

Rhodania Earl

From the original Sexton Records:

Name: Rhodana Earl

Age: 2y; 4m; 3d

Relationship: Daug. Of Slyvestar H. & Laois C. Earl

Deceased: Dec. 21st, 1847

Disease: Not listed

Birth Place: Nauvoo, Il.

Birth Date: Aug. 18th, 1845

Grave No. 280

Birth Date: August 18, 1845

Birth Place: Nauvoo, Hancock, Illinois

Death Date: December 21, 1847

Cause of Death: Unknown

Burial Place: Winter Quarters Grave #280

Father's Name: Sylvester Henry Earl

Mother's Maiden Name: Lois Caroline Owen

Which Winter Quarters Ward or Iowa Branch was the family: Unknown

Where was the family in the 1850 U. S. Census? Listed as a chairmaker, family #23, Great Salt Lake, Utah Territory.

Which Pioneer wagon train took the family west? Earl initially traveled to the Salt Lake Valley in Brigham Young's 1847 vanguard company but shortly after his arrival, returned to Winter Quarters to collect his family. They returned again in Brigham Young's 1848 Company. Earl acted as a captain of ten. Several years later, Earl again crossed the plains to Utah with the Seth M. Blair/Edward Stevenson company as a returning missionary in 1855, at which time he served as a counselor, captain of ten and chaplain.

Any interesting facts or stories that might have been submitted.

Hence it was that on 10 February 1846 Sylvester took his family, along with his brother James, and crossed the Mississippi River with hundreds of others as they left their homes in Nauvoo and the surrounding area and headed West to find a place where they could worship as they pleased. Sylvester was Captain of a company of the Guard. President Brigham Young was at the head of the camp and seven of the Twelve Apostles with their wives and children were with them. They traveled to Sugar Creek in Iowa where they stayed for two weeks awaiting the arrival of others

who were still leaving Nauvoo and the surrounding area and crossing the Mississippi River. “While there (at Sugar Creek), my brother Wilber came with his family, and my brother James was with me. While there, the snow fell two feet deep. We all suffered from the cold. We then pursued our journey through the wilderness making our road as he went I need not attempt to describe the many sorrows that we had to pass through without food.” “We then held a council and appointed twenty men to go down into the State of Missouri and work for food, Ephraim Green and myself were appointed to take our families and go with them. While in Missouri, I we built a log jail and did much other work. I stayed two months and then took my family and returned to I the camp with the Saints who were with me, with the exception of Brother Green's wife, who died while we were in Missouri.” While the Camp of Israel was at Garden Grove, Iowa, B. H. Roberts in his Comprehensive History of the Church, Volume 3, Page 57, writes: “James M. Hemmick for some wrong sustained, fancied or real, challenged Wilber J. Earl to fight a duel - “Let James M. Hemmick be discharged from the service of this camp forthwith, By order of the Council. Signed Willard Richards, Clerk. Such was the prompt action of the council in that matter.” Upon Sylvester's return, they found the camp at Grand River, Iowa, where some of the Saints were making farms, but some of the company had traveled on to the Missouri River, another two-hundred miles to the west Sylvester and Lois then traveled west until they overtook another portion of the Saints who were clearing land for farming on an elevated spot of ground which they called Mt. Pisgah.

While Sylvester and Lois were at Mt. Pisgah, arrangements had been made for five-hundred Mormon men to serve as a battalion for the United States in its war with Mexico. More recent documents have chronicled the events that preceded the enlistment of men to serve in this Mormon Battalion, but at that time, when it happened, very few of the Saints were very well informed concerning its background. Sylvester wrote of this incident: “While there, the Government of the United States sent and demanded of us five-hundred of our ablest men to go to the Mexican War which we sent. Among the balance, my brother James (Calvin Earl) went to the war.” (Another member of the Mormon Battalion was Edward Bunker, Sr., the father of Elethra Calista Bunker and Agnes Viola Bunker, both of whom would later become the wives of Joseph Ira Earl, son of Sylvester and Lois Earl.) Not long after this, Sylvester and his family crossed over the Missouri River and joined again with the main members of the Camp. They then moved upriver about twelve miles, selected a place for their winter quarters, and started fixing a place to live. They cut hay, built homes and prepared as best they could for the coming winter, 1846-1847, which turned out to be very severe. It was during that terrible winter at a place ever after called Winter Quarters that many of the Saints died. Among those who died were: 1) Rhodania Earl, daughter of Sylvester and Lois Earl, who was born in Illinois on 28 August 1845, died 15 November 1847 at Winter Quarters.

([https://www.familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/21106085?p=17949805&returnLabel=Sylvester %20Henry%20Earl%20\(KWNF-RY1\)&returnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.familysearch.org%2Ftree%2Fperson%2Fmemories%2FKWNF-RY1](https://www.familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/21106085?p=17949805&returnLabel=Sylvester%20Henry%20Earl%20(KWNF-RY1)&returnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.familysearch.org%2Ftree%2Fperson%2Fmemories%2FKWNF-RY1))