

Sarah Merrell

From the original Sexton Records:

Not listed

Birth Date: November 5, 1845

Birth Place: Lee, Iowa

Death Date: October 8, 1847

Cause of Death: Unknown

Burial Place: Winter Quarters, Maybe #241

Father's Name: Charles Merrell

Mother's Maiden Name: Sarah Finley

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

Where was the family in the 1850 U. S. Census? Family #506 in District 21, Pottawattamie, Iowa.

Which Pioneer wagon train took the family west? Came west with the Allen Weeks Company in 1852

Any interesting facts or stories that might have been submitted.

Charles, the son of Eli and Nancy McCrary Merrell, was born 13 October 1811 at Cane Creek, Buncombe, and North Carolina. He would have been a boy of about eleven when he moved with his father and mother and his brothers and sisters, and some of his uncles and aunts to Missouri and settled Merrellsvile, Marion Count, Missouri, before 28 January 1823. We know little of his early life, for the only record I have found is a record of his marriage to Sarah Finley, 12 October 1834, in Marion County, Missouri, while living in Merrellsvile. Charles was about 23 and Sarah was fifteen at the time of their marriage. Therefore, Sarah needed the consent of her parents so that she could be married. Sarah's family is listed in the 1830 Marion County, Missouri, U.S. Census under the name of her father John Finly on the same page is Charles' family under the name of Eli Merrell. Thus it appears that Charles and Sarah were neighbors.

Charles and Sarah Finley Merrell were among those who were "thirsting and hungering for the word" and are listed in the Nauvoo Temple Record as having received their endowment on 3 Feb. 1846. Others received their endowment throughout the week and following the ordinances on Saturday, Feb. 7th the Nauvoo Temple was closed. Soon thereafter, this family moved west with the main body of the Church. A history written by Charles and Sarah's son Orson, has the following regarding the family during this move, "My father worked some on the Nauvoo Temple and was driven with the Saints. When the Mormon Battalion was made up Father was sick and that is all that kept him from being one of that number. The people said they would see them damed first, but when Brigham (Young) come and told them it was the will of the Lord and

said they would never be called to fight or have a gun fired at them the people responded willingly. My Father's family stopped on the East of the Missouri River at a place called Council Point near the Bluffs. (This area was Council Bluff, Pottawattamie, Iowa, which is sometimes referred to as Kaneshville.) "It was a hard job to get enough to eat of corn bread. Meetings were held regularly. There was considerable sickness of chills and fever. I was baptized when eight years old by my Father. We were taught to pray. At one time there were a few children out in the woods and one of them lost a knife and commenced to cry and said he would get a whipping. I told them if we would pray the Lord would show us so we could find the knife so we all knelt down and I prayed. Surely enough we soon found the knife." Council Bluffs, Pottawattamie, Iowa Their daughter, Sarah, died at Council Bluffs on 8 Oct. 1847. Three more children were born while they lived there: Joseph, 22 Sep 1847; Charles William, 27 Nov. 1849; and Mary Jane, 29 Jan. 1852.

([https://www.familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/22136484?p=18741450&returnLabel=Charles%20Merrell%20\(KWCV-NVN\)&returnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.familysearch.org%2Ftree%2Fperson%2Fmemories%2FKWCV-NVN](https://www.familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/22136484?p=18741450&returnLabel=Charles%20Merrell%20(KWCV-NVN)&returnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.familysearch.org%2Ftree%2Fperson%2Fmemories%2FKWCV-NVN))