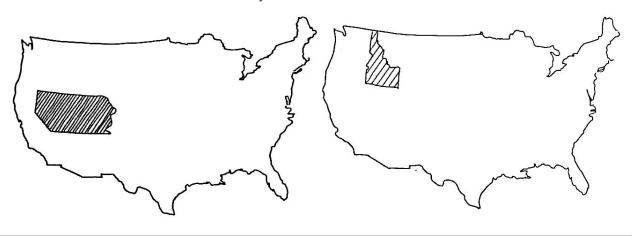
Martha Bolton Parker



James Thompson Lisonbee Jr. Born: 1863 Utah Territory



Malinda Catherine Passey Born: 1866 Idaho



# James Thompson Lisonbee Jr. & Malinda Catherine Passey

**James Thompson Lisonbee Jr.**, son of James Thompson Lisonbee Sr. and Ellen Amelia Johnson, was born on 30 Sep 1863 in Springville, Utah, Utah. He died on 8 Dec 1926 in Goodyear, Maricopa, Arizona.

James married **Malinda Catherine Passey**, daughter of William Passey and Asenath Viola Wilcox, on 1 Jan 1886 in Mesa, Maricopa, Arizona. Malinda was born on 9 Aug 1866 in Paris, Bear Lake, Idaho. She died on 8 Jan 1957 in Mesa, Maricopa, Arizona.

#### They had the following children...

James Lorenzo Lisonbee	10 Feb 1887	Mesa, Maricopa, Arizona
Joseph Earl Lisonbee	22 Sep 1888	Cedar Fort, Utah, Utah
Detta A Lisonbee	17 Jul 1890	Monroe, Sevier, Utah
Dora Veralda Lisonbee	26 Feb 1900	Mesa, Maricopa, Arizona
William Boyd Lisonbee	22 Feb 1903	Mesa, Maricopa, Arizona
Lora Aseneth Lisonbee	12 Oct 1904	Mesa, Maricopa, Arizona
Winona Lisonbee	19 Sep 1907	Mesa, Maricopa, Arizona



# Life Sketch of James Jr. & Malinda

## James Thompson Lisonbee Jr. 1863 Utah Territory - 1926 Arizona

#### Malinda Catherine Passey 1866 Idaho - 1957 Arizona

#### James Jr.'s childhood...

James Thompson Lisonbee Jr. was born on September 30, 1863, in Springville, Utah. James Jr.—or Jimmie as he was nicknamed—was the first child of James Thompson Lisonbee Sr. and Ellen Amelia Johnson.

In 1872 when James Jr. was nine, he moved with his parents to Annabella, Utah. There they lived in a dugout for a while, and then a log cabin with a dirt floor, no doors, or windows, until they were called to go to Monroe, Utah.

At April conference 1876, James Jr.'s father was



James Jr. at about eighteen years old. As a teen, he visited Mutual groups with an older companion.



James Jr., left, and Malinda Lisonbee, right, with their three oldest children: Detta, Lorenzo, and Earl.

called to preach the Gospel in the Southern States Mission. He left his beloved wife Ellen with six children to care for. He wrote to James Jr. several times and advised him to study and learn to work. James Jr.'s father became ill while on this mission. When he was released from his mission, he was very sick man and never made it home. He met his family in Springville, Utah, and died twelve days later. This tragedy left fourteen-year-old James Jr., along with his beloved mother, the responsibility of the family.

James Jr. did sheepherding. He took his Book of Mormon and Bible with him; and there under the blue skies, he watched his sheep and educated his mind and soul. His mother taught him to read and write, but this is where he really learned to read well. He memorized scriptures and choice poetry.

#### Malinda's childhood...

Malinda Catherine Passey, known as Minnie, was born August 9, 1866, in Paris, Idaho, to William Passey and Asenath Viola Wilcox. She was the first of thirteen children. Her father William had a ranch on an island called Dingle Dell where he raised stock. They had about eighteen milk cows. Malinda helped her mother churn butter from the milk.

While in Idaho, Malinda was often frightened by Indians. About the time Malinda turned fourteen, her parents went to visit Uncle Thomas Passey. She was the oldest of the older children who were left home to do chores. While her parents were gone, Malinda saw a band of Indians across the river. The next morning ten Indians passed right in front of the Passey home on their way to the prairie. The Indians never looked at the Passey children who scurried to a neighbor's home about a quarter of a mile away. The Indians rode around in a circle all day and then went back across the river. Malinda was very glad when her parents got home.

Malinda's parents moved the family to Mesa, Arizona, when she was fourteen. Her father sold his stock and everything he had except his wagon and team. They traveled with a company that had eight wagons. It took two months. They arrived on November 22, 1880.

The family camped under a shed with a dirt roof. Malinda's father put a wagon cover around the sides. They later moved into a tent where they lived for some time until her father obtained twenty acres on the north west corner of Country Club and University in Mesa. He built two adobe rooms with a dirt floor and planted a peach orchard and grape vineyard.

#### Marriage and Family...

Young Jimmie met Malinda when he came down from Monroe, Utah, to Mesa, Arizona, with a wagon load of fruit. He stopped at the Passey home on July 4, 1885, while a children's dance was going on. It was love at first sight for both of them. Six months later, they were married in the Passey home by Malinda's father, Bishop William Passey on January 1, 1886. They lived



James Jr. and Malinda Lisonbee move back to Mesa, Arizona, in 1893 by covered wagon.



The four youngest Lisonbee children. From left: Winona, Lora, Boyd, and Veralda on a family vacation to Pine, Arizona.

in a tent for a while. James Jr. bought an old piano box to put in the tent for a wardrobe for Malinda. She was so happy she cried for joy.

Their first child, Lorenzo or Ren, was born at the William Passey home on Country Club and University. They had been taught the importance of temple marriage, so in October 1887, James Jr. and Malinda loaded into a covered wagon with their baby and made the long trip to St. George, Utah, to be sealed as a family. The young couple went on to Monroe, Utah, and lived there for six years. Their second child, Earl, was born during a trip to Cedar Fort, Utah, at the home of Malinda's grandmother, Martha Bolton Parker. Homesick Malinda just missed her mother who had come for a visit which caused Malinda to shed many tears. Their third child, Detta, was born in Monroe at the home of James Jr.'s mother, Ellen Amelia Johnson.

The couple tried several times to move back home to Mesa and were finally successful. They arrived on November 18, 1893, after a wagon trip of one month and four days. It was a joyous reunion with loved ones. They eventually acquired a five acre farm on the southeast corner of Country Club and University in Mesa where they did farming and beekeeping.

#### James Jr.'s Mission...

James Jr. was called to serve a mission in the Western States. He left September 16, 1899. Malinda was expecting Veralda, their fourth child. Malinda kept James Jr. on his mission by caring for their bees. Her little sons, Ren and Earl, helped. James Jr. labored in Colorado, Wyoming, and New Mexico. He served



From left: James Jr., Malinda seated, Winona in wagon, Veralda, and Lora. Transportation the family used to go on vacation to Pine, Arizona.

twenty-seven months, baptized over twenty people, and organized a branch of the Church in New Mexico. He was released December 11, 1901, when Veralda was almost two.

#### More years together...

After his mission James Jr. traded his five acre farm for eighty acres on the northwest corner of Eighth Street and Westwood. This is where their last three children, Boyd, Lora, and Winona, were born. The farm had a huge orchard of peaches, plums, blackberries, figs, grapes, apricots, almonds, and pomegranates—and an adobe house. They spent many joyous days here and filled their home with their beautiful singing voices. The family had chores to do, sufficient clothing, and plenty to eat. They lived on this farm for twenty-two years.

Malinda was a good cook. She made homemade bread, chicken and dumplings, butter, cottage cheese, and delicious ice cream. She made her children's clothes, grew a garden, and bottled and dried fruit.

Jimmy was a farmer and a beekeeper. He kept his bees south of Chandler, Arizona. In the summer his children helped harvest the honey. Boyd removed the frames from the boxes, Lora uncapped the honey with a hot knife, and Winona turned the extractor.

Soon after World War I in 1920, James Jr. suffered a tremendous financial setback when the economy failed. He lost his family farm of twenty-two years. He had 1,000 cases of honey that could not save his home. The honey that was once worth \$24,000 sold for a mere \$3,000. By spring 1923 the farm was gone. Although he had 1,000 stands of bees before his death, he never recovered financially.

#### Declining years...

James Jr.'s health failed as he grew older. He was not a well man and suffered severe nose bleeds almost every day. The warm weather was hard for him to bear. He made many trips to visit relatives in Utah and spent the summers there. He missed his family terribly and longed to see them. Malinda and their last two unmarried children, Lora and Winona, lived with Malinda's parents, William and Asenath Passey. Malinda was most kind to her aging parents and cared for them in their last years.

Jimmy was close to death when he came home from Utah in 1926. In less than two weeks, he was gone. He departed this life December 8, 1926, in Goodyear, Arizona.

Malinda worked very hard to help provide during the years that her husband was ill. She knew how to make a dollar and make it stretch. Her purse was never empty. She paid her tithing and was blessed, not with



Malinda and James Lisonbee Jr.



1953—Malinda Lisonbee, age eighty-seven, all dressed up and ready to go.

riches, but with enough. An honest tithing was of great importance to her.

In her declining years, Malinda lived with her married children. Her grandchildren in these homes adored her. She was a great example to them as she had been for her children. She was living at the home of her daughter, Lora Hancock, when Lora's last three children, Carlene, Dorene, and Lora Sue were born. Malinda loved to visit with and enjoy her family.

When she left this life, she expressed a desire to be with her dear husband James Jr. once again. She said that he was coming to take her home and felt his spirit with her. She died in Mesa on January 8, 1957, having been a widow for thirty years.

#### Tribute to James Jr...

James loved the scriptures and studied them throughout his life. He was a good father to his children. He taught them the Gospel and instilled a love of it in them. He always took his children to Church in the years he was well enough to be home. He often discussed Sunday School lessons with them and read to them from the scriptures. He even taught them poetry. He was an intelligent, forceful, self-educated, and deeply religious man.

#### Tribute to Malinda...

Malinda endured many hardships of pioneer life, but she did not let this get her down. She was a delightful mixture of wisdom and fun. She had a pleasant, jovial disposition and was cheerful. She was also precious and kind beyond words and so very polite. She never said an unkind thing about anyone and taught this to her children. She displayed a great deal of personal dignity and self respect. She gave freely of her time to help those in need. She was always an ardent member of the Church and insisted on paying a full tithe on every penny of her income.

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Malinda Lisonbee's first painting at age seventy-one. It belongs to granddaughter, Bonnie Hancock Peterson.