

Edward Hall

From *Stories of Theron Smith Hall, His Parents and Grandparents*
Written by Dorothy Lufkin Davenport Hall
For her grandchildren in 1977

Once there was a little boy named Edward. He had a twin brother named Edwin. They were born in Connecticut. There were eleven children in the family-seven girls and four boys. Their father, Jacob, was a tailor and made coats and suits.

When Edward and Edwin were fifteen years old, they decided to go west “so seek their fortunes.” Wherever they went, they worked hard and were frugal with their means. Sometimes they split rails for fences or chopped firewood or did any kind of work they could find.

By the time they were twenty eight years old, they had 1300 acres of land and a nice house in Iowa. But they had no wives to take care of it or them.

A short time before, they had gone to Illinois to see a farm that was for sale, and there they had met a man – Thomas Ballinger – who had six daughters. They decided to return to Illinois and ask his permission to marry two of his daughters. So they made the trip again. The father was willing and so were the girls, so Edward married Nancy Eleanor and Edwin married Scythia Jane, and they returned to their home in Iowa.

They moved several times before settling in the Des Moines region, where they built a grist mill to grind grain.

Once they lived in a place called Skunk Bottoms.

Edwin stayed in Iowa, but Edward took his family farther west, finally homesteading 360 acres of land in Utah, along the foothills east of Springville. He dug irrigation ditches and planted trees – mostly Cottonwood, along the banks. The shady trees later made a favorite spot to have picnics.

Edward first took up land in Springville, north of Spring Creek, just six days before the original pioneers of Springville arrived. He harvested the wild hay and kept his livestock there, going back and forth from there to Provo, where he and his family spent the winter.

Because of a new addition to their family, a baby boy born in October, Edward had rented a room in Provo and kept his family there until March, when they moved to Springville to live. So, they weren't counted as original pioneers.

Edward was a very quiet man and loved his home and to be in it.

He always liked to get up early and retire early, too. He always worked hard. He cut and hauled wood and fence posts. He and a Mr. Porter built the first grist mill in Springville.

He was ever willing to support his wife, Nancy, in her public life, as he said she was a born leader.

His motto was "Better suffer wrong than to do wrong."

Two of his grandchildren were Owen and Theron Hall.

Edward Hall (born 1813, died 1886).