

Smedley journey to America

1864

Samuel and Eliza Sturton Smedley embarked on the journey to America in 1864, traveling on the ship *Monarch of the Sea*, with their infant son Henry. It was a rough crossing, with much sickness and death particularly among the child passengers.

According to a family history written by Samuel and Eliza's son Angus: "A great deal of sickness broke out on board the ship and a number of fatalities occurred, especially among the children. Out of eighty-six children on board, they were all buried at sea save one, and that was the 8-month-old baby of Mr. and Mrs. Smedley. He was also at the point of death and the captain wanted to bury him at sea, but the mother told him no, and clung to the promises which were made to her by the elders, that they would arrive safely in the promised land." Historic records state that between 41 and 46 passengers died, not 85; but little Henry Smedley did survive the voyage.

Information on the voyage can be found at the links below:

http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~dianned/monarch_sea.html

<http://www.lib.byu.edu/mormonmigration/voyage.php?id=249#accounts>.

Monarch of the Sea

Ship: 1979 tons: 223' x 44' x 24'
 Built: 1854 by Roosevelt Coyce & Co. at New York City, New York

...The second company, totaling 974 Saints, sailed from Liverpool on 28 April 1864. Elder John Smith, patriarch to the church, was in charge of the emigrants. His counselors were Elders John D. Chase, Johan P. R. Johansen, and Parley P. Pratt, Jr. Master of the packet was Captain Robert Kirkaldy. This company also represented many nations, particularly Scandinavia. Although the voyage of thirty-six days was quite pleasant, the death toll was unusually high—forty-five according to George Q. Cannon and forty-one according to the passenger list. Most of those who died were apparently children. The ship arrived at New York on 3 June.

(*Ships, Saints, & Mariners — A Maritime Encyclopedia of Mormon Migration 1830-1890*, Conway B. Sonne, 1987.)

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[voyage on the Monarch of the Sea, Liverpool to New York](#)

Attached to in this tree

SAMUEL Smedley
 1842 - 1917
 Events: Arrival

Eliza Sturton
 1841 - 1903

Henry Smedley
 1863 - 1904

Other trees this object is saved to

My Family Tree
 by kristinrock on 4 Jun 2011