

David B Lamoreaux in The Harold Journal, Logan

Sent to April Coleman from Dr James P Lamoreaux - Nov 1982
Jim researched these onsite and sent copies to me.

September 7, 1934

By Marion Everton LVI

DOCTOR AND MILLWRIGHT

The following notes on the life of **David Burlock Lamoreaux** were obtained from **Archibald Orrell Lamoreaux** his son. **David Lamoreaux** was one of those who helped build Temple mill in Maughan's fork of Logan Canyon. Most of the lumber used in the construction of the Logan Temple was sawed at this mill. **Archibald O. Lamoreaux**, whose home is now in Mesa, Arizona, helped his father build the penstock, which is thought to be the only part of the original mill that still stands. **David B. Lamoreaux** was also superintendent of the mill for some time after it's completion.

David Burlock Lamoreaux was born on September 20, 1819, at Scarborough, Canada. The **Lamoreaux** as the name suggests, are of French extraction, having migrated from that country sometime in the seventeenth century. Little is known of **David's** childhood except that he lived on a farm with his parents and early exhibited as instinctive interest in surgery. He made splints and bound up the broken limbs of smaller animals and birds around the farm whenever the opportunity presented itself, and took an interest in surgery in its relation to the human anatomy, perhaps little realizing that some day this knowledge would be of such great benefit to the community in which he was to live.

When he was seventeen or eighteen years old his father and other members of the family heard and accepted the restored gospel. It was at about this same time that President John Taylor was converted in the same locality. By the time he was nineteen years old he was with the saints in Kirtland and had chosen a life companion. He was married on September 20, 1828, in the Kirtland Temple to Mary Ann Gribble who was also from Canada. This union was blessed with six sons and three daughters. He later married Nancy Miriam Orrell, who bore him five sons and five daughters.

He shared the persecutions of the saints in Ohio, Missouri and Illinois, and shared in their rejoicing during the brief periods of peace and quiet.

At one time he was cutting timber a few miles from Nauvoo. As he felled one of the trees it fell against another one that was standing and its top snapped off and flew back, striking David in the forehead. A hole was crushed in the front part of his skull and the flesh of his forehead was torn so that it hung down over his cheeks. He fell into the water, his head resting upon the ice, and he remained unconscious or a time. As he was alone he could not determine how long it was before he regained consciousness enough to get up[and try to find a house. He had to hold the flesh up on his forehead in order to be able to see. In his dazed condition he walked in the opposite direction from his home. He finally came to a house where a woman was hanging out clothes. She screamed when she saw him covered with blood and holding the flesh over his eyes. The people of the house were not Mormons but they took him in and did what they could for him. He did not remember his name, but finally one asked him if his name was Lamoreaux and he remembered and cautioned them how to tell his folks.

The third day when the pain was almost unbearable two men walked up to the place, he was still at the place of the Gentiles, and asked for Lamoreaux. They replied that he was there but was sick and could not be seen. The men said that they had been sent and must see him. All left the house but these two strangers and David's father. They went in and anointed and blessed him, rebuking the pain and he was relieved and never suffered pain in his head any more. After the men left the house, no one could tell where they went or anything about their identity. Cache valley residents will remember the piece of flesh colored silk with which **David Lamoreaux** covered his old wound in after years.

(To Be Continued)

September 8, 1934 LVI
DOCTOR AND MILLWRIGHT

David B. Lamoreaux, the first superintendent of Temple Mill, where most of the lumber for the Logan temple was sawed, was also Cache valley's only doctor for many years. Although self trained, he was undoubtedly a skillful doctor for those days especially in the field of bone surgery. His services were much in demand all over northern Utah and southern Idaho where settlements had been made.

One winter in the early days of Cache valley when Apostle Ezra T. Benson was presiding here, there was an accident in Bear Lake valley where Apostle Charles C. Rich was presiding. The snow had fallen so heavy that it caved in the roof of a house in which a Brother Sirrine had taken shelter with his wife, Ester Sirrine. Sister Sirrine's hip was thrown out of place. There was no doctor in Bear Lake and the snow was so deep that it was impossible to cross the mountains between Bear Lake and Cache valley for a doctor. It was six weeks before it was possible to make the trip. They finally crossed and found **Doctor Lamoreaux**. When told how long it had been since the accident the doctor told the messenger that there was no know way to hold the hip in place after it had been set. Just then Apostle E.T. Benson came where the two were talking. They told him of the circumstance and when they were finished Brother Benson placed his hand on the shoulder of **Doctor Lamoreaux** and said, "Go, **Brother David**, and God will bless you."

While going over a very dangerous piece of road, the sleigh struck a rock and at that very instant a vision was given to the Doctor showing him what was needed to hold the hip bone in its socket until the ligaments had healed. On his arrival in Bear Lake he examined the patient and went immediately into the carpenter and blacksmith shop and made a brace according to the pattern given him in the vision.

Before the operation was started, Apostle Rich led in prayer and then attended while **Doctor Lamoreaux** went about the task. He was successful in putting the bones into place, and with the aid of the brace Mrs Sirrine recovered fully and lived a long life of usefulness.

On the 5th of June 1881, **David Lamoreaux** was stricken with the Asiatic cholera. In less than twenty-four hours his flesh had so shrunken that he seemed skin and bones and was very nearly dead. He was unconscious and his eyes were glazed. A number of Elders with Apostle Moses Thatcher as mouth undertook to dedicate him to the Lord as was sometimes done in cases of extreme suffering in those days. The spirit, however, prompted them to pronounce life and was so insistent that they yielded and blessed him to live. He recovered and lived nearly twenty-four years after this incident.

After the trouble on Battle Creek, the army surgeon picked up **Doctor Lamoreaux**

as they passed through Ogden and he went and stayed for some time at Fort Douglas helping to care for the soldiers who had been injured in the battle with the Indians. He was always willing to go where he was needed.

He spent many years of his later life in temple work and died at Preston on the 25th of November 1905. Like most of the other temple builders he was a valued member of the community in other lines, and temple building was a means to an end.

15 September 1934

History of Logan Temple Is Retold

[this starts mid paragraph]

...purpose is to make preparations at once for the building operations of the approaching season. His first work will be to erect suitable posts around the building site for scaffolding in the erection of the walls. He will also set a number of stone cutters to work cutting sills."

The Deseret Evening News of March 16, 1878, reports an interview with George L. Farrell. He reported fine weather in Cache valley. A good deal of the winter wheat had been killed by sharp frost and lack of snow. Farmers were busy plowing, putting in gardens, etc. It was thought that there was plenty of snow in the mountains to furnish water for irrigation purposes.

Desert Evening News of May 2, 1878: "Yesterday President John Taylor, Erastus Snow, Franklin D. Richards, Brigham Young (Jr.), and Joseph F. Smith of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, left for Logan. It was probable that Lorenzo Snow would join the party at Brigham City. They proposed to attending conference at Logan and inspecting the temple in progress of building at the place."

A letter from James Leishman to the Desert Evening News of March 24, 1878, reads: "The apportionment of labor for the Cache Valley Stake of Zion is 81 men and 27 teams: for Bear Lake Stake, 258 men and 6 teams: for Boxelder Stake 35 men and 12 teams, making a total of 144 men and 45 teams. In this number are included, masons, carpenters, quarrymen, tenders, teamsters, and lumbermen.

Our next excerpt mentions **David Lamoreaux** of whom we wrote in the two installments previous to this one.

"Saw Mill, Logan Canyon,
June 20, 1878.

"Editors Deseret New:

As we have had a few unsualties we would like you to give a little space.

"Last Monday while the boys were at work in the timber cutting and hauling, a large tree was felled and hauled. A large tree was felled and in felling it loused another, which was unperceived and fell on three of the boys, two of whom escaped with slight bruises. Silas Wright from Bennington, Bear Lake, narrowly escaped with life but is now well.

"On Tuesday about 3 o'clock p. m. Andrew Johnson of Bloomington, Bear Lake, was engaged with others in leading a 12x12 lumber for the temple, and while letting it rest on the wheel, by some mis-move it fell and caught Andrew between two timbers and broke his right leg just above the knee, and narrowly escaped breaking the other. He was kindly taken care of and the fracture set by **Dr. Lamoreaux** of Logan, who was at hand. It was found by the nature of the fracture that an extension was necessary to be applied, and one was speedily made, of which is the most recommendable instrument for that purpose we have

ever seen. The patient is fastened in such a manner that any displacement of bones is impossible, and after cured he need not limp about with a short leg.

"Many other little accidents have happened, but for all that all are working with heart and might and first class timber is turned out at the rate of 6,000 feet per day.

Yours with respect, Leon"

The Harold Journal, Logan
Genealogical and Temple
Edited by Pres W.M. Everton

17 July 1937

History of Logan Temple Is Retold

No 182. Miscellanea - 1881

"Canyon Closed. - - There have been a number of snow slides in the Logan Canyon which have closed the road to the Temple mill as a consequence a large quantity of lumber now lying at the mill can not be hauled until the road is opened again, which is not likely before Spring. No damage other than blocking the road has been done by the slides so far as we have heard." Utah Journal, January 5th 1884.

In the same issue of the Utah Journal over the nom de plume of Harknett a news letter from Salt Lake City has the following:

"Last Sunday evening at the Ward meetings in this City the subject of the Logan Temple was made the theme of discourse by the home missionaries The people manifested a desire to help build the house of the Lord, and there is no doubt but what Salt Lake City will pour its mite into the "money box of the Lord" to bring about the mighty purposes of Jehovah!"

Another item of interest found in the same issue of the Journal is an account of how **A. O. Lamoreaux, son of David Lamoreaux**, who supervised the instillation of the Temple Mill, had his feet terribly frozen while hunting for deer in the mountains north of Swan Lake.

An editorial entitled "Finish It," and running a little over a full column in the Utah Journal of January 16, 1844, urges the people of the temple district to provide the necessary means that the temple might be finished that spring. It was pointed out that about a half million dollars had been spent in bringing the structure to its present state of partial completion and that a comparatively small sum was needed to finish the job. If left to be finished in 1885 the interest for one year on the money already expended would exceed that needed to complete it in the spring of 1884. Many aged members of the church were said to be anxiously watching the progress of the building, counting every day as one day less in which they could engage in temple work before they pass out of this part of their existence.

"Temple visitors - - For some time past a large number of people have visited the temple daily. During the past week so many made application to view the interior that it became necessary to appoint two extra guards. It is worthy of mention that during the past years visitors handed gratuities to the watchman who have acted as guides, and they

have paid the same into the office, giving the donors a receipt or credit therefore, no matter whether they were Mormons or not. Many visitors, especially strangers, have wondered at this, to them strange proceedings, and often ask the guides their reason for their actions. They seem surprised when told by the men: 'We are paid our wages and all presents received we feel it our duty to place to the Temple fund, rather than in our own pockets.' A righteous proceeding which we trust the Lord will repay in His own good time."

(To Be Continued)

History of the Logan Temple Is Retold

James L Jensen, Mason

[one newspaper column, three long paragraphs - the last is about Dr David.]

8 February 1936

History of Logan Temple Is Retold

JAMES L. JENSEN, MASON

James L, Jensen of Hyrum was born August 21, 1853. He spent his childhood and early manhood in Bear River City. He was married and had one daughter five days old when on August 20, 1877, the day before his twenty-fourth birthday, he accepted the call of his bishop and began work as it mason on the Logan temple. He was the only skilled tradesman available in his vicinity at that time and it was agreed that his ward would furnish food and clothing for him and take care of his young family. He never lacked for food or clothing during the years that he was away at his work but there were times when he was to proud to beg for five cents to buy a stamp to send a letter home t to his young wife.

According to Brother Jensen the foundation of the main part of the temple was just started when he began work on the temple. The annex was well started and had progressed window-sill high when the corner stones of the temple were 1aid. John Parry, the master mason, was naturally a very careful workman, and he seemed to be doubly careful that no slip-shod work should be permitted on the temple walls. Jensen was asked more than once to straighten up the work of some apprentice who couldn't take constructive criticism.

Long hours of careful work were put in by Brother Jensen on the triple arches above the east door and windows of the temple. The laying of the keystones of these arches was described in an earlier installment of this series. The stones for these arches as Brother Jensen remembers it were dressed by Edward Cox and were cut from blue limestone. Messech Williams was an indispensable auxiliary to the masonry department, according to Brother Jensen. Williams was the only man who could dress the face of a mason's hammer satisfactorily to suit the masons on the Logan temple, others could make a good looking job but it wouldn't last.

Brother Jensen relates one accident that occurred during the mason work which is unrecorded as far as we have been able to learn. At one time a young man walked out from under the scaffolding just in time to break the fall of a hand-axe which came hurling through space when someone unknowingly pushed it off the edge of the scaffold where it had carelessly been left lying. The unfortunate young man had his nose almost cut off by the blade of the hand-axe, but prompt attention of "**Doctor**" **David Lamoreaux** restored the organ to its place if not to perfect functioning.