

# PUEBLO

## A Brief Summary/Database of the Mormon Battalion Pueblo Detachments and Mississippi Company

Compiled by Mary Ann Kirk  
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(Detachments resided in a community outside of Fort Pueblo in what was called “Mormontown.”

For more detail on the Mormon Battalion, go to <https://mormonbattalion.com/>.  
To view the Thomas Bullock roster documenting those who arrived in the SL valley in July 1847, go to  
<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/ab774142-989d-4df6-a024-1f3a90e5bbd3/0/1>.



Sketch of Mormontown as interpreted by David Jamiel (2017); View is to the east with 'chapel' in background. The Arkansas River would be on the left (north) in this view. Ruxton related there were about 50 cabins in total which housed about 300 persons.

As the Mormon Battalion approached the Arkansas River in September 1846, they met a small group of men who had left a company of Mormons from the south at Pueblo and were traveling back to get their families. This provided an opportunity for acting commander, Lt A J Smith, to relieve the main command of the large number of women and children who were allowed to travel and caught up with the Battalion at Fort Leavenworth. None of these women were original laundresses who left Council Bluffs with the Battalion. On September 16, 1846 Smith gave orders to Captain Nelson Higgins of Company D, assisted mostly by the spouses of the women, to escort the majority of families to Pueblo where the Mississippi Company was waiting to follow Brigham Young when he started west the following year. Traveling along the Arkansas River, they could stop at Bent's Fort on the way to equip themselves with supplies. The **Higgins detachment** included 11 soldiers, 1 adult officer servant, 9 women, 33 children (four of them officer servants), and one adult son. The men were told to rejoin the Battalion at Santa Fe.

When the main command arrived at Santa Fe in two groups, the new commander of the Mormon Battalion, Lt Col Philip St. George Cooke, gave orders on October 17 for all sick and feeble men to join the others in Pueblo under the command of Captain James Brown of Company C who directed the 2<sup>nd</sup> or **Brown detachment**. Cooke also ordered the remaining 25 women to join those in Pueblo, acknowledging the uncharted and difficult terrain going forward would be difficult. Five women and one child were eventually allowed to continue to California with their spouses who were officers. The other 20 women, most of them original laundresses, and a few children, were escorted by their spouses who convinced Colonel Doniphan to allow them to depart with their families. Hired to assist with medical needs, Dr. McIntyre was also sent with the Brown detachment. While in Santa Fe, the soldiers received their first pay covering six weeks of service from July 16 to August 31. However, the soldiers from the Higgins detachment received their pay later. Sent to collect the pay at Santa Fe, John D Lee and Howard Egan carried much of the pay back to families. Roswell Stevens, who was detached from the Brown detachment by Captain Brown, joined up with Lee and Egan on October 22 per Lee's account. Former quartermaster, Samuel Gully who resigned at Santa Fe, also traveled with Lee, Egan, and Stevens. A total of 88 soldiers after Stevens left, 20 women, 7 children/siblings, Dr. William McIntyre, and 2 adult officer servants traveled to Pueblo. The detachment retraced their trail a little and headed north along the east side of the mountain range passing near Bent's Fort to retrieve supplies and then on to Pueblo.

After the main command left Santa Fe, some men from the Higgins detachment arrived to report to duty only to be told by military leaders at Santa Fe to return to Pueblo and continue on detached duty. However soldier Thomas Woolsey who was with the Higgins detachment continued on to catch up with the main command on November 4, providing a report to Colonel Cooke about the situation. The travel became increasingly difficult and some men started suffering from the demand. Located at the Rio Grande River on November 10, Cooke decided to send another detachment back to Santa Fe, many seriously ill. Under the direction of Lt Willis, the **Willis detachment** with 59 soldiers began its way back to Santa Fe, several dying within days of leaving. Arriving at Santa Fe on December 1, Colonel Sterling Price, commander of the post, ordered them to continue to Pueblo. Traveling along the west side of the Sangre de Cristo Mountain range with little supplies, they traveled through major winter conditions. Leaving some supplies and a mule with instructions for those left behind to make their way to Turley's Ranch, the main company continued, renting quarters and buying some food at a Spanish town along the way. The group voted to attempt to travel uphill through a mountain pass with deep snow and reached Pueblo on December 20. Some men were sent back to assist those who remained behind and arrived in Pueblo in January. Thomas Woolsey and John Tippetts left Pueblo in late December and they arrived in Iowa in January 1847, carrying letters and news of the Battalion's whereabouts. Other publications include journal accounts about their stay in Pueblo/Mormontown.

### **Traveling from Pueblo to the Great Basin**

On May 23, 1847, the detachments and part of the Mississippi Company left Pueblo. There was some concern among the men that Captain Brown intended to take the detachments to the west coast per

instructions he received from Santa Fe. On June 3 along the trail, Brigham Young sent Amasa Lyman and soldiers Thomas Woolsey, John Tippets, and Roswell Stevens who returned to Council Bluffs with Lee and Egan and were now with Brigham Young's Vanguard to intercept the detachments, reaching them on June 11. A group of soldiers from the detachments who were looking for stolen horses discovered Brigham Young's company was not far ahead and soon caught up to the company on July 4. Multiple journals recorded the excitement of this meeting.

William Clayton wrote:

*"At 2½ P.M. the brethren returned from the ferry, accompanied by twelve of the Pueblo brethren from the army. They have got their discharge and by riding hard overtook us. They feel well and on arriving in camp gave three cheers, after which Prest. Young moved that we give glory to God which was done by hosannas."*

Learning about the situation of the detachments, Brigham Young and the Council sent a letter to Amasa on July 8 with the following instructions. *"Brother Brannan direct from California, will accompany Srgt Williams to your camp. his command will go on with us, and from time to time, some of them will return to you, to assist in piloting you thro to our location in the Basin, and it is wisdom that you come on, as fast as the nature of the case will admit. We understand that the Troops have not provisions sufficient to go to the Western Coast; and their time of enlistment will expire about the time they get to our place. they will draw pay until duly discharged, if they continue to obey Council; and there is no Officer short of California who is authorized to discharge them, therefore when you come up with us; Cap.n Brown can quarter his troops in our beautiful City, which we are about to build; either on parole, detached service or some other important business, and we can have a good visit with them, while Cap.n Brown with an escort of 15 or 20 mounted men and Elder Brannan for Pilot, may gallop over to head quarters [San Francisco], get his pay, rations, and discharge, and learn the Geography of the Country."*

Some of the men who caught up to the Vanguard Company arrived in the valley early while the main body arrived on July 29, 1847. The Journal of Church History notes *"Before the companies emerged from the canyon, a water-cloud burst, which sent the water into the creeks from the mountains, with a rush and roar like thunder, resembling the opening of a flood gate. The shower spread over a large portion of the valley. The Pioneer brethren returned at the head of the companies and marched into camp with martial music. The soldiers appeared in military order, and many of them were mounted. They arrived at the lower camp of the Pioneers about 4 o'clock p.m. and subsequently made their encampment on City Creek, between the upper and lower camps. As many of their wagons were broken and their teams failing, they were under the necessity of stopping until further orders, although they had intended to proceed at once to the Bay of San Francisco... The meeting between the brethren of the Pioneers and the Battalion boys indeed a joyful one."*

A total of 158 soldiers were with the three detachments - nearly 1/3 of the Battalion force of 496. Company D was largely affected by the number of women and their accompanying spouses who were sent to Pueblo in the first two detachments. The soldiers in Company C apparently had the most sick and feeble men since it had a high percentage of men who left with the Brown and Willis detachments. Detachment members from Company A had the most combined deaths en route or at Pueblo although the Willis detachment suffered the most deaths en route to Pueblo. Company B was the most intact company arriving in California which may have been why they were detached to San Diego. In fact, all of those who remained at San Luis Rey for an extras few weeks in late March were sick and were all from the other companies.

Company	A	B	C	D	E	
Original #	105	99	104	101	87	496 total soldiers/Battalion

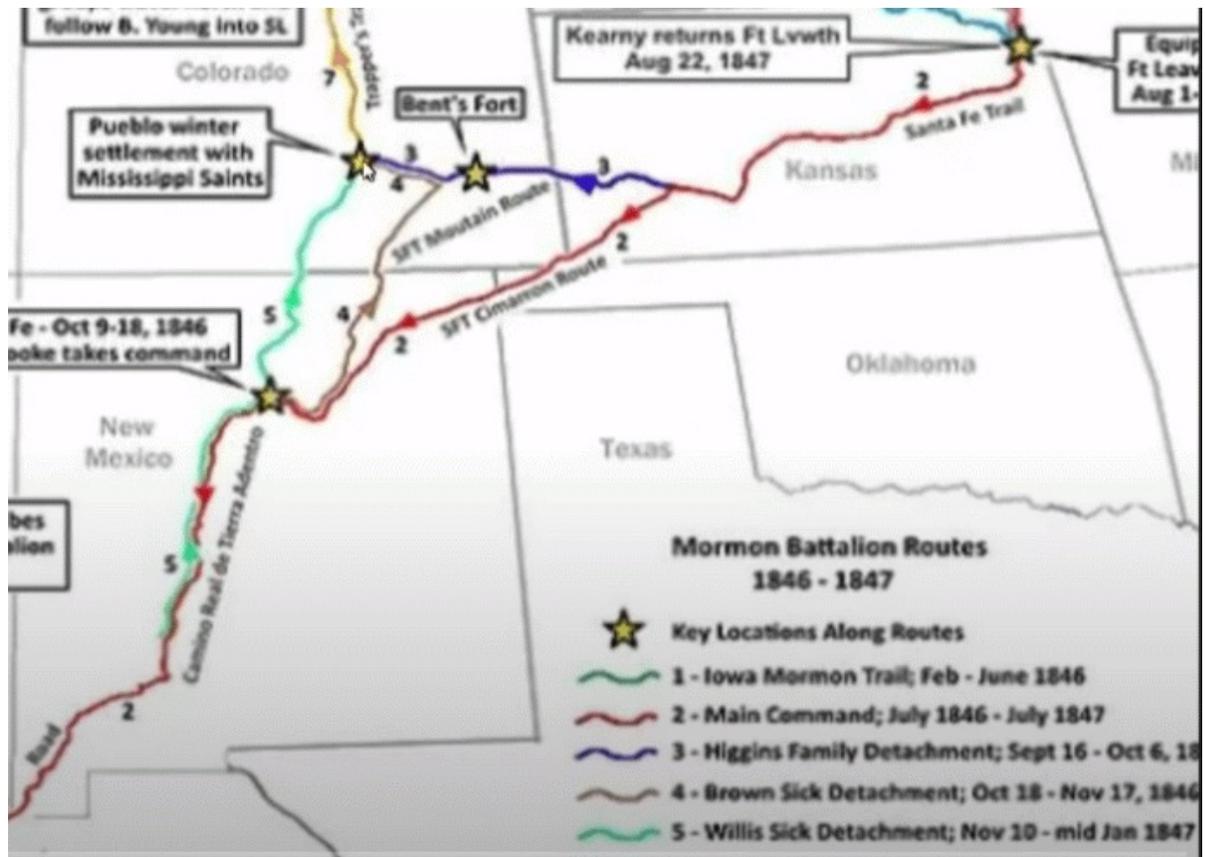
**Numbers by Company**

Higgins	3	0	2	5	1	11
Brown	15	11	24	27	12	89
Willis	<u>12</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11 (1 dupl)</u>	<u>59 - 1 duplicate (Woolsey)</u>
Total	30	21	42	42	23	158
Percentage	28%	21%	42%	42%	23%	31.8% in detachments

Prior Deaths/Resign	-1				-2	Phelps, Hampton, Gully
<b>Arrived in California</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>335</b>

**Deaths while detached**

Higgins				1	
Brown	3		2	2	
Willis	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
	5	2	3	3	1



**HIGGINS DETACHMENT** (55 left Arkansas River crossing on 16 September 1846 - 54 arrived at Pueblo on October 6)

**11 soldiers** (includes Woolsey who was also in Willis) (2 A, 0 B, 2 C, 6 D, 1 E)

\*family with him

1. Brown, James [2<sup>nd</sup>] "Polly"\* (D)
2. Button, Montgomery G\* (D)
3. Hendrickson, James (no spouse) (C)
4. Higgins, Nelson\* (D)
5. Hunt, Gilbert\* (A)
6. Huntington, Dimick Baker\* (D)
7. Kelley, Nicholas\* (A)
8. Sharp, Norman\* (death en route) (D)
9. Shelton, Sebert Crutcher\* (A & D)
10. Mowrey, Harley (C)\* (no spouse initially, later married widow Martha Jane Sharp on trail to SL)
11. Woolsey, Thomas Andrew (E) (Rejoined main command after Santa Fe) (no spouse)

1 adult officer servant (death at Pueblo)

Kelley, Milton\* (A)

**9 women** (8 with children/young siblings, 1 with no children), **29 children/siblings** (one married in Pueblo), **1 adult son/teamster**, **4 young officer servants with family**, 5 births (4 in Pueblo and 1 on trail to SL), 1 child death/1 newborn death in Pueblo

1. Eunice R Brown (Co D) Accompanied by soldier/spouse James P Brown (birth on trail to SL from Pueblo)  
Children: Mary Ann, Sarah, Robert, Neuman
2. Mary Bittles Button (Co D) Accompanied by soldier/spouse Montgomery Button  
Children: Louisa, Samuel, James, Jutson
3. Sarah Blackman Higgins (Co D) Accompanied by Captain/spouse Nelson Higgins (birth in Pueblo)  
Children: Druzilla, Carlos Smith, Heber Kimball  
Daughter Almira Higgins married in Pueblo  
Nelson Daniel (servant)
4. Celia Mounts Hunt (Co A) Accompanied by soldier/son Gilbert Hunt  
Children: Harriett, Jane, Mary, Hyrum, Joseph, John, Parley (death)
5. Fanny Maria Allen Huntington (Co D) Accompanied by soldier/spouse Dimick Huntington (birth/death in Pueblo)  
Child: Martha Zina  
Clark Allen and Lot (servants)
6. Sarah Kelley (Co A) Accompanied by soldier/spouse Nicholas Kelley  
Children: Betsy Bathrick, Parley Bathrick
7. Malinda Allison Kelley (Co A) Accompanied by officer servant/spouse Milton Kelley who died (birth in Pueblo)
8. Elizabeth Trains Mayfield Shelton (Co D) - accompanied soldier/spouse Sebert Shelton,  
1 child from Elizabeth's 1<sup>st</sup> marriage: Sara  
2 children from Sebert's 1<sup>st</sup> marriage: Emily Carolyn, Marion Jackson Shelton  
3 children from their marriage: Abraham Cooper, Thomas, Mary Elizabeth Shelton  
John Mayfield (servant), Andrew Jackson Mayfield (18 year old family teamster)
9. Martha Jane Sargeant Sharp (Co D) Accompanied by soldier/spouse Norman Sharp (birth in Pueblo)  
Young Sibling: Caroline Sargeant

**BROWN DETACHMENT** (119 left Santa Fe October 18, 1846 - 116 arrived at Pueblo on November 17)

**89 soldiers** - (15 A, 11 B, 24 C, 27 D, 12 E)

\*wife with him

1. Abbott, Joshua C\* (D)
2. Adams, Orson B\* (C)
3. Allen, Franklin (B)
4. Allred, James T. S. \* (A)
5. Allred, Reuben W\* (A)
6. Averett, Jeduthan (D)
7. Beckstead, William E (C)
8. Bingham, Erastus (B)
9. Bird, William (B)
10. Blanchard, Mervin S (A) died in Pueblo
11. Brown, Alexander (C)
12. Brown, James Capt\* (C)
13. Brown, Jesse S (C)
14. Calkins, James W (A)
15. Calvert, John H (C)
16. Carpenter, Isaac J (C)
17. Carpenter, William H (C)
18. Casto, William W (D)
19. Chase, Abner (D) died en route to Pueblo
20. Chase, John D (B)
21. Clark, Albert (E)
22. Cummings, George W (E)
23. Davis, James (D)
24. Douglas, Ralph B (D)
25. Durphey, Francillo (C)
26. Garner, David (A)
27. Garner, Phillip (B)
28. Gifford, William B (D)
29. Glazier, Luther W (E)
30. Glines, James H (A) went straight to Iowa from Pueblo
31. Gould, John C (C)
32. Gould, Samuel J (C)
33. Gribble, William\* (D)
34. Hanks, Ebenezer J\* (E)
35. Hess, John W\* (E)
36. Hirons, James P \* (D)
37. Holden, Elijah E (A)
38. Hopkins, Charles A (E)
39. Hulett, Schuyler (A) went east before arriving in SL
40. Jackson, Charles A (A) went east before arriving in SL
41. Jacobs, Bailey (E)
42. Johnson, Jarvis (C)
43. Karren, Thomas (E)
44. Kenney, Loren E (D)
45. Lake, Barnabas (A)
46. Lamb, Lisbon (D)
47. Larson, Thurston (C)
48. Laughlin, David S (D)
49. Luddington, Elam\* (B)
50. Messick, Peter I (D)
51. Miller, Daniel M (E)
52. Nowlin, Jabez T (C)
53. Oakley, James (D)
54. Oyler, Melchior (A) died in Pueblo
55. Park, William A (E)
56. Perkins, David M (C)
57. Perkins, John (C) died in Pueblo
58. Pierson, Harmon D (B)
59. Pierson, Judson A (C)
60. Pugmire, Jonathan Jr (E) went east before arriving in SL
61. Richards, Joseph W (A) died in Pueblo
62. Roberts, Benjamin M (D)
63. Rowe, Caratat C (A)
64. Rowe, William (D)
65. Sanderson, Henry W (D)
66. Sargent, Abel M (D)
67. Sessions, John\* (A)
68. Sharp, Albert (D)
69. Shupe, Andrew J (C)
70. Shupe, James W\* (C)
71. Smith, John G (D)
72. Smith, Milton (C) died en route to Pueblo
73. Smith, Richard D (C)
74. Steele, John\* (D)
75. Stevens, Arnold (D) died in Pueblo
76. Stevens, Roswell (E) left w/John D. Lee for Iowa on Oct 22, rejoined detachments June 11, 1847
77. Stevens, Lyman (B)
78. Stillman, Clark\* (D)
79. Stillman, Dexter (B)
80. Tanner, Myron (D)
81. Terrell, Joel J (C)
82. Tindell, Soloman (C)
83. Walker, William H (B) waited for family, arrived SL/Sept
84. Whiting, Almon (D) went east before arriving in SL
85. Whiting, Edmond W (D) went east before arriving in SL
86. Wilkin, David\* (C)
87. Williams, Thomas S\* (D)
88. Wright, Charles (B) went west before arriving in SL
89. Wriston [Clifford], John P (A)

Note: Gully resigned at Santa Fe and headed to Iowa - not part of detachments

**20 women** (5 with children/young siblings, 15 wives/no children), **7 children/siblings**, **Dr. William McIntyre and possibly 1 other (John Edmunds)**, **2 officer servants (James Blevin, Alroy Root)**, 2 births in Pueblo

1. Abbott, Ruth Markham (Co D) Accompanied by soldier/spouse Joshua Abbott
2. Adams, Susan Smith (Co C) Accompanied by soldier/spouse Orson Adams
3. Allred, Eliza Manwaring (Co A) Accompanied by soldier/spouse James T Allred (possible miscarriage)
4. Allred, Elzadie Ford (Co A) Accompanied by soldier/spouse Reuben Allred
5. Brown, Harriett St John (Co E) (spouse Daniel Brown in Willis detachment)
6. Brown, Mary McCree Black (Co C) Accompanied by spouse/Capt James Brown  
Child: George D. Black
7. Gribble, Hulda Sophia Smith (Co D) Accompanied by spouse William Gribble
8. Hanks, Jane Wells Cooper (Co E) Accompanied by soldier/spouse Ebenezer Hanks
9. Hess, Emeline Bigler (Co E) Accompanied by soldier/spouse John Hess
10. Hirons, Mary Ann Jameson (Co D) Accompanied by spouse James P Hirons
11. Hunt, Matilda Nease (Co A) (spouse Jefferson Hunt continued to California)  
Young siblings: Ellen, Peter
12. Luddington, Mary Eliza Clark (Co B) Accompanied by soldier/spouse Elam Luddington  
Child: Angeline
13. Luddington, Jane Tibbets Bliven (plural wife and mother of Mary Eliza Clark)
14. Sessions, Mary Caroline Emeline (Co A) Accompanied by soldier/spouse John Sessions
15. Shupe, Sarah Coats Prunty (Co C) Accompanied by soldier/spouse James Shupe (birth in Pueblo)
16. Smith/Burns, Rebecca (Co E) teamster spouse, Elisha Smith died after Santa Fe, married Thomas Burns in Pueblo
17. Steele, Catherine Campbell (Co D) Accompanied by soldier/spouse John Steele  
Child: Mary
18. Stillman, Phoebe Lodema Merrill (Co D) Accompanied by soldier/spouse Clark Stillman
19. Wilkin, Isabella McNair (Co C) Accompanied by soldier/spouse David Wilkin (Isabella left off Bullock roster)
20. Williams, Albina Marie Merrill (Co D) Accompanied by soldier/spouse Thomas S Williams (birth in Pueblo)  
Children: Caroline Marie, Ephraim

**WILLIS DETACHMENT** (59 soldiers left Rio Grande River between Nov 10-12, 1846 - 55 arrived in Pueblo between Dec 20 and mid January (12 A, 10 B, 15 C, 11 D, 11 E) - one duplicate, NO women. The original number varies between accounts but it appears that 55 left first and 4 others joined them a few days later.

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Babcock, Lorenzo (C)</li> <li>2. Badham, Samuel (D)</li> <li>3. Bevan, James (A)</li> <li>4. Bingham, Thomas (B)</li> <li>5. Blackburn, Abner L (C)</li> <li>6. Brazier, Richard B (E)</li> <li>7. Brimhall, John (C)</li> <li>8. Brown, Daniel (E) <small>Wife in Brown det</small></li> <li>9. Buchanan, John (D)</li> <li>10. Burns, Thomas R (E) <small>Married Rebecca Smith in Pueblo, both went to Iowa before SL</small></li> <li>11. Burt, William (C)</li> <li>12. Bybee, John M (B)</li> <li>13. Calkins, Alva C (A)</li> <li>14. Camp, James G (B)</li> <li>15. Carter, Richard H (B) <small>died en route to Pueblo</small></li> <li>16. Cazier, James (E)</li> <li>17. Cazier, John (E)</li> <li>18. Church, Haden W (B)</li> <li>19. Clark, George S (B)</li> <li>20. Coleman, George (A) <small>died en route to Pueblo</small></li> <li>21. Compton, Allen (D)</li> <li>22. Curtis, Josiah (A)</li> <li>23. Dalton, Edward M (C)</li> <li>24. Dalton, Henry "Harry" (C)</li> <li>25. Dodson, Eli (A) <small>died in Pueblo</small></li> <li>26. Dunn, James (C)</li> <li>27. Earl, James C (A)</li> <li>28. Eastman, Marcus N (B) <small>went east before arriving in SL</small></li> <li>29. Frederick, David I (A)</li> <li>30. Freeman, Elijah N (B) <small>died en route to Pueblo</small></li> <li>31. Green, John W (C) <small>died en route to Pueblo</small></li> <li>32. Hewitt, Eli B (A)</li> <li>33. Higgins, Alfred (D)</li> <li>34. Hinkley, Arza E (B)</li> <li>35. Hoaglund, Lucas (D)</li> <li>36. Johnston, Jesse W (C)</li> <li>37. Maxwell Maxie (A) <small>likely went west before arriving in SL</small></li> <li>38. McClelland, William C (E)</li> <li>39. Mecham, Erastus D (D)</li> <li>40. Richardson, Thomas (E)</li> <li>41. Richmond, Benjamin B (C)</li> <li>42. Rust, William W (C)</li> <li>43. Scott, James A (E) <small>died in Pueblo</small></li> <li>44. Shipley, Joseph (C)</li> <li>45. Skeen, Joseph (E)</li> <li>46. Squires, William H (C)</li> <li>47. Stewart, Benjamin (D)</li> <li>48. Stewart, James (D)</li> <li>49. Thomas, Hayward (D)</li> <li>50. Thomas, Nathan T (C)</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>51. Tippetts, John H (D) <small>traveled to Iowa, then Vanguard, rejoined detachments June 11</small></li> <li>52. Tubbs, William R (D)</li> <li>53. Welch, James M (C)</li> <li>54. Whitney, Francis T (B)</li> <li>55. Willis, William W (A)</li> <li>56. Wilson, George D (E)</li> <li>57. Woodworth, Lysander C (A)</li> <li>58. Woolsey, Thomas (E) <small>(duplicate) traveled to Iowa, then Vanguard, rejoined detachments June 11</small></li> <li>59. Wriston, [Clifford] Isaac N (A)</li> </ol> |
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## **DETACHMENT SUMMARY:**

**Higgins** - 55 (1 death enroute, 54 arrived in Pueblo)

11 soldiers

9 women

29 children/young siblings (one married in Pueblo)

1 adult child/family teamster

5 officer servants (4 of those teenage family members)

**Brown** - 119 (2 deaths enroute, 1 detached - 116 arrived in Pueblo)

89 soldiers (includes Roswell Stevens who was detached and left for Iowa)

20 women

7 children

2 officer servants (James Blevin, Elroy Root)

1 other (Dr. McIntyre) Unsure if John Edmunds was initially with them, shown as “black” on Bullock roster.

**Willis** - 59 soldiers (Woolsey duplicate) - no women or children (55 arrived in Pueblo)

**159 SOLDIERS in detachments (11 Higgins, 89 Brown, 59 Willis)**

- 1 duplicate (Thomas Woolsey in two detachments)

- 1 left for Iowa with Lee shortly after leaving Santa Fe (Stevens)

- 7 died en route (Sharp, Milton Smith, Chase, Green, Freeman, Carter, Coleman)

**150 soldiers arrived in Pueblo**

- 2 leave Pueblo for Iowa (Tippets/Woolsey)

- 7 died at Pueblo (Richards, Perkins, Scott, Oyler, Dodson, A Stevens, Blanchard)

- 2 stayed in Pueblo after detachments left/returned to Iowa (Glines, Burns) shown as deserters on Bullock roster

**139 soldiers left Pueblo with detachments**

+ 3 rejoined detachment on June 11 (Woolsey, Tippets, Stevens)

- 2 went west along trail before arriving in SL - shown as deserters on Bullock roster (Wright, Maxwell)

- 6 went east on furlough before arriving in SL - (Eastman, Pugmire, Edmund/Almon Whiting, Jackson, Hulett)

- 1 stopped to meet family who was arriving with larger companies (Walker)

**133 soldiers arrived in Salt Lake in July**

**29 WOMEN in detachments - all arrived in Pueblo (9 Higgins, 20 Brown)**

+2 a daughter and Mississippi Saint married soldiers (Almira Higgins Chase, Lydia Gibson Hunt)

- 1 widow of teamster married soldier and traveled to Iowa (Rebecca Smith Burns)

**30 women arrived in Salt Lake in July**

**OTHERS with detachments**

2 adult officer servants (Kelley, Bliven)

5 child/youth officer servants (Higgins, Clark/Allen Huntington, John Mayfield, Root)

1 adult family teamster (Andrew Jackson Mayfield)

1 doctor (William McIntyre)

36 children

**45 others arrived in Pueblo**

- 1 child who married and designation changed to “woman” (Almira Higgins)

+ 6 births

- 2 child/infant deaths (Parley Hunt, Betsy Prescinda Huntington)

- 1 officer servant death (Milton Kelley)

**47 others left Pueblo**

+ 1 birth on trail (John Taylor Brown)

- 1 Dr. McIntyre waited behind for family

+ 1 John Edmunds identified as “black” on Bullock roster entering valley (unknown story/origin)

**48 others arrived in Salt Lake in July**

**211 TOTAL ARRIVED IN SALT LAKE IN JULY 1847**

## MISSISSIPPI COMPANY

Under the direction of William Crosby and John Brown, a number of families from several southern states attempted to join Brigham Young along the trail to the west in 1846, not realizing he and the body of the Church had stopped in Council Bluffs. Often referred to as the Mississippi Saints, they eventually found a place to stay near Fort Pueblo which provided some protection and supplies. Several men traveled with the group without their families before returning back east (based on John Brown journal). Besides Crosby and Brown, the others included D. M. Thomas, William Lay, James Harmon or James Smithson, and George Bankhead. John Daniel Holladay who was with his family, left east with this group. The families spent the winter of 1846-47 in what became known as Mormon Town. As the small group of men were returning east, they crossed paths with the officers of the detachments. Between September and November, military leaders eventually sent three detachments to join the Mississippi Company.

Based on Howard Egan's journal, a small group left Pueblo early in April 1847 and camped near Fort Laramie for two weeks waiting for Brigham Young. What was referred to as the Crow Company, the group was comprised of Robert Crow's family including a married son and wife and a married daughter and her spouse and two children. Robert's child Elizabeth Jane Crow's name appears to have been left off of Howard Egan's journal which stated there were seventeen people, but only sixteen names were listed.

Three others were included in Egan's journal. Lewis B Myers, a non-member mountain man who was living at Pueblo, traveled with them. William Clayton stated "*Lewis B. Myers is represented as knowing the country to the mountains, having traveled it, and I am told that he came as a guide to brother Crow.*" Two others named in the journal were Archibald Lytle and Albert Chesney. It is unknown how these two men were related to the Crows.

This group joined up with the Vanguard Company on June 1 and several of them are mentioned in Howard Egan's journal on July 13 describing the advanced company, headed for the Salt Lake valley to help get the land ready for crops. It included the names of Robert Crow, Benjamin Crow, John Crow, Walter Crow, George W. Thirlkill, James Chesney, and Lewis B. Myers. Journal of Church history also notes that the women and children from the Crow family were with the advanced group. They arrived in the valley on July 22 according to the Journal of Church History records. Archibald Lytle [Little] left the Crow Company for Sutter's in July with Charles C Smith who had arrived with Sam Brannan on June 30. These two men became the informants to Captain Jefferson Hunt who was located at Sutters in late August of where the Saints were headed.

### **Robert and Elizabeth Brown Crow**

John McHenry Crow  
Benjamin Brown and Harriett Brunt Crow  
Walter Hamilton Crow  
William Parker Crow  
Ira Minda Almarene Crow  
Isa Vinda Exene Crow  
Elizabeth Jane Crow (accidently left off in Howard Egan's journal)

### **George Washington and Matilda Jane Crow Threlkel**

Milton Howard Threlkel  
James William Threlkel

Two families, the Roberds and likely the Gibsons, (neither family on the Bullock roster) remained at Pueblo as the remaining members of the Mississippi Company left with the detachments for the Great Basin. Except Lydia Gibson who married Gilbert Hunt in Pueblo, these families then traveled to Salt Lake in 1848.

**George Washington and Mary Ann Sparks Gibson** (conflicting records of 1847 or 1848)

Robert Poluski Gibson  
Francis Abigal Gibson  
William Gilbert Gibson  
Laura Gibson  
Moses Washington Gibson  
Manomas Lovina Gibson  
Joseph Smith Gibson  
Lydia Ann Gibson Hunt (married to soldier), went with detachments

**John and Mary Tucker Walpole Roberds**

Lodesky Ann Roberds  
Richard Thomas Roberds  
Mary Bell Roberds  
Harriett Roberds  
Francis Eleonora Roberds  
William Brown Roberds (born in Pueblo, 24 Dec 1846)

William Mathews and his family likely traveled with the detachments and remaining Mississippi Company until Fort Laramie but stopped there for a short time. They are documented arriving in Salt Lake with the Spencer/Sessions company on September 22, 1847.

**William and Elizabeth Henderson Mathews**

Thomas Marion Mathews  
Elizabeth Jane Mathews  
John Lynn Mathews  
Ezekiel Cunningham Mathews  
Maria Celeste Mathews  
Elvira Narcissus Mathews  
Emma Louisa Mathews

The remaining families traveled with the detachments all the way to Salt Lake. They are the only names that appear on the Thomas Bullock roster reflecting those who arrived on July 29, 1847, five days behind the Brigham Young Vanguard company.

**Absalom and Sarah Ann Dowdle** (had another child shortly after arriving in SL, 2nd birth in the valley)

Sarah Catherine Dowdle

**William Cox and Lucinda Wilson Smithson** (William and Allen shown below were brothers.)

Sarah Elizabeth Smithson  
John (or William) Bartley Smithson  
Elzira [Eliza) or Susan Smithson  
Martha Serilda Smithson  
Almira Smithson  
Elvira Smithson

**Allen and Letitia Holladay Smithson**

John Bartley Smithson  
Sarah Catherine Smithson  
James Daniel Smithson  
Mary Emma Smithson

**John and Catherine Beasley Higgins Holladay**

Caron Holladay

Keziah Donnell Holladay

David H. Holladay

Thomas N. Holladay

Lenora Holladay

John Daniel Holladay (returned with John Brown and came to SL in 1848)

**George Washington and Luana Roberds Sparks**

William Thomas Sparks

Mary Ann "Polly" Sparks

**James and Mary Ann Blanks Smithson Harmon** (Mary Ann/children last name Reer on Bullock roster)

Paralee Harmon (last name shown as Reer on Bullock roster)

James Bartlett Harmon (last name shown as Reer on Bullock roster)

Josephine Smithson Harmon (last name shown as Reer on Bullock roster)

John Taylor Harman (born in Pueblo, 6 Apr 1847) - missing on Bullock roster

**William D and Margaret Jane Casteel Kartchner**

Sarah Emma Kartchner (born 17 August 1846 in Pueblo)

**William Christopher and Sarah Ann Lowery Ritter**

William (or Anderson on Bullock list) Taylor Ritter (born in Pueblo, 22 Mar 1847)

**Benjamin and Temperence Mathews**

Sarah Jane Mathews

Mary Elizabeth Mathews

Sally S Mathews (born on trail to SL according to Bullock) but Sarah supposedly stated it was

Thomas Jephtha who was born at Independence Rock 1847. Census records unclear.

**William Terrill** traveling alone

## NUMBER TALLY

92 total traveled with Mississippi Company, stopping at Pueblo

7 returned back east after arriving (based on John Brown journal)

Crosby, Brown, Thomas, Lay, James Harmon or James Smithson, Bankhead. John Daniel Holladay

85 spent winter in Pueblo (including Lydia Gibson and excluding John Daniel Holladay who returned east)

+3 born in Pueblo

88 in Pueblo

+ 1 mountain man joined group (Louis B. Meyers)

89

**-17 Crow Co left Pueblo in April/joined BY vanguard June 1** including mountain man (Egan journal)

note Archibald Lytle left Crow Company in July, headed to Sutters with Charles C Smith

72 still in Pueblo in May

-17 Stayed back at Pueblo (8 Roberds and likely 9 Gibsons) and traveled to SL in 1848

55 Left Pueblo with detachments

+ 1 born on trail to SL

56 on their way to SL

-9 stopped at Fort Laramie (William Mathews family) and arrived in SL in September 1847

47 on Bullock list

+1 who was left off (newborn, John Taylor Harmon)

**48 arrived in Salt Lake with detachments on July 29, 1847**

\*Note Lydia Gibson Hunt was listed twice on Bullock - appeared in both Mississippi Company and detachments. See <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/ab774142-989d-4df6-a024-1f3a90e5bbd3/0/1>

For more detail on Mississippi Company, go to <https://mississippisaints.org/>.