

HATCH, LUCY HELEN

8118

Lucy Helen Hatch served for over two years as one of the first trustees of the Ottawa Library. She was born in Rockland, Maine, in 1834, and died in Fresno, California, in 1928. She was the daughter of Stephen and Lydia (Thomas) Hatch. Her early schooling was in the district schools of Rockland, but when 20 years old she was admitted to Mount Holyoke Seminary in Massachusetts, one of the earliest schools for women. At that time Mount Holyoke had been in operation for only fourteen years but already it was known as an exemplary school for women. Its goal was to educate women to be of service to others, primarily as teachers and wives of missionaries, even missionaries themselves. The admittance requirements were so difficult that it speaks well of Lucy Hatch that she was accepted.

After completing her education, Lucy returned to Rockland and became a teacher in the school system. When Isaac Kalloch and others were planning the Ottawa Indian University on the Ottawa reservation in Kansas, he asked Lucy and another Rockland teacher, Ruth Mayhew, to come to Ottawa to teach the Indian children. That was in 1865. Lucy's cousin, Fanny Thomas, also came as a teacher, and Philatus Fales came to take charge of the university. Other Rocklandites who traveled to Ottawa included Orris Packard, who later married H.F. Sheldon, and Kalloch's half-sister, Caroline and her husband, Zeke Hall.

Lucy Hatch lived in Kansas for ten years, but teaching the Indian children did not last long. In a few years they were gone. The university struggled in its beginning and there were periods of time when no classes were held. Lucy taught in the public schools periodically and even opened her own private school, called the Wide Awake School. In 1874 she moved to Leavenworth and taught at the Maplewood Seminary, and a year later left Kansas for San Francisco.

It was while teaching at the Clarke Institute in San Francisco that Lucy and three other teachers bought 100 acres of land in the San Joaquin Valley. Irrigation had come. Lucy and Minnie Austen moved to Fresno to become vineyardists and in the coming years Hedgerow Vineyard became one of the more successful raisin growing farms in the valley.

Lucy lived to be 94 years old and in her later years the Raisin Association recognized her contributions to their industry by pensioning her \$50 a month. She was blind for several months before her death, but her mind was as clear as when she was young.

Sources: Obituary: *Ottawa Herald*, November 10, 1928; Newspaper items: *Western Home Journal*, 1965-1869; *Ottawa Journal*, 1870-1874; Federal Censuses: Maine, Kansas, California: Eaton, Cyrus. *History of Thomaston, Maine*, Vols. I & II, 1865. Hayworth, B. Smith. *Ottawa University: Its History and Its Spirit*, 1957.

by Virginia Loyd for Ottawa Library

Transcription of the History of Franklin County, Kansas -Hatch, Lucy Helen

Lucy Helen Hatch served for over two years as one of the first trustees of Ottawa Library. She was born in Rockland, Maine, in 1834, and died in Fresno, California, in 1928. She was the daughter of Stephen and Lydia (Thomas) Hatch. Her early schooling was in the districts schools of Rockland, but when 20 years old she was admitted to Mount Holyoke Seminary in Massachusetts, one of the earliest schools for women. At that time Mount Holyoke Seminary had been in operation for only fourteen years but already it was known as an exemplary school for women. Its goal was to educate women to be of service to others, primarily as teachers and wives of missionaries, even missionaries themselves. The admittance requirements were so difficult that it speak of Lucy Hatch that she was accepted.

After completing her education, Lucy returned to Rockland and became a teacher in the school system. When Isaac Kalloch and others were planning the Ottawa Indian University on the Ottawa reservation in Kansas, he asked Lucy and another Rockland teacher, Ruth Mayhew, to come to Ottawa teach Indian children. That was in 1865. Lucy's cousin, Fanny Thomas, also came as teacher, and Philatus Fales came to take charge of the university. Other Rocklandites who traveled to Ottawa included Orris Packard, who latter married H.F. Sheldon, and Kalloch's half-sister, Caroline and her husband, Zeke Hall.

Lucy Hatch lived in Kansas for ten years, but teaching the Indian children did not last long. In a few years they were gone. The university struggled in its beginning and there were periods of time when no classes were held. Lucy taught in public schools periodically and even opened her own private school, called the Wide Awake School =. In 1874 she moved to Leavenworth and taught at the Maplewood Seminary, and a year later left Kansas for San Francisco.

It was while teaching at the Clarke Institute in San Francisco that Lucy and three other teachers bought 100 acres of land in the San Joaquin Valley. Irrigation had come. Lucy and Minnie Austen moved to Fresno to become vineyardists and in the coming years Hedgerow Vineyard became one of the more successful raisin growing farms in the valley.

Lucy lived to be 94 years old and in her later years the Raisin Association recognized her contribution to their industry by pensioning her \$50 a month. She was blind for several months before her death, but her mind was as clear as when she was young.

Sources: Obituary: Ottawa Herald, November 10, 1928; Newspaper items: Western Home Journal, 1965-1869; Ottawa Journal, 1870-1874, Federal Censuses: Maine, Kansas, California: Eaton, Cyrus. History of Thomaston, Maine, Vols. 1 & II, 1865. Hayworth, B Smith. Ottawa University: Its History and Its Spirit, 1957.

By Virginia Loyd for Ottawa Library.