## *Teaching About the Mormon Battalion*

## *Analee Wiser, June, 2013, Alpine School District*

## Summary: The decision to send 500 Mormon soldiers to fight in the War with Mexico was a very difficult one for Brigham Young, and for his followers.

## Materials: Copies (for teacher and each student) of excerpts from Pioneer journals, letters, and role-play script (available from links below).

## Background For Teachers: In 1846, as the impoverished group of Mormons prepared to move west from Iowa, Brigham Young asked the president of the Eastern States Mission, Jesse C. Little, to see what financial help the federal government might provide for their emigration to the west coast. The result of his inquiries was the formation of a battalion of 500 Mormon soldiers to fight in the war with Mexico. The Mormons were understandably nervous about the arrangement.

## Intended Learning Outcomes: Students will simulate (role play) some of the original emotional responses to this request for soldiers. Students will list and evaluate reasons for and against creating the Mormon Battalion. Students will justify their own decision under such circumstances.

## Instructional Procedures: Prior to class assign students to take the parts for which you have historical excerpts and role play parts (make copies of all linked items below). They can either be memorized, or read in class. Present background information to the class concerning the location and condition of the Mormons, their recent persecutions, and the hope Brigham Young had for receiving federal support. Introduce Jesse C. Little and the purpose of his meeting with President James K. Polk. (Refer to section entitled, 'Authorization of the Mormon Battalion' of the link, Background, in step 2.) Have the assigned students act out the meeting. Write 'For' and 'Against' on the board. Explain that as the army moved through Mormon camps to recruit for this battalion, most people had strong emotional feelings about the issue of whether to join or not. As students recite or read excerpts from some of these people's journals, the class lists (on the board) reasons for and against participating.

## Suggested Order of readings: Wilford Woodruff Journal, June 26, 1846; Hosea Stout Diary, June 28, 1846 Brigham Young, July 1846 Orson Pratt Record Brigham Young Letter, July 1, 1846 As a class, discuss the points for and against joining. Evaluate the emotional cost against the financial gains. This could be done in the form of a debate between those with opposing ideas. Each student is to decide how he or she would have responded in the same situation. They are to justify this response, in writing, hopefully basing their arguments on the discussion in step 5. Read Henry Bigler's journal entry and discuss the following points:

## The battalion was formed and marched to fight in the war.

## Many of those who joined did so only out of support for their leader, Brigham Young.

## Even after this experience, although relatively positive for both parties, some of the same ill feelings between the Mormons and the federal government followed the Mormons to Utah. These feelings contributed to the Utah War--another story. Encourage students to do follow up study on the Mormon Battalion and its members.

## Extensions: Students could write a full play about the recruiting of the Mormon Battalion, using excerpts as a basis.

## Bibliography: Crockett, David Saints in the Wilderness: A Day-by-Day Pioneer Experience (Crockett--Privately Published,) Van Orden, Bruce The Raising of the Mormon Battalion (, )

## More Precious Than Gold Lesson Plan:

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| **Objective:** |  | Students will understand the contributions made by the Mormon Battalion to the history and development of California, be able to plot the course of land and sea voyages, and analyze the effects of the Gold Rush on the settling of California. |
| **Introduction:** |  | This video is a good transition between the war with Mexico and the Gold Rush. Remind the students that prior to the war with Mexico, California was populated primarily by three groups of people: the Spanish, the Mexicans, and the Native Americans. Once gold was discovered in northern California, however, California became the focus of a nationwide emigration, which changed the face of California forever. People of all nationalities, religions, and cultures flocked to California hoping to become rich.The members of the Mormon Battalion came to California to serve in the war with Mexico and ended up serving two very important roles in the history and development of California. First, they built Sutter’s Mill, where gold was discovered. Secondly, they cut a wagon trail through the Sierra Nevada Mountains that made it possible for thousands of gold seekers to come into California. |
| **Activities:** |  | Show the video, “More Precious Than Gold.” As a class, complete the Sequence The Story activity. Choose from the following activities for the students to complete independently or with a partner to reinforce the vocabulary and concepts from the video:Video Questions / Gold Town Maps Ship Brooklyn Route / Westward Movement Questions Mining for Gold Activity / Journal ActivityGold Rush Crossword Blazing A Trail Letter Tiles Puzzle Strike It Rich Cryptogram On The Way Home Double Puzzle More Precious Than Gold Word Search |
| **Follow-up/ Assessment:** |  | Discuss with the students the reason that the Mormon Battalion members chose not to stay in California after the mill was completed. What might have happened if they had stayed? Have the students carefully consider what they would have done if they were in that position. Graph the class responses. Have the students write about something that is more precious than gold. |
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## Extension:

## GOLD HAS BEEN FOUND IN YOUR TOWN!

## Lesson Plan:

## Objective: To “analyze the effects of the Gold Rush on settlements, daily life, politics, and the physical environment” (Standard 4.3.3).

## Activity: Have the students complete the following project of creating maps of a town before and after the Gold Rush. Discuss some of the major changes that were happening to the gold towns throughout California. What did this mean for California as a whole and did the Gold Rush help lead to eventual statehood.

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| The Mormon Battalion |  |
| |  | | --- | |  | | Mormon Battalion Statue-San Diego |  The first Mormons in southern California were members of the United States Army of the West. This Mormon Battalion was formed in Iowa in 1846 to march to California in support of a planned naval attack on San Diego.The United States' War with Mexico was all but over by the time the Battalion arrived. The Army of the West became an occupying force, manning garrisons in the San Diego and Los Angeles n 1847.The first Mormons to visit the San Bernardino valley were assigned to guard the Cajon Pass and Issac Williams' Rancho Chino.During the Battle of Chino, Williams had been taken prisoner. Angry Californians ran off over 1,200 horses and took household goods, carts and wagons in his absence.  |  | | --- | |  | | US War Dept. Map, 1853 (Library of Congress) |  After the war, Williams was hoping the American occupation force would protect him from his neighbors. Mormon soldiers were dispatched from Los Angeles to protect his remaining property.Another group of Mormon soldiers was stationed at the southern end of the Cajon Pass. Paiutes from the Great Basin had long used the Pass on their way to steal cattle from the Ranchos of Southern California. These soldiers were sent to stop these raids.  |  |  | | --- | --- | | People |  | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Amasa Lyman:Born in New Hampshire 30 March, 1813.   Abandoned by his father, then sent to live with his grandparents Mason as a young boy. Within two years they died. Amasa was sent to live with his uncle Parley Mason.  His uncle disowned him at age 19 when Amasa joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Nearly penniles, he traveled 700 miles Kirtland, Ohio and the company of other Saints in the home of Lyman Johnson.  Amasa became an Elder in the Church in August of 1835. He was called to travel and preach as a missionary several times.    At age 29 he was called as an Apostle in the Church. A member of one of the highest ruling bodies of the Church. He continued to preach and travel for the Church. He distinguished himself as an organizer and missionary.   When Chruch members gathered in Nauvoo Illinois, he received an assignment to oversee the development of a logging community to the north.  After Church leader Joseph Smith was killed, members were forced to leave Nauvoo. As an Apostle, Amasa helped Brigham Young lead Church members to the Salt Lake Valley. He was one of the first to enter the valley but traveled back and forth along the trail several times helping others along the trail.  One of his first assignments in the Salt Lake Valley was to go to California to gather Church members who had strayed to the gold fields.  Amasa and fellow Apostle Charles C. Rich were assigned to lead a colonizing mission to Southern California. He and Rich assumed the $70,000 debt to purchase Rancho San Bernardino. Amasa became mayor and organized the Church units.   After returning to Utah in 1857, Amasa helped establish the cities of Parowan, Minersville, Farmington and Fillmore. He died in Fillmore in 1877.  |  |  | | --- | --- | | [Captain Jefferson Hunt](http://score.rims.k12.ca.us/score_lessons/willis/images/mbofficers.JPG) |  | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  |  |  |  | | *We are in perfect suspense here. In two months we look for a discharge and know not whither to steer our course. We have a very good offer to purchase a large valley, sufficient to support 80,000 families, connected with other excellent country, which might be obtained. The rancho connected with the valley is about 30 miles from this place, [Los Angeles] and about twenty-five from a good ship landing. We may have the land and stock consisting of eight thousand head of cattle, the increase of which was three thousand last year, and an immense quantity of horses, by paying 500 dollars down, and taking our time to pay the remainder, if we only had the privilege to buy it.*  Letter to Brigham Young, May 1847. Hunt was serving as Captain of Company A, US Army of the West (the Mormon Battalion) at the time. Quoted in "Journal History," May 14, 1847Mormon Battalion[Skip main navigation](http://www.lds.org/locations/san-diego-mormon-battalion-historic-site#platform-canvas-content)[English](http://www.lds.org/languages?lang=eng)[Sign In/Tools](http://www.lds.org/locations/san-diego-mormon-battalion-historic-site#pf-personal-links)[Scriptures](http://www.lds.org/locations/san-diego-mormon-battalion-historic-site#pf-scriptures)[Teachings](http://www.lds.org/locations/san-diego-mormon-battalion-historic-site#pf-teachings)[Resources](http://www.lds.org/locations/san-diego-mormon-battalion-historic-site#pf-resources2)[News](http://www.lds.org/locations/san-diego-mormon-battalion-historic-site#pf-news)Top of FormSearch:Bottom of Form[Locations and Schedules](http://www.lds.org/locations?lang=eng)[Find a Meetinghouse](http://www.lds.org/rcmaps/?lang=eng#x=find)[Find Your Ward or Branch](http://www.lds.org/rcmaps/?lang=eng#x=ward)[Find a Temple](http://www.lds.org/church/temples/find-a-temple?lang=eng)[Visitors' Centers](http://www.lds.org/locations/visitors-centers?lang=eng)[Historic Sites](http://www.lds.org/locations/historical-sites?lang=eng)[Pageants](http://www.lds.org/locations/pageants?lang=eng)[Institutes](http://institute.lds.org/find-institute/)[Deseret Industries](http://deseretindustries.lds.org/locations)[Family History Centers](https://www.familysearch.org/locations)[Temple Square and Church Headquarters](http://www.lds.org/locations/salt-lake-city-temple-square?lang=eng)[Temple Square Events](http://www.lds.org/church/events/temple-square-events?lang=eng)[Temple Square Performances](http://www.lds.org/church/events/temple-square-events/temple-square-performances?lang=eng)[Recreation Camps](http://www.lds.org/locations/camping?lang=eng)[Oakland Temple Hill](http://www.lds.org/locations/oakland-temple-hill?lang=eng)[Home](http://www.lds.org/locations/san-diego-mormon-battalion-historic-site)[LDS.org](http://www.lds.org/?lang=eng)[Locations and Schedules](http://www.lds.org/locations?lang=eng)[Locations](http://www.lds.org/locations?lang=eng)San Diego Mormon Battalion Historic SiteHistoric Sites[List](http://www.lds.org/locations/historical-sites/list?lang=eng)[Map](http://www.lds.org/church/maps?lang=eng&type=scatter&id=historical-sites)San Diego Mormon Battalion Historic Site[Next](http://www.lds.org/locations/san-diego-mormon-battalion-historic-site#d)[Submit A Photo](https://vineyard.lds.org/Home/Activity/5)Come experience the long march from Iowa to San Diego with the Mormon Battalion. Learn why this group of Latter-day Saint men and women joined the U.S. Army and what they accomplished during and after their march. This newly remodeled center evokes Old San Diego and includes hands-on exhibits and resources for learning more about those who served in the Battalion.[Share](http://www.lds.org/locations/san-diego-mormon-battalion-historic-site)[View on Map](http://www.lds.org/church/maps?lang=eng&type=pinpoint&id=/locations/san-diego-mormon-battalion-historic-site)****Address****2510 Juan St. San Diego, CA 92110****Contact:****619-298-3317 (Main)****Schedule:****Open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.****More info:****Admission is free.[English](http://www.lds.org/languages?lang=eng)[Church Employment](http://www.lds.org/church/employment?lang=eng)[Help](http://www.lds.org/help?lang=eng)[Feedback for this page](http://www.lds.org/tools/feedback?lang=eng&id=11340&note=lds.org:places:profile:san%20diego%20mormon%20battalion%20historic%20site)[Rights and Use Information (Updated 2/21/2012)](http://www.lds.org/legal/terms?lang=eng)[Privacy Policy (Updated 2/1/2012)](http://www.lds.org/legal/privacy?lang=eng) © 2013 by Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved.[Church Websites](http://www.lds.org/locations/san-diego-mormon-battalion-historic-site#d)From Wikipedia, the free encyclopediaJump to: [navigation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#mw-navigation), [search](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#p-search)"Mormon Battalion Monument" by [Edward J. Fraughton](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_J._Fraughton), [Presidio Park](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presidio_Park), [San Diego](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Diego), California.The Mormon Battalion was the only religiously based unit in United States military history,[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-1) and it served from July 1846 to July 1847 during the [Mexican-American War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mexican-American_War). The battalion was a volunteer unit of between 534[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-UHE-2)[[3]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-3) and 559[[4]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-4) [Latter-day Saints](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Church_of_Jesus_Christ_of_Latter-day_Saints) men led by Mormon company officers, commanded by regular US army officers. During its service, the battalion made a grueling march nearly 2,000 miles long from [Council Bluffs, Iowa](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Council_Bluffs,_Iowa), to [San Diego](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Diego).The battalion's march and service was instrumental in helping the US secure much of the American Southwest, including new lands in several Western states, especially the [Gadsden Purchase](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gadsden_Purchase) of 1853 of much of southern Arizona. The march also opened a southern wagon route to California. Veterans of the battalion played significant roles in America's westward expansion in California, Utah, Arizona and other parts of the [West](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_United_States).  |  | | --- | | Contents[1 Enlistment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#Enlistment)[2 Journey begins](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#Journey_begins)[2.1 Cooke assumes command](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#Cooke_assumes_command)[2.2 Battle of the Bulls](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#Battle_of_the_Bulls)[2.3 Capture of Tucson](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#Capture_of_Tucson)[2.4 Temecula Massacre](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#Temecula_Massacre)[3 Journey complete](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#Journey_complete)[4 Historic sites and monuments](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#Historic_sites_and_monuments)[5 Notable members of the battalion](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#Notable_members_of_the_battalion)[6 See also](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#See_also)[7 Notes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#Notes)[8 References](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#References)[9 Further reading](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#Further_reading)[10 External links](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#External_links) |  EnlistmentAt the time they enlisted, members of [The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Church_of_Jesus_Christ_of_Latter-day_Saints) were seeking U.S. government aid for their migration west to the [Rocky Mountains](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rocky_Mountains) and [Salt Lake Valley](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salt_Lake_Valley), despite having their previous petitions for redress of grievances denied. Under continued religious persecution, they had fled [Nauvoo](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nauvoo,_Illinois), Illinois, on 4 February 1846 across the Mississippi River. They camped among the [Potawatomi](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Potawatomi) Indians near what became [Omaha, Nebraska](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Omaha,_Nebraska).[Brigham Young](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brigham_Young), the [President](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/President_of_the_Quorum_of_the_Twelve_Apostles) of the [Quorum of the Twelve Apostles](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quorum_of_the_Twelve_Apostles_%28LDS_Church%29), sent Elder [Jesse C. Little](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jesse_C._Little) to Washington, D.C., to seek assistance from the federal government for the Mormon Pioneers fleeing for their lives from the mobs of Illinois. Little arrived in Washington D.C. on 21 May 1846, only eight days after Congress had declared war on Mexico.[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-UHE-2) Pennsylvania Army officer and attorney [Thomas L. Kane](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_L._Kane) offered the Mormons his advice and assistance. Politically well connected through his jurist father, Kane provided letters of recommendation and joined Little in Washington, D.C. The two called on the secretary of state, secretary of war, and President [James K. Polk](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_K._Polk). After several interviews in early June 1846, President Polk agreed to Little's offer if "a few hundred" men enlisted. On 2 June 1846, President Polk wrote in his diary: "Col. [Stephen W.] Kearny was. . . authorized to receive into service as volunteers a few hundred of the Mormons who are now on their way to California, with a view to conciliate them, attach them to our country, and prevent them from taking part against us."[[5]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-5)On 1 July 1846 Captain [James Allen](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Allen_%28Army_engineer%29), dispatched by Colonel (later Brigadier General) [Stephen W. Kearny](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stephen_W._Kearny), arrived at the Mormons' Mosquito Creek camp. He had a request from President Polk to enlist a battalion of 500 volunteers to fight in the Mexican War.[[6]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-heritage-6) Most members of the Church were suspicious of the request, as the Federal government had ignored the persecutions they suffered. They were concerned about facing discrimination by the government, as they had from both the state and federal government in the past.[[7]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-mclynn-7)Kane obtained U.S. government permission for the refugee Mormons to occupy Pottawattamie and [Omaha](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Omaha) Indian lands along the [Missouri River](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Missouri_River). After carrying dispatches relating to the land agreements and battalion criteria to [Fort Leavenworth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Leavenworth), Kane sought out Little in the Latter-day Saint encampments on the Missouri. On 17 July 1846, he held a meeting with LDS leaders and Captain Allen.Brigham Young had planned on [moving the Mormons west](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_pioneers) that summer, but circumstances were against his plan. He saw several possible advantages to the Saints in the proposed federal service. Their enlistment would be a public relations victory for the church, demonstrating additional evidence of its loyalty to the United States.[[7]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-mclynn-7) As the men were given a uniform allowance at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., of US$42 each, paid in advance, for their one-year enlistment and as they were allowed to wear their civilian clothing for the march, the bulk of those funds were immediately donated to a general Church fund. These funds were used to purchase wagons, teams, and other necessities for the American exodus (Actual wages paid over the next year to the Mormon Battalion totaled nearly $30,000).[[8]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-Pioneer_Trail_Map:_Council_Bluffs-8) Having been forced to leave farms and homes in Nauvoo, under threat, the Latter-day Saints were going to spend the winter on the banks of the Missouri River. Raising a group of able-bodied men would be difficult. Many men had already scattered to outlying areas where they sought jobs with wages to help support the group. Young wrote a letter to the Saints living in Garden Grove, in which he justified the call-up and asked for their help:The President wants to do us good and secure our confidence. The outfit of this five hundred men costs us nothing, and their pay will be sufficient to take their families over the mountains. There is war between Mexico and the United States, to whom California must fall a prey, and if we are the first settlers the old citizens cannot have a Hancock or Missouri pretext to mob the Saints. The thing is from above for our own good.[[9]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-jbrown-9)The public approval of Brigham Young and other members of the Twelve were critical to gain men's enlistment. While some men quickly volunteered, Young had to persuade and cajole many enlistees. It took three weeks to raise the five companies of men.Allen's instructions were to recruit five companies of men who were to receive the "pay, rations, and other allowances given to other infantry volunteers."[[10]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-Roberts1919-10) Each company was authorized four women as laundresses, "receiving rations and other allowances given to the laundresses of our army."[[10]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-Roberts1919-10) Approximately thirty-three women, twenty of whom served as laundresses, and fifty-one children accompanied the men.[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-UHE-2) Four women would eventually complete the cross-continental trek.[[11]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-11) The Mormon Battalion was mustered into volunteer service on 16 July 1846 as part of the [Army of the West](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Army_of_the_West_%281846%29) under General Kearny, a tough and seasoned veteran. His units included two regiments of Missouri volunteers, a regiment of New York volunteers who traveled by ships to California to meet him there, artillery and infantry battalions, Kearny's own [1st US Dragoons](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1st_Cavalry_Regiment_%28United_States%29), and the battalion of Mormons. For years afterward, some Mormons viewed the Mormon Battalion as an unjust imposition and as an act of persecution by the United States ([Carrington 1857](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#CITEREFCarrington1857), p. 5).Journey beginsThe battalion arrived at [Fort Leavenworth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Leavenworth) on 1 August.[[12]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-12) For the next two weeks, they drew their pay, received their equipment ([Model 1816](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Model_1816_Musket) [smoothbore](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Smoothbore) [flintlock](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flintlock) [muskets](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Musket) and a few [Harper's Ferry Model 1803 Rifles](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harper%27s_Ferry_Model_1803_Rifle)), and were more formally organized into a combat battalion. The volunteers took the army's uniform allowance in cash. To be sure the Saints benefited from the men's wages, Young sent Orson Pratt to make sure the men handed over their first pay. Young used this and the wages they earned later to buy wagon loads of supplies for the main group at wholesale prices in [St. Louis, Missouri](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St._Louis,_Missouri). He wrote to the enlistees, that the money was a "peculiar manifestation of the kind providence of our Heavenly Father at this time."[[10]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-Roberts1919-10) There was little time for training and instilling discipline. Newly promoted Lieutenant Colonel James Allen became ill but ordered the battalion forward along the [Santa Fe Trail](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santa_Fe_Trail) to overtake Kearny's Army of the West. On 23 August, Allen died and was the first officer buried in what became [Fort Leavenworth National Military Cemetery](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Leavenworth_National_Cemetery).Captain [Jefferson Hunt](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jefferson_Hunt), commanding A Company, was the acting commander until word reached [Council Grove, Kansas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Council_Grove,_Kansas), that Allen had died. A few days later Lieutenant [Andrew Jackson Smith](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andrew_Jackson_Smith), [West Point](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Military_Academy) Class of 1838, arrived and assumed temporary command of the battalion with the Mormons' consent. For the next several weeks, the Mormon soldiers came to hate "AJ" Smith and the assistant surgeon, Dr. George B. Sanderson, for their treatment of the men, and the long marches suffered across the dry plains of Kansas and New Mexico. The Mormon men were not accustomed to the austere military standards of the day nor to the medical treatments imposed by Dr. Sanderson, which were standard for the time. Because the elders had counseled the battalion members to avoid military medical treatment by the military, they challenged the doctor's authority and unrest arose among the men. Smith and Sanderson continued to hold the Mormon Battalion to ordinary standards of discipline, and tensions continued.Cooke assumes command[Philip St. George Cooke](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philip_St._George_Cooke)Arriving in Santa Fe in October, General Kearny had dispatched Captain, now Lieutenant Colonel, [Philip St. George Cooke](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philip_St._George_Cooke), West Point class of 1827, to assume command of the battalion. His assignment was to march them to California and to build a wagon road along the way. In [Santa Fe](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santa_Fe,_New_Mexico) all the women and children, except for a very few, and many sick men were sent to [Pueblo](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pueblo,_Colorado), in present-day [Colorado](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colorado).[[13]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-13) A total of three separate detachments left the battalion and went to Pueblo to winter. For the next four months and 1,100 miles, Cooke led the battalion across some of the most arduous terrain in North America. Most of the Mormon soldiers soon learned to respect and follow him. The group acquired another guide in New Mexico – adventurer and mountain man [Jean Baptiste Charbonneau](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jean_Baptiste_Charbonneau), who as an infant had traveled with his mother [Sacagawea](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sacagawea) across the continent with the [Lewis and Clark Expedition](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lewis_and_Clark_Expedition).Lieutenant Smith and Dr. Sanderson continued with the battalion, along with Lieutenant [George Stoneman](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Stoneman), newly graduated from West Point that Spring. During the Civil War, all three officers were promoted to high-level commands for the [Union Army](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Union_Army). Afterward, Stoneman would go on to be elected [Governor of California](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Governor_of_California).Battle of the BullsThe Mormon Battalion in the Sonoran Desert of Arizona.Near the [San Pedro River](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Pedro_River_%28Arizona%29) in [Arizona](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arizona) lived a sizable number of wild cattle. The battalion reached this area in November, 1846 and their presence aroused curiosity among these animals. After the bulls of these herds caused destruction to some of the mules and wagons and resulted in two men being wounded, the men loaded their guns and attacked the charging bulls, killing 10–15 of the wild cattle, which was sarcastically termed the "Battle of the Bulls".[[10]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-Roberts1919-10)Capture of TucsonMain article: [Capture of Tucson (1846)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Capture_of_Tucson_%281846%29)Approaching [Tucson](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tucson,_Arizona), in future [Arizona](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arizona), the battalion nearly had a [battle](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Capture_of_Tucson_%281846%29) with a small detachment of provisional Mexican soldiers on 16 December 1846. The Mexicans retreated as the US battalion approached. The local O'odham and other Piman tribes along the march route were helpful and charitable to the American soldiers. Mormon soldiers learned many methods of irrigation from these native inhabitants and employed the methods later as pioneers in Utah and other areas.[[*citation needed*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citation_needed)]Temecula MassacreNearing the end of their journey, the battalion passed through [Temecula, California](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Temecula,_California), during the aftermath of the [Temecula Massacre](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Temecula_Massacre), a conflict between the [Californios](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Californio) and the [Luiseño](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luise%C3%B1o_people) tribe. The Mormons stood guard to prevent further bloodshed while the Luiseño people gathered their numerous dead into a common grave.[[14]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-14)[[15]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-15)Journey completeThe Mormon Battalion arrived in San Diego on 29 January 1847 after a march of some 1,900 miles from Iowa. For the next five months until their discharge on 16 July 1847 in Los Angeles, the battalion trained and also performed occupation duties in several locations in [southern California](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_California). The most significant service the battalion provided in California and during the war, was as a reliable unit under Cooke that General Kearny could rely on to block Fremont's mutinous bid to control California. The construction of [Fort Moore](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Moore) was one measure Cooke employed to protect legitimate military and civil control under Kearny. Some 22 Mormon men died from disease or other natural causes during their service. About 80 of the men re-enlisted for another six months of service.A few of the men escorted [John C. Fremont](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_C._Fremont) back east for his [court-martial](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Court-martial). A few discharged veterans worked in the [Sacramento](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sacramento,_California) area for [James W. Marshall](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_W._Marshall) at [Sutter's Mill](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sutter%27s_Mill). Henry Bigler recorded the actual date, 24 January 1848, in his diary (now on display at the Huntington Library in San Marino, CA) when gold was discovered. This gold find started the [California Gold Rush](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/California_Gold_Rush) the next year.[[16]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-Sutter-16) $17,000 in gold was contributed to the economy of the Latter-day Saints' new home by members of the Mormon Battalion returning from California.[[8]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-Pioneer_Trail_Map:_Council_Bluffs-8)Historic sites and monumentsThe San Diego Mormon Battalion Historic SiteFort Moore Pioneer Memorial, Los AngelesHistoric sites associated with the battalion include:Mormon Battalion Historic Site, a visitor center in [Old Town San Diego State Historic Park](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_Town_San_Diego_State_Historic_Park), San Diego.Box Canyon historical site, in [Anza Borrego Desert State Park](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anza_Borrego_Desert_State_Park), San Diego County, on Highway S-2, approximately 8.7 miles south of Highway 78 (Scissors Crossing). (GPS location: N33.0152,W116.4429) Here in 1847, the Battalion cut a road into the rocky side of a canyon which was otherwise impassable to wagons. Remnants of the road cut into the rock wall are still visible.Fort Moore Pioneer Memorial, the largest bas-relief military monument in the United States, on Hill Street in downtown Los Angeles, dedicated in 1958 at the site of historic Fort Moore built by the Mormon Battalion in 1847, decommissioned in 1853.[[17]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-17)Mormon Battalion Mountain, a low-lying mountain within San Bernardino County's Glen Helen Regional Park at the mouth of Cajon Canyon, where in April 1847 a detachment of the Mormon Battalion arrived from Los Angeles with the assignment to set up camp, build a fort or redoubt and guard the pass from any Indian raids. A historic marker within the park commemorates this event.Mormon Rocks, northwest of [San Bernardino, California](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Bernardino,_California), in the [Cajon Pass](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cajon_Pass), just west of [Interstate 15](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Interstate_15_%28California%29) on [State Route 138](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/State_Route_138_%28California%29). Near Mormon Rocks, the first wagon road was blazed through the Cajon Pass in 1848 by 25 veteran Battalion soldiers, with the wagon of Captain Daniel C. Davis, wife Susan and son Danny in their journey to the [Salt Lake Valley](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salt_Lake_Valley).The Mormon Battalion Monument at the Utah State Capitol, [Salt Lake City, Utah](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salt_Lake_City,_Utah).[[18]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-18)The Mormon Battalion Memorial in [Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Rosecrans_National_Cemetery), [Point Loma](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Point_Loma), San Diego, erected in 1998.[[19]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-19)A sculpture of an infantryman of the battalion by [Edward J. Fraughton](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_J._Fraughton) erected in 1969 at [Presidio Park](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presidio_Park), San Diego, which is pictured above.[[20]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-20)Monuments relating to the battalion are also located in New Mexico, Arizona, and Colorado, and trail markers have been placed on segments of the battalion route between [Mt. Pisgah](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mount_Pisgah_%28Iowa%29) (Iowa) and San Diego.[[21]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-21)The community of Binghampton in Tucson, Arizona, was established in 1916 but it was first settled by Erastus Bingham, Jr. in 1893. He had come through Tucson in 1846 as part of the Mormon Battalion. In 2003 it was placed on the NRHP as a Rural Historic Landmark to save what was left of the rural area. Today it includes the Brandi Fenton Memorial Park and once again has people enjoying it. It is next to the Rillito Riverpark which runs along the banks of the Rillito River and gets quite a few walkers and bicyclists.Notable members of the battalion[Jefferson Hunt](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jefferson_Hunt),[[22]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-Esshom1913-22):43 father of San Bernardino County, Brigadier-General of California Militia[William Prows](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Prows),[[22]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-Esshom1913-22):44 first man to wash gold on the [Comstock Lode](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comstock_Lode)[William S. S. Willes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_S._S._Willes)[[22]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-Esshom1913-22):44[James C. Sly](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Calvin_Sly)[[22]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-Esshom1913-22):44[George Stoneman](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Stoneman), Governor of California 1883[[23]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-23)[Stephen Clark Foster](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stephen_Clark_Foster),[[24]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_note-24) first American mayor of Los Angeles, CaliforniaSee also[California Battalion](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/California_Battalion)[California Gold Rush](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/California_Gold_Rush)[Trapper's Trail](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trapper%27s_Trail)Notes[^](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_ref-1) [Fleek 2006](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#CITEREFFleek2006), p. [[*page needed*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citing_sources)]^ [*a*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_ref-UHE_2-0) [*b*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_ref-UHE_2-1) [*c*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_ref-UHE_2-2) [Black, Susan Easton](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Susan_Easton) (1994), ["Mormon Battalion"](http://www.uen.org/utah_history_encyclopedia/m/MORMON_BATTALION.html), in Powell, Allen Kent, *Utah History Encyclopedia*, Salt Lake City, Utah: [University of Utah Press](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_Utah_Press)[^](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_ref-3) [*Mormon Battalion*](http://californiapioneer.org/historic-events/mormon-battalion), "Historic Events", *CaliforniaPioneer.org* (California Pioneer Heritage Foundation), retrieved 2013-04-09[^](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion#cite_ref-4) Lloyd, R. 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By using this site, you agree to the [Terms of Use](http://wikimediafoundation.org/wiki/Terms_of_Use) and [Privacy Policy.](http://wikimediafoundation.org/wiki/Privacy_policy)  Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the [Wikimedia Foundation, Inc.](http://www.wikimediafoundation.org/), a non-profit organization.[Privacy policy](http://wikimediafoundation.org/wiki/Privacy_policy)[About Wikipedia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:About)[Disclaimers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:General_disclaimer)[Contact Wikipedia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Contact_us)[Mobile view](http://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon_Battalion) |  | |  | | |  | | |

## Follow-up: What has happened to most of these towns today? Mormon Island is now a relocation cemetery. Sutter’s Mill is little more than a tourist location. What makes a town lasting like San Francisco? The difference between the two kinds of towns/cities is that the passengers of the Ship Brooklyn brought technology with them and took the time to build up a city that was productive outside of finding gold. The Gold Towns revolved around those findings, so as soon as the gold was cleared out, the towns people left.

## [generation on](http://generationon.org/) cite the three main obstacles faced by the Mormons in the society in which they lived as they followed their dream of religious freedom.

## list three core democratic values that were essential to the travelers along the Mormon Trail and the other ways west during this time period and explain how the Mormons and other travelers took action to insure these democratic values.

## identify three components of leadership demonstrated by "the Saints" in their journey West.

## Materials:

## Video: *Historic Trails With Tom Bodett: The Mormon Trail and California Trails*, copyright 1996 by Small World AMERICA'S Productions, Inc., PO Box 28369, Seattle WA 98118-8369 1-800-319-9909.

## Pioneer log from general reference material or the Internet

## Instructional Procedure(s):

## *Anticipatory Set:*

## *Ask students to speculate on the amount of supplies that a family might have been able to take with them in early American history as they traveled west in a covered wagon. How does the word "sacrifice" fit in with this picture?*

## Review the routes west taken by the pioneers and the geographical obstacles they faced. Focus on the Oregon Trail, Santa Fe Trail, Mormon Trail and obstacles such as mountains, rivers and lack of food and water.

## Have students watch the video, which will take one hour, or, as an alternative, read passages from a general reference book about the journey of the Mormons to Salt Lake.

## While watching or reading, students should make three columns of notes:

## Values/beliefs of Mormons

## Material possessions of importance on their journey

## Examples of sacrifice and human interdependence.

## Divide the class into small groups to compare notes. Give the groups this task:

## You've been asked to join a group that is going to colonize a new planet. List ten of your material possessions that you would most want to take with you (space is limited on the spacecraft).

## Since it is unlikely that you'll be coming back, which values, beliefs, social customs and practices that are currently in place in America would you like to see preserved: religions, music, laws, holidays, social practices?

## Have each group put their ideas on posters and have a gallery walk to look for common themes.

## Assessment:

## Quick write: "*Of all of my personal beliefs, which three do I want to make sure get passed on to future generations and why?*" This will be graded on the following criteria:

## A general statement of why it is important to pass on beliefs;

## a listing of those beliefs; and

## a concluding statement as to why those beliefs are most important to the student.

## *Bibliographical References:*

## *Video: Historic Trails with Tom Bodett: The Mormon Trail and California Trail, 1996. Small World AMERICA'S Productions, Inc., P.O. Box 28369, Seattle WA 98118-8369, 1-800-319-9909.*

**JAMES MYLER, (My Great, Great, Grandfather):**

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| --- |
| James Myler - Life History |

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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | **HISTORY OF MY GRANDFATHER MYLER JAMES MYLER OF THE MORMON BATTALION by Alice M. Howard (San Jose, CA) and** [**Mary M. Robinson**](http://www.planetnielsen.com/journals/mary_robinson_history.html) **(Los Angeles, CA)** |  |   **James Myler (My grandfather) was born in Butler County, Ohio, on the third of February, 1822. He was the fourth son in a family of eight, four sons and four daughters. His parents wer James and Olive Maine Myler. His father was born at Westmoreland county, Penn., on the 26th of May, 1792. His mother, Olive Maine, was born in South-Hampton, Long Island, New York on the 16th of May in 1796.**  **They were of sturdy New England stock, farmers who with all their pioneering managed somehow to eke out a living. They moved frequently as was the custom of most families those days. A few years were spent in a little town in Ohio, not too far from Kirtland. Grandfather told us many times of the wonderful manifestation their family witnessed when he was fourteen years old; in Kirtland on the 3rd of April 1836 when the savior appeared to the prophet Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdry. They beheld the glorious illumination around and above the temple on that memorable night. We children loved to hear him relate this Heavenly manifestation. Even after all this he was the only one of his family to accept the Gospel of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.**  **When he was 21 years old he married Julia Ann Brownell, on the 5th of February 1843. Julia Ann was born on the 12th of February in 1826, in Dayton Ohio.**  **About this time James Myler's father's family went into South Bend, Indiana to do more pioneering. James Myler and Julia Ann at this time settled themselves in Nauvoo, Illinois. While there they received their endowments in the Nauvoo Temple. They remained in Nauvoo until the saints were driven out of the state.**  **While they were in Winter Quarters on the first leg of their journey to Zion, the call came from the government for five hundred able-bodied men for the army, to go to Mexico to quell an uprising there.**  **President Brigham Young called for volunteers. James Myler was among the ones to go. He left his wife and two babies and her father and mother (Mr. And Mrs. Gideon Brownell) to live in a "covered" wagon box set on the ground. Can you imagine what it was like? No doubt some other family used the other part of the wagon to get to Zion (Utah). Well poor grandfather walked to the pacific ocean, San Diego, up the coast to Los Angeles, back to Winter Quarters (Council Bluff), turned again to the west with his family, arriving finally in Zion (Utah) in 1849. He and his wife's parents established a home in North Cottonwood (Farmington, Utah). Father Brownell was chosen Presiding Elder and later Bishop of the ward.**  **Returning to my narrative of the battalion; He was in Company "C" of the battalion. His wife's brother (Russell C. Brownell) was a corporal in the same company They had quite a walk, don't you think?**  **Grandfather told us frequently of the suffering they endured marching over hot desert sands, without water or food much of the time, and barefooted. They ate most any kind of vegetation, especially roots.**  **In Farmington my father and four other children were born. The family now consists of nine souls. Some ten years later the pioneer spirit came up them and we find them settling this time in Logan, Utah heading always north.**  **Next we see them in Clarkston, Cache County Utah, still farther north. By now there are eleven children, but some of them are married and in homes of their own. Though they were poor, yet there was so much love one for another, they were always happy. While in this part of Utah, James Myler (my grandfather) worked as an Indian scout as the Indians were very troublesome to the saints.**  **One morning when grandmother (James Myler's wife) was cooking breakfast over the fire in the fireplace, a large Indian and his squaw and papoose came into the house. The Indian walked over to the fire and began rubbing his dirty hands together over the food. This made grandfather mad and he grabbed the fellow and put him onto his back in the corner. Now the Indian was mad and he came toward grandfather will a large knife raised ready to strike. Grandfather quickly seized a stick of firewood and advanced to meet him, saying "You get out of here." Well, Indians admire bravery and though James Myler was a small man he was no coward. You see he loved his wife and their little ones and so he had something to fight for. The Indian backed out of the house and his family followed him.**  **In June of 1883 they (the whole family, some of the children now have families of their own) take one last move: this time on farther north, into the Snake River valley of Idaho. Here they all homesteaded land along the south branch of the snake river. They proceeded to build log houses. Though crude looking, they were real homes because love was there. They cleared the land of sagebrush, made a canal and built a dam in the river to divert the water into their canal, made smaller irrigation ditches to turn the water onto their land when the crops should need to be watered. By the fourth of July the mosquitoes were so bad they were compelled to go to the mountains and take all the animals. Tents were pitched and all were made as comfortable as possible. The animals were herded, the cows were milked and the milk not needed for daily consumption was made into cheese. You may be sure nothing was wasted. Two of the men would take turns going to the valley to see that the wheat and oats and potatoes were properly irrigated and cared for. They would stay until they were practically eaten by the mosquitoes (they had no way of keeping them out of the house so a fire would be built then something green put over the blaze to make a smoke), then the horrid creatures would go away for a while. Nothing is ever all bad. The crops were bounteous beyond all expectations.**  **His (James Myler's) children continued to seek his advice in any and all problems. I recall when I was a real small girl, we were there to dinner one day. Grandmother left the table for more food, my grandfather quickly took a spoon and gave each of the smaller ones a generous taste of sugar. I wondered then why he did it as I really did not like the rough feel of the sugar on my tongue; but now I know he did it because he remembered the many times he had not had any kind of luxury when he was our size. He was a great lover of children. They were always welcome on his knee. He suffered a cancerous death. He got so thin he was the size of a very thin ten year old boy.**  **When he was ill I remembered he had told of a nut tree which grew on their place when he was a small boy and how very fond of them he was. I had no idea what was the matter with him (Cancer was so hush hush in those days) so I took him some nuts. When I gave them to him he said "I shouldn't, but I'll eat them no matter what." In no time at all he had to vomit and I was really shocked to see my grandfather so very small and thin. Well, anyway he said they tasted good. He had a small sorrel mare he drove on a single black top buggy. She was a mean animal but he got along with her very well. I remember going with him to milk his cow.**  **The United States government paid him a pension the last few years of his life, the whole amount being thirty dollars a month. It came to him at three month intervals. He passed away on the 21st day of May, in 1894 and was buried in the cemetery at Lewisville Idaho. His wife died four years later and was buried beside him.**  **Source of information:**  **Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, Lesson for May 1955, Compiled by Kate B. Carter, Vol I**  **Also, wife's father Russell Gideon Brownell was in "C" company with James.**  **James came to Lewisville in spring of 1883 with Orrin Myler Sr.**  **James also lived before coming to Idaho in West Weber Utah.**  **Story of Echo Canyon can be found in lesson for April 1967.**  **HISTORY OF JAMES MYLER By His Granddaughter Elizabeth Myler Wray**  **James Myler, a much respected citizen and sincere convert of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, was born the 3rd of February, 1822, at South Ben, Indiana. He married Julia Ann Brownell the 5th of October 1843.**  **They were visited by Mormon missionaries in 1844 and were so impressed by the story of Joseph Smith and the restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, they made arrangements to go to Nauvoo to meet the Prophet. They were baptized in 1845 and received their endowments January 28, 1846, in the Nauvoo Temple. He helped in the building of the Nauvoo Temple.**  **When the saints were driven from their homes and the beautiful city of Nauvoo, James Myler, and his wife, and two little boys were with them. They crossed the Mississippi River on ice in February, 1846. They, with the rest of the saints, endured the persecutions and experiences of that eventful time and camped on the bank of the river.**  **While there, the government sent messengers to President Brigham Young asking for 500 men to protect our country and it's freedom. President Young asked for volunteers. James Myler was one who joined what was later known as the Mormon Battalion. Leaving his wife and boys at Winter Quarters camped in a wagon box on poles to keep it up off the ground, James marched across the western part of the continent to San Diego, California, and shared with them the hardships and privations of that campaign. Julie Ann's brother, Gideon Brownell and family were in the camp to help if needed.**  **After being discharged in 1848, he returned to his family, being gone nearly 18 months. Not being able to find employment to support his family, he crossed into Missouri and found work. After 6 weeks he returned. It was late in the spring, still he plowed some land and planted corn and one bushel of wheat, that being all the seed he could obtain.**  **The Myler family remained there until 1849, then came to Utah in Captain William Milber's 5th Company. They arrived in Utah the 22nd of September 1849, locating in what was later called Farmington.**  **While still in Nauvoo, James Myler was ordained a Seventy in the 5th Quorum of Seventies and one of the 7 presidents of Seventy in the 56th Quorum of Seventies in Farmington in 1858. He was one of the ward teachers and acted as Water Master for some time. They remained in Farmington for 10 years.**  **On July 24, 1857, as the pioneers were celebrating 10 years since entering the Valley, word was brought that Johnson's Army of the Government was coming. That caused a lot of trouble and commotion. Later the saints left their homes and went to Southern Utah thinking it would be safer. James Myler was active in the Echo Canyon War and was a scout to the Indians.**  **In the summer of 1858 (60), he moved his family to Logan in Cache Valley, establishing a new home and living there 5 years. Three of the children were born there, one of them being my father, Charles C. Myler, born the 22nd of April, 1861.**  **From Logan, they moved to Clarkston, living there until 1883 where the family grew up. James went to Escalanta from Clarkston, but not finding things satisfactory, he returned in a few months to Clarkston until he and his family of 5 married children and their families pioneered to Snake River country in Idaho. His 3 sons, Oscar, Orrin, and Charles, and 2 daughters, Alzina Myler Goody and Alvina Myler Harmon, all settled near the south side of the river near each other. The men all filed a homestead right on land, built homes from logs obtained from near the river, built sheds for stock, made fences, took sage brush off the land and raised crops. I well remember my Father's farm joined Grandfather's so we crossed the field from one place to the other. Grandmother had a brass kettle or bucket and I remember Grandfather taking that to milk the cow, then Grandmother would strain it in pans, let it stand about 24 hours, skim the cream off, and make butter. It was very good butter. Grandmother was a real good cook and a neat housekeeper. We children always enjoyed going there. There were always cookies or doughnuts. Grandfather would come to our house, take the little folks and sing and dance them on his knee.**  **James Myler was the father of 11 children, 8 of which lived to raise families and all going to the Temple.**  **Grandfather was always ready to help any one in need. He was a good father and a good neighbor. He was always active in the Church. They were a musical family with good voices and spent many evenings singing and playing the family organ. Two of the boys were Bishops and Bishop's Counselors and held other offices in the Church. The girls wee active and did a lot of good in M.I.A. and Relief Society. In the 1890's James' son Charles put on concerts to raise money for a building fund.**  **At the time of his passing, James left 43 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. James Myler passed away at the age of 72 in the year 1894.**  **Sketch of the Life of James Myler (Original Pioneer by Himself) Compiled by Elizabeth R. Hopkins**  **James Myler was born February 3, 1822, in South Bend Indiana. Parents were James Myler and Olive Main. Married Julia Brownell on October 5, 1843.**  **When the mobbers were persecuting the saints, James Myler went to get a bucket of water, which was some distance away, when he returned there was three Mormon women at the house and three mobbers came to get them. At just this time James returned from getting the water, he told the mobbers he was not a Mormon but if one of them touched either of the women in any way, he would wipe up the earth with them. They looked at each other and then rode away.**  **He first heard the gospel preached in 1844, and was baptized into the church in Nauvoo, in 1845. When his son Oscar was a small boy, and Joseph was a baby, they went through the temple in Nauvoo before it was dedicated..**  **They moved to Winter Quarters in 1846. He enlisted in the Mormon Battalion sometime in that same year. (About July). He marched with the battalion, from Missouri river across the continent to California and shared the hardships of the company.**  **James Myler joined the battalion under the command of Captain Allen, and everything went fine, until, the death of the captain. Then a Lt. Allen Smith took command and appointed Dr. George Sanders Sargent, he served with the battalion. They were then reduced to but 1/3 ration, and brackish water, many took sick, but would rather stand guard than take the medicine and the abuse the sergeant gave them.**  **The Dr. had a brass kettle and spoon and to the tune of "Join along Joe', the sick and the well had to take the medicine.**  **James Myler was the first to refuse, he said if he was going to die, they could shoot him, but he would not take any of the poison drug. There was not more of the medicine given to anyone. These words were taken from his memoirs:**  **"While here beneath the sultry skies our mules and others died. Scarce out but skin and bones remained; to fed the poor soldiers on the plains. How hard to starve and wear us out upon the sandy desert rout; Now half starved oxen; over drilled, to weak to draw or keep or kill and knowing hungry men were prompting to eat small entrails and the skin. Our hardships reached their rough extreme  when valiant men were roped with teams, hour after hour, and day after day, to wear our life and strength away."**  **The thoughts of leaving his family at this critical time were indescribable, they were far from the land of their nativity.**  **Situated upon a lonely prairie, with no dwelling, but only a wagon to shelter them from the scorching sum beating down on them and the thought of the cold December winds finding them in the same bleak and desolate place, he had to leave his wife and two small children in the wagon on the plains when he left with the battalion to go through to California.**  **When the battalion got to the mountains, and winter came upon them, they went on half-starved half-frozen, through the snow and cold winds.**  **There was a non-Mormon traveling with them. He had his own out-fit, consisting of six mules an a wagon. He would often pick up the sick and let them ride with him. The officer in charge ordered the sick out of the wagon, the non-Mormon told him they could ride as long as he could pull them.**  **They left the mountains and dropped down into the valley, which seemed like heaven or paradise. The wild oats or grasses were as tall as the mules as they drove through and neared a beautiful stream of water. Before they could get the animals unhooked from the wagons, a herd of buffaloes came upon them and they upset the wagons, killing the mules but luckily none of the men were hurt.**  **The men had plenty of meat from this incident to last them for a long time.**  **After being discharged from the army, the men had to find their own transportation back to their families. Some of them worked on the millrace and when the water was turned onto it, that was when gold was discovered.**  **They came to Salt Lake, some of them found their families. The family of James was not among the families in the valley, they had remained at Winter Quarters at Council Bluffs. He returned to them in December 1848. He had been absent from them for 18 months. He remained with them for two weeks and then went to Missouri to earn money for food. After six weeks he again went to his family. They left Council Bluffs in 1849 and came to Utah with Capt. Miller's Fifth Co. They located in Farmington and while there, James had a terrible experience with evil!**  **One night a man came to his house who had such an evil influence that just his presence in the house awakened the whole household. James told him to leave and so he went outside, to where there was a cow and she began to show such agony that James had to go to her. He prayed and she was immediately alright.**  **They were one of the first families to settle in Logan in 1889, (Cache Valley), lived there for five years, then moved to Clarkston and lived there for eighteen years.**  **When Johnson's army came to wage war, he served in the campaign, known as the Echo Canyon War. He then moved to Escalante in Potato Valley, in 1877, and returned to Clarkston in 1883. He then moved to Snake River Valley and resided there until he died on Wednesday, May 23, 1896.**  **Elder James Myler was buried at Snake River, Idaho. His boy is interred in the ward cemetery there.**  **In his memoirs is found this group of notes that he was thinking:**  **Dec. 8, 1886 . . . . .**  **I have been musing all alone about the times and places and trials and troubles, I have been through. I thought I would write a few lines on my present feelings; I feel sure I have to try to improve in my course of conditions before the Lord and my brethren and this is the greatest desire of my heart. I also know I must speak diligently to my God in Heaven. I know He is willing to hear me, because I have sought His help in the past in scores of instances and I know that he has heard and rewarded me and caused my heart to rejoice within me.**  **This poem was written by Eliza R. Snow**  **When Mormon trains were journeying through, To Winter Quarters from Nauvoo; To fight for that same government; From which as fugitives we went, Five hundred men were called to go, To settle claims in Mexico, What were others in families to do There were children wives and mothers too, When fathers, husband and sons were gone, Mothers drove teams and camp moved on.**  **HISTORY OF JAMES MYLER**  **James Myler was born 3 February 1822 in Paddy's Run, (now Shandon), Butler County, Ohio**[**(1)**](http://www.planetnielsen.com/journals/Myler_James_with_footnotes.htm#N_1_)  **He was the son of James Myler (born Nov. 19, 1794 Westmoreland, New York) and Olive Maine (born May 16, 1796 New York).**[**(2)**](http://www.planetnielsen.com/journals/Myler_James_with_footnotes.htm#N_2_) **James was the 4th son in a family of eight; four sons and four daughters.**  **They were of sturdy, New England stock farmers who (with all their pioneering) managed somehow to eke out a living. They moved frequently as the custom of most families in those days. A few years were spent in a little town in Ohio, not too far from Kirtland. "Grandfather told of many times of wonderful manifestations their family witnessed when he was 14 years old, in Kirtland on 3rd April 1836 (when the Savior appeared to the Prophet Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery.) The Myler family beheld the glorious illumination around and above the Kirtland Temple on that memorable night. We children loved to hear him relate this heavenly manifestation."**[**(3)**](http://www.planetnielsen.com/journals/Myler_James_with_footnotes.htm#N_3_) **Even so, he was the only one of his family to accept the Gospel of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints—which did not happen for a period of eight years.**  **When he was 21 years old, he married Julia Ann Brownell on the 5th of October 1843 in Buchanan, Berrien, Michigan. Julia's parents, Gideon Brownell and Elizabeth (Betsy) Wheeler Brownell had been baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in May of 1841 in Ohio. Julia Ann was baptized by her father at this time. She met James Myler while living in Ohio. His parents moved to South Ben, Indiana when James was quite young.**[**(4)**](http://www.planetnielsen.com/journals/Myler_James_with_footnotes.htm#N_4_)  **James and Julia settled in Michigan where their first son, William Oscar was born in Bertrand, Berrien, Michigan on 27 December 1844. The Mylers then went to Nauvoo, Illinois where James was baptized 26 January 1845, by his father-in-law, Gideon Brownell.**[**(5)**](http://www.planetnielsen.com/journals/Myler_James_with_footnotes.htm#N_5_) **Prior to his baptism, James had an interesting experience when mobbers were persecuting the Saints. James Myler went to get a bucket of water which was some distance away, and when he returned there were three Mormon women at the house and three mobbers came to get them. James faced the mobbers bravely (for he was quite small in stature) and said that although he was not a Mormon, if any one of them touched either of the women in any way, he would wipe up the earth with them. The mobbers looked at each other and rode away.**[**(6)**](http://www.planetnielsen.com/journals/Myler_James_with_footnotes.htm#N_6_)  **They were in Nauvoo amid much persecution of the Saints after the martyrdom of the Prophet Joseph Smith and James helped build the temple. They named their second son, Joseph, possibly after the Prophet. He was born January 31, 1846. During this time, the Saints were going through the Nauvoo Temple to get their endowments before they were forced to leave on account of the mobs. James and Julia received their endowments January 28, 1846, just 3 days prior to the birth of baby Joseph. One February evening, soon after Joseph's birth, the mob came to their door and told them they had one hour to vacate their homes and get out of Nauvoo or they would be killed. It was 26 degrees below zero. James rushed out and hitched his team onto his wagon and loaded as many things as he could. They fixed a bed in the wagon for 14 month old Oscar and Julia carried the baby. When they rushed out of their home, the mobs, screaming, with torches were only a block away. They drove down to the Mississippi River and crossed on ice. The recent severe cold spell had frozen the river solid in a very short time, no small feat for the mile wide Mississippi River! As they walked across the ice, Julia's shoes were so worn that with every step the last half of the way, she left imprints of her blood on the ice.**  **They camped with the Saints in Montrose, Iowa until spring, then traveled on to Winter Quarters on the outskirts of Omaha, Nebraska. James was called by the prophet to plant crops for the coming Saints. When the crops were growing well, on June 26, 1846, Colonel S. W. Kearny of the United States Army issued a "Circular to the Mormons" demanding 500 able-bodied Mormon men to join the army to fight the war with Mexico. This was delivered to the Mormons in Winter Quarters in July by Captain James Allen. James Myler and his father-in-law Gideon Brownell enlisted. The men had three days to get everything in order and be ready to march with the Mormon Battalion. The afternoon of the day prior to their departure a farewell ball was held. It was a festive occasion and everyone had a good time.**  **When the time came to go, James gave Julia his clothing allowance of $42.00. Her home was to be a wagon box that had been taken off its wheels and set upon the ground under the shade of some trees. She and her two babies lived in this "home" for the 18 months that James was away. Julia's father, Gideon Brownell, at age 57, was the oldest member of the Mormon Battalion.**  **Everything went fine for the Mormon Battalion until the death of the Captain Allen. Then a Lt. Allen Smith took command and appointed Dr. George Sanders Sgt. The men were then reduced to 1/3 rations, and brackish water. Many took sick, but would rather stand guard than take the medicine and abuse the sergeant gave them. The Doctor had a brass kettle and spoon and to the tune of "Join Along Joe" the sick and the well had to take the medicine. James Myler was the first to refuse. He said if he was going to die, they could shoot him, but he would not take any of their poison drug. There was no more of the medicine given to anyone.**  **These words are taken from his memoirs:**  **While here beneath the sultry skies**  **Our mules and others died.**  **Scarce ought but skin and bones remained;**  **To feed the poor soldiers on the plains.**  **How hard to starve and wear us out**  **Upon the sandy desert route;**  **Half-starved oxen; over drilled,**  **To weak to draw, or keep or kill.**  **And knowing hungry men were prompting**  **To eat small entrails and the skin.**  **Our hardships reached their rough extreme**  **When valiant men were roped with teams,**  **Hour after hour, and day after day,**  **To wear of life and strength away."**  **When the battalion got to the mountains, winter came upon them. They were half-starved, half-frozen, yet went on through the snow and cold winds. There was a non-Mormon traveling with them. He had his own outfit, consisting of six mules and a wagon. He would often pick up the sick and let them ride with him. The officer in charge ordered the sick out of the wagon, but the non-Mormon told he they could ride as long as he could pull. They left the mountains and dropped down into the valley, which seemed like heaven or paradise. The wild oats or grasses were as tall as the mules as they drove through and neared a beautiful stream of water. Before they could unhook the animals from the wagons, a herd of buffalo came upon them and upset the wagons, killing the mules, but none of the men were hurt. The man had plenty of meat from this incident to last them for a long time. Brigham Young had promised the men they would not have to fight, and they didn't. The war was over when they reached California. After being discharged from the army, the men had to find their own transportation back to their families.**[**(7)**](http://www.planetnielsen.com/journals/Myler_James_with_footnotes.htm#N_7_)  **In later years, James often told his grandchildren stories of his experiences with the Mormon Battalion and of waking to the pacific Ocean, San Diego, up the coast to Los Angeles, back to Winter Quarters, then turning again with his family and going west again to Utah. He told them frequently of the suffering they endured marching barefoot over hot desert sands, without water or food much of the time, and how they would eat any kind of vegetation they could find, especially roots.**  **When James returned to his family, he had been gone 18 months. Not being able to find any work to support his family and obtain the necessary funds to go on to Zion, he crossed over into Missouri and found work. After six weeks he returned. It was late spring, but still he plowed some land, planted corn and one bushel of wheat, that being all the seed he could obtain. The Myler family remained in Council Bluffs until 1849. A third son, Calvin was born in 1848.**  **In Captain William P. Miller's 5th Company, James, Julia and their three small sons, together with the Brownells, came west arriving in Salt Lake City on 22 September 1849. James served as a wagon master while crossing the plains.**  **They settled in North Cottonwood, in what is known as Farmington. James was a water master for several years, and was active in Church and community affairs. They remained in Farmington for 10 years. Baby Calvin died there in 1851. Five more children joined the family in Farmington: James Russell 18 Nov 1851, Alzina Julia 25 Jul 1854, John Young 14 Jan 1856, Orin Main 14 Sep 1858, and Margaret Lavina 1 May 1859.**[**(8)**](http://www.planetnielsen.com/journals/Myler_James_with_footnotes.htm#N_8_) **In Farmington ward records, we see that he was a home teacher and also that he was ordained as one of the seven presidents of the 56th Quorum of the Seventies in January 1855 by David Hunt.**  **On July 24, 1857, as the Pioneers were celebrating 10 years since entering the Valley, word was brought that Johnston's Army of the US Government was coming. That caused a lot of trouble and commotion. The Saints left their homes and went to Southern Utah thinking it would be safer. They returned in the summer of 1858. James Myler also served in the campaign known as the Echo Canyon War.**  **While in Farmington, James had a terrible experience with evil: One night a man came to his house who had such an evil influence that just his presence in the house awakened the whole household. James told him to leave, and so he went outside to where there was a cow. The cow began to show such agony that James had to go to her. He prayed and she was immediately alright.**  **In the summer of 1860, the Myler family moved to Logan, Utah. Their son, Charles R. was one of the first babies born in Logan. The was born 22 April 1861. Two more children were born in Logan: Rosette Sophrona 15 May 1863, and George Frank 31 August 1866. In July 1866, their son, James Russell died here.**  **While in this part of Utah, James was an Indian Scout as the Indians were very troublesome to the Saints. One morning as Julia was cooking breakfast over the fire, a large Indian and his squaw and Papoose came walking into the house. The Big Indian walked over to the fire and began rubbing his dirty hands together over the food. This made James mad and he grabbed the fell and put him onto his back in the corner. Now the Indian was mad and he came at James with a large knife raised, ready to strike. James quickly seized a stick of firewood and advanced to meet him, saying "YOU GET OUT OF HERE!" Well, Indians admire bravery and although James was a small man he was no coward. The Indian backed out of the house and his family followed him.**  **From Logan, they moved to Clarkston, living there until 1883 where the family grew up. James went to Escalanta from Clarkston, but not finding things satisfactory, he returned in a few months to Clarkston until he and his family of five married children and their families pioneered to Snake River Country in Idaho, settling in Lewisville, about 3 miles from Rigby. His three sons, Oscar, Orrin and Charles, and two daughters, Alzina Myler Goody and Alvina Myler Harmon all settled near the south side of the river near each other. The men all filed a homestead right on land, built homes from logs obtained near the river, built sheds for stock, made fences, took sage off the land, built canals and raised crops. By the 4th of July, the mosquitoes were so bad the family was compelled to go to the mountains and take all their animals. Tents were pitched and all made as comfortable as possible. The animals were herded, cows were milked and extra milk made into cheese. Two of the men took turns going to the valley to see that their wheat, oats and potatoes were properly irrigated and cared for. They would stay until they were practically eaten by the mosquitoes. They had no way of keeping them out of the house, so a fire would be built then something green put over the blaze to make a smoke, then the horrible creatures would go away for a while. Nothing is ever all bad, as their crops were bounteous beyond all expectations.**  **Some of his granddaughters wrote in their histories of things they remembered about their Grandfather Myler. "I well remember my father's farm joined Grandfather's so we crossed the field from one place to the other. Grandfather had a small sorrel mare he drove on a single black top buggy. She was a mean animal, but he got along with her very well. I remember going with him to milk his cow. Grandmother had a brass kettle and I remember Grandfather taking that to milk the cow, then Grandmother would strain it in pans, let it stand about 24 hours, skim the cream off, and make butter. It was very good butter. Grandmother was a real good cook and a neat housekeeper. We children always enjoyed going there. There were always cookies or doughnuts. One day when we were there to dinner, Grandmother left the table to get more food, my Grandfather quickly took a spoon and gave each of the smaller ones a generous taste of sugar. He was a great lover of children and they were always welcome on his knee. He would come to our house, take the little folks and sing and dance them on his knee."**  **Among his memoirs were these thoughts penned by himself:**  **:Dec. 6, 1886 . . . . . . I have been musing all alone about the times and places and trials and troubles I have been through. I thought I would write a few lines on my present feeling; I feel sure I have to try to improve in my course of conditions before the Lord and my brethren and this is the greatest desire of my heart. I also know I must speak diligently to my God in heaven. I know He is willing to hear me, because I have sought His help in the past in scores of instances and I know that He has heard and rewarded me and caused my heart to rejoice within me."**  **James Myler was the father of 11 children, 8 of which lived to raise families and all going to the Temple. He was always ready to help anyone in need. He was a good father and a good neighbor. He was always active in the Church. The Mylers were a very musical family and spent many evenings singing and playing the family organ. Two of his sons were Bishops and Bishop's counselors and held other offices in the Church. The girls were active and did a lot of good in the MIA and Relief Society. In the 1890's, his son, Charles put on concerts to raise money for a building fund. His children continued to seek his advice in any and all problems.**  **He suffered a cancerous death, and go so thin that he was the size of a very thin 10 year old boy. One of his granddaughters says: "When he was ill I remembered he had told me of a nut tree which grew on their place when he was a small boy and how very fond he was of them. I had no idea what was the matter with him as cancer was so hush, hush in those days. I took him some nuts, and when I gave them to him, he said, "I shouldn't but I'll eat the no matter what!" In no time at all he had to vomit and I was really shocked to see my Grandfather so very small and thin. Well, anyway, he said they tasted good."**  **The united States government paid him a pension the last few years of his life, the whole amount of $30 a month, coming in 3 month intervals.**  **After a life of devotion and service he passed away, 21 May 1894 and was buried in the cemetery at Lewisville, Idaho on May 23, 1894 at the age of 72. At the time of his passing, James left 43 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren. His wife died 4 years later and was buried beside him.**  **1. Birthplace given by granddaughters: Alice Myler Howard, San Jose, California and Mary M. Robinson of Los Angeles, California. Another granddaughter, Elizabeth Myler Wray, gives his birthplace as South Bend, Indiana. Daughters of Utah Pioneers Histories in possession of Cheryl Harmon Bean.**  **2. Birthplaces and dates of parents: Pioneers and Prominent Men of Utah, pg. 1053. Alice M. Howard and Mary Robinson give his father's birthplace as Westmoreland Co., Penn. On 26 May 1792 and Olive Maine born 16 May, 1798 in South Hampton, Long Island, New York.**  **3. Quoting from his granddaughters Alice M. Howard and Mary M. Robinson DUP history. See also Doctrine & Covenants 110.**  **4. DUP History of Elizabeth Betsy) Wheeler Brownell submitted by Violet Cook. Some of the histories in my possession give the date of 5 February 1843 as the date of marriage to Julia Ann Brownell. Julia Ann was born 12 February 1826 in Dayton Ohio.**  **5. James Myler, DUP Museum.**  **7. James served in Company C of the Mormon Battalion; William Miller's contingent.**  **8. Analee Carlin Wiser, direct great, great grand daughter of James Myler (myself)**  **LIFE OF JAMES MYLER**  **James Myler was born at or near South Bend, Indiana on February 3, 1822 to James Myler Jr. and Olive Maine.**  **He married Julia Ann Brownell of October 5, 1844. To this union was born 8 boys and 3 girls.**  **He heard the gospel preached by Mormon Elders in 1844. He was interested in their work and in 1845 he was baptized into the Mormon Church in Nauvoo Illinois.**  **They moved with the Saints to Council Bluff in 1846. While here he enlisted into the Mormon Battalion, sometime in July. He marched with the Battalion from the Missouri River across the western part of the continent to California and shared with them in all the great hardships of that campaign. After being released in California, he returned to Council Bluff in December 1848. He was absent from his family about eighteen months.**  **After remaining with his family about two weeks he went to Missouri and worked for breadstuff. After working six weeks he returned to his family. Late in the spring he plowed some land and planted some corn and one bushel of wheat, that being all the seed grain he could obtain. He remained at the Bluffs until 1849, at this time he and his family started for Utah in Captain W. Milbers Fifth Company.**  **Upon arriving in Utah the Mylers settled in Farmington, Davis County, Utah. They remained there ten years. He was ordained a member of the 5th Quorum of Seventies in Nauvoo and was also a member of the Seven Presidents of the Fifty-sixth Quorum of Seventies in Farmington, in 1858. While residing in Farmington he was engaged as one of the ward teachers and acted as water master.**  **In 1859 he moved to Logan Utah in Cache Valley. He established a new home and resided there 5 years. Then they moved to Clarkston on the west side of the valley, here he established a new home and resided there 18 years.**  **When Johnson's Army came to wage war with the people in Utah, he served in the campaign known as the Echo Canyon War. He stayed true-blue to the finish.**  **He moved from Clarkston to a new settlement known as Escalante in Potato Valley about the year of 1877, thinking that it would be a more congenial climate but after remaining there for a few months they returned to Clarkston where he resided until 1883. He then moved to the Snake River country again established a new home, here he resided till he died.**  **He died in Lewisville, Idaho Ward, May 21, 1894. He died in full faith of the gospel and in the hope of a glorious resurrection. May 23, 1894, James Myler's funeral service was held in the Ward Meeting House and was conducted by Bishop R.F. Jardine. The speakers were Elders Henry Stokes, A. Kinghorn, W.A. Walker. W. W. Selck and Bishop R. F. Jardine. Good and appropriate instruction were given and words of comfort and consolation were imparted to the bereaved.**  **The body was interred in the Ward Cemetery. A large and sympathetic train of people followed the corpse to the cemetery and witnessed the interment of the body and the dedication of the grave.**  **In James Myler's memorandum book. December 8, 1886 --- "I have been musing all alone about the times and I thought I would write a few lines on my present feelings. I feel sure that I have got to try and improve in my course of conduct before the Lord and my brethren and it is the greatest desire of my heart and I know that I have got to seek diligently my God in Heaven. I know that he has heard and rewarded me and caused by heart to rejoice within."**  **At the death of James Myler this notation of his life was written by a very close friend of his-- BROTHER HENRY STOKE.**  **The "Life of James Myler" by Henry Stoke has been copied as accurately as possible. The author’s original grammar has been retained. The document has been copied several times so we assume spelling errors and corrections have been made.**  **This history came to me from my mother, Julia Griffin Woolley. She copied the history into a notebook when she was in her early teens. The Original was in the possession of her maternal grandmother Emma Elizabeth Godfrey Myler, wife of Joseph Elias Myler. Joseph Elias Myler was the son of James Myler and Julia Ann Brownell. The notebook was recently found (Sept 1990). Mother says she remembers discussions regarding James Myler's Memorandum Book mentioned in the history. Her mother Catherine L. Myler Griffin did not know its location.**  **Ila Wooley Winn 5820 Quartz Drive Diamond Springs, CA 95619**  **11 November 1990**  **THE HISTORY OF JAMES MYLER Great, Great Grandfather of Analee Carlin Wiser**  **(As told by Isabell Myler Knowles—Granddaughter)**  **James Myler, son of James Myler and Olive Maine, was born 3 February 1822 in Paddys Run, Butler, Ohio. His wife, Julia Ann Brownell, was born 12 February 1826 in Dayton, Hamilton, Ohio. Julia Ann's parents are Gideon Brownell and Elizabeth Wheeler. James Myler was a medium-sized man around 150 pounds. Not so much is known of his parents and his early life in Ohio. It is said that he and Julia Ann met in Ohio. It is said they were married 5 October 1843 in Buchanan, Burren, Michigan, and that they went to Nauvoo with Gideon Brownell and Elizabeth Wheeler. Their first son, Oscar Myler, was born 25 September 1844, in Betrend, Burren, Michigan. Their second son, Joseph was born 31 January 1846 in Nauvoo, Hancock Co., Illinois.**  **They left Michigan after 25 September 1844. James was baptized 28 June. Some say Julia Ann was baptized May 1841 and that her father baptized her. I haven't any information about just when they and the Brownells went but they were in Nauvoo together. They had heard the missionaries teach the Gospel and went to Nauvoo to learn more about it. They say they were there when Joseph Smith and Hyrum were killed in the Martyrdom. They were just in time to be among the persecutions and the driving away of the Saints. They became acquainted with the Prophet Joseph Smith.**  **Their problems are of Church record, but I wish to tell the incidents which became associated with my grandparents which are of intense interest. The mob came to their door and told them one February evening when it was 26 degrees below zero that they were to have just one hour to vacate their homes and get out of Nauvoo; otherwise they would be put to death. Grandfather rushed out, hitched up his team onto his wagon, and loaded as many things as he could--helter skelter--taking no time to arrange it and finally he filled up what he could and rushed to the house. In the meantime, Grandmother had, prior to the coming of the mob, just prepared for bed their little boy Oscar who was at that time about eighteen months of age. The baby, Joseph, was in the course of preparation. When they came and ordered them to leave, she rushed out and they fixed little Oscar in the wagon and the rest of them with the baby in her arms walked. They rushed on down towards the Mississippi River. AS they drove out of the yard, the mobs were screaming with their torches just a block away. They drove down to the river and fortunately for the Latter-day Saints; this was the first great pilgrimage out of Nauvoo. The Saints went across the river on the ice. Just a few days before the river had been open, but this severe cold spell froze the river over solid.**  **As they walked, Grandmother's shoes were so worn that every step the last half of the way she took on the ice left the imprints of her blood on the Mississippi River ice. Finally they wended their way across and arrived at Montrose, Iowa where they prepared a place to sleep as best they could. They continued there in Montrose until the spring of the year. Then they went over to what is called Winter Quarters on the outskirts of Omaha, Nebraska.**  **Grandfather, along with other men, had been called to prepare the soil and plant crops for the coming Saints, knowing that they would not be there to harvest them. The crops were well prepared and were growing well when July came and a general of the United States Army arrived in this community and demanded five hundred of their able-bodied Mormons to join the army.**  **The five hundred was raised; Grandfather was among them, also Gideon Brownell and a brother to Grandmother. When the time came, Grandfather gave his wife the clothing allowance which he had received--$42.00. They marched off that July day and he left his wife with two little boys in a wagon box under the shade of one of the native trees. That is a matter of history. The Mormon Battalion arrived several months later in San Diego, California, and then later marched to Los Angeles where Grandfather assisted in hoisting the flag--the first flag that was raised in Los Angeles. At the end of the year he was mustered out, but having no money with the family near Omaha, Nebraska and he in Los Angeles and no means of transportation, he went up into Northern California along with many other Latter-day Saint men where they worked in mines and other things. They remained there for almost a year. By that time he had saved enough to travel back to his family. So in the spring of 1848 he left California and eventually that fall arrived in Winter Quarters where he found his wife well and still living in the wagon box. They remained there that winter--James had been away from his family eighteen months. James Myler was in Company C service of the United States of what has been termed the greatest infantry march in the history of the U.S.**  **In the spring of 1849 they came to Utah in Captain William Melber's fifth company and located in Farmington and remained there ten years.**  **James was ordained a member of the fifth Quorum of Seventies in Nauvoo and was ordained one of the seven presidents of the 56th Quorum of Seventies in Farmington in 1858. While residing in Farmington he was engaged as one of the ward teachers and acted as water master.**  **In 1859 he moved to Cache Valley--first in Logan in the history of Cache Valley. The story that unfolds in these pages is one of inspiring accomplishments by Cache Valley builders. From an area inhabited by a few Indians, the Cache Valley pioneers in a few years transformed the countryside into Utah's grain and dairy center and a delightsome residential area. To know that my grandparents, both my father's and mother's side, played a great part in it means a lot. Grandfather made a home in Logan and stayed about five years.**  **When in Farmington, Johnson's Army came to wage war with the people of Utah. James served in that campaign known as Echo Canyon War. When Johnson's Army was determined to come into Salt Lake City, James moved with his family south with the people and returned some time in July of the same year. James had moved to a settlement known as Escalanta while they were living in Farmington.**  **While living in Logan, my father, Charles "C", was born 22 April 1861. Also, Rosetta Sephrine Elizabeth was born 15 May 1863 in Logan and George Frank was born 10 August 1865 in Logan--making eleven children; five being born in Farmington, one in Michigan, one in Illinois, one in Council Bluffs or Winter Quarters, Iowa. There were eight boys and three girls. The parents of these fine boys and girls have a lot to be proud of. It was a fine looking family and I though my aunts were very pretty. It was a jolly bunch full with . . .**  **and Julia Ann were singers. Grandfather was so good at dancing and singing to us children. James' boys, I am sure, were like their father--full of fun but earnest also. Clarkston was a pretty place and still is.**  **Within the valley of the Wasatch Mountains in the northwest part of Cache Valley, the town of Clarkston and her homes hung the foothills of the western mountains which are known as "Clarkston Mountains." The highest peak of Clarkston Mountains bear the descriptive name of "Gunsight." Through the high mountain land the deer roam, luring many seasonal hunters. The mountain streams and springs fill the watersheds that supply the culinary water for Clarkston, Newton, and Trenton. Across the valley and stretching up the slopes of the surrounding mountains are neatly blocked dry farming areas. Livestock graze in the meadows where the creek waters flow. A band of scouts discovered this picturesque valley in the summer of 1864. They were impressed by the abundant timber, the rolling hills, and mountain peaks. Some of the first settlers were Israel J. Clark, Jesse Clark, James Myler, Joseph Myler, Oscar Myler, and many others. They say that Oscar and Joseph Myler was their dance music all around the little villages. Then James Myler grew up and was married in Utah.**  **You would think that James and Julia would have had enough of moving to new places. I suppose it was to better their families is why they went. (James built the first house in Newton.) They moved to Snake River country; his three sons, Oscar, Oning, and Charles (son Joseph Myler and family remained in Clarkston through the years), daughters Alyina Myler Goody and Alvina Myler Harmen, and Rosetta Myler Archibald and families in 1883 all settled near the south side of the river near each other. It was about 15 miles north of Idaho Falls and 6 miles west of Rigby, Idaho. The men all filed a homestead right on the land. They built homes from logs obtained near the river. They also built sheds for stocks, made fences, took sage brush off the land, and raised crops. Lewisville was a cold wintery country and still is a flat place for miles around and plenty of water when they made canals.**  **They could only raise the heartier fruits such as apples, prunes, plums and some vegetables. They had cows and pigs. I remember them heating water on the stove to scald the pigs with. They had chickens giving them eggs. I remember my father's farm joined grandfather's, so we crossed the field from one place to another where we wore a path.**  **James Myler was the father of 11 children, seven of them lived to raise families and they all had their endowments. James was always ready to help anyone in need. He was a good father and a good neighbor and was always active in the Church and really had a testimony of the Gospel--The only on of his family to join the Church. I remember as a little girl seeing Uncle Robert, Grandfather's brother, come to see him and all the families. He lived in Indiana. Another brother, Calvin and wife came to see the families. Their view had changed enough that they would come and see them.**  **Two of grandfather's boys were bishop counselors and held other offices such as choir leaders. The girls were very active in Church. In the 1890's James's son Charles put on a concert to raise money for a building fund.**  **I know my grandfather loved . . . . .**  **meet them in the great beyond. There they got their rest I am sure. I pray that their descendants will live to be a credit to them. At the time of James' passing, he left 43 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren. At his passing on 22 May 1894 he was 72 years old. I have seen their headstone. It was a monument to a great Mormon Battalion.** |

