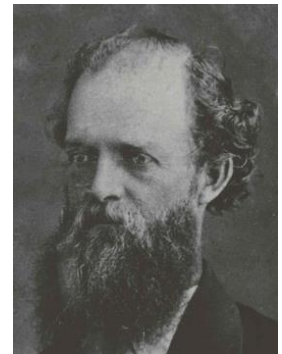




Augustus Poor Hardy

Augustus Poor Hardy was born 2 March 1831 in Georgetown, Essex, Massachusetts. He was the oldest son of Samuel Brocklebank Hardy and Caroline Bacon Rogers. The family joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in 1842 and immigrated to the Utah territory by ox team with the Wilford Woodruff company in 1850.



The family settled in Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah Territory. Augustus was sent on a mission to Parowan in 1851 by President Brigham Young, to assist in building a fort. In 1852 he was sent to Fillmore to assist in building the State House. In 1853 he was scouting and guarding in the Walker Indian War as a private in Hardy's Company.

In March 1854, Augustus married Elizabeth Ann Capener; over the years they became the parents of ten children.

In April that year, Augustus and 24 other men were called on church mission to work with the Indians in Southern Utah near the Santa Clara River. These missionaries were carefully chosen, not only for their gospel zeal, but for their knowledge of Indian language and psychology, and their ability as frontiersmen. Augustus considered the Indians of a fine character, describing them as trustworthy, hospitable, upright and honest, and their chief as very intelligent.

During this time, Augustus helped to lay out a permanent settlement called Tonaquint on the Santa Clara River. Augustus stayed on his mission until 1856 when he was released on account of sickness and returned to his family in Salt Lake City.

In 1858, Ephraim K. Hanks and Augustus P. Hardy helped settle Mountain Dell, where they established a trading post in the canyon.

He and his family moved south again in 1861, living at Virgin, Utah. The family moved to Grafton, Utah (now a ghost town) in 1862.

Augustus enlisted in the Utah Militia in August 1866, where he started as a lieutenant and an adjutant under Captain James Andress during the Black Hawk War. The family then moved to St. George in 1867, where Augustus was appointed bishop of the Indians by President Erastus Snow.

Augustus became the sheriff in St George. He built a very nice home which still stands today in what is now known as Ancestor Square. He died in St George in December 1912.