

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### ELIZABETH DAVIS

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*I have excerpted the following from Ron Romig's Missouri History web page (see my links section). It provides added background on Elizabeth's expulsion from Missouri and return to the Missouri area.*

The late Arthur J. Brackenbury of Independence recalled that his grandmother, Elizabeth Brackenbury, lived there at the time of the expulsion.

"She lived on a 10-acre tract on the Blue, where Centropolis now is," Mr. Brackenbury said. "It was in November when she was driven from her home, and she and a son spent their first night with only a corn-shock as shelter."

With several other families, they went out the old river road north of Independence and crossed the river at the Wayne City landing. On the Clay County side, shelters were prepared by propping willows against a sycamore log, and the exiles remained there the rest of the winter.

### FATHER IN EXPULSION

Mr. Brackenbury's father, John W. Brackenbury, was 6 years old at the time of the expulsion. He later moved to California, where Mr. Brackenbury was born in 1861.

The idea always was to return to Independence, Mr Brackenbury said. We came back in 1876, by covered wagon from San Bernardino to Salt Lake City. We waited there a year for the Union Pacific railroad to be finished, and we chartered the first boxcar that ran from Ogden to Omaha. It cost father \$1,000 to move his family and household goods. Brackenbury recalled that the rail trip was delayed two days at Cheyenne when the wood-burning locomotive ran out of fuel. The trip was made by river boat from Omaha to White Cloud, Kans., and by covered wagon from White Cloud to Independence.

### FIRST RETURN IN 1867.

The first to return to Independence was Albert W. Noble and his family, who went there in 1867 from Grantsville, Utah. Church history recounts that he was warned to leave by a posse, but he remained and died five years afterward. In 1869 the return was made by Isaac Bailey and Frederick Campbell. Others followed. In 1873 a series of meetings was held by E. C. Brand and Joseph S. Lee in the hall over the Chrisman-Sawyer bank building, and the first church building was built and dedicated in 1884.

The small brick church was built on East Lexington street. It had an original membership of about 175 and a seating capacity of less than 300. Brick for the building was burned by Frederick Campbell, whose daughter, Mrs. Mary Campbell Horne, lives at 322 East Fair street, Independence.

We were informed that there was branch of our faith in Independence, for which place we started, and were much surprised on our arrival here to find none of our faith; but another division of the old church, ... led by Granville Hedrick; also another church, ... headed by Dr. E. McLellan.

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Membership of the Independence church, amplified by the return, expanded beyond the capacity of the brick building in three years. In 1887 Daniel S. Bowen offered a lot where the Stone church now stands