

ber of the Far West High Council, an office comparable to an apostle in today's LDS church.

IV. Joseph Smith

Throughout most of the 1830s Mormonism was split between two gathering places, Ohio and Missouri. But as growing dissent and legal harassment dogged Joseph Smith in Kirtland, he made preparations to move permanently to Missouri in early 1838. The Saints in Zion organized to give their prophet a proper welcome. On February 24 George W. Harris, Edward Partridge, and Isaac Morley were appointed to meet Smith and Sidney Rigdon with wagons and financial aid, and when Joseph and Emma arrived at Far West on March 14, Smith wrote: "We were immediately received under the hospitable roof of George W. Harris who treated us with all kindness possible. here we refreshed ourselves with much satisfaction after our long and tedious journey." They stayed with the Harries for some two months, then moved to their own house.

There is no firm date for Smith's marriage to Lucinda, but these two months are a good possibility. He often married women while he was living in the same house with them, and the Sarah Pratt statement correlates with the year 1838, as well. Smith was thirty-two at the time and Lucinda was thirty-six, so he was the first of her husbands who was not an older man. George Harris may have given permission for the marriage, since he was a close friend of Smith and a church leader. He later stood proxy for Smith in the Nauvoo temple as his wife was sealed to the dead prophet for eternity. Despite the prophet's connection to Lucinda, she would not stop living with George, as was customary in Smith's polyandrous marriages.

Harris continued to be an important figure in Missouri. On May 12 he was assigned to a committee to give Smith and Rigdon remuneration for services in the printing office. When trouble with non-Mormons mounted, Harris reportedly was a member of the Mormon defensive paramilitary group, the Danites, and took part in the Mormon attack on Galatin on October 18. At some point Lucinda's father, Joseph Pendleton, apparently became a Latter-day Saint and moved to Far West; on September 2 he was given a patriarchal blessing by Joseph Smith, Sr., as were Lucinda, George, and Lucinda's children.

An incident that probably took place in November offers a rare direct glimpse of Lucinda in Missouri. The mob militia had surrounded Far West and was threatening to open cannon fire on the Mormons. An uneasy stalemate ensued. Two of the militia entered the town and James Henry Rollins, brother of Mary Rollins Lightner, found the men talking to "Mrs. George Harris and my aunt Elizabeth Gilbert" in front of John M. Burk's tavern. Rollins rebuked the women for "talking to such men." Whatever