

DAVID FREDERICK
(1801 - 1888)

FAMILY LETTERS:

[Transcription of letter from David living in California to daughter Mary in Utah, Mar 10 1851. Transcribed as written, without spelling corrections. Original with David Fry]

Mary, my dauter, I take my pen this evening to inform you of my health wich is good and has ben ever sense I last saw you and I hope the times may finde you enjoying the same blessing. We had a good time in coming to this place whare wee now live cled San Bernadino, it is one hundred miles north of San Diego and seventy to San Pedroe on the coste. It is butiful place I hav seen in all my travle, the soil is rich and furtile, it is a vlley south of the cirenivadoe mountin. Brother Lyman and Rich purchase this ranch last October and we commenced to work to prepare the old building and to build new ones wich wie did before the heavy rains fell. The hull camp has plowed and sown fifteen hundred acers to wheate this winter in wich bids have --- a heavy crop. The weather fine and the place presant the trees in full blume and the clover ten inches high wich makes the animals fed well. Wee hav allsoe a plenty of provisons for thay can be purchsed at reasonable prise, coffee 12 cents peso, sugar the same, molses at one dollar per gallon and drygoods alsoe cheape, domestic at one bit a yard and prints the same. I would be glad to sende you som things but I have no meanse togit them now for Brother Lyman has ben gon to the uper cuntry most of his time. I have found no pertnity getting any thing . I desire to see you and would be verry much pleased if you would come heare the first opertunity may present it selfe. Bro. Rich thinks of returning this summe if soe I would glad have you to come with him if advisable for you may be safe under his care and protection I was very sorry to hear of Brother Wim Death, it is apointed for men ---to die tharefore I do not dispare of enjoying his society if I live fathful my self when the sainst will again inhere the earth.. I wold it ware soe that I could visit you and the sainst but surcumstances will not permit, tharefor with these few lines I must close so adue, from you father

/signed/ David Frederick. My best respets to Miss Burton and all the Burton familey and all inquiring friends.

[Transcription of letter from David living in San Bernardino, to daughter Mary in Utah, Feb 8, 1853. Original with David Fry]

My daughter I have taken my pen to write a few lines to you. I am well and hav injoyed good health sinse I wrote you last. I hope you ar injoying the same blessing. I now am left again in charge of the fmly again to see that they hav provision and fuel. I wold not hav you think that I concider it task for I consider it a blessing to be coneted with such a family, therefore I am content and I desire widom so that I may giv genal satisfaction to any master. The wethe is fine and all is pease and harmony with us. I hav the opertunity of writing you a letter twice previous to this time but I must excuse my selfe by saing that I was very buisey in trying to helpe to secure the wheat before the rainey season and when Brother Lyman left I had a boile on my wrist so I could not write tharefore forgive the past and I will try to do better hear after as opertuniyt hear after will be more frequent. I have received your letters which you have write wich I feel thankful for the same. I was glad to hear that you had received the money was willed to you and I hope that you may be blessed by it by making good use of it. The mishenary's arived hear in good health and spirits. Bro Jones was quite sick after he left the biter springs in consequence of drinking of the water does not agree with all persons. He left hear in good health and the blesings of the people and the spirit god has attend all thare doings for they on all on thare way that is to say on the osion to thare several places of destination for we received letters to day stating the fact with a good filout. You wrote you wish me to sende you my likeness but I cann not obtain it to my liking at presan tharefore I send you my bessin in sted therof which I received the knight before I left the city. I do wish you to be wise and prudent in all y9ou actions tharefore my advise to you is that you may availe your self of receiving the washing anointing the first opertunity and all so to marry some good man wich may bee a blessing to you in this life andeternal lives in the world to come. May your father in hevan bless and preserve you from all evil is the prare of your Father and friend.

I sent two dress patrons by sister Caroline wich I presue you have gotten before this time, I would have sent more had I ben abl to have gotten them. I wish you to write as the mails will pass this way as often an opertunity prsets it selfe. I wish you to give my good wishes to your uncle and ant and all inquiring

friendes. May the blessing of hven attende all the sains thru out all vallys of the mountains is the prare of your Father and friend in the gospel of Christ Amen

/signed/ David Frederick

[Transcription of letter from David living in San Bernardino, to daughter Mary in Utah, April 18, 1853. Original with David Fry.]

My daughter Marry, I improve the oportunity of writing a few lines. I am well and hav enjoned the blessing of health ever sinsens I came to this place and I hope that you are injoying the same. I did not write the last mail, it left so soon I had not time. The wether is warm and plesant and all is pease with us and the Lord has blessed us in everything that we have undertaking & I feel to adore his name for the same. I intended to write sister in Michigan and uncales unto as hav a mile from the coste to this place and to Salt Lake therefore I hope that we will appreciate the blesing and write often. I hope you will excuse all misstake and write every oportunity, this from your Father in haste. I pray God my hevenly Father to bless you with health and all needful blessing and prezurv life that we may beholde each other face to face again is my prare, Amen

/signed/ David Frederick

[Transcription of letter from David living in San Bernardino, to daughter Mary in Utah, May 20, 1853. Original with David Fry.]

Marry, my daughter, I again take my pen to write a few lines to you. I am well and I hope that you injoy the blessing I hav ben today and had my likeness taken that is have two cases, the one I sende to you and the other I calculate sende to Nancy by male as soon I can write to hur and receive an answer yours. I sende by Bro L Wm. Perkins who has ben to the sandwich Islands on a mission is on his way to the Lake. He resides in the thirteenth warde near Mr. Beans Store and if you call on him you may get it. I did not recave line from you the last maile man. Bro Lyman and kids hav not returned as yet but we expect them in about two weakes, then if I do not receive a leter from yu I shall be sadley disappointed. I want to visit Hellin Loisa as often a you can and teach hir the principels of right and to be sobere minde to reflect uppon the princepels of virtu and honesty and not to forget hir Father for he deziers to see hir wonse more while in the flesh. These few linese from you father and friend in the new and ever lasting covenant. Give my respects to Bro Scofields father and you uncal and aunt and all inquiren friends.

/signed/ David Frederick

[Transcription of letter from David living in San Bernardino, to daughter Mary in Utah, Jan 20, 1855. Original with David Fry.]

Mar E my belove Daughter I again take my pen in hand to write again to you. I am well and I hopee that you ar injoying the same blessing. I have received two letters from you besides the one you sent from Nancy but I have not answerd neither of them. I wish you to receive this in answer to all. I mite apoligeze for not writing but suffice it to say I did not write. I and tending sawmill about twenty miles from the city for Bro. Lyman and Rich own in Canion Call Mill Crick, a health place and pure water but rather lonsome plase but that matters not so that we are fuing the will of him that has sent us. You have often requested me to come and see you but the probility is you will not see me untill I am call or sent back for I feel that I am on a mishon just as much as if I had ben sent to preach to the nations of the earth, therefore I desiere to do as I am told. I would be glad to see you tharefour I would wish you to come and see us but not withconcel as your health is rather delicate it may be to your benifite so if you sould or will come I will do as well as I can for you. I was glad to hear from Loiza that she was well and the respect the family has for hir that she has conected herself with tharefor I would have you say to hir in my behalf that she remain with them as a dutiful childe and as she groes older she may learn the duty of a companion, that she may be some wise in the principls of hir salvation and exaltation unto eternal lives. Bro. Lyman people are all well and would be hapy for you. Mary Ann your stepmother wishes to see you and wants you come hear and live in San Barnideno wheare she may injoy yur society. We have a fine young sonthirteen days, he waide nine pounds when he was born, he is well and Mary Ann is smart and up about the house. Give our respects and good wishes to you uncle and aunt and all enquiring friends. May our Father in heavn bless us with life and health and with every blessing untill we shall meete againe and save us in his kindom is my prare. Perhapps you would like to knowe his name, is David Junior. When you receve this write againe, yors as ever.

/signed/David Frederick

[Transcription of letter from David living in California, to daughter Mary in Utah, Oct. 24 undated (about 1855). Transcribed as written, without spelling corrections. Original with David Fry.]

I have tking my pen this evning in haste to rapidly to fulfil a promise that I would write, by President Lyman. We all had sore eyes sinse I wrote last. Mary Ann was neary blinded for a weak but we all well at present except the babe, (probably David Ira) he is a teathing prether woressom. We may move into Dionitia room yesterday. I expect to stay in it untill the president returns if we behave ourselves. Money still remains scarce and harde to be got hlde of. It is a genriel time of health we all trying do well as we can. Mary we saaid be verry to see you or we would be like to have a viset from you. Mary I wish you to take the council of Pres. Lyman for he is a good man and will give such council and avice as will be for the good of any person that will take it tharefore it is my wish and dsire that you will be harking to him. Mary I wish to excuse the few linse pen. I am tierd and it is bedtime so I bide you adue imporing the blessing of our hevenly that he will preserve out lives and health that we may meat againe.

Maryann sendes hir best wish with a small parcol wich thay will give you. We all so give our best wishes to Lise and hir husband. If you wish any more pertickeles Aunt Donitia will be willing to give you.

Oct 24th /signed/ David Frederick

[Transcription of letter from David living in San Bernardino, to daughter Mary in Utah, undated. Original with David Fry.]

My daughter Mary I take my pen to write a few lines to you. We ar all well and ar living in the city again. I am at work on Elder Lymans new house while he is in uper Calafornia. He will probley return the first of next month at wich time he will probley make all posble haste to go to the Lake, tharefore I shall omit writin the pen ticklers at this time. I shall write again and scend by him for ---- all be better posted up in mater and things in jinrel for we expect the wranch will be paid for and the peopole will be more able to do more good in building the house of the Lord for I am in hopes that mony may be more plenty with us than it now is for I can scarsley get enough to redeem my letters that comes to hand. Within this weake the folks will be living in the new house and it will be more plesant thin within the old walls wich hav stood for seventy years or more. I received you kinde leter by Elder Rich wich was a joy to me. The boy David you gnose finley is a bining to creape about the house. Mary Ann sendes hir ist wishes to you. I wish you to write as soon as may be when you receive this. Give my Love and best wishes to all inquiring friends.

I remain as ever your Father and friend in the gospel of Christe

/signed/ David Frederick

[Transcription of letter written by R. H. Tyler at the request of David, living in Beaver City, Utah to daughter Sarah Gibbs of Salt Lake City, December 25, 1882. Original with David Fry.]

Yours of Nov 13th duly received. Pardon my delay on answering. In reply I will say your grandpa is in Beaver and visits at our house frequently. He lives with Bro. Shepherd. I gave him your letter and he wished me to answer. His health is about as usual, only every year he says makes him feel his age more. He is very anxious to see you but is waiting to see if he can get his pension. There is a fair prospect of his getting one about next June, he says, if he was as able to walk as he was a few years ago he would go and see you before that time.

Will you please see brother or sister Norman and tell that that Bro. Tyler sent their Patriarchial Blessings my mail some time ago, also a letter and after laying in the office 30 days they were returned, he thinks he will be in the city in the Spring, if not, he will try and send them by some reliable person.

Your Grandpa wishes you all a Marry Christmas and Hap0y New Year," Bro. Tyler joins me in kind regards to all I remain

Very Respectfully, R. H. Tyler, Beaver City, 25 Dec 1882

CALIFORNIA SAW MILLS

Taken from *Our Pioneer Heritage*, April 1971, p. 495,-6

In July 1850, Charles Crismon, pioneer mill builder, established his residence on the Chino ranch and assisted in the founding of San Bemardino. It was to the Crismon home that Apostles Rich and Lyman came when they were negotiating the purchase of a ranch in California. It is claimed that Crismon operated

a portable sawmill in Mill Creek Canyon, California, shortly after the arrival of the colonists. Early in 1853 the Deseret News announced that Crismon had purchased a steam engine of 30 horsepower and made it ready to carry up the mountains. Crismon evidently sold a half interest in the mill to Jefferson Hunt for \$6,000 as such a deed is recorded in the County Recorder's office. Later Captain Hunt acquired full ownership, and in 1857 when he returned to Utah, Captain Hunt sold the mill to John Rowland.

An important sawmill was erected in the summer of 1853 by David and Justus Wellington Seely. It stood at the lower end of Seely Flat and was run by water power, the water taken from a nearby creek and carried to the mill in a flume. A penstock was built into which the water was conveyed. It was approximately fifty feet in height and six feet square inside, with a gate at the bottom through which the water was turned onto an undershot wheel ten feet in diameter. The mill was operated day and night as long as there was water in the penstock. A single muley saw of the vertical type was used. It was not until April 1854 that the first lumber from the mill reached San Bernardino. A large proportion of the trees on Seely Flat were sugar pine which made the best lumber. It was a soft, white wood with no pitch, straight grained, and used for finishing work. First grade sugar pine brought \$80 per thousand feet, delivered. The cheaper types of lumber brought approximately \$40 per thousand feet. The hauling was done by oxen, six being used for each load. Hauling costs were high, \$15 per thousand over long, rough roads. Because of limited facilities and the scarcity of water the Seely mill could not saw more than twenty-four or twenty-five thousand feet of lumber a day. In spite of the little profit made, the mill operated until 1862 when it was demolished by a flood. In 1857 Justus Wellington Seely returned to Utah and David continued to run the mill alone until it was destroyed.

Another mill in the San Bernardino mountains appears on a recorded deed from Andrew J. Cox to Pio Pico and W. W. Noyes. It conveyed one hundred and sixty acres of land together with a water and steam sawmill and equipment there on. It is said to have been on the same stream as the Seely mill or on Shingle Creek, a small stream flowing into the west fork of Seely Creek. The mill was destroyed by fire in 1858. The Salamander sawmill was built on Huston Creek by Justus Morse, Thomas Bingham and a Mr. Joyce. Lyman and Rich, with others, purchased the interest held in the mill by Mr. Joyce and later acquired a two-fifths interest owned by Mr. Morse. Mr. Bingham sold his interest to Bishop Crosby. The Church records report, "that in 1855 the sawmill owned by Lyman, Rich and others, situated in the mountains near San Bernardino was destroyed by fire at a loss of \$20,000. The owners of the mill a few days later concluded, by the help of the community, to rebuild "

Several transfers of this sawmill appeared on the record during the years 1857 to 1859. A half interest was sold to Ellis Eames and David Dickson by Bishop Crosby and Norman Taylor. The transfer included "all the water machinery attached thereto, and also the steam engine complete purchased for said mill whether said steam engine and machinery are now at said mill or elsewhere." With it were conveyed possessory claims, covering one hundred and sixty acres each, to the lands surrounding it. The claims were held by Lyman, Rich, Taylor, Bingham and David Fredericks. It was destroyed by fire in 1859. Again it was reconstructed and operated by Daniel T. Huston until all the available timber in the proximity of the mill had been cut.

Gristmills.-In the middle of December, 1851, land was selected and surveyed for the first large grain field of approximately 1300 acres. It was situated north of the townsite and is said to have been enclosed on three sides by either an irrigation ditch or a pole fence. From the spring sowing a bounteous harvest was reaped, the heads of grain being so heavy they had to be cut by hand. The first wheat harvested was threshed with flails or treading animals. Lyman and Rich, with the aid of George Warren Serrine, located a gristmill site near the intersection of what is now Allen and Mill Streets in San Bernardino. The mill was started in May, 1852, and was erected by William Oliver Davies.

-The Mormons in San Bernardino