SAMUEL GATES MARLER
1859-1932

Samuel Gates Marler was born 29 Jan. 1959 at Lynne (now Ogden), Weber, Utah, the son of William Norton Marler and Lucetta Maria Gates. The family first lived in Eden Valley east of Ogden before moving to North Ogden. In 1864 they moved to Huntsville where they lived for 3 years before moving to North Ogden. In 1871 December the family moved to Clifton, Idaho where only a handful of settlers lived at that time.

On 13 Nov. 1879 he married Sarah Jane Harris at Clifton, Idaho. She was born in England and was the daughter of James Harris and Elizabeth Chugg. To this union were born the following children: Sarah Lucetta born 10 Nov. 1880 at Clifton, married Solomon Harris; #2 Samuel Harris born 20 Aug. 1883 at Clifton; #3 William Albert born 22 Dec. 1885 at Clifton, and married Mary Dorothy Fernandez; #5 George Earnest born 1 Jan. 1889 at Lewisville, married Edith Elliott; #7 Sylvia born 3 May 1891 at Lewisville, married Elmer Newell.

The family remained at Clifton, Idaho Until 1887 when they moved to Lewisville where his older brother and sister lived. They settled on a farm southeast of the townsite where his last 2 children were born. Shortly after their last child was born, his wife died leaving him with 5 children to raise.

His unmarried sister, Lucetta, cared for the children until he married 16 Jan. 1895 Eliza Ann Taylor, the daughter of Pleasant Green Taylor from Grant, Idaho. She was the widow of Edmund Zebulon Taylor and had 3 children, Edmund, Lester, and Etta, by her first husband. To this union were born the following children: Loran Josiah born 23 May 1896 at Lewisville, married Zella Ryset, died 10 March 1952; #2 Harold Gates born 20 March 1898 at Lewisville, married Nell Butterworth; and #3 Millie Gertrude born 6 Nov. 1900 at Lewisville, married 3 June 1917 Ralph W. Johnson, died 1 May 1918.

Since Samuel was an early settler in the Lewisville area he did much to build up the community. While they were building the Great Feeder Canal during the winter of 1895, he was general foreman and worked from the time the first spade of dirt was dug until he helped cut the false dam to let the water through the gates. After that they put cribs in to turn the flow of the water into the diversion gates. They drove piling through the ice and the men lived in tents warmed by little sibley stoves and cooked and ate in one big tent. His brothers, James L. And William Norton Marler, also worked on the construction of this canal driving on slip scrapers, as well as his stepsons, Lester and Edmund Taylor.

In 1906 he went into partnership with his brother, James Levi, and David Kinghorn and his son in making bricks for his family a new home. The house was constructed southeast of Lewisville and still stands today. However, the red brick has been painted white.

On 6 May 1907 he was elected the second mayor of Lewisville and served in that capacity for 6 months, being released 2 dec. 1907. While he was mayor he cleaned up the sides of the roads of sagebrush and weeds so the people could walk there when the roads were muddy. He put in culverts and placed 4 inch wide planks across the ditches. If the people wouldn’t clean the area in front of their house, they had to pay the town for cleaning them. 19 people refused to comply to these orders, so the town cleaned the area at a cost of 20 cents per hour’s labor.

About 1912 the family moved to Ririe where Sam owned a hotel and livery stable. His wife died 10 Feb. 1932 at Rigby and he followed soon 12 Sep. 1932. Both are buried at the Lewisville Cemetery. A friendly jovial man with a good sense of humor, respected and liked by
those who knew him. Several of his family stayed in the area, married, and worked.


Information from History of Lewisville, Idaho 1882-1982
Typed by Kathleen Jardine Woolf 17 Dec. 2002 Niece of Sylvia and Elmer