

## Brigham Young Empey

From the original Sexton Records:

Name: Brigham Empey

Age: 0y; 11m; 29d

Relationship: Son of William & Maria Empey

Deceased: Sep. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1847

Disease: Meazels

Birth Place: W. Quarters

Birth Date: Sep. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1846

Grave No. 222

Birth Date: September 3, 1846

Birth Place: Nauvoo, Hancock, Illinois

Death Date: September 2, 1847

Cause of Death: Measles

Burial Place: Winter Quarters Grave #222

Father's Name: William Adam Empey

Mother's Maiden Name: Mary Ann Morgan

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

Where was the family in the 1850 U. S. Census? Listed as family #310 in Great Salt Lake, Utah Territory

Which Pioneer wagon train took the family west? Brigham Young Vanguard Company in 1847

Any interesting facts or stories that might have been submitted.

Initially, William traveled to the Salt Lake Valley in the Brigham Young Pioneer Company in 1847. While traveling with the company, William was in pursuit of a group of antelope, when he stumbled upon about 300 Indians. He was able to warn the company.

On June 15, 1847, Brigham Young decided that a group of brethren should stay at the North Fork of the Platt River Upper Ferry, near Casper, Wyoming, where a commercial ferry could be established. The hope was that they could assist all companies with ferrying across the river in order to collect provisions that could be used to sustain the next company of saints. William, along with nine others, was chosen to stay and help operate the Platte River Ferry. They were instructed to join the next company of Saints on into the Salt Lake Valley. Thomas Grover was appointed as the captain of those staying behind.

Many diaries of those in the company indicate the above findings. His travel to Utah is also mentioned in his wife's obituary.

It appears that William remained at the Platte River Ferry until a group of pioneers from Utah returned, heading east to Winter Quarters. He joined them.

In 1848, he traveled with Brigham Young's Company from Winter Quarters to the Salt Lake Valley, as indicated in Alexander Neibaur's journal. The obituary of his daughter, Diantha, mentions that she was born as the family was immigrating to Utah.

In 1852, William left on a mission to England. In 1854, he traveled back to the Salt Lake Valley as captain of the William Adam Empey Company as indicated in Peter Sinclair's journal.