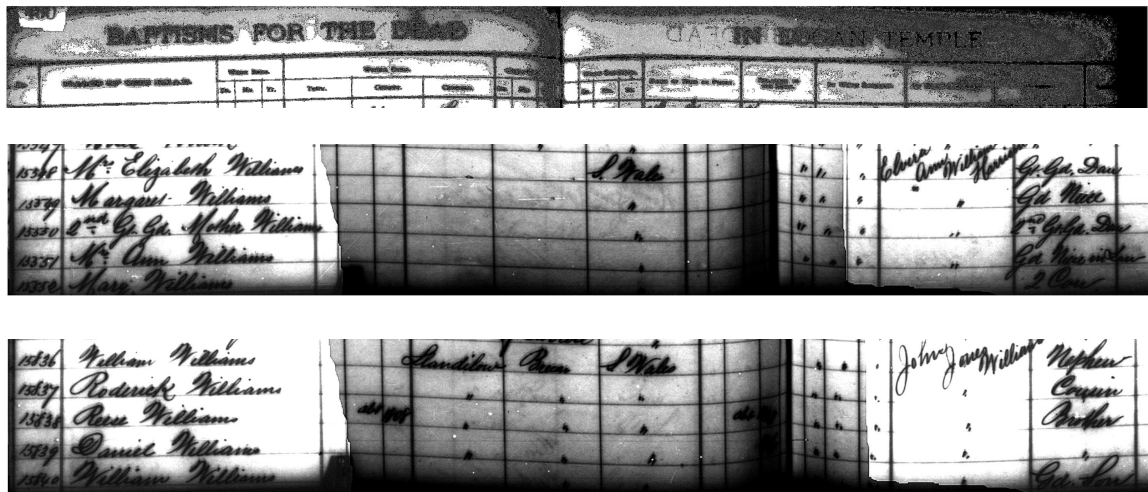


CHAPTER 2

BAPTISMS FOR THE DEAD

This chapter examines a remarkable record that lists sixteen relatives of Roderick Williams and Elizabeth Evans, some of whom are otherwise unknown. The record must be used with caution because it contains some errors. Nevertheless, when carefully evaluated, it produces precious knowledge about our family in Wales.

Exhibit 7



Source: These are samples from pages 430-431 and 438-439 of a record book at the Logan Temple in Logan, Utah. The Logan Temple is a private building sacred to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. These records are available on FHL 177,843.

In the following transcription I omit the last four columns: *By Whom Baptized*, *By Whom Confirmed*, *Witnesses*, and *Recorder*. The people listed in those columns were temple workers, and such information is not pertinent to this book. Also, I replace ditto marks with the information to which they refer.

No.	Names of the Dead	When Born	Where Born Town County Country	When Died	When Baptized	Name of Heir or Proxy	Relation to the Dead
15348	Mrs. Elizabeth Williams			S. Wales	13 Apr 1886	Elvira Ann Williams Harrison	Gt. Gd. Dau
15349	Margaret Williams			S. Wales	13 Apr 1886	Elvira Ann Williams Harrison	Gd. Niece
15350	2nd Gt. Gd. Mother Williams			S. Wales	13 Apr 1886	Elvira Ann Williams Harrison	2nd Gt. Gd. Dau
15351	Mrs. Ann Williams			S. Wales	13 Apr 1886	Elvira Ann Williams Harrison	Gd. Niece in Law
15352	Mary Williams			S. Wales	13 Apr 1886	Elvira Ann Williams Harrison	2 Cous
15353	Elizabeth Williams			S. Wales	13 Apr 1886	Elvira Ann Williams Harrison	2nd Cou
15354	Mrs. William Walter			S. Wales	13 Apr 1886	Elvira Ann Williams Harrison	Gd. Niece in law

15836	William Williams		Llandilow	Brecon	S. Wales		13 Apr 1886	John Jones Williams	Nephew
15837	Roderick Williams		Llandilow	Brecon	S. Wales		13 Apr 1886	John Jones Williams	Cousin
15838	Reese Williams	abt 1808	Llandilow	Brecon	S. Wales	abt 1829	13 Apr 1886	John Jones Williams	Brother
15839	Daniel Williams		Llandilow	Brecon	S. Wales	1861	13 Apr 1886	John Jones Williams	Brother
15840	William Williams			Brecon	S. Wales		13 Apr 1886	John Jones Williams	Gd. Son
15841	Roderick Williams			Brecon	S. Wales		13 Apr 1886	John Jones Williams	Gt. Gd. Son
15842	Reese Davies			Brecon	S. Wales		13 Apr 1886	John Jones Williams	Nephew
15843	William Walter			Brecon	S. Wales		13 Apr 1886	John Jones Williams	Nephew
15844	Reese Walter			Brecon	S. Wales		13 Apr 1886	John Jones Williams	Nephew

On 13 Apr 1886 my great-great-grandfather John Jones Williams went from his home in southeast Idaho to Logan, Utah, with two daughters, Elvira Ann Harrison and Ruth Elizabeth Richardson, and with his sister-in-law Ann Williams, widow of his brother William Williams. There, in the Mormon Temple, they were baptized in proxy for their dead relatives. The relatives listed in the records of the Logan Temple were those who were dead, but lived to be at least eight years old, and were not baptized in the Mormon Church, or were thought to require re-baptism.

Their deceased relatives can be divided into three groups: (1) relatives of Ann Williams; (2) relatives of Ruth Jones, mother of John Jones Williams; and (3) relatives of Daniel Williams, father of John Jones Williams. Only the sixteen relatives of Daniel Williams are shown here, because they are the most pertinent to this book.

The record is incomplete and imperfect. The minor errors include Americanized spellings and estimated dates. The major errors include incorrect relationships. Elvira Ann Williams Harrison called herself a second cousin of Mary Williams and Elizabeth Williams. Census and other records show no such second cousins, but they do show Mary and Elizabeth as first cousins, once removed. Apparently, the Williams family in Idaho thought that both of these cousins were dead in 1886. In fact, Elizabeth Williams, widow of Rees Price, was still alive; she died 7 Jun 1891 in Llandeilo'r-fân, Breconshire, Wales.

Another incorrect relationship is that John Jones Williams claimed to be a grandson of William Williams and a great-grandson of Roderick Williams. I suggest that he inverted the two. Chapter 1 proves that he was certainly a grandson of Roderick Williams, and records yet to be discussed indicate that he was a great-grandson of William Powell. That he gave William Powell the surname Williams is an understandable mistake. By 1886 Welsh patronymics had disappeared, and fixed surnames had become the rule.

Further evidence that John Jones Williams inverted his grandfather and great-grandfather is that his daughter got it right. She asserted that Mrs. Elizabeth Williams was her great-grandmother. Chapter 1 proves that Elizabeth was the wife of Roderick Williams.

In summary, the Logan Temple records show the following relationships, with my corrections in brackets:

Elvira Ann Williams Harrison was:

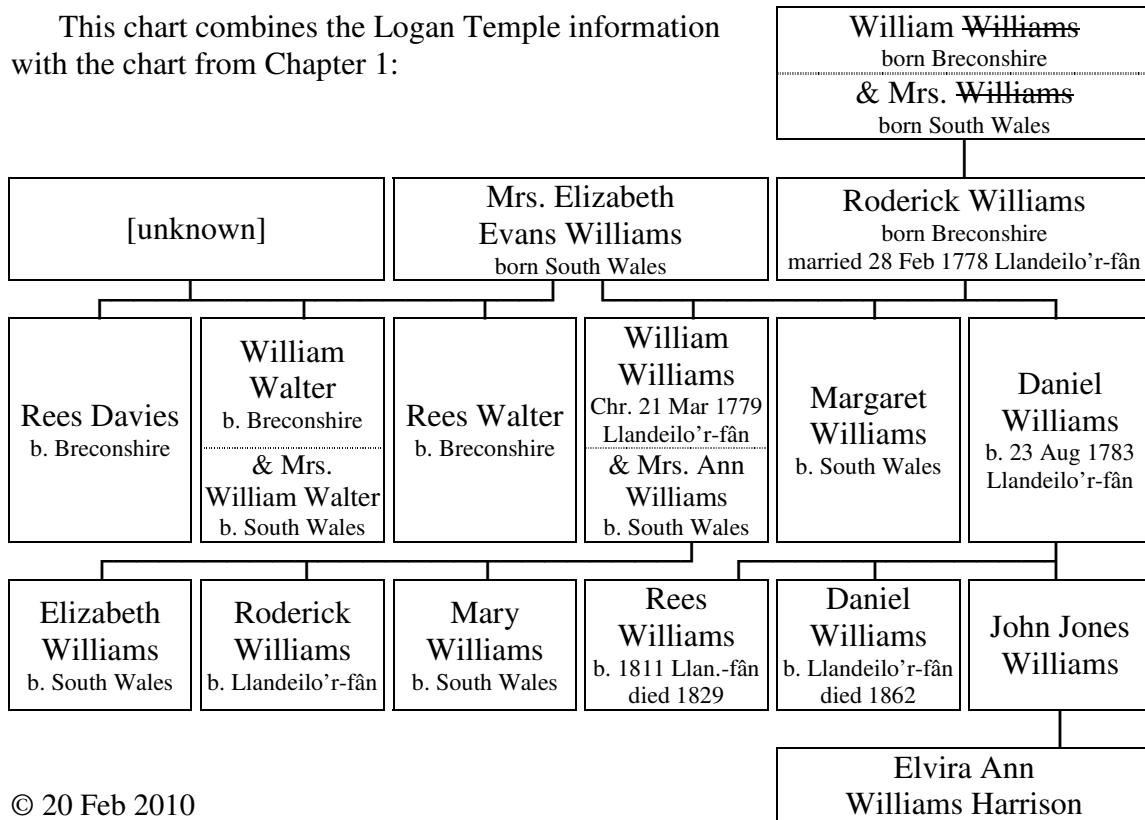
- a great granddaughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Williams, born South Wales.

- a grand niece of Margaret Williams, born South Wales.
- a 2nd great granddaughter of [Mrs. Williams], born South Wales.
- a grand niece-in-law of Mrs. Ann Williams, born South Wales.
- a [1st cousin once removed] of Mary Williams, born South Wales.
- a [1st cousin once removed] of Elizabeth Williams, born South Wales.
- a grand niece-in-law of Mrs. William Walter, born South Wales.

John Jones Williams was:

- a nephew of William Williams, born [Llandeilo'r-fân].
- a cousin of Roderick Williams, born [Llandeilo'r-fân].
- a brother of [Rees] Williams [1811]-1829, born [Llandeilo'r-fân].
- a brother of Daniel Williams, born [Llandeilo'r-fân], died [1862].
- a [great grandson] of William [Williams], born Breconshire.
- a [grandson] of Roderick Williams, born Breconshire.
- a nephew of [Rees] Davies, born Breconshire.
- a nephew of William Walter, born Breconshire.
- a nephew of [Rees] Walter, born Breconshire.

This chart combines the Logan Temple information with the chart from Chapter 1:



© 20 Feb 2010

Kyle D Williams
 215 W. High St.
 Woodbury, TN 37190
 (615) 464-7558
kyle.d.williams.1959@gmail.com