History Of Louisa Barnes Pratt

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It was one thing for Louisa Barnes Pratt to produce her journals. It was another remarkable happening to have them preserved and made available. After Louisa, great credit goes to those who protected and preserved her journals, letters, poems, and essays. They were Ellen S. Pratt McGary, Ida Mae Wrathall, Ida Hunt Udall, Nettie Hunt Rencher, Lois Hunt West, and Pauline Udall Smith. Each of these drew from their treasured inheritances to contribute in making their family archives a living institution. The Addison Pratt Family Papers at the Merrill Library, Utah State University, are the repository of all source materials (besides the journals) relating to the family of Addison and Louisa Pratt.

Many secretaries watched as “Louisa” was worked on. Cindy Durtschi produced a fine typed copy of the entire collection, including the journals, and knew Louisa best and appreciated her. Professor Norman Jones and Carolyn Doyle and associates on the staff of the history department at Utah State University transferred the work to electronic files. I thank all who got into the act.

Yves R. Perrin of Papeete, Tahiti, and Salt Lake City helped the editor decide what to do with Louisa’s writing of her understanding of Tahitian words and names. We decided to let them stand as she wrote them.

Maureen Ursenbach Beecher gave the editor the final necessary prod to give up the work to the publisher. F. Ross Peterson did a final edit of the manuscript before it was turned over.

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My debt to others is great, but faults in the work are exclusively mine.