

Henrietta McBride Belnap
2nd wife of Gilbert Belnap

Contributed By Daniele Bastian Longhurst

Written by John M. Belnap and wife Zina Belnap

In 1851, Henrietta, her mother, and two brothers, James and Nathaniel came to Salt Lake City, UT. Harlum had enlisted in the army and went with the Mormon Battalion to California and after being mustered out, came back to Utah and settled in Springville. George and Oliver had come to Salt Lake in 1848.

Henrietta, her mother and two brothers settled in Farmington, Utah, a short distance north of Salt Lake City. Here they began their struggles for a livelihood and the establishment of a home.

Here she met Glibert Belnap and on Jan 26, 1852, she became his second wife. They lived in a log house on the southeast corner of the intersection of Grant Ave. and 26th Street in Ogden. Adaline, his first wife, also lived at this address, plural marriage being practiced at that time.

On the 26th day of June 1852, according to Gilbert Belnap's journal, "My wives Adaline and Henrietta were sealed to me for time and eternity by President Brigham Young."

On April 26, 1855, under the hands of Lorenzo Snow, Gilbert Belnap was set apart for a mission to the Indians on the Salmon River. He left May 18, with others for this mission. His mission lasted until Jan. 1857. During the summer of 1856, he, with 8 others, returned to Salt Lake for provisions.

Up to this time, Henrietta had borne two sons, William J. in 1853 and Oliver in 1855.

Henrietta's brothers, George and James McBride were also called to the Salmon River mission. James tells some very interesting things and we will let him tell his own story from his history.

"In the fall of 1851, I went to Springville, Utah where my brother, Harlum, had located. I worked for him next spring and went to California in 1852 and stayed 3 years."

"In the spring of 1857, I went to Farmington to work my Brother George's place, he having been called on the Salmon River Indian Mission. The next fall, I was called to the same mission. I left Farmington Oct. 10 and got there the 1st of November. The Indians were very friendly and all went well until Feb. when the Indians became uneasy and acted suspicious. On the 25th of Feb. they made a raid on our herd that was under the care of three of our brethren. One of them, Andrew Quigley, was badly wounded and left for dead. Fountain Welsh was shot in the back and fell like he was dead. The Indians took his shirt off, looked at the wound, said it was a good shot, struck him over the back with a riding whip and left him for dead. He was conscious but never flinched. Orsen Rose, the third herder, made his escape and got to the fort."

Henrietta died 5 Sep 1899 at Hooper, Utah.