

# Henry and Rosena Etzensperger Mueller

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The only living child of Henry & Rosena Etzensperger Mueller was Rosena Mueller Beacham. She writes of her parents: My father, Henry Mueller was born in Sack, Zumikon, Switzerland, January 1819. He died November 23, 1896. My mother Rosina Etzensperger was born October 9, 1829 at Zurich, Switzerland. She died May 5, 1909.



Heinrich (Henry) Mueller

My father was a widower when he married my mother. His first wife was Madeline Wintsch. He had two children by her. He lost the two children and his wife. He married my mother in 1855, and had three boys and one girl. They lost the three boys.

Father was a silk weaver by trade in the old country. He had to fix every fine silk thread in the loom by hand. He would fix the looms for the entire community.

My parents joined the LDS Church in Switzerland. They left Switzerland in 1860 and were on the ocean for six weeks. They stayed in New York over the winter. Mother got a little book showing the meaning of the Swiss and English words. It had stories and poems in it. By studying this book she was able to learn the English language. Mother walked all the way from New York to Salt Lake except for two half days. They brought a loom and a spinning wheel with them and made clothes for us. They dyed the clothes with dock weed roots and evergreens.

Father paid 50 gallons of wine towards his immigration fund. They were called by Brigham Young to come to Santa Clara.

Father made a good dugout, and three children were born in it. The roof was made by tying willows in bundles and laying them across the stringers, and then putting dirt on top. Later father built a one-room adobe house. It had one window and one door. The door was made in one piece from lumber from the Pine Valley Mountain. .

Mother had child bed fever, and I remember her saying that the mice were very bad while she was so sick. Father made very good willow baskets and took them to Pinto, New Harmony, and Cedar and traded them for flour and potatoes.

My father helped quarrie the rocks for the house of Jacob Hamblin. In return for his work they gave him cattle. They were lifelong residents of Santa Clara and are both buried in the Santa Clara Cemetery.