

LEVI ALLEN TAYLOR

by  
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## Levi Allen Taylor

I chose to tell you about my great-great grandfather because I think he had a lot to do with the settlement in Utah. He has an interesting history.

My great-great grandfather, Levi Allen Taylor, was born July 1, 1869 in New Harmony, Utah. He had six other brothers and sisters. He grew up on a farm on the other side of the Virgin River. It was hard to cross because of the quicksand. They grew alfalfa, small patches of sugar cane for molasses, and lots of other vegetables. When he was only eight years old he could help drive the hay mower in the field. The Silver Reef mining camp was where they sold a lot of their crops. When the camp stopped, a lot of their neighbors left the area. Levi's parents soon decided that they needed to leave, too.

They moved to a town called Loa in Wayne County. They lived on 160 acres of farmland. Levi helped prepare much of the land for planting. He also helped build a bigger house. By the age of 21, he was asked to help families who had diphtheria. This disease took the lives of many children.

Levi married Rhoda Jameson on October 28, 1890. He bought 23 acres of land, but had not built his house on it yet. This was okay because his father still needed help at home. They lived there until they could build a little house of their own. Their first home was a one-room log house. They had a cow, a few chickens, and a small team of horses.

Levi worked many jobs for as little as \$1 a day. He wrote that this was a lot of money! Levi and Rhoda started having children and didn't stop until they had 14!

I think that my great-great grandfather must have been an important part of the town because they elected him to be the mayor when he was 80 years old. He was a write-in candidate. He helped the Loa install water meters, and sidewalks. He also set up the first dump yard that was outside of the town. He made the first dial phone call from Loa to Richfield when new telephones were put in. I am proud to be Levi Allen Taylor's great-great grandson. I think he must be a great man!