

## Moroni Browett

From the original Sexton Records:

Name: Moroni Browett

Age: 1y; 2m; 18d

Son of Daniel & Elisabeth Browett

Deceased: Nov. 24, 1846

Disease: Canker

Birth Place: Nauvoo, Hancock Co., Ill.

Birth Date: Sept 1845

No. of Grave: 11

Birth Date: Sep. 12, 1845

Death Date: Nov. 25, 1846

Cause of Death: Canker

Burial Place: Winter Quarters grave #11

Father's Name: Daniel Browett

Mother's Maiden Name: Elizabeth Harris

Which Winter Quarters Ward or Iowa Branch was the family: Winter Quarters 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward

Where was the family in the 1850 U. S. Census? unknown

Which Pioneer wagon train took the family west? Daniel Spencer/Perrigrine Sessions Company left Elkhorn River on June 18, 1847 and arrived Sep. 24-25.

Any interesting facts or stories that might have been submitted.

-His father, Daniel, was chosen as president of a pioneer company of men discharged from the Mormon Battalion. They were heading to Salt Lake for Sutter's Mill in California where he had worked as a millwright after being discharged from the military. He left with two other men a month before the Homes/Thompson Company left in 1848 to scout ahead. On July 19 the company found their bodies and concluded that they were murdered by Indians. Daniel was 38. They were advised not to go due to Indian unrest but felt it would not be dangerous.

“On Wednesday the 19th, the camp reached the spring near which was the supposed Indian grave. The tools from the wagon were soon brought and the grave was at once opened. We were shocked at the sight! There lay our brethren naked, one with his face upwards the others face downwards. To all appearance an ax or a hatchet had been sunk in Brother Browett's face, and a shot had penetrated his eye. A withe was around Allen's neck. They were in a shallow grave. In looking around we found bloody arrows laying about on the ground. Allen's purse of

gold dust was found, it was readily known, as many of the boys had seen him make it.” ([Bigler, Henry W.], Henele Pikale, "Recollections of the Past," *Juvenile Instructor* 21, no. 23 (1 Dec. 1886): 365-66.)

The pioneers named the place of the burial Tragedy Springs and put an Inscription on a tree nearby “saying what was done and by whom.” They also found one of the scout’s purses nearby which had one hundred dollars in gold dust and silver. (Elmer, Elijah, *Diary*, in Will Bagley, ed., "To the Tops of the California Mountains: The 1848 Carson Pass Diary of Elijah Elmer," *Crossroads Newsletter* 4, no. 3 (summer 1993): 5-7.)

Robert Pixton in his *Autobiography* stated that he asked Brother Browett if he was wearing his garments before he left to scout. Brother Browett stated that he was not. (Pixton, Robert, *Autobiography* [ca. 1870], 30-31.)

-Daniel was a sergeant in the Mormon Battalion. He and Elizabeth married in England before migrating to the U.S. They were baptized by Wilford Woodruff while in England.  
(<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=123925>)

- Moroni was the only child Elizabeth and Daniel had together.

-Elizabeth was a school teacher in Kaysville for over 40 years. She briefly remarried at age 54 to William James Johnston, another Battalion soldier. They soon got divorced when Elizabeth found out about his first wife who was 20 years younger than William.

-Fourteen years after Elizabeth’s divorce when she was 67, Johnston’s family visited and begged her to go with them to Arizona and help the first wife’s baby since that wife was pregnant again and had already lost two children. Elizabeth did serve as a nanny for a short time in Sunset, Apache, Arizona but likely was not reconciled with her husband as she is listed as Aunt on the 1880 census there. (<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=123925>)