

Mary MATTHEWS *FILE*-18670

21 May 2008

Page 1

Event	Date(s)	Place	Description
Born	20 Apr 1820	Thorncote, Belforsline, England	
Christened			
Died	Sep 1845	LaHarpe, Hancock, Illinois, USA	
Buried		Nauvoo, Hancock, Illinois, USA	
Baptized			
Endowed			
SealPar			
Nickname:	AKA:	Married Name:	
Sex: F	ID:	AFN:	
Last Changed: 21 May 2008			

Parents

MRIN	Father	Mother
12473	William MATTHEWS *FGR*-37892	Elizabeth ROWNEY *FGR*-37893

Marriages

MRIN	Spouse	Marriage Date/Place	Sealed Date/Place
6542	Christopher LAYTON *-15645	20 Jul 1842 Thorncote, Bedfordshire, England	

Notes

Family Group Record by Nauvoo Land and Records

NAUVOO RECORDS:

Members, LDS 1830-1848, Susan Easton Black, Vol 29 p 687
Old Nauvoo Burial Ground Records, Vol 10

HISTORIES:

Christopher Layton, McIntyre & Barton, pp 6-9, 18-23

OTHER SOURCES:

Mormon Immigration Index, 1 page



Family Group Record- 6542

Husband Christopher LAYTON *FILE*-15645				
Born	8 Mar 1822	Place	Thorncote, Bedfordshire, England	LDS ordinance dates
Died	Aug 1898	Place	Kaysville, Davis, Utah, USA	Baptized
				1 Jan 1842
				Endowed
				31 Jan 1846
				SealPar
Married	20 Jul 1842	Place	Thorncote, Bedfordshire, England	SealSp
Husband's father				
Husband's mother				
Wife Mary MATTHEWS *FILE*-18670				
Born	20 Apr 1820	Place	Thorncote, Belforsline, England	LDS ordinance dates
Died	Sep 1845	Place	LaHarpe, Hancock, Illinois, USA	Baptized
Buried		Place	Nauvoo, Hancock, Illinois, USA	Endowed
				SealPar
Wife's father	William MATTHEWS *FGR*-37892			MRIN: 12473
Wife's mother	Elizabeth ROWNEY *FGR*-37893			
Children List each child in order of birth.				
LDS ordinance dates				
Temple				
1	M	William Mathews LAYTON *HIST*-40031		
	Born	Mar 1843	Place	aboard ship, Atlanitc Ocean
	Died	Abt 29 Mar 1843	Place	St Louis, St Louis, Missouri, USA
				Baptized
				Endowed
				SealPar
2	F	Elizabeth M LAYTON *HIST*-44992		
	Born	17 Aug 1844	Place	LaHarpe, Hancock, Illinois, USA
				Baptized
				Endowed
				SealPar

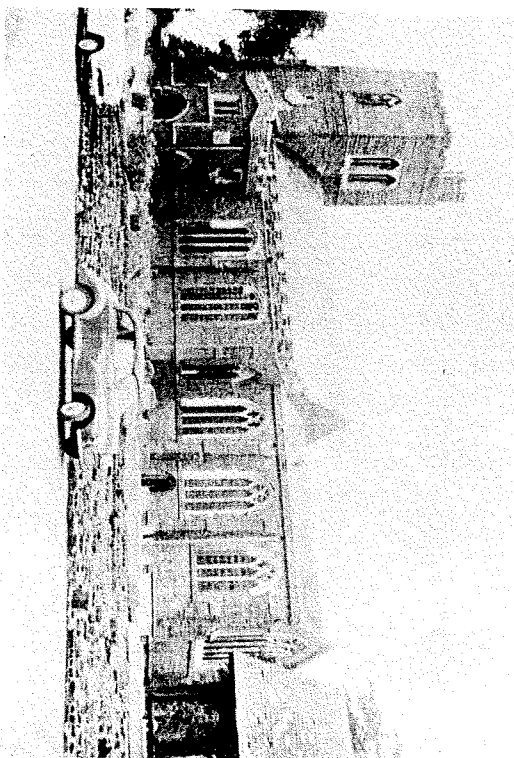


OLD NAUVOO BURIAL GROUND
780 EAST 2300 NORTH SONORA TOWNSHIP
INVENTORY OF MARKERS AND GRAVES ETC.

- A. NAME LAYTON, Mary Matthews NAUVOO RIN # 33193
FATHER MATTHEWS, William
MOTHER ROWNEY, Elizabeth
HUSBAND LAYTON, Christopher
WIFE _____
- B. DEATH DATE Sep 1845 Nauvoo AGE 25yrs
BIRTHDATE 20 Apr 1820, Thorncote, belforsline, Eng.
- C. LOCATION; (*) EAST _____ FEET. NORTH _____ FEET.
BLOCK _____ LOT _____ GRAVE _____ STONE NUMBER _____
- D. INFORMATION SOURCE CODE L (SEE T BELOW)
- E. MARKER TYPE: _____ & _____ & _____
0. NONE; 1. HEADSTONE; 2. FOOTSTONE; 3. SUPPORT
STONE; 4. UNMARKED STONE; 5. LIMESTONE NATIVE;
6. MARBLE; 7. GRANITE; 8. SANDSTONE; 9 OTHER.
- F. INSCRIPTION & EPITAPH (BEST COMBINED INFORMATION)

- G. OTHER INSCRIPTION & EPITAPH INFORMATION (LIST SUPPORT &
SOURCE INFORMATION USED TO PRODUCE F ABOVE)

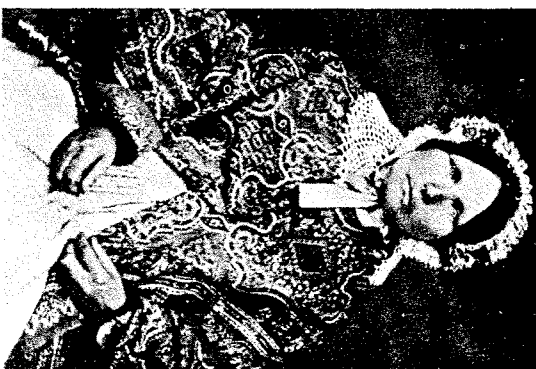
(*) DISTANCE FROM SOUTH WEST CORNER OF BURIAL GROUND PROPERTY



*Northhill Parish Church, Bedfordshire, England
where Christopher Layton was christened in 1821 and
married to Mary Matthews in 1842*

plowbeam to reach their backs. My main work was plowing, and here I stayed for several years. Next I worked for a well-to-do farmer named Sargent, who lived eight miles from Bedfordshire. He employed me as a foreman on his large farm, and gave me a good salary. In this position I stayed until I joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, for which I received my discharge.

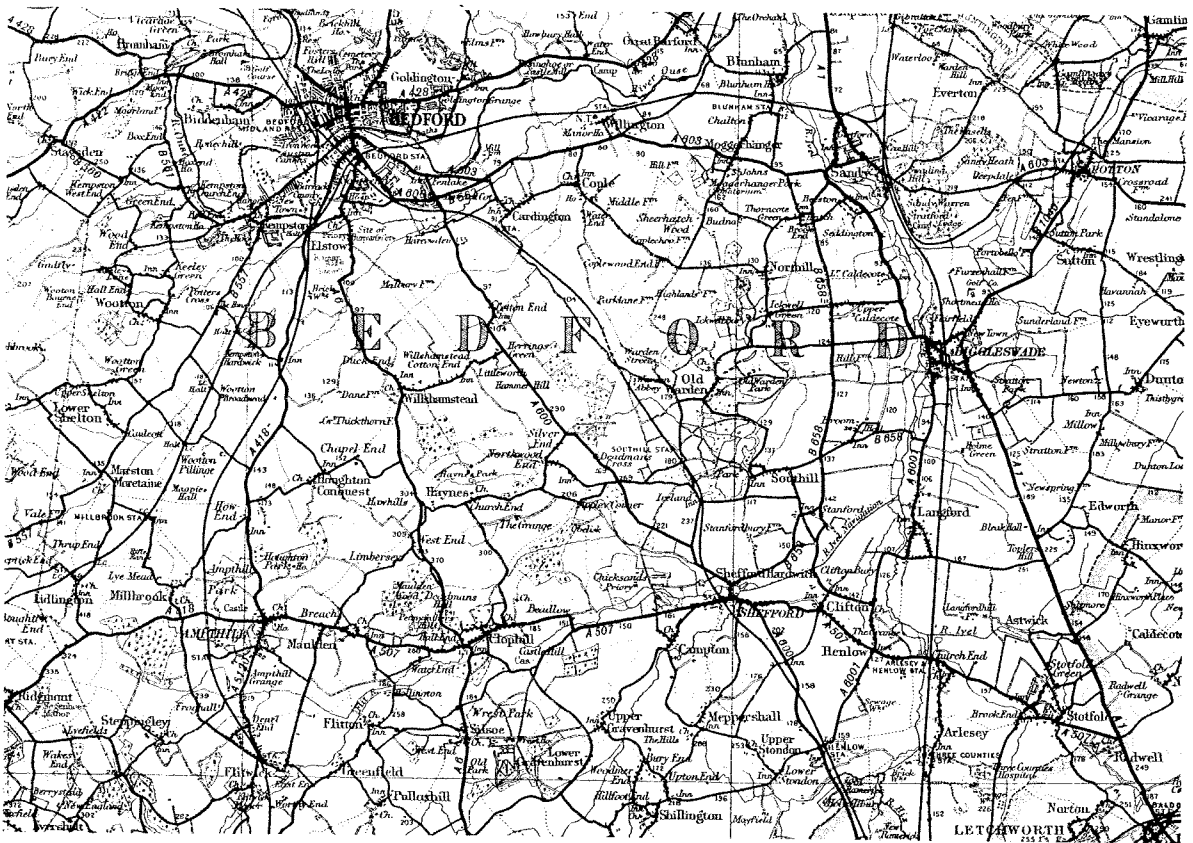
I was at this time keeping company with an excellent girl, Mary Matthews, both of us belonging to the Wesleyan Methodist Church. A man named Sam Howard, who was an elder in the Latter-day Saints Church, told me that he had a revelation that there would be four persons baptized at a meeting, and I was one of them. I laughed at the idea, but he cordially invited me to attend a meeting and I went out of



Bathsheba Layton

curiosity mostly. When I heard the gospel I believed. Mary also attended these meetings, and we went into the waters of baptism together on January 1, 1842, after which I was confirmed and ordained a priest. I worked on Mr. Coleman's large farm from this time until I came to America.

On June 20, 1842, Mary Matthews and I were married at Northill, Bedfordshire, England, by Reverend John Taddy, and on January 1, 1843, we left Thorncote with Mr. Coleman's family, in a large baggage wagon en route for America. George Coleman and I drove the baggage in a very cumbersome wagon with three strong horses tandem. It is against the laws of England for teamsters to ride, and while both of us were riding a policeman saw us and gave chase. We whipped up the horses, and after going about three miles we outran him and slowed down again to a peaceable jog.



CHRISTOPHER LAYTON

Courtesy of John Bartholomew & Son, Ltd., Edinburgh

Map showing area of Bedfordshire where Christopher Layton and his ancestors lived.

From England to Nauvoo

1843

Leaving our wagons at Wolverhampton, we went by train to Liverpool where we joined other Saints and were enrolled on the good ship *Swanton* of Captain Davenport as the nineteenth company of Latter-day Saint emigrants, with Lorenzo Snow as the company's captain. We stayed at Liverpool for two weeks waiting for repairs on the ship, but we made the vessel our home, doing our cooking and sleeping on board. One day Brother Coleman said to me, "Chris, ain't you going to peel some potatoes and make us a pie?" So I went to work and made the meat and potatoes into a pie, and when it was baked all of the others wanted to share with us and asked for a recipe for "Chris's pie," as they called it.

On January 16, 1843, we set sail from Liverpool, and as we slowly saw the land disappear in the distance we sang one of the songs of Zion and cheered each other with sympathetic words. We were the first British emigrant company of the season and numbered two hundred and twelve souls. We had a pleasant voyage across the Atlantic, during which time just before reaching the American shore Mary gave birth to a little son, whom we named William Matthews Layton. After sailing for seven weeks and three days we arrived at New Orleans and were transferred to the steamer *Amaranth* in which we sailed up the Mississippi River. Our baby died before we reached St. Louis, being only about six weeks old. It was buried on shore. We arrived at St. Louis Mar. 29, 1843.

We were now transferred from the steamer to a barge, and here we had to stay two weeks waiting for the ice to break up in the river. My wife was sick and delicate and the weather was raw and chilly, but we consoled ourselves with the Lord's promises and thanked Him that we were so near our journey's end. My money having given out, I was obliged to borrow seven dollars of Prime Coleman. About the seventh or eighth of April a small steamer fastened a cable on our barge and tugged us up the river to Nauvoo where we arrived one very cold morning, April 12.

in the lineage of Abraham according to the covenants of grace, even unto fullness, to be received in fulfillment of promises obtained by Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to be answered upon their children in this dispensation of the fullness of times, or unto their generations after them; and your blessing in all things shall be in common with your husband, and your name shall be perpetuated in the line of your posterity and your years shall be multiplied as a blessing unto you. These blessings I seal upon your head. Even so. Amen.

CHAPTER II

Three Bitter Years--1844-5-6

In the spring of 1844 I became acquainted with some of the apostles and had many friends among the Saints, for we all loved each other and shielded and protected Joseph as much as lay in our power. One of my duties was to guard the authorities and also to help guard the Temple. I rented a tract of land containing forty acres, took Nealy's team of five yoke of oxen and broke the prairie and planted it in corn. It yielded a good crop, from which I realized ten cents a bushel, many selling corn that year for three or four cents a bushel. My wife made and sold bobinet lace and we prospered well.

During the months of May and June the life of the Prophet Joseph was harassed. But the work of the Church was still carried on in Nauvoo, for in May missionaries were set apart for a mission to England and the apostles were scattered over the Eastern States. On the sixteenth of June Brother Joseph preached to the assembled Saints in the grove east of the Temple, while the rain fell heavily, from the Revelations of St. John the Divine. After the city had been declared under martial law, the Legion was drawn up in front of the Mansion House and the Prophet, standing upon the framework of a building opposite, addressed them. He asked us if we loved him, if we would stand by him and sustain the laws of our country? And we all answered, "Yes, yes." Then he said he was content; he would die for us. "I love you, my brethren; greater love hath no man than that he lay down his life for his friends; you have stood by me in the hour of trouble, and I am willing to sacrifice my life for your preservation." Then drawing his sword, "I call God and angels to witness that this people shall have their legal rights or my blood shall be spilt upon the ground . . . and my body

consigned to the tomb, but if there is one drop of blood shed on this occasion, the sword shall never again be sheathed until Christ comes to reign over the earth. . . . Peace shall be taken from the land which permits these crimes against the Saints to go unavenged. . . . May God bless you forever and ever." And we all answered, "Amen."

On the twentieth of June Brother Joseph sent word to all the apostles to return home immediately; and on the twenty-fourth he, with seventeen others, went to Carthage. At this time I was living at Big Mound, an English settlement about eight miles from Nauvoo, and there, while engaged in putting in sod corn, I heard of the Prophet's and Hyrum's death. The next morning I started to Carthage with those who went after the bodies. We met them on the road, Dr. Richards having dressed the wounds of John Taylor and started for Nauvoo with Joseph's and Hyrum's bodies.

The wailing of the Saints when they saw the martyrs was terrible. Ten thousand people were addressed by Apostle Richards, who admonished them to keep the peace and trust to the law for a remedy for the awful crimes which had been committed and, if the law failed, to call upon God in heaven to avenge us of our wrongs. The bodies were placed in coffins, the funeral was held, while deep grief filled our hearts and sorrow rested heavily upon us, a stricken people. The woe of the Saints cannot be described. Our Prophet and Patriarch dead, only two of the apostles with us and one of them supposed to be dying, and all this time we were in constant expectation of an attack by the mob army. Our enemies were sure now that they had destroyed the gospel work, but it still lives, and will live, for it is the eternal work of God, and I here bear my testimony that I know that Joseph Smith, who established it, was a Prophet, holy and pure.

Like sheep without a shepherd, we felt lost and bewildered and seriously we discussed the question, "Who was highest in authority? Who held the keys of the kingdom?" On August 6 the apostles arrived from the East, while we

were still uncertain about choosing a guardian of the Church, and it was a great relief to greet them among us. A council of the priesthood was called, and it was not long before, with the Twelve at the head, we felt that all things would be managed and directed aright. In the person of the President of the Twelve, Brigham Young, we knew that a great character had arisen to build upon the foundation laid by Joseph Smith a kingdom whose equal "there never was in the world." Now feeling at peace, we pursued our usual work: the work on the Temple was pushed forward as rapidly as possible.

On August 17, 1844, a little daughter was born to us, at Nauvoo, and we named her Elizabeth M. In the fall of 1844 I moved to La Harpe, Illinois. John Marriott and I worked for Mr. White, and in the spring of 1845 we rented the farm of him and put in a crop of corn and had a good yield. Brother Coleman's boys came to La Harpe and worked, taking grain for pay, and we stored their grain on our place. After harvest we returned to Big Mound.

Four of us took up one hundred and sixty acres of land and divided it between us; I built a house on my forty acres one mile from the Mound. An old lady was living on one corner of my forty, and she was taken sick with typhoid fever. It seemed too bad for her to be there all alone, and I asked my wife to go and take care of her. She said she had thought about it, but did not know how I would get along with the cooking work, etc.; but I told her to go, I'd get along all right. So she went, but the lady soon died, and then Mary was taken down with the same fever. I moved her to Samuel Payne's house where she could have better care, but in September, 1845, she quietly passed away from us. I walked three miles but could get no lumber and was obliged to take a log, and I helped to hew a coffin out of that; then I carried it back on my shoulders; then, with three teams, we went to Nauvoo and buried her. Thus I was left alone with my little girl of thirteen months.

Among my neighbors were two good friends, Wm. B. Smith and his excellent wife, who had no children, and they took my baby and cared for her as tenderly as they could have done for their own; they learned to love her so dearly and she became so attached to them that they could not give her up, and she remained in their family until she was married in 1861.*

After my wife's death in September I went to see about the grain I had left stored at La Harpe, and while there a mob broke out. I was riding a fine mare noted for her racing qualities, and I started back toward Nauvoo. Some of the mobbers seeing me came after me, but I encouraged my mare to try her speed and we soon left them far behind.

In January, 1845, the legislature, yielding to popular clamor, had repealed the charter of the city of Nauvoo. We now had no protection whatever. In the spring I was ordained an Elder. On April 8 Brigham Young received a letter of advice from Governor Ford of Illinois, saying we had better get off by ourselves where we might enjoy peace, and counseling him to take us "out to California." This was unnecessary as we were already making preparation to carry into effect the plan which the Prophet Joseph had given of finding a place of refuge in the West beyond the Rockies. In May a faint effort was made to bring the murderers of Joseph and Hyrum to justice, but after a trial they were "honorably acquitted," which news made the mob element so bold that they committed fresh outrages. Houses were burned and people driven from place to place till, fearing massacre, the Saints living in the settlements came into Nauvoo for protection. On May 24

*On April 11, 1861, Elizabeth M. Layton married William W. Galbraith at Kayville, Utah, by whom she had six children, five boys and one girl; two boys are dead. In 1889 they moved to Mexico, where she still resides. In April, 1897, W. W. Galbraith was taken sick and after lingering nine months he passed away on January 1, 1898. He died in full faith in the gospel, exhorting all the family to be true to it; leaving four wives and twenty-three living children to mourn the loss of a kind husband and loving father.

the walls of the Temple were finished, Brigham laying the last stone in the presence of the assembled Saints and pronouncing a benediction; the Saints shouting "Hosanna to God and the Lamb, Amen and Amen."

On October 5 the first meeting was held in the Temple, the apostles administering in the holy ordinances to hundreds of people, continuing day and night; and by the end of December over a thousand had received these ordinances. All this was done while we were making preparations to leave the city. These were busy and sad times. Hundreds were making tents and wagon covers and packing preparatory to leaving their homes; companies were organized and numbered, each with its wagon shop, wheelwrights, carpenters, etc., and all busily employed. It was intended that each family of five persons should have one good wagon, three yoke of cattle, two cows, three sheep 1,000 pounds of flour, twenty pounds sugar, one rifle and ammunition, a tent and poles, from ten to twenty pounds of seeds, twenty-five to one hundred pounds of farming tools, bedding and cooking utensils. But many a family were driven out with almost nothing.

I came out from Nauvoo with the first company of exiles, my team pulling the little cannon called the Old Sow. We crossed the Mississippi River on the ice on February 6, 1846.

We've left the City of Nauvoo,
And our beloved Temple, too;
And to the wilderness we go,
Amid the winter frosts and snow.

Eliza Snow.

That night we camped in the snow, sleeping in our wagons, and before morning there were nine new babies in our camp. On the seventh Brother Brigham organized the camp in order for traveling. All of the exiles pushed on to Sugar Creek, nine miles into Iowa, and from there a new start was taken, the advance companies having waited until all had arrived. It was bitterly cold, and much suffering had been endured.

Mormon Immigration Index - Families

Name

Born

Ship: **Swanton (January 1843)**

→ LAYTON, Mary <1820>

Gender: F Age: 23

Note: "Spelled Leighton on ship's customs lists."

LAYTON, Cristopher <1821>

Gender: M Age: 22

Note: "Spelled Leighton in the ship's customs list."

LAYTON, William M. <1843>

Gender: M Age: infant

Note: "Born Mar 1843"