

Laura Jane Pond

From the original Sexton Records:

Name: Laury Jane Pond

Age: 14y; 8m; 24d

Daughter of Stilman & Almira Pond

Deceased: 2 Dec. 1846

Disease: Chills & fever

Birth Place: Westminister, Worcester Co., Mass.

Birth Date: Mar., 1832

No. of Grave: 21

Birth Date: March 8, 1832

Death Date: Dec. 2, 1846

Cause of Death: chills and fever

Burial Place: Winter Quarters Cemetery grave #21

Father's Name: Stillman Pond

Mother's Maiden Name: Almira Whittemore

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

Where was the family in the 1850 U. S. Census? Great Salt Lake County, Stillman age 47, Abigail age 30, Francis age 4, Mary Ann age 1.

Which Pioneer wagon train took the family west? The John Taylor Company (also known as Smoot Wallace Company) which left from Elkhorn River June 18, 1847 and arrived Sep. 30, 1847.

Any interesting facts or stories that might have been submitted.

-Her mother, Almira died one year after Laura was born in 1833. Together the couple had 5 children, four girls and a boy. Her father remarried the following year to Marie Louisa Davis. (Stillman Pond by Leon Y. Pond, p.1)

-Once the Nauvoo temple was completed Stillman was sealed to his first wife (who was already dead by then). His current wife, Marie stood as proxy for his first wife and then he was sealed to Marie.

-With his next wife he had six children, all of whom died. Marie Louisa died as well Jan. 17, 1847 leaving only her husband and his two oldest children from his prior marriage still alive. His

remaining children were Elizabeth Almyra wife of Newell K. Whitney and Lorenza Alcena, wife of Joseph Kingsbury. (Stillman Pond by Leon Y. Pond and H. Ray Pond, p.3)

-When the family was forced to leave Nauvoo they all became sick with Malaria including Stillman and his wife. On the wintery drive through Ohio three children died. Stillman drove the last 150 miles to Winter Quarters by laying on his stomach and while peering through a knothole driving his team with one arm hanging over the dashboard. Upon arriving in Winter Quarters the sick family had to live in a tent as there were not enough structures to house everyone. (Stillman Pond by Leon Y. Pond and H. Ray Pond, p.2)

-Laura was the first Pond child to die in Winter Quarters but two days later her sister Harriet died and three days after Harriet Abigail also died. Five weeks later Lyman followed his older siblings and died also. Three days later his mother, Marie died on Jan. 17, 1847. (Stillman Pond by Leon Y. Pond and H. Ray Pond, p.2-3)

-Stillman was considered one of the wealthiest pioneers and brought bolts of cloth and jeans with him. It is said he gave a pair of jeans to Brigham Young. (Stillman Pond by Leon Y. Pond and H. Ray Pond, p.3)

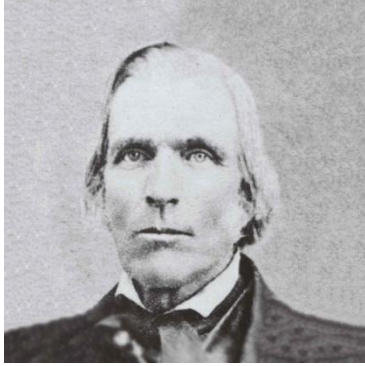
-Major Samuel Russell and his wife and baby were in the company that traveled west with Stillman. Major Russel abandoned his family for the California gold fields however early in 1848 and in 1849 Stillman married his wife Abigail and adopted the baby Francis. (Stillman Pond by Leon Y. Pond and H. Ray Pond, p.3)

-Orson Pratt taught Stillman astronomy and mathematics in the evenings in 1852. He also married another Elizabeth Bess under the law of polygamy but 2 or 3 years later she divorced him and married Timothy Foote. (Stillman Pond by Leon Y. Pond and H. Ray Pond, p.3)

-The Pond Family helped settle first Spanish Fork and later Richmond in Cache Valley. While settling Richmond they had to live in a fort due to Indian unrest but a few years later moved out and built a frame home. (Stillman Pond by Leon Y. Pond and H. Ray Pond, p.4)

-in 1865 Stillman got another patriarchal blessing from W.C. Hyde to keep his spirits up. In it he was told he would accomplish all of his desires in righteousness and live as long as he desired. (Stillman Pond by Leon Y. Pond and H. Ray Pond, p.5)

-He inherited quite a bit of money when his father died in 1868. He returned to Massachusetts, got his inheritance, and invested the money in the Z.C.M.I. (Stillman Pond by Leon Y. Pond and H. Ray Pond, p.5)



Stillman Pond taken 1860's (<https://history.lds.org/overlandtravel/pioneers/148/stillman-pond>)

- Elizabeth Almyra was married three times and had one daughter.

(<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=51318994>) She was twice divorced, first from Newel K. Whitney and later from Frederick Bainbridge when he took off to mine gold in California and was never heard of again. (<https://familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/20345591>; Utah Pioneer and Apostle, Marriner Wood Merrill and His Family, page 423) Beason Lewis was her third and final husband. (http://nauvoo.iath.virginia.edu/nauvoo_db/person.php?id=3043)

-Laura's other sister that lived to adulthood, Louisa or Loenza/Lorenzo married Joseph Corrodon Kingsbury when she was 16. She died in 1853, only six years after the trek to Utah.

(<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=28667360>;
<https://history.lds.org/overlandtravel/pioneers/102/loenza-alcina-pond-kingsbury>)