HOMER MANLEY BROWN
1854-1936

Homer Manley Brown was born in Salt Lake City, Utah 10 June 1854, the son of Homer Brown and Sarah Ann Woolf. His father, Homer Brown, came west with the pioneers of 1847 with his father, Benjamin Brown. He grew to manhood in Salt Lake City, taking active part in pioneer activities from his earliest years. He engaged in farming, stock raising, and brick making throughout the earlier years of his adult life.

He married Lydia Jane Brown, daughter of James S. And Lydia Jane Tanner Brown, in the Endowment House on 22 Nov. 1875, in a ceremony performed by Pres. Daniel H. Wells. Homer and Lydia became the parents of 14 children, 7 boys and 7 girls, as follows:
Minnie Gertrude, born 1876; Sarah Edna, born 1878; Homer James, born in 1880; Lydia Jane; born in 1882; Hugh B. Born 1883; Scott B., born in 1885; Lawrence Manley, born in 1887; Owen Smith born in 1889; Gerald Stevens, born in 1 890; Roumelia Calkins, born in 1892; twins Winona B. And Verona B., born in 1894; Zola B., tom 1897; and Harvey B., born in 1901

In 1899, the family moved from Utah to Cardston, Alberta, Canada, where they engaged in farming and did much to build up the community. Sister Brown served faithfully for 6 years as the president of the Relief Society, traveling hundreds of miles by horse and buggy visiting the scattered wards and branches.

They returned to Salt Lake City in 1919, where they lived the remainder of their lives. Here Homer Manley served as a patriarch in the Granite Stake and had the pleasure and honor of pronouncing patriarchal blessings upon the heads of many of his numerous grandchildren.

Homer and Lydia celebrated 50 years of marriage at a Golden Wedding Reception held at the Waterloo Ward on 9 Oct. 1925, in Salt Lake City. For this occasion, Homer Manley penned the following words to his sweetheart.

When first on this journey we started to run, Lydia was 20 and 21.
And now her sweet dimples to wrinkles have run For she is now 70 and I, 71.
And now each sweet wrinkle brings comfort serence for each dimple & wrinkle brought happiness keen. Thru 50 short years we’ve been together In rain and in sunshine, in fair & foul weather.
Now I am thankful those wrinkles have come That you are now 70 & I, 761.
Tho’ wrinkles remind us we’re now nearing home, Great love and posterity to us have come. We have 7 fair daughters to womanhood grown, To cheer up our lives & brighten our home. Add to that number our 7 fine boys, And we’ve a fair share of life’s blessings and joys. As to our numbers-allow me to state- Our posterity reaches to just 68.
And out of that number, there’s not one to spare; God grant us claim on each one, over there.

From Manley to Lydia–1925

Lydia passed away 3 June 1935 in Salt Lake City with all of her surviving 13 children surrounding her bed. Her last words to Homer Manley were, “I beat you to it.” He died just 8 months later 1 Feb. 1936 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Mary Brown Firmage, Granddaughter

Typed into the computer Oct. 2002 Kathleen Jardine Woolf Idaho Falls, Idaho
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