

WILLIAM NORTON MARLER, JR.  
1857-1908

William Norton Marler, Jr. Was born 2 Sep. 1857 at Lynne (now Ogden), Utah, the son of William Norton Marler, Sr. And Lucetta Maria Gates. His father came to Utah with his parents from Mississippi after they joined the LDS Church. His mother came to Utah in 1853 with her parents from Michigan.

At first the family lived in Eden Valley, east of Ogden before moving to North Ogden. In 1864 they moved to Huntsville where he attended school. In 1867 the family moved to Cache Valley and settled at Providence where his parents bought a nice farm and home. Here William continued his education. In December 1871 the family moved to Clifton, Idaho where only a handful of settlers lived at that time.

Here William met and married May Lillian Hicks (or Hix) 14 Feb. 1877. She was born in the goldfields of California and came to Utah in July 1864 at the age of 8 years. Her father sent the family ahead, but died before he could rejoin them. Although her mother struggled to make a living with her 5 children, she never neglected their education and arranged for May to attend school for 2 years in California. After she received her education she taught school.

To this union were born the following children: May, born 24 Nov. 1877 at Clifton, Idaho married 17 August 1894 Daniel Gross Brian, Jr., died 9 Jan. 1949; #2 Lella Ernestine born 21 Sep. 1880 at Clifton, married 4 Oct. 1905 James Drummond Hoggan, died 4 July 1951; #3 Dora Idelle, born 13 Aug. 1883 at Clifton, married 3 Dec. 1903 Joseph Burt Williams; #4 Charlotte Lucetta born 25 Aug. 1885 at Soda Springs, married 9 Aug. 1909 Frank Blair Ellsworth; #5 William Norton III born 7 March 1888 at Soda Springs, married 28 Aug. 1916 Elinor Madge Brett, died 3 May 1922; #6 George Truman born 14 Aug. 1893 at Lewisville, married 13 Oct. 1913 Minnie Udink, died 10 July 1946; #7 Milton Towsley born 13 April 1899 at Grant, married 26 Oct. 1918 Mabel Maria Cragin.

First they farmed at Clifton until 1884 when they moved to Woods Canyon, east of Soda Springs where he worked in the timber for 4 years. Though they loved the wild beauty and solitude of their summers, the winters were very severe there. So they moved to Lewisville in 1888, they spent one year at Fall River where he located a homestead, but had to abandon it because no water could be obtained. Then the family returned to Lewisville and settled in the house where Leo Selman now lives. Here he worked with timber operations in the various logging campos of Wyoming, tended sheep, fed cattle and at one time had a butcher shop in the cellar of their house. He farmed and even panned for gold in the Snake River.

His wife was an active member of the LDS Church and held offices of trust and responsibility in the YLMIA and Relief Society organizations. She served as clerk for the district's school board for several years, and was the postmistress for Lewisville from 23 May 1905 until 20 Sep. 1910, a total of 5 years.

In those early days the community depended upon her for many things. They came to her to make fairy's wings or a devil's mask, to design a banner or stage a parade, to make a wedding gown or to write a poem for the dead. And all this had to be done on a moment's notice. But she never disappointed them.

William died 21 July 1908 at Lewisville and is buried in the Lewisville Cemetery. She died 30 Aug. 1930 at Ogden and is buried in the Ogden City Cemetery beside her mother. Information from Lewisville Centennial Book 1882-1982 Typed by Kathleen J. Woolf

