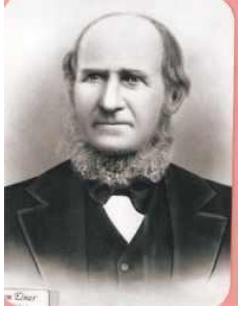


William Elmer (Dwelling #696)



William Elmer was the son of John and Sarah “Sally” Peake Elmer. He was born on September 16, 1820 in Norwich, Windsor County, Vermont. He had four brothers and four sisters.

As the family started west in about 1838, they traveled through Ohio where the mother, Sarah “Sally” and her son, Samuel, died of typhoid fever. The rest of them continued to Adams County, Illinois. Land was procured and a log cabin begun. Short on supplies, the men traveled to obtain them. While away, there was a fire that took their cabin and belongings. William’s father, John, married the widow of Seymour Brunson and the family moved into her house.

In 1843, land was obtained in Lee County, Iowa and they started to farm the land. It was here that William met and married Hannah Polina Child on March 26, 1846. Hannah was the daughter of Alfred Bosworth and Polly Barber Child (dwelling #694) and sister of Myron Barber Child (dwelling #695). She was born on January 24, 1828 in North Hammond, St. Lawrence County, New York.



The couple’s first child, John Samuel, was born on October 13, 1847 in Lee County, Iowa. The family then established itself in Big Pigeon. Here, Mark Alfred was born on December 16, 1848 and William Warren was born on November 22, 1850.

The 1850 U. S. Census enumerated the following: William, age 30; Hannah, age 22; John, age 3; and Mark, age 2. They traveled west with the Uriah Curtis Company that departed on June 28, 1852 from Kanessville.

They settled in Weber County, Utah Territory. Hannah had total of twelve children. William took a second wife, Mary Ann Gheen, and she had four children. The family farm was in Marriott, Weber County. William was called upon frequently to help with Indian trouble and to help rescue the Martin Handcart Company. He was commissioned a Colonel by the Governor of Utah.

William died on December 14, 1894. Hannah’s death followed three years later, May 22, 1897.