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STORIES OF THE MORMON BATTALION

Samuel's uncles passed out of his life forever. He was never able to learn what finally became of them.

-From writings of Ruby K. Smith

JAMES BEVAN

James Bevan was the son of John and Ann Bairfoot Bevan of Herefordshire, England where he was born October 19, 1821. When he was twenty-six years of age he heard the Gospel as preached by the Mormon missionaries and was baptized. He left his native land with other converts, hoping to join the Saints in Zion.

About this time the United States was having trouble with Mexico and James Bevan was among the volunteers to join the Mormon Battalion. When the sick detachment was sent to Pueblo, James Bevan was a member of the group. Although James was a strong, young man, he became ill, and was left by the side of the road. He often told his children how he lay alone until he saw a man on horseback approaching him. When the man saw him he dismounted, gave him some water and medicine, then disappeared as quickly as he had come. James began to feel better and started on his way again. He found the camp of the Battalion and was warmly greeted. Many believed that a messenger from God had saved his life. He arrived in Salt Lake Valley, July, 1847.

In the year 1850, James returned to Council Bluffs where he married Mary Shields on the 9th of May. Upon his return to Salt Lake he acquired a tract of land and took up farming.

During the period of the Johnston Army episode, James was Captain of ten men stationed in Echo Canyon. He was Senior President of the 43rd Quorum of Seventies for many years. Death came to James Bevan at the age of seventy-three on October 26, 1894. — Alice Bates Herron

## EBENEZER BROWN

Ebenezer Brown was born in New York, December 6, 1802, the eighth child of William and Hannah Sweet Brown. The family moved to Crawford County, Pennsylvania where he spent much of his boyhood helping to clear heavily timbered land for farming.

On July 20, 1823 he married Ann Weaver by whom he had five children. He was baptized into the Latter day Saints Church in 1835, and soon after, he with his family and a brother, William, came west with the Saints to Ohio and later to Missouri. Finally they settled in Quincy, Illinois where on the 20th of July, 1842 his wife died, leaving four children. Later he married a widow, Phoebe Draper Palmer.

Ebenezer Brown was among the five hundred men who answered the call of the Mormon Battalion. His wife, Phoebe, went along with them as laundress. His eldest daughter was married and the boys, Guernsey, Norman and John were left in her care. He was Second Sergeant in Company A.

After enduring the pangs of hunger and thirst, footsore from walking many miles without covering for their feet, making roads and building bridges as they went, they at last reached their destination. Gold having been found in California, he, with others, stayed there to work to get means to come on to Salt Lake. He arrived in Salt Lake the latter part of 1849 and found his family here to meet him.

In 1850 they came to Draper, then called South Willow Creek, where he built the first home. He was also the first postmaster and served in the first bishopric. He passed away January 26, 1878 a faithful and fearless Latter-day Saint leader.—Eunice Walbeck

## JACOB KEMP BUTTERFIELD

Jacob Kemp Butterfield was born in Farmington, Kennebec County, Maine on the 17th of February, 1813 a son of Abel and Persis Kemp Butterfield. Owing to financial reverses the boys were obliged to hire out to help make a living for the large family. While working about twenty miles from home, Jacob heard the Gospel as preached by the Mormon missionaries, accepted it and was baptized May 29, 1834. In the fall of 1836 he, and his brother, Abel, left for Kirtland, Ohio. On March 19, 1840 he married Louise Walker and together they started for Nauvoo in the fall of that year. During the time they lived in Nauvoo, Jacob hired out as a teamster traveling back and forth to Missouri hauling supplies.

In 1846 Jacob was mustered into the service of the United States army and left with Company "A" for California. On many occasions when the road led through deep sand, the men pulled on long ropes to aid the teams. Turning west thirty miles north of El Paso, the course was directed toward the San Pedro River, which was reached under trying circumstances on the 9th of December. Here occurred the famous "Battle of the Bulls," the only occasion for the use of arms in defense during the entire expedition.

Continuing northeast the Battalion reached Tucson on December 16th which was deserted by its garrison as the Battalion approached. Colonel Cooke was determined to march through this town. After some difficulty with the Mexican officials the troops were allowed to proceed. They made camp about one mile beyond on the banks of a small stream.

The company reached the junction of the Colorado River January 8, 1847. The course led across the Colorado desert of Southern California between the Colorado River and the eastern base of the