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## Document Title: Obituary of J. William Leaton (1828 GER - 1907 MO) & Biographical Sketch

**Source:** Mrs. Adrienne Roper of Salt Lake City, Letter to Patricia West, March 2000, in Private Family Papers of W. Bruce Springer, St. Louis, 2007. Obituary printed in the *Saline County Weekly Progress* (Marshall, Missouri), Friday, December 6, 1907, p. 5.

Transcription:

William Leaton

Died, Nov. 23, 1907, aged 80 years. He was born at Hanover, Germany, in 1827 and came to America in 1838. He was married to Miss Lucinda Victoria Davis, at Hannible [sic: Hannibal], Mo., in 1855, who now survives him. Of this union twelve children were born, ten of whom are living: Mars. Rose Pace, Mrs. Maggie Springer, Mrs. Levi Smith, Mrs. Agnes Fall, Mrs. T.S. McCutcheon, Mrs. Will Pace, Mrs. J.C. Brummett, William, John, and Lewis Leaton.

Mr. Leaton had been a resident of Saline county for 38 years and by his frugality and close attention to business had accumulated a moderate little fortune, and by his deeds of kindness and acts of charity won the confidence and esteem of all who knew him. No stranger was ever turned from his door and no application from the needy was ever disregarded. It can be truly said of him that "he never allowed his left hand to know what his right hand was doing." Deceased was a good man, following humbly in the steps of his Master. His death removes from our midst a good husband, kind loving father and a faithful friend. - J.C. Brummett

**Source:** *History of Saline Co.*, Missouri Historical Company, 1881, page 856. Sent to us my Mrs. Roper:

WILLIAM LEATON, P.O., Marshall. Was born in Hanover, Germany, in the year 1828, and when ten years of age, came with his parents to the United States. They landed at Baltimore, and located at Wheeling, Virginia, where he lived sixteen years. He then moved to Ohio, and lived there two years; then to Adams county, Illinois; then to Missouri, where he has been living ten years, most of the time in Saline county. Two years ago he purchased the farm of 240 acres on which he now lives, and which is all under fence, and is either in plow-land or pasture. In the year 1856 he was married to Miss Lucinda Davis, daughter of Thomas Davis, of Adams county, Illinois. They have had eleven children, of whom nine are now living: Rose A., wife of Martin Pace of this county; Hannah M., wife of Eugene Springer, of Pettis county, Missouri; Allie, wife of Levi Smith, of this county; Agnes, Adelaide, Fannie, Mary J., Aggie, William, and Josephine. They are all of the Methodist belief. Mr. Leaton served in the Fifty-sixth Illinois volunteers during the war, having been drafter. He began life with very little, and has now a handsome farm, well stocked.



William Leaton has a white beard, front row. Lucinda Davis Leaton is wearing a black dress in the front row. Hannah Margaret "Maggie" Leaton Springer is the first person, left in the back row.

Additional photo on next page.



Handwriting:

Top row: W. F. Leaton born Nov-25-1828 April-5-1855 (married) died 1907  
Lucinda Leaton, Born Nov. 25, 1839

Under Photo:

Left column:

Virginia Alice Leaton Oct 12-1863  
Adelaide (Ada) Leaton - Sept 15 1867  
Margaret (Maggie) Leaton - Aug 12-1880 [This is not the Maggie Leaton who married Eugene Springer]  
Agnes Elisabeth Leaton - Dec 16-1865  
Lewis Napoleon Leaton - Aug 19 1881  
William (Bill) Leaton - July 4-1874

Second column:

John Thomas Leaton Jan 21 1875  
Fannie B. Leaton Sept 25 1871  
Mary Jane Leaton Nov 15<sup>th</sup> 1869  
Rose Ann Leaton Feb 5 1857

Identify the woman in the oval portrait at the top left is unknown to us.