

## **ABEL EVANS.**

### **Biography from the Lehi Centennial History**

Abel Evans, son of Samuel Evans, was born June 24, 1813, at Carmarthenshire, South Wales. His boyhood and early life were spent in the coal mines of his native land. He never joined any of the religious denominations, although he always lived an honest, moral, and upright life.

About the year 1840 he received the gospel as taught by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in Glamorganshire, South Wales, being the second person baptized in Wales. For the next ten years, he devoted himself to the ministry, traveling in South and North Wales, and as a result a great many people accepted the gospel at his hands.

He emigrated to America in 1850, and while crossing the ocean, he became acquainted with Mary Jones, whom he married after landing in America. The next two years were spent in Council Bluffs, and in 1852 he and his wife crossed the plains with ox teams, coming direct to Lehi, where he resided for thirteen years. He was called on a mission to his native land in 1865, and labored there for a period of one and a half years, at which time he slept in a damp bed, from the effects of which he died November 30, 1866, firm in his Masters' cause.

He was the husband of three wives, namely: Mary Jones, Martha Morgan, and Jane Davis. He was the father of sixteen children, nine of whom reached maturity, namely: Abel John, William, Samuel, Mary (Mrs. Thomas Webb), Sarah (Mrs. William Sabey of Magrath, Canada), Catherine (Mrs. William R. Yates), Hyrum, Edward (now of Beach, Idaho), Martha (Mrs. George C. Phillips, deceased), Jane (Mrs. Abraham Gudmunson, deceased).

Abel Evans was a man of strong faith, and was especially endowed with the gift of healing and the discerning of spirits. He was counselor to Bishop David Evans for a number of years as well as being president of the high priests' quorum; was marshal of Lehi; and held a number of other civil offices.