

SEVEN



MATHEW SYPHUS & MARY LONG

Mathew Syphus and Mary Long

By Judy Rawlins Ball

As I have been compiling the stories of our ancestors, the little things that I have gleaned about Mathew Syphus and his wife Mary Long have intrigued me. I wish that we knew more about them. They joined the Church and came to America when Mathew was age 75 and Mary age 66. They came to America on the ship Idaho under the direction of the Perpetual Fund for Emmigrants (sic) Below are some of the things that I've learned.

Mathew Syphus was born on February 17, 1799 in Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England, and Mary Long was born on August 8, 1807 in Aston Court, Coates, Oxfordshire, England. They married on December 12, 1825.

Mathew and Mary had sixteen children. Their son Luke was their oldest. (Luke is our ancestor.) They lived in Leaffield, Oxfordshire England. From census records, we learn that Mathew was a butcher. They are found

in the 1841, 1851 1861, and 1871 Censuses, on Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England.

It was fun for me to see what was included in the Census. So, here is the information from the 1841 Census.

1841 Census of Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England

All that part of the township of Leaffield lying to the south of the road from Ramsden Heath thru Wood Gate to the Marsh and Pratley's Lodge.

Mathew Sierford, age 40, born Leaffield, OX
Mary, age 35, born Coate, OX
Luke, age 14, born Leaffield, OX
Mathew, age 13, born Leaffield, OX
Vincent, age 9, born Leaffield, OX
Esther, age 8, born Leaffield, OX
Silvanes, age 7, born Leaffield, OX
Silvester, age 6, born Leaffield, OX
Martha, age 2, born Leaffield, OX
Mary, age 11 months, born Leaffield, OX

The Town of Leafield

Leafield was probably given this name because the site was a natural clearing within the forest. It is believed the Syphus/Siford families came from Gloucestershire into this area. It is also believed to have been part of the Royal Manor. The forests around the area were called the Royal Forests and the hunting rights belonged to the King. The house in Langley, once known as the King John's Palace, was a hunting lodge. Villagers had the rights on Tuesdays to collect dead wood, but only for as much as one person could carry and only one trip into the forest. The poor were allowed to enter the forest to collect birds eggs and nuts. There is evidence for the Leafield settlement existing before the Norman Conquest. A Witney (sic) charter of 1044 refers to headlands or cultivated fields.

Some Syphus Children Join the Church in the early 1850s

The Gospel of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was preached in England, and three of Mathew and Mary Syphus' children joined the Church in the early 1850s. Luke was baptized in February 1850. His brother, Matthew Jr., who was a year younger than Luke was baptized on November 13, 1852. Vincent was also baptized into the church in 1852. (Records show that Vincent died in England in 1878.)

Letter from Mary Long Syphus to Christiana Long before Christiana was married to Luke Syphus, October 30, 1850

There is an incredible letter that has been preserved. It is believed that this letter was written on October 30, 1850 by Mary Long Syphus to Christiana Long before her wedding to Luke. This shows Mary's kind-heartedness and her humor. It was touching for me to see this letter written from a mother-in-law-to-be to her future daughter-in-law. This must have meant a

great deal to Christiana as her own mother had died when she was very young, and she hardly remembered her. Also, Christiana must have carried this letter through all of her travels to Australia, California and many moves in Utah and Nevada.

Christiana Long and Mary Long Syphus have the same surname. The letter refers to Christiana's Uncle (Unckel). I don't know if there is some relationship there.

This letter was written on October 30, 1850. Luke and Christiana were married on December 25, 1851.

Leayfield
October the 30 1850

Deare Meas,

I reseved youre letter with much love and with just as much joy as if my own child. I feel as tho you thought I had for gotten you. No never as long as life lasts I shall not forget you.

My deare girl you can take as much liberty with me as tho your mother. Your Unckel wishes me to tell you not to go abroad on Furen shours but stay on owld England shour and to go to sea no more. And if you should be in want of a home come to your poor aunt and unckel. They will pear vide for you as well as you can desier us to dou. I have baked my last studely [*I can't make out the word. Georgia Macfarlane McGarvie.*] flore and wished you ad ben with me have some cake when I am setting down. O how often I fancy that I can see you to. You should be glad indeed I dou not say much about Amealy becos she has got some won to care for her.

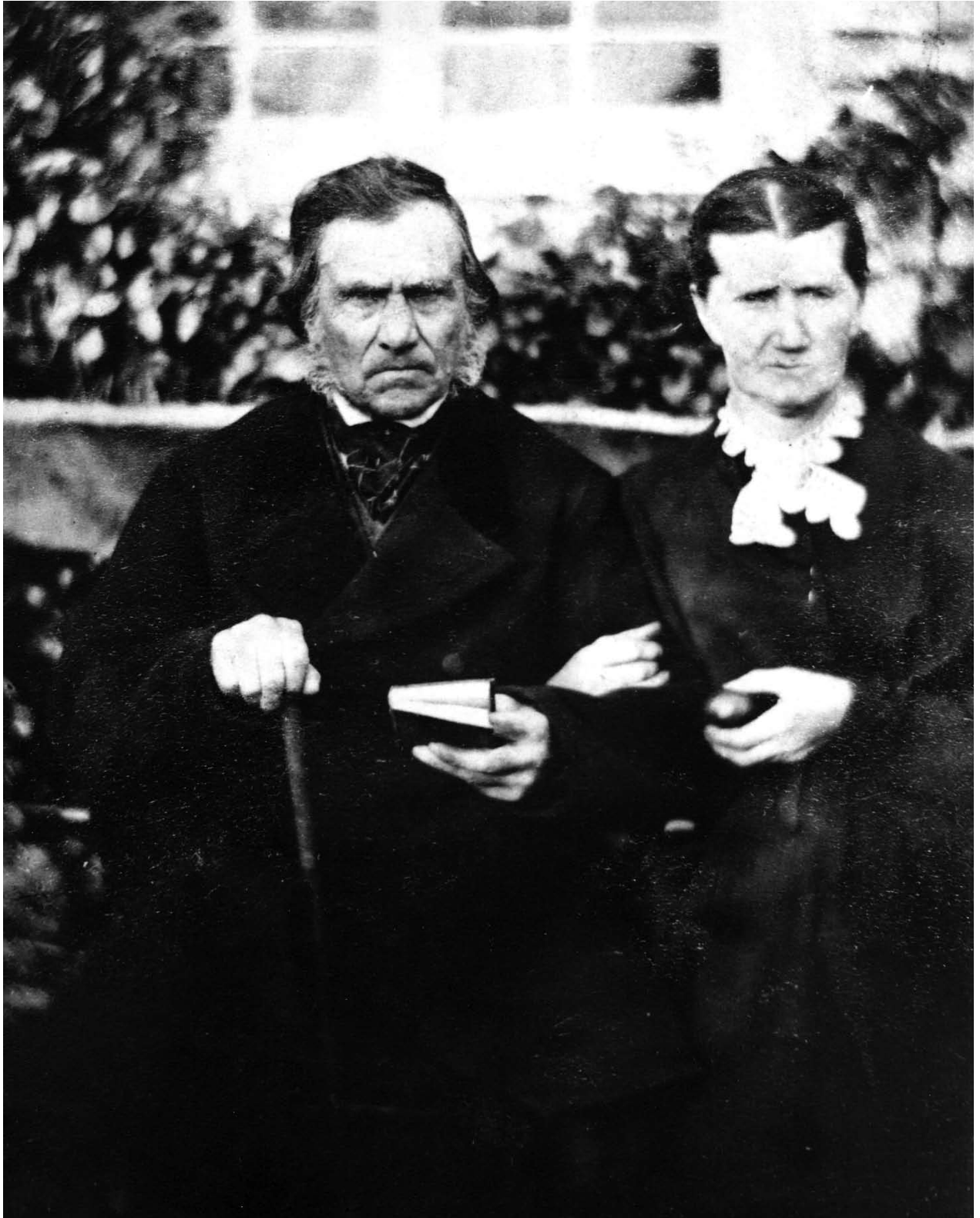
I gave Luke your letter. With pleasure he reseved it. Believe me I much esteame your Christain conduct and hopes you will ever hould fast your modest inteargety, of writing so kind a letter.

I am much the same as when you last saw me. Of corse weaker and thinner. My

cough is regular every morning and I am as pale as a washed wall. I have ten chickens two pigen won cat won pig and all looking better than me. The large hen took all the

chickens from the small hen that hatched them and will not let her no not even look at them. So poor mother hen will lay again and most likely soon will set.

Mathew Syphus and Mary Long



You be sure to let me hear from you and all about your doings and goings as I shall be so glad to hear from you. If this should be the last lines that ever I shall write you still know where to write to hear about matters. Go where you will so don't forget my love. Remember me to your father. Whether he will accept it or not my love is still the same to him. Unckels love to you my dear please to accept the same yourself and excuse writing and spelling as my hands bad.

(The letter is not signed but there is no room left on the page. Georgia Macfarlane McGarvie)

Back to our story

Luke married Christiana Long on December 31, 1851, and in 1853, they set sail on the ship Java for Australia. I wonder if Luke was involved in teaching and baptizing his brothers, Matthew Jr. and Vincent who were baptized before Luke left England in 1852. Luke and Christiana were in Australia for several years and then in California for several years before they came to Utah/Nevada.

Matthew Jr. came to America shortly after his baptism. He was married on April 18, 1853 in St. Louis, Missouri to Mary Ann French.

Martha was baptized on May 3, 1857. We know that she came to America at some time. In a letter Luke Syphus wrote to his daughter, Lovina, he tells about Martha dying in Salt Lake on June 20, 1896.

The stories of Luke and Matthew Jrs' family intertwine in Southern Utah and Nevada.

Matthew Syphus Jr. and his wife, Mary Ann were sealed in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City on August 9, 1861. Luke and Christiana Long were sealed in the Endowment House on August 9 or 10, 1861. I wonder if they traveled there together and were sealed at the same time.

Luke's family and Matthew Jr. and Mary Ann's family were living in Santa Clara, Utah when the "Big Flood" occurred on January 1, 1862. After the flood disaster, Matthew went to California (where gold had been discovered), and he left his family in the care of Luke and Christiana. That summer Mary Ann (Matthew's wife) watched her two oldest daughters die and then her baby died while her husband was gone.

Luke's Mission to England to Teach His Family

The next we learn of Mathew Sr. and Mary Long Syphus is when Luke returned to England on a mission. Luke's Mission Certificate is dated October 14, 1872. He left in October to return to England on a mission. He left behind his wife Christiana and their nine children (eight living). Their youngest baby at this time was Mary. She was about 19 months old. Their oldest daughter, Lovina, was 18.

Luke returned from his mission January 16, 1873. Mathew Sr. and Mary's daughter, Thirza Long Syphus was baptized on August 17, 1873.

Thirza was just a baby when Luke married and left England. We know that Thirza grew up and came to America and was married and sealed to her husband on June 6, 1877 in the St. George Temple. Then a year later she was sealed to her parents on May 17, 1878. (In the 1861 Census, it lists Thirza's name as Thiralina.)

Mathew and Mary Long Syphus were baptized on June 23, 1874 the day before they sailed for America.

Sailing to America on the Ship Idaho

Mathew, Mary and their grandson Theodore (son of Martha) left Liverpool, England on 24, June 1874.

England-British Immigration Records show the following:

Mathew Syphus, age 59 paid 17.30 (pounds and shillings) (Note: His birth date indicates that Mathew would have been age 75.)

Mary Syphus, age 59 paid 17.30 (Note: Her birth date indicates that Mary would have been age 66.)

Theodore Syphus, age (adult) paid 12.16.0 (This is believed to be their grandson, son of daughter Martha).

Listed by the Syphus names were the names of the eight Elders who were returning home.

The SS Idaho sailed from Liverpool England under the direction of the Perpetual Fund for Emmigrants (sic) – L.D.S. Church.

61 steerage adults

33 steerage children

7 infants

3 intermediate adults

8 Elders cabin

Railroad fares for 44 adults and 20 children

Sealed in the Endowment House in Salt Lake

Mathew and Mary were sealed on July 20, 1874 in the Endowment House just less than a month after their baptism in England. This is when they arrived in Utah before they went to Panaca, Nevada. The St. George Temple wasn't completed at this time.

Patriarchal Blessing of Mathew Syphus Received on May 24, 1875

Mathew Syphus and Mary Long Syphus received their Patriarchal blessings on this date. Their son and

daughter-in-law, Luke and Christiana also received their Patriarchal blessings at the same time.

A blessing by John L. Smith, Patriarch, upon the head of Mathew Syphus, son of James Syphus and Elizabeth Clifton, born at Leafield, Oxfordshire, England, Feb. 17, 1800

Brother Mathew, In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth I place my hands upon thy head and seal upon thee a Patriarchal Blessing. Thou hast embraced the Gospel in thine old age, and because of the integrity of thine heart thy days and years shall be lengthened out until thou art satisfied with life.

Thou art of the house of Joseph, and thine inheritance shall be with the children of Ephraim. Thy last days shall be the best for thou shalt have joy in expansion of the principles of the gospel. Thy posterity shall become numerous and mighty in Zion. Thy guardian angel hath watched over thee and preserved thy life many times when to all human appearance there was no aid.

Thou has been gathered with the Saints that thy name might be recorded in the book of the Law of the Lord and see the work in progress that shall result in the redemption of thy dead back to the days of Adam. Every blessing which thou canst desire in righteousness shall be granted unto thee, and thy joy shall be full in beholding a temple completed to the name of the Most High. Thou shalt go down to thy grave as a shock of corn fully ripe and enjoy all the blessings, gifts and promises pertaining to the new and everlasting covenant with eternal life in the name of Jesus Christ thy Redeemer. Amen.

C. Pulsipher (scribe)

Patriarchal Blessing of Mary Long Syphus, Mother of Luke Syphus, received on May 24, 1875

A Blessing by John L. Smith, Patriarch, upon the head of Mary Syphus, Daughter

of James Long and Sarah Busby, born at Cote, Oxfordshire, England, August 8, 1807.

Sister Mary, beloved of the Lord because of the integrity of thine heart, thou has been permitted to gather with the Saints in thine old age, and I seal upon thee a Patriarchal blessing which shall be a comfort unto thee many times.

Thou art of the tribe of Ephraim, the son of Joseph, and thy joys shall be full in beholding the increase of thy posterity which shall be mighty and numerous. Thou shalt live until thou art content to lay this body down to rest, and thy joys shall be full that thee and thy companion are numbered among the Saints. The Priesthood that belongeth to thy sex shall be thine, and thy faith shall be great to comfort the mourner and bind up the broken-hearted. Thou shalt not lack for the comforts of life. Thou shalt enjoy the blessings of heaven and earth, even all the rich blessings of thy Father's kingdom with every desire of thine heart in righteousness, for no good thing shalt thou lack, for all the rich Blessings of the new and everlasting covenant shall be thine with eternal life, for they are sealed upon thee in the name of Jesus Christ, Thy Redeemer, with all thou canst desire, even so Amen.

C. Pulsipher (scribe)

Mathew Syphus is ordained a High Priest at Age 77

On September 25th, 1876
Panaca, Lincoln Co., Nevada

This certifies that Matthew Syphus is this day ordained an High Priest in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter day Saints under the hand of Henery W. Miller, Luke Syphus ACTg Bp (sic).

Mathew Syphus and Mary Long Syphus have their children sealed to them

This must have been a wonderful day for them. Matthew would have been age 79 and Mary age 70. (This was just nine months before Mary Long Syphus died.)

On May 17, 1878 in the St. George Temple. Mathew Syphus and Mary Long had several of their living children sealed to them in the St. George Temple. This included Luke Syphus and his sister Thirza Long Syphus Ipson. (Thirza was their youngest child. She joined the church in 1873 shortly after Luke's mission to England. We don't know when she came to Utah, but she was married and sealed to her husband in the St. George Temple on June 6, 1877 so she was able to join her parents and brother on this wonderful occasion.)

Matthew Syphus Jr. was a member of the Church and in America. However, we don't have a record of him being sealed on that date to his parents. I don't know if he was unable to attend for some reason or if the records are incomplete.

In addition, they had their children sealed who had previously died. This included George, Vincent, Esther, Mary, Mary, (They had two daughters named Mary. Their first daughter named Mary died as an infant or toddler. It was common during this time to name a second child after one that died.) William Henry, William Henry (They had two sons named William Henry) and Theodore.

Mary's Death

Mary died on March 1, 1879 in Panaca, Nevada.

1880 Census of Panaca, Lincoln Co. Nevada

House 14, Family 14.

Matthew Syphus, age 81. Born in England

Living there as a boarder is: Heber Sykes, age 22, a laborer, born in England

Mathew's Death

Mathew died on October 4, 1896 in Panaca, Nevada.

Thanks to Mary Syphus, wife of Faye Beebe Syphus, Jr. of Hurricane, Utah. Most of the information in this summary was taken from her research.■

Family Group Record for Mathew J. Syphus Sr.

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Husband		Mathew J. Syphus Sr.			
<small>LDS Ordinance Data</small>					
Born	17 Feb 1799	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England		B	23 Jun 1874
Christened				E	20 Jul 1874 EHOUS
Died	4 Oct 1896	Panaca, Lincoln, Nevada			
Buried	Oct 1896	Panaca, Lincoln, Nevada			
Father	James Syphus (Abt 1771-)			SP	26 Mar 1958 SGEOR
Mother	Elizabeth Clifton (Abt 1777-Bef 1878)				
Marriage	12 Dec 1825	Shipton-Under-Wynchwood, Oxfordshire, England		SS	20 Jul 1874 EHOUS
Wife		Mary Ann Long			
Born	8 Aug 1807	Aston Court, Coates, Oxfordshire, England		B	23 Jun 1874
Christened				E	20 Jul 1874 EHOUS
Died	1 Mar 1879	Panaca, Lincoln, Nevada			
Buried		Panaca, Lincoln, Nevada			
Father	James Long (1768-1849)	Mother	Sarah Busby (1767-1849)		
			SP	22 Oct 1930	SGEOR
Children					
1	M	Luke Syphus Sr.			
Born	23 Jan 1827	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England		B	Feb 1850
Christened				E	9 Aug 1861 EHOUS
Died	19 Apr 1915	Panaca, Lincoln, Nevada			
Buried	21 Apr 1915	Panaca, Lincoln, Nevada			
Spouse	Christiana Long (1832-1918)	25 Dec 1851 - St. Pancras, London, M, England		SS	9 Aug 1861 EHOUS
2	M	Matthew J. Syphus Jr.			
Born	12 Mar 1828	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England		B	13 Nov 1852
Christened	19 Mar 1828	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England		E	9 Aug 1861 EHOUS
Died	17 Sep 1905	St. Thomas, Clark, Nevada			
Buried	19 Sep 1905	St. Thomas Cem., Overton, Clark, Nevada			
Spouse	Mary Ann French (1827-Aft 1910)	18 Apr 1853 - St Louis City, Missouri		SS	9 Aug 1861 EHOUS
3	M	George Syphus			
Born	3 Oct 1829	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England		B	3 May 1956 SGEOR
Christened				E	23 May 1956 SGEOR
Died	Bef 1841	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England			
Buried					
Spouse				SS	
4	M	Vincent Syphus			
Born	20 Jun 1831	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England		B	1852
Christened				E	15 May 1878 SGEOR
Died	4 Feb 1878	Abington, Oxfordshire, England			
Buried					
Spouse	Mrs. Vincent Syphus (-)			SS	23 Jan 2003 MTIMP
Marr. Date	Abt 1856 - Abington, Oxfordshire, England				

Family Group Record for Mathew J. Syphus Sr.

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Children (cont.)				
5	F	Esther Syphus		
Born	20 Sep 1832	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England	B 14 May 1878	SGEOR
Christened			E 16 May 1878	SGEOR
Died	Bef 1851	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England	SP 17 May 1878	SGEOR
Buried				
Spouse			SS	
6	M	Sylvanus Syphus		
Born	8 Apr 1834	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England	B 3 May 1956	SGEOR
Christened			E 19 May 1956	SGEOR
Died		, , South Africa	SP 27 Sep 1957	SGEOR
Buried				
Spouse	Mrs. Sylvanus Syphus (-)		SS	
Marr. Date	Abt 1885 - Somerset East, Cape Colony, South Africa			
7	M	Sylvester Siford		
Born	18 Jun 1835	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England	B 3 May 1956	SGEOR
Christened	14 Jul 1835		E 25 May 1956	SGEOR
Died	25 Dec 1922	Lorey, Baltimore, Baltimore, Maryland	SP 27 Sep 1957	SGEOR
Buried	26 Dec 1922	Prospect Hill Cemetary, Towson, Maryland, USA		
Spouse	Martha R Eeles (-)	Abt 1862 - Charlbury, Oxfordshire, England	SS	
8	F	Mary Syphus		
Born	7 Feb 1837	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England	B Child	
Christened			E Child	
Died	Bef Jul 1840	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England	SP 17 May 1878	SGEOR
Buried		Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England		
Spouse			SS	
9	F	Martha Marie Syphus		
Born	8 Aug 1838	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England	B 3 May 1857	
Christened			E 21 Oct 1896	SLAKE
Died	22 Jun 1896	Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah	SP 27 Sep 1957	SGEOR
Buried				
Spouse	George Charles Parsons (Abt 1835-)		1859 - Saint Pancras, London, M. E	SS 21 Oct 1896 SLAKE
Spouse	Theodore's Father (-)		1856 - Saint Pancras, London, M. E	SS
10	F	Mary Syphus		
Born	11 Jul 1840	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England	B 14 May 1878	SGEOR
Christened	18 Jul 1840	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England	E 27 Mar 1908	SGEOR
Died	Bef 1851	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England	SP 17 May 1878	SGEOR
Buried				
Spouse			SS	
11	M	William Henry Syphus		
Born	20 Nov 1842	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England	B 14 May 1878	SGEOR
Christened			E 4 Feb 1908	SGEOR
Died	Abt 1846	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England	SP 17 May 1878	SGEOR
Buried		Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England		
Spouse			SS	

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Family Group Record for Mathew J. Syphus Sr.

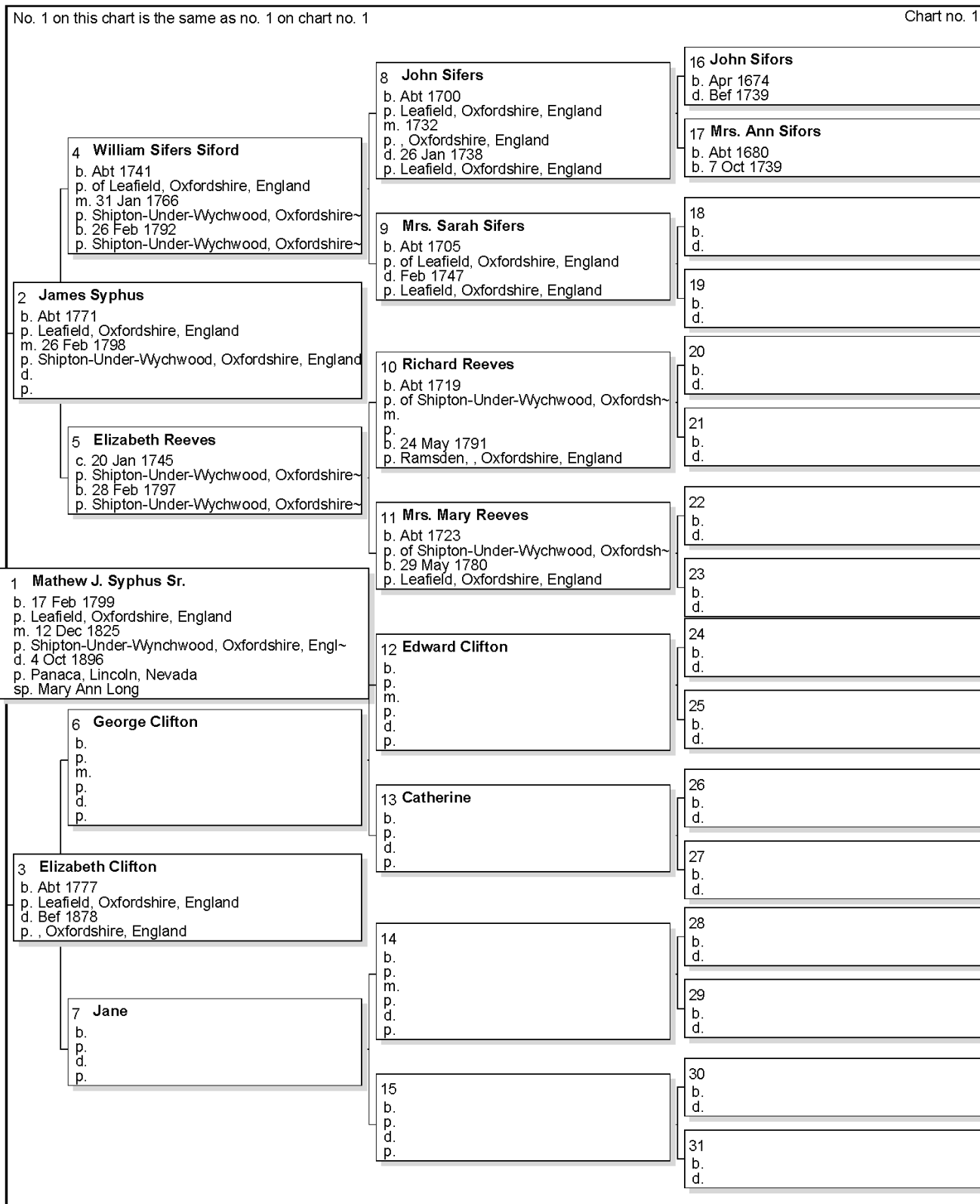
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Children (cont.)				
12	F	Sarah Ann Syphus		
Born	7 Jan 1843	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England	B	3 May 1956 SGEOR
Christened			E	24 May 1956 SGEOR
Died			SP	27 Sep 1957 SGEOR
Buried				
Spouse	John H. Ellis (Abt 1817-)	Abt 1860 - of Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England	SS	27 Dec 2001 BOUNT
13	M	William Henry Syphus		
Born	1844	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England	B	14 May 1878 SGEOR
Christened			E	27 Feb 1908 SGEOR
Died	Bef 1851	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England	SP	17 May 1878 SGEOR
Buried		Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England		
Spouse			SS	
14	M	Theodore Syphus		
Born	13 Aug 1845	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England	B	Child
Christened			E	23 Jun 1956 SGEOR
Died	Bef 1851	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England	SP	17 May 1878 SGEOR
Buried				
Spouse			SS	
15	F	Elizabeth Syphus		
Born	8 Feb 1849	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England	B	3 May 1956 SGEOR
Christened			E	19 Jul 1956 SGEOR
Died	Abt 1861		SP	27 Sep 1957 SGEOR
Buried				
Spouse			SS	
16	F	Thirza Long Syphus		
Born	18 Jul 1851	Leaffield, Oxfordshire, England	B	17 Aug 1873
Christened			E	6 Jun 1877 EHOUS
Died	28 Jul 1905	Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah	SP	17 May 1878 SGEOR
Buried	30 Jul 1905	Salt Lake City Cemetary, Salt Lake, Utah		
Spouse	Charles Ipson (Abt 1846-)	6 Jun 1877 - St. George, Washington, Utah	SS	6 Jun 1877 SGEOR

Last Modified: 6 Dec 2008

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Pedigree Chart for Mathew J. Syphus Sr.



Pedigree Chart for Mary Long

