

October 29, 2006

These items were removed by Alonzo Cook from the “notes” section of David Saunders Laughlin’s personal information. The notes were included in the original Gedcom files used to load the information in Our Cook Family Genealogy pages, provided by Paul Henke, Ronald Cook and Alonzo Cook.

HISTORY: David Sanders Laughlin was a member of (private in) Company D of the Mormon Battalion. He joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints at an early day in Kirtland, Ohio, and afterwards moved to Far West, Missouri, where he suffered persecution together with the rest of the saints. He afterwards located in Nauvoo, and was with the saints when they were driven from that place in 1846. On the journey westward he enlisted in the Mormon Battalion, and after his return to Winter Quarters in the fall of 1847, he filled a mission to Ohio and settled in the Salt Lake and later Cedar Valley with his family in 1852. He died after a long illness. David was a member of the 35th Quorum of Seventies.

(Also see: Peterson, Margery J., OUR ROOTS GROW DEEP - A History of Cedar Valley, 2nd ed. [American Fork, Utah, 2003] David S. Laughlin, p 15:21)

After Julia's divorce she met and was converted to the gospel by David Laughlin, who had earlier lost his wife Mary Clark. She was born in April of 1821 and died July 14, 1845 at Nauvoo at the age of 24 years, 2 months, 3 days of the fever. Julia and David were married, probably in late 1849 or early 1850.

Together Julia and David had five children. Johnnie, their first born died at age 13, from infection he got from going wading in impure water. Twins, Joseph and Jacob were born January 2, 1851 and only lived long enough to be named. John Alvin was born in March 1852, Julia Ann September 19, 1853 and Harriett was born July 3, 1855. (Taken from the history of Julia Anne Bercier Rocker)

Ancestry.com - Database: Treasures of Pioneer History
Treasures of Pioneer History: Vol 4
Stories of the Mormon Battalion
Erastus Darwin Meacham

Born in New Hampshire, April 28, 1816, David S. Laughlin joined the Latter-day Saint Church at an early age in Kirtland, Ohio and afterwards moved to Far West, Missouri. After suffering persecutions with the other Saints he went to Nauvoo, Illinois and was with his people when driven from that place in 1846. On the journey westward he enlisted in the Mormon Battalion in Company 'D.' After his release he returned to Winter Quarters, then came to Salt Lake Valley with his family in 1852. Later he located in Cedar Valley where he died December 5, 1856, after a long illness, being only forty years of age. D. U. P. Files

1847 The Captain and company have returned from Santa Fe and bring word we must start on the **24th of May**, so all things are in a bustle, getting ready horses to shoe, the settlers to settle up with and everything to do all at once. After bidding adieu to our camp at Pueblo we crossed the Arkansas River. We are now 145 miles from Pueblo, and we are informed that Sergeant Shelton has lost all his horses. We passed four trading houses and found a six pound cannon there.

June 5th, crossed over the Platte, came nine miles and camped on its banks. Sergeant picked up ten head of cows and sold them, one to David Laughlin for \$20.00, one to Captain Brown for \$13.50. Soon camped on Sand Creek, then on Poll Creek where there was a good spring of water.

June 13th, this day Elder Lyman preached to us, and I assure you it was a Godsend, as nothing in the world would have held us together but the Gospel and some were fast forgetting that. However, Amasa told the people to leave off card playing, also profane swearing, and turn to God. He said we were not as he expected to find us. Came on and camped on Boxelder, thence to Cottonwood and thence to Laramie Fork, where fifty of us who had horses were called to go and retake some horses that were stolen. Crossed over and soon returned with the horses. There are about seventy lodges of Sioux Indians there. The wagons came to the river which is very rapid and had a rocky bottom. I took the lead rope ahead of the oxen and in that way crossed over thirteen wagons. Then found my horse, although a strong one, was very much jaded, but as the wagon my wife and daughter was in was still behind, I ventured once more, which was almost too much for my horse, but got over safe. We camped on the north fork which was nine miles out, then came to the mile boards set up by President Young's company. Brother Lyman preached to us and gave very good instructions and the boys were well pleased. We made good time and soon reached the highlands, plenty of grass and good water.

On **July 12th** we crossed the Sweetwater. Here we found an old Indian squaw about 120 years of age left by her tribe to die. I gathered her about fifty pounds of flour and left her feeling very thankful.

On **July 13th**, came [p.539]over the South Pass to Green Springs.

July 16th on the Big Sandy. We soon came to Green River which we forded. Captain Brown invited me to go ahead with him to Fort Bridger.

On Tuesday, **July 20th**, William Casto came back from the camp of the Pioneers. We soon got into Echo Canyon.

On the **27th** Elder Lyman left us to go into the Valley. Came on top of Big Mountain where we could see into the valley. We stopped and gathered service berries.

We came into the valley **July 29th, 1847**.