

EDWARD HUNTER

(From the Deseret News Church Almanac- 1982)

Edward Hunter, born 22, June, 1793, at Newton, Delaware Co., Pennsylvania, the son of Edward Hunter and Hannah Maris. Ordained a High Priest 23 Nov. 1844, by Brigham Young; sustained as Presiding Bishop of the Church 7 Apr. 1851 at the age of 58; 16 Oct. 1883, at Salt Lake City, Utah.

(From Bancroft's History of Utah)

Edward Hunter, a native of Newtown, Pa., was descended on his father's side from John Hunter' who served as lieutenant of cavalry under William III at the battle of the Boyne, his mother's lineage being traced back to one Robert Owen, a Welsh Quaker, who, refusing to take the oath of allegiance after the Restoration in 1655, was imprisoned, and afterward emigrating to America, purchased an estate near Philadelphia. On his father's death, Edward, who was then only 22 years of age, was offered his position as justice of the peace, but refused it on account of his youth. A few years afterward he purchased a farm in Chester Co. Pa., where he was visited by three Mormon elders, who were invited to make his house their home, though he had not yet joined the faith. In 1839 he entertained as his guest, the prophet, Joseph, who was then returning from his errand to Washington. In the following year he was baptized by Orson Hyde, then on his way to Jerusalem. In the summer of 1841 he proceeded to Nauvoo and purchased a farm from the Prophet, contributing the first year no less than \$15000 to the Church. In 1847 he entered the valley of the Great Salt Lake with the first companies that followed the pioneers, and on the death of Newel K. Whitney, was appointed presiding bishop of the church.