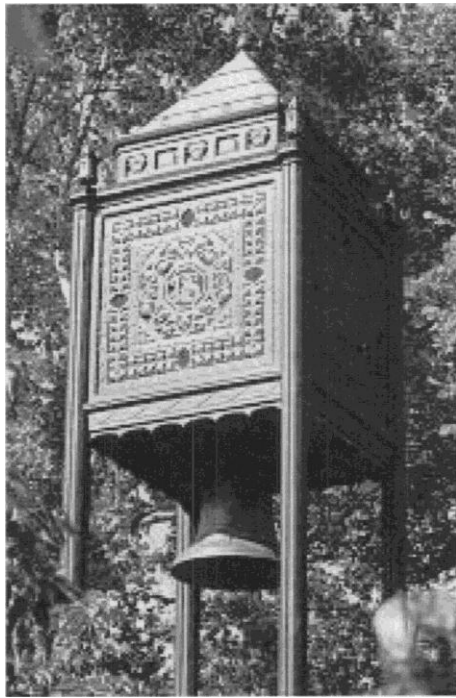


David Andrew Lameauroux by Zachary Brewer



"Every Ancestor is a Pioneer" Essay "Story of the Nauvoo Bell"

Mr. Hawks, 4th grade

This essay is a story about a few of my ancestors that were great Mormon Pioneers. My mom told me about a story her father had told her many times. It is about my great, great, great, great grandfather David Andrew Lameauroux. I decided to ask my Grandpa Haslem if he could tell me the story. My Grandpa told me the story and gave me a copy of the story written by my Great Grandma in her family history. I listened to the story, asked some questions, and read the family history story.

The story took place in Nauvoo, Illinois. The Mormons were being forced to leave. They had just finished building the Nauvoo Temple and there was a Bell in the tower that had been made for them out of Boston, MA. In the evacuation of Nauvoo, Brigham Young regretted hanging the great bell in the temple belfry tower. A Methodist minister wanted the bell for his own church and took it one night. My (4) great grandpa David Andrew Lameauroux and his brother Andrew knew of the bells removal and decided with the help of a few others to take the bell back and bring it with them to Zion. One night before leaving Nauvoo they took the bell and needed to hide it. They hid the bell by tying a rope to the bell and a tree and sunk it into the mud of the Mississippi River.

Several days later as they left Nauvoo they went back to where they hid the bell. The Mississippi River had frozen over, so they had to break through the ice to pull the bell out. There wasn't enough room on their wagon for the bell so they had to take my (4) great grandmothers cook stove off the wagon. My (4) great grandmother was not happy about having to leave her stove behind so she gave up her seat on the wagon so she could keep her stove. She walked alongside the wagon to Zion.

David Andrew Lameauroux and his wife had a baby name Abigail that died on their way to the Salt Lake Valley. After they arrived to the Salt Lake Valley they had a little baby girl named Josephine, who is my great, great, great Grandmother.

The Nauvoo bell was displayed at temple square until the 1970's. It was then moved to the Church Historical Museum, where it is now. I liked finding out more about my ancestors, it makes me feel a little like I know them. I am proud of how brave and selfless David Andrew Lameauroux and his wife were.

Nauvoo Bell

The Nauvoo Bell originally hung in the temple that Church members built in Nauvoo, Illinois, in the 1840s. The Saints removed the bell in 1846 when they were forced to leave Illinois because of persecution. Following instructions from Brigham Young, the second company of pioneers carried the bell to the Salt Lake Valley. During their journey, they rang the bell to signal daybreak and departure and to warn

that night sentries were on duty. The bell is now rung hourly as a symbol of religious freedom and is heard on KSL Radio.

This monument honors the Relief Society, an organization founded on 17 March 1842 for women of the Church. The bell tower was built with donations from Relief Society members to mark the organization's centennial.