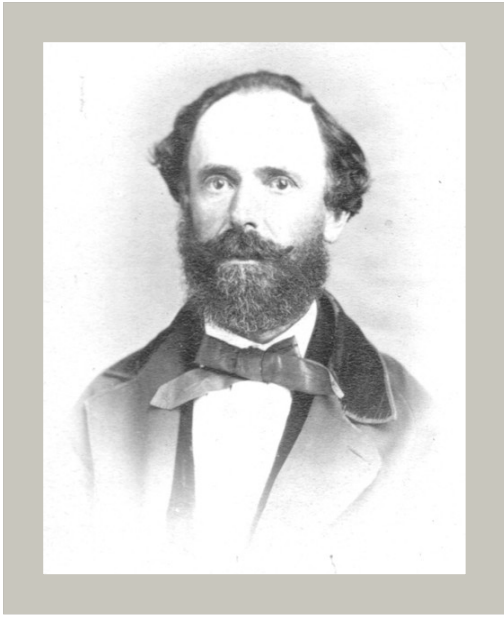


Elizabeth Kane's Observations at the Home of Henry Lunt, 1872



Henry Lunt, SUU Special Collections

Thomas and Elizabeth Kane and two young sons visited Utah in the winter of 1872-1873 as guests of Brigham Young. On their way to St. George, they stayed one night in Cedar City with the Henry Lunt family. Elizabeth wrote the following of their visit with who she calls "Mr. Hunt", who had recently suffered sight loss due in part to a doctor's malpractice.

Mr. Hunt did what he could to help, poor fellow, and poked his way about with a long stick, as he directed his little boys in the barn and garden. They had a garden behind the house which must have been very pretty in summer, the large beds having neat box edges, and the main walk passing between fine peach trees.

His voice and manner, though melancholy and subdued, were those of a gentleman; and sitting apart beside the fire I overheard what was probably not intended for my ears. His little unkempt barefooted boys had followed him into the room. He sat down with my Evan on his knee, and passing his hand over the child's curling locks, and the fine cloth of his jacket, said to his own sons, --

"Lads, when I was your age I was dressed like this, and a servant waited upon me. When you grow to my age, remember I never grudged what I have undergone for my faith."

In the morning when we assembled for prayers, he was prayed for, Mormon fashion, -- "Bless his lids that the swelling thereof may diminish; and his eyeballs that the inflammation may cease; and the nerve of his eyes that its sensitiveness may be restored; and that he may see again the beauty and glory of Thy Kingdom."

Poor man! His eyesight, I heard, did get a little better before we left Utah, and became able to "see men as trees walking," and for even that cloudy vision he was thankful. As he said after prayers that day, "It might be the Lord's will to grant him sight, and if so his faith should not be wanting to enable him to lay hold of the blessing."

(*Twelve Mormon Homes*, by Elizabeth Kane, p. 111-112)