

JAMES THOMAS WILSON
1869-1925

James Thomas Wilson was born 18 May 1869 at Midway, Utah, the son of William Walter Wilson and Emily Mansfield Gray. He was the 7th child in a family of 11 children. He came from a polygamist family and when his father died in 1880, his mother took the children and left Midway, Utah. It is not known when they came to Lewisville, but they were here before 1890 when his mother died and was buried in the Lewisville Cemetery.

On 17 Sep. 1895 he married Rowannah Wilmot Jardine at Lewisville. She was born 10 July 1877 at West Weber, Utah, the daughter of Richard Franklin Jardine and Luna Caroline Ellsworth. To this union the following children were born at Lewisville: James LeRoy Robert Emmett, Margaret (Maggie), Hamlet Richard (Whitey), Richard Franklin, Josephine, Eugene Victor, Morris Dale and Walter Duane. (Full dates are in Rowannah's history.)

Jim was skilled in several trades. As a mason and carpenter he and Charles Ellsworth worked as contractors in building many homes in Menan and Lewisville. One of these is the Walter A. Clement home in Lewisville. They also built the amusement hall, the old rock schoolhouse at Lewisville and the town halls in Menan and Lewisville.

He was also talented musically and could play the violin, mandolin and the piano as well as sing. He was called upon often to perform at celebrations in Lewisville and also sang at the dedication of the Great Feeder Canal 22 June 1895. He also played in a dance group called "The Lewisville Dance Orchestra," which consisted of Walter A. Clement-trombone, Charles Ellsworth-trumpet, Alexander Kinghorn, Jr.-drums, Nellie and Rose Kinghorn-piano and Jim who played the violin.

As a poet he was called upon often to write poetry for special occasions. On the 4th and 24th of July he was always asked to write the message of the day. He also wrote poetry for his family and on Richard F. Jardine's 50th Wedding Anniversary he wrote 2 poems. "Over Jardine's" and "The Aristocrats."

He died 11 Aug. 1925 at Lewisville. After her husband's death, his wife married Hyrum Howard and later John Erickson. She died 25 June 1952 and is buried in the Lewisville Cemetery with her first husband.

Information from Lewisville Centennial Book 1882-1982

Typed into the computer 16 Nov. 2002 by Kathleen Jardine Woolf a Niece.