ERASTUS JAMES WILLIAM HARDY

Born 19 Feb 1856 in Camberwell, England. He was the oldest of 8 children of James and Mary Ann Hyde Hardy. When 7 years old his parents came to America on the S. S. Amazon with William Bramel in charge of 895 saints. 42 days later they arrived in New York and then traveled by Railroad & Steamboat to Council Bluffs now Omaha.

They left the fort on 4 Aug. 1863 with ox team & crossed the plains to Utah, arriving in Oct. Of the same year with Captain Horton C. Heights in charge. His mother was not very strong as her 5th child was but 7 days old, when they started for America. Daylight could be seen through the roof of their first house, which was an old carpenter shop. His mother took Mountain fever, being weak from the long journey.

Brother and Sister Spicer, dear friends, took him in and kept him for 4 years, his parents moving to Provo 1865. His father got a job as worker for a company building the Union Pacific Railroad in Echo Canyon and he being but 11 years old carried water to the men. The Railroad came into Salt Lake in 1869.

When he was 13 he went back to Brother Spicer’s and worked 2 years. Then he came back to Provo and worked as butcher for J. C. Glenfield. At 16 he entered the employee of Provo Woolen Mills under Bishop Andrew H. Scott. He at first worked in the finishing room, later he & Joseph F. Dunn took the contract of sorting wool. After a few years he went back to the finishing room, where he helped shrink and finish the cloth.

On Dec. 1876 he married Sarah Ann Scott and to them 13 children were born: Mary, William, Roseltha, Andrew, Sarah, James, Howard, Zella, Eva, George, Dean, LaVern, and Edna. All lived to maturity except Zella. His wife died 25 April 1897 of heart trouble leaving 12 children, the youngest being 13 months old.

He worked in the sales room the last 6 years before the Woolen Mills shut down, and from there he went to J. E. Bott store and clerked.

He was an ardent church worker. He married his 2nd wife, Rachel D. Mendenhall in 1902, and they had 2 girls-Fanny and Arthella.

He died suddenly of heart trouble at the Union Pacific Railroad station in Provo, Utah 24 Sep. 1909 at 53 years of age. His death occurred during Pres. Taft’s visit to Provo.

Information from Hardy family. Paper info.
Typed into the computer Oct. 2002 Kathleen Jardine Woolf  Idaho Falls, Idaho