BRIGHAM HENRY ELLSWORTH
1850-1922

Brigham Henry Ellsworth was born in Salt Lake City, Utah, 23 Nov. 1850, son of Edmund Lovell and Elizabeth Young Ellsworth. He was reared and educated in Utah when he learned the machinist’s trade. Later he worked for the Utah Northern Railroad as an engineer and practical machinist.

On 27 Dec. 1869 he married Helen Adelia Gibson in Salt Lake Endowment House. She was born 10 Sep. 1848 at Black Fork River, Wyoming, the daughter of Henry Elliot and Martha Eliza Gibbs Gibson, who were natives of New York. Her parents came to Salt Lake in 1848 and she was born on the plains while they were enroute to Utah. In 1849 her father left Salt Lake for California where he remained for 18 months. Upon his return the family moved to Millcreek Canyon. Later they lived in Willard, Utah and finally settled in Cache County, Utah, where they resided for a number of years. Afterwards he became a lumber merchant in Ogden, then moved to Clearfield where he purchased land which he farmed for several years. He died in Ogden, Utah on 19 Oct. 1912.


After their marriage Brigham worked on the railroad for 5 years. In 1882 he and his brothers, Edmund II and John, and his brother-in-law Richard Franklin Jardine, came to Lewisville. After looking the land over, he filed on 160 acres which was located northwest of Lewisville, yet adjoined the town site. Wells Barney and Melvin Clement now farm this property. He returned to Utah, sold his holdings and moved to Lewisville that fall with his brother, John, and his brother-in-law Richard F. Jardine. These 2 families were the first settlers of Lewisville.

For 15 years he worked at transforming the raw tract of land into cultivated fields. Then he sold the property and moved into the town of Lewisville where he opened a blacksmith shop. He shoed horses, repaired implements and did all the iron work. Yet he set all the broken bones and splinted them efficiently. He pulled all the teeth that needed pulling and fixed all the clocks and watches. If you had a gun that didn’t work, he fixed that, too. He mended tea kettles, boilers and tubs and could fix anything that needed repairing. He also played the violin at all their dances and entertainments. Because of his many and varied talents he was indispensable in those early days.

On 29 June 1883 he was appointed Lewisville’s first Justice of the Peace. He died 19 Nov. 1922 at Lewisville and his wife died 21 July 1929. Both are buried in the Lewisville
Cemetery.