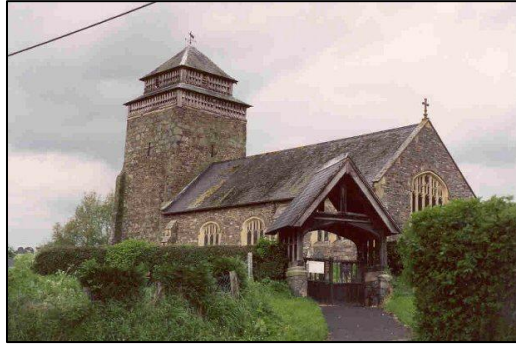


ELIZABETH ANN BUMFORD

Elizabeth Ann Bumford was born 16 January 1799 in the parish of Bettws Cedewain, Montgomeryshire, Wales. She was the daughter of Edward Bumford and Margaret Davies. Elizabeth was the oldest daughter in the family. She had an older brother, John, three younger brothers, David, Edward and Lewis, and a younger sister, Mary.

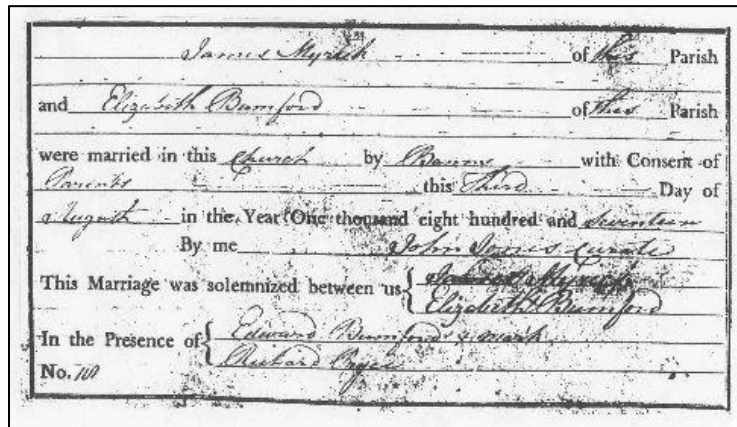


The parish of Bettws Cedewain lies in a sheltered valley on the banks of the Bechan river. It is about five miles from Newtown. The name “Bettws” comes from the Welsh, meaning prayer house. The village is ancient. The site was probably used by Roman soldiers. An ancient church was founded here by St. Beuno in the 6th century. It is an agricultural community. The population in the 19th century was 579 people.

Elizabeth’s brothers were also all born in the parish of Bettws Cedewain. The parish record also lists the township for the two younger brothers’ births. Edward and Lewis were both born in Dolvorwin township, Bettws parish. This is the site of the ruins of Dolforwyn Castle. Dolforwyn Castle was built by Llywelyn the Last in 1273. Llywelyn ap Gruffudd built the castle as a snub to the authority of the English crown. The castle fell to Edward I just four years later, and was little used thereafter. It was in ruins by the 1390s. The ruins of the castle remain today.



When Elizabeth was 18 years old she married James Meyrick on 3 August 1817 in Bettws.



Parish register for Bettws Cedewain, Montgomeryshire, Wales showing the marriage of James Meyrick and Elizabeth Bumford

After their marriage, James and Elizabeth moved from place to place, as James sought work. Their first child, Maryann, was born in Neen Sollars, Shropshire, England in 1820. The next child, James, was born in Milson, Shropshire, England in 1822. John was born in Eastham, Worcestershire, England in 1828 and died one year later. The next child was also named John, and was born in Talgarth, Brecon, Wales in 1831. Another daughter, Susannah was born next in Warwick, Warwickshire, England in 1834. George William was born in Leamington, Warwick, England in 1838. Finally, Frederick was born in Worcester, Worcestershire, England in 1839. He died two months later.

Elizabeth's son, John, kept a diary which describes some of the family's later moves: *"My father's work called him away to another place called Boarson. We stayed there two years, then we moved again. So his work, it did not last long in one place, for it was draining the land and making pools and coach roads and such like, for the Lords of the land. Then we moved to Trembury (Tenbury, Worcestershire), but did not stay there long."* The family next moved to Ludlow, Shropshire, England.

It was in Ludlow that a great change came into Elizabeth's life. The family met Mormon elders preaching the gospel. Elizabeth was the first in the family to believe and to accept the gospel. She was the first one baptized, in August 1849 at Ludlow in the River Teme. She was baptized by Elder Edward W. Jones. Her husband, James, was baptized next. In the next month the children Maryann, John, Thomas and George were baptized. Elizabeth's son John recalls, *"Then the Mormon Elders came along preaching glad tidings of joy to all men. We heard their teachings and received them. We were baptized September 13, 1849, father, mother, Mary Ann, Thomas, George, and I. We were baptized in the River Thames at Ludlow. Mother was the first to receive the gospel so the first to be baptized."* The family began to save their money to be gathered to Zion.

Four years later, in 1853, they were able to send their son John ahead to Utah. They gave him the eight pounds necessary, and sent him with Elder William Finch. In that same year their daughter, Maryann, died. She was the widow of James Frederick Wishaw, who died in 1847. Maryann died of dysentery,

House No.	Family No.	Name	Age	Sex	Color	Profession
		Albert	70	M	W	At Home
		Sally Sarah	65	F	W	At Occup
12						
13						
14	12	James James	24	M	W	Farmer
		Elizabeth	69	F	W	Keeping House
15	13	Charles Charles	24	M	W	Farmer
		Elizabeth	24	F	W	Keeping House
		George W	8	M	W	At Home
		William A	7	M	W	At Home
		20 - 24	1	M	W	At Home

1870 census, Mt. Pleasant, Sanpete County, Utah

James died in 1871, leaving Elizabeth a widow at the age of 72.

House No.	Family No.	Name	Age	Sex	Color	Profession	Married	Widow	Single
239	392	Hudson Luisa	17	F	W	Daughter			
		Luisa	16	F	W	Daughter			
		Andrew	13	M	W	Son			
		Hython	9	M	W	Son			
		John	6	M	W	Son			
		Widda	2	F	W	Daughter			
240	393	Bennett Anna	44	F	W	Wife	1		Company
		John	43	M	W	Husband	1		Keeping House
		William	15	M	W	Son			At School
		Luisa	11	F	W	Daughter			At School
		Franklin	9	M	W	Son			At School
		John	7	M	W	Son			At School
241	394	Mary Jane	34	F	W	Wife	1		Keeping House
242	395	Charles John	35	M	W	Husband	1		Company
		William	28	M	W	Son			Keeping House
		Elizabeth	8	F	W	Daughter			
		Agnes	5	F	W	Daughter			
		John	3	M	W	Son			
243	396	Malcolm John	32	M	W	Husband	1		Company

1880 census, Mt. Pleasant, Sanpete, Utah

Elizabeth is found living alone in the 1880 census in Mt. Pleasant:

E. Meyrick, age 89, born in Wales, keeping house

Census place: Mount Pleasant, Sanpete, Utah

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Elizabeth passed away twelve years after James, at age 84, on January 10, 1883 in Mt. Pleasant.

