Christian Nelsen

Christian Knudsen
1845–1935

Residence: Portneuf (Chesterfield), Bannock Co., Idaho
Arrival in Copenhagen: 4 May 1883
Missionary labor: Ålborg Conference
Departure from Copenhagen: 7 May 1885
Departure ship: Cato

Birth date: 24 January 1845
Birthplace: Kjelgaard, Gudum, Ålborg amt, Denmark
Father: Christensen, Knud
Mother: Christensdatter, Karen Marjethe
Spouse: Call, Charlotte Vienna

Marriage date: 22 November 1869
Marriage place: Endowment House, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah

Death date: 17 October 1935
Death place: Bountiful, Davis Co., Utah
Burial place: Bountiful, Davis Co., Utah

Christian was with the first company of Latter-day Saints to leave Copenhagen in 1852. He arrived in Salt Lake City by ox team on 29 September 1853. After staying the first winter in the city, his family moved to Bountiful, Davis County, Utah (see “Christian Nelsen, Pioneer of 1853 Passes Away,” Davis County Clipper, 18 October 1935).

At age eighteen, he was called as a missionary to haul rock from Little Cottonwood Canyon to the Salt Lake Temple construction site. In 1860, he was called to cross the plains to assist other emigrants in their efforts to reach the valley. After successfully completing this assignment, he was called to be a pioneer in the Muddy Mission (today’s Logandale, Nevada). He remained in that region until 1868, when he returned to Bountiful (see “Christian Nelsen, Pioneer of 1853 Passes Away,” Davis County Clipper, 18 October 1935).

By 1880, Christian and his family had located near the Portneuf River, two and a half miles northwest of the Chesterfield town site in Bannock County, Idaho. Three years later, he accepted a mission call to Scandinavia. He arrived in Copenhagen on 4 May 1883 and was assigned to labor in the Ålborg Conference. After completing this mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 7 May 1885 with his wife, who came to meet him. Together they toured Europe. They returned to the States and resided once again in Bountiful in 1905. In that community, Christian served as a ward teacher, a Sunday School teacher, and a member of the bishopric (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 273, 275, 292; “Vinnie Nelson, Wife of C. Nelson, Dies at Bountiful,” Davis County Clipper, 23 November 1934).

He died in 1935 from chronic myocardiitis at his home in Bountiful, Davis County, Utah, at age ninety. His funeral services were held in the Bountiful First

Bengt Nelson
Bengt Nilsson
1834–1919

Residence: Cedar City, Iron Co., Utah
Arrival in Copenhagen: 2 June 1877
Missionary labor: Skåne Conference
Departure from Copenhagen: 7 September 1878
Departure ship: Bravo

Birth date: 28 September 1834
Birthplace: Lomma, Malmöhus län, Sweden
Father: Andersson, Nils
Mother: Pehrsson, Karna
Spouse: Johnson, Ellen
Marriage date: 16 November 1856
Marriage place: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Death date: 22 April 1919
Death place: Cedar City, Iron Co., Utah
Burial place: Cedar City, Iron Co., Utah

Bengt was educated in the common schools in Sweden. He helped his father on the farm in the summer and attended school in the winter. For a short time, he was apprenticed to a blacksmith. By age eighteen, he had learned the mason trade (see Nelson, “An Autobiography of Bengt Nelson, Sr.”).

Bengt was baptized on 15 April 1854, after walking fifteen miles to hear what the Mormon missionaries were saying. “Every word of the sermons and testimonies thrilled him and he knew that he had listened to the true gospel of Jesus Christ,” wrote his biographer (Palmer, “Historical Sketch of Bengt Nelson,” The Instructor, June 1945). His family members were angry with his decision to be baptized, leaving Bengt to write, “It seemed as though the whole world had now turned against me” (Nelson, “An Autobiography of Bengt Nelson, Sr.”).

Soon after his baptism, he boarded a small steamer bound for Copenhagen with a brother-in-law and two sisters. From Copenhagen they journeyed to Hull and Liverpool, England, and finally to America. Bengt recalled that on the ocean voyage a storm stripped the ship of all its sails. He crossed the plains with Captain Abraham O. Smoot’s ox-team company. “We had quite a time not being used to driving oxen and I found that most of the boys were just as green as I,” he penned (Nelson, “An Autobiography of Bengt Nelson, Sr.”). He arrived in the Salt Lake Valley on 9 November 1856.

Soon after his arrival, he married a young woman who had crossed the plains with him (see Palmer, “Historical Sketch of Bengt Nelson,” The Instructor, June 1945). He and his wife resided in Cedar City, Iron County, Utah. Bengt worked in the iron works industry and herded cattle. He recalled that the first winter “a band of Indians numbering about a dozen, came to our dugout, crowded in, and demanded everything we had.” He wrote, “We learned economy and patience, and found that a good many things that we considered absolute necessities today, could be gotten along without.” Bengt is credited with building several structures in Cedar City: “When the city was first located, no buildings had been erected and I had the honor of putting up nearly every house that was built in the place” (Nelson, “An Autobiography of Bengt Nelson, Sr.”).

Bengt was also highly involved in Church and civic activities. Bengt was ordained a seventy by Henry Harriman and served in the Sixty-third Quorum of the Seventy. From 1867 to 1868, he was the treasurer, marshal, assessor, and collector of Cedar City. In 1876, he was elected to the city council (see Nelson, “An Autobiography of Bengt Nelson, Sr.”).

While residing in that community, he accepted a mission call to Scandinavia in 1877. He was set apart for his mission by Orson Pratt and arrived in Copenhagen on 2 June 1877. He was assigned to labor in the Skåne Conference and was able to share the gospel with his uncle’s family (see Palmer, “Historical Sketch of Bengt Nelson,” The Instructor, June 1945). “It was over 23 years since I had left Sweden, and I had forgotten some of the language. I had had no previous experience in missionary work, and altogether began to feel discouraged,” he wrote. He had a dream that gave him encouragement to try. “In my travels I have seen many wonderful manifestations, and it has proven that the Lord has been with me,” he said (Nelson, “An Autobiography of Bengt Nelson, Sr.”). After completing this mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 7 September 1878 aboard the steamer...
Bravo with 218 emigrating Latter-day Saints and other missionaries bound for Zion (see Jenson, *History of the Scandinavian Mission*, 233).

After returning to the States, he penned, "I found all well at home; prosperity had attended my family" (Nelson, "An Autobiography of Bengt Nelson, Sr."). Prosperity continued to bless his labors. Yet, Bengt did not neglect his civic or Church responsibilities. He served in a bishopric, was president of the co-op store and of the Cedar Sheep Association, and was a school trustee for many years (see Palmer, "Historical Sketch of Bengt Nelson," *The Instructor*, June 1945). Of these responsibilities, he wrote, "I have held many positions of trust in Cedar City and have labored faithfully to the best of my knowledge" (Nelson, "An Autobiography of Bengt Nelson, Sr.").

Near the end of his life, he performed temple work for his deceased loved ones in the St. George Temple. He ended his autobiography by writing, "I am now nearing 76 years of age and according to the allotted life of man, my stay here is not long. I am in the hands of God and abideth my time" (Nelson, "An Autobiography of Bengt Nelson, Sr."). He died in 1919 in Cedar City at age eighty-four.

**James Nelson, Jr.**

1857–1919

*Residence*: Brigham City, Box Elder Co., Utah  
*Arrival in Copenhagen*: 19 September 1891  
*Missionary labors*: Alborg Conference  
*Departure from Copenhagen*: 6 October 1893

*Birth date*: 3 February 1857  
*Birthplace*: Ogden, Weber Co., Utah  
*Father*: Nielsen, James, Sr.  
*Mother*: Thomsen, Maria  
*Spouse*: Cutler, Nancy Urania  

*Marriage date*: 14 October 1877  
*Marriage place*: Endowment House, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah

*Death date*: 27 October 1919  
*Death place*: Perry, Box Elder Co., Utah  
*Burial place*: Brigham City Cemetery, Brigham City, Box Elder Co., Utah

James and his parents lived in the Brigham City Fourth Ward. His father worked for the Brigham City Roller Mills. As he grew to manhood, James helped his father in the mill. In his spare time, he read the Bible. After James married Nancy Cutler, they homesteaded in Brigham City, Box Elder County, for fourteen years before moving to Three Mile Creek, now known as Perry (see "A Life History of James Nelson, Jr., a Native Pioneer of Utah," 1–3).

James accepted a mission call to Scandinavia in 1891. He arrived in Copenhagen on 19 September 1891 and was assigned to labor in the Alborg Conference. After completing this mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 6 October 1893 with thirty-five emigrating Latter-day Saints from Scandinavia (see Jenson, *History of the Scandinavian Mission*, 320–21, 333).

In 1900, James moved his family to Thatcher, Box Elder County. On 15 February 1902 he became the presiding elder of the Thatcher Branch, named after Elder Moses Thatcher (see Tolman, "A History of the Thatcher Ward, 1894–1954"). He became bishop of the Thatcher Ward after being ordained a high priest and bishop on 24 November 1902 by Rudger Clawson. He served in that capacity until 21 May 1911. He was next called to serve on the high council (see "A Life History of James Nelson, Jr., a Native Pioneer of Utah," 5–6).

James was hit by a train at the Perry crossing in 1919. He died as a result of the accident at age sixty-two (see "A Life History of James Nelson, Jr., a Native Pioneer of Utah," 6).

**Jeppa Nelson**

1834–1914

*Residence*: Pleasant Grove, Utah Co., Utah  
*Arrivals in Copenhagen*: 12 September 1882  
*Missionary labors*: Göteborg and Skåne conferences  
*Departure from Copenhagen*: 6 June 1884  
*Departure ship*: Panther

*Birth date*: 31 October 1834  
*Birthplace*: Ullätta #3, Ostra Sallerup, Malmöhus län, Sweden  
*Father*: Jeppsson, Nils  
*Mother*: Svensdotter, Karna  
*Spouse*: Svensdotter (Swenson), Anna  

*Marriage date*: 16 June 1865  
*Marriage place*: Östra Sallerup, Malmöhus län, Sweden
Jeppa recalled begging for bread at Christmas time as a child due to the indigent circumstances of his parents. "At certain times I thought of my future and wondered whether the Lord would help me, so I wouldn't have to become so poor as my parents were," he penned. At age twelve, he began earning his living by serving in the Swedish army, where he learned the trades of wheelwright, mason, and stonecutter (see Journal of Jeppa Nelson, 1–2).

In the army he developed a great desire to know the truth about God. He attended Baptist meetings in his search for truth, but it was not until 1871, when he listened to Mormon missionaries, that his search ended (see Journal of Jeppa Nelson, 2). On 15 April 1871, Jeppa was baptized a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints by Ola Nilson. He emigrated from Sweden to America in 1873 and arrived in Salt Lake City on 24 July 1873. He settled in Pleasant Grove, Utah County, Utah, where he became a farmer (see Lund, Scandinavian Jubilee Album, 173).

He struggled to make a living as a farmer and spent most of his time working for others. He fulfilled two missions to Sweden. On his first mission, he served in the Göteborg and later Skåne Conferences. He presided over the Kristianstad and Vittskövle (Kristianstads län) branches (see Lund, Scandinavian Jubilee Album, 173). During his presidency, thirty-three converts were baptized. After completing this mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 6 June 1884 aboard the steamer Panther with 71 emigrating Latter-day Saints and several returning missionaries (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 268, 279).

His second mission assignment came at age seventy. He arrived in Copenhagen on 15 June 1904 and was assigned to labor in the Skåne Conferences. He wrote, "I was always for the most out among the people, and distributed tracts and had conversations, so I was known everywhere in the branch." (Journal of Jeppa Nelson, 4; Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 402, 405).

Returning to Utah, he became a successful farmer and was "highly respected in [his] community" (Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 268). He served as a ward teacher for many years and as first counselor in the Scandinavian meetings in Pleasant Grove (see Lund, Scandinavian Jubilee Album, 173). It is reported that he built the Manila chapel, laying each stone up to the gable. He was paid two hundred dollars for his labors on the building. He took the two hundred dollars and donated the money to purchase roof materials for that same building (see correspondence from Joye Anderson). He died in 1914 in Pleasant Grove at age seventy-nine. His widow wrote, "Now I sit here alone and grieve" (Journal of Jeppa Nelson, 5).

Martinus Nelson
Søren Martinus Nielsen
1863–1944

Residence: Ovid, Bear Lake Co., Idaho
Arrival in Copenhagen: 21 March 1891
Missionary labors: Alborg Conference
Departure from Copenhagen: 27 October 1892

Birth date: 10 January 1863
Birthplace: Lille Glinvad, Dronninglund, Hjørring amt, Denmark
Father: Nielsen, Andreas (Andrew) Martinus
Mother: Sørensdatter, Mariane
Spouse: Peterson, Clara Wilhelmina
Marriage date: 3 April 1884
Marriage place: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Spouse: Mathisen, Agnes Vannoy
Marriage date: 4 June 1909
Death date: 9 April 1944
Death place: Salmon, Lemhi Co., Idaho
Burial place: Ovid, Bear Lake Co., Idaho

Martinus's family immigrated to the United States in 1869 sailing on the Minnesota, which left Liverpool on 15 July 1869. The family settled in the Huntsville, Weber County area. The Ovid Ward reported receiving the family in 1876, and Martinus was baptized there on 5 November 1876. He was ordained a deacon on 5 February 1878, an elder on 30 March 1884, and a seventy on 18 July 1884.

While a resident of Ovid, Bear Lake County, Idaho, Martinus accepted a mission call to Scandinavia in 1891. He arrived in Copenhagen on 21 March
Nels Nelson joined The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on 4 April 1856. He was baptized and confirmed by Elder Jens Jenson. Eight years after his baptism, Nels emigrated, leaving his native land in 1864. Four years after arriving in Zion, on 25 April 1868, he received his endowment. Nels and his wife Eleanor lived in Santaquin, Utah, Utah County. Eleanor was born in Lancashire, England. They were married in Salt Lake City, Utah, and they had five children. Nels supported his family by farming and doing carpentry work.

Soon after Nils's birth, his father left the family and immigrated to America. Of necessity, his mother worked outside the home, leaving Nils in the care of others. By age eight, he supported himself by herding cattle and sheep. At age eleven, he went in search of his mother but was unable to find her. He learned that she had abandoned him. He was picked up by the police and lived in a poorhouse until a local farmer gave him work (see Nelson, “Biography of Nils Nelson,” 1).

By 1869, Nils had learned the trade of a blacksmith. He worked for three years for nothing except his room and board. During this time he also investigated various religions. He then obtained work in a machine shop. Working in that shop was Mormon elder A. O.
Gjelte. The elder shared the gospel with him. He listened and was baptized on 15 September 1873. Soon after his baptism he was ordained to the Aaronic Priesthood and was sent to preach in the local area. While preaching door-to-door, he found his mother. Their reunion was short-lived, for he was transferred to Blekinge to serve as the branch president. After nearly five years of missionary service, he was released in April 1878 to immigrate to Utah. He sailed across the ocean aboard the Wyoming. He arrived in Salt Lake City on 4 October 1878 (see Lund, Scandinavian Jubilee Album, 176; Nelson, “Biography of Nils Nelson,” 1).

He was endowed on 14 September 1882 in the Endowment House. A little over a year later, he was ordained a seventy on 2 January 1884 (see Lund, Scandinavian Jubilee Album, 176; Nelson, “Biography of Nils Nelson,” 1).

Nils accepted a mission call to Scandinavia in 1889. He arrived in Copenhagen on 30 April 1889 and was assigned to labor in the Skåne Conference. On this mission, he visited several relatives and obtained much genealogical information. After completing an honorable mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 28 May 1891 aboard the Cameo with 141 emigrating Latter-day Saints and other missionaries (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 318; Nelson, “Biography of Nils Nelson,” 1).

After his return to Salt Lake City, he located in the Salt Lake Twenty-second Ward. He was privileged to attend the dedicatory session of the Salt Lake Temple. He worked just south of the temple in a blacksmith shop. He served as the ward superintendent of the Sunday School (see Lund, Scandinavian Jubilee Album, 176; Nelson, “Biography of Nils Nelson,” 1). He died in 1926 in Salt Lake City at age seventy-two.

**Swen Nelson**

**Sven Nilsson**

1836–1909

**Residence:** Tooele, Tooele Co., Utah

**Arrival in Copenhagen:** 27 November 1875

**Missionary labors:** Skåne Conference

**Departure from Copenhagen:** 21 June 1877

**Birth date:** 28 July 1836

**Birthplace:** Falskog, Börringe, Malmöhus län, Sweden

**Father:** Svensson, Nils

**Mother:** Brock, Lena Maja

**Spouse:** Gearnson (Joranson), Fredricka Catrena

**Marriage date:** 1865

**Marriage place:** Sweden

**Death date:** 11 December 1909

**Death place:** Tooele, Tooele Co., Utah

**Burial place:** Tooele, Tooele Co., Utah

Swen joined The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on 30 March 1860. He was baptized by Elder Åkesson. He labored as a traveling missionary for about four years in the Skåne Conference before he immigrated to Utah in 1865. They crossed the plains by ox team, fighting with the Native Americans and passing through the trials experienced by the early pioneers.

Swen’s family settled in Tooele, Tooele County, Utah, where he was a farmer and butcher. He was the father of ten children. He filled a two-year mission to his native land, arriving in Copenhagen on 27 November 1875 and departing on 21 June 1877.

Swen served on the high council and was a high priest. He lived in the Tooele for forty-four years before dying suddenly on 11 December 1909. He was survived by a wife, three sons, and three daughters (see “Sven Nelson Passes Away,” The Tooele Transcript, 17 December 1909).

**Swen Carl Nelson**

**Sven Nilsson**

1838–1916

**Residence:** Richmond, Cache Co., Utah

**Arrival in Copenhagen:** 4 May 1885

**Missionary labors:** Ålborg Conference

**Departure from Copenhagen:** 7 October 1886

**Departure ship:** Milo

**Birth date:** 24 December 1838

**Birthplace:** Filinge, Västra Sallerup, Malmöhus län, Sweden

**Father:** Nilsson, Nils

**Mother:** Larsdotter, Hannah
Swen moved from Sweden to Copenhagen, Denmark, in 1863 and was converted to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He served a local mission on the island of Sjælland. In 1870, his family came to Utah, first stopping in Salt Lake City and then moving to Logan, Cache County, Utah, and finally to Richmond, Cache County, Utah, in 1872.

While residing in Richmond, Swen accepted a mission call to Scandinavia. He served as president of the Ålborg Conference in 1885. After completing this mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 7 October 1886 aboard the steamer Milo (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 367, 369, 379).

For a number of years, Sven served on the Richmond city council and later as city sexton, a position he held for twenty years. At the time of his death on 11 December 1916, at age eighty-seven, Swen was the oldest resident of Richmond.

Søren Peter Neve
Søren Pedersen Neve
1839–1902

Residence: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Arrival in Copenhagen: 3 June 1876; 17 April 1885

Missionary labors: Copenhagen Conference; Ålborg and Skåne conferences
Departure from Copenhagen: 17 May 1878; other date unknown
Departure Ship: Cato

Birth date: 1 January 1839
Birthplace: Thisted, Thisted amt, Denmark
Father: Neve, Søren Peter Frantzen
Mother: Bømler, Anne Marie
Spouse: Berthelsen, Emma Dorothea Amalia
  Marriage date: 9 May 1861
  Marriage place: Denmark
Spouse: Olson, Bengta
  Marriage date: 3 February 1866
  Marriage place: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Spouse: Liddell, Mary
  Marriage date: 4 December 1871
Spouse: Child, Marintha
  Marriage date: 21 September 1874
Spouse: Hoglund, Anna Louise
  Marriage date: 29 April 1884
  Marriage place: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Death date: 9 April 1902
Death place: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Burial place: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah

Søren received a common-school education. At age thirteen, he was confirmed a Lutheran. After his confirmation, he went to Ålborg to learn the trades of harness making and paper hanging. Although he spent four years learning these trades, rheumatism hampered his abilities. However, his affliction did not prevent his induction into the Danish military. Because he was a large young man, he was chosen to be one of the king’s guards. After his military service, he and his young bride resided in Store Kongensgade (“Great King’s Street”) in Copenhagen. “We lived together very happy,” he wrote (Neve, “Journal of Søren Peter Neve: His Life’s Story as Written by Himself”).

After his mother introduced him to Mormonism, he and his wife were baptized on 29 January 1862 by Frederik E. Bertelsen. “After I was baptized and confirmed I felt a happiness that is impossible for me to describe,” he penned. Søren served as a home missionary in Denmark until the impending war between
Denmark and Germany. With cries of warfare, Søren and his family decided to immigrate to America. They departed from Denmark on 15 October 1863 and sailed aboard the McKlelland from Liverpool across the Atlantic Ocean. After landing in the United States, they continued their journey to the Salt Lake Valley, arriving in September 1864 (Neve, “Journal of Søren Peter Neve: His Life’s Story as Written by Himself”).

Søren worked as an upholsterer and paperhanger for Henry Dinwoodey in the Salt Lake Valley. He also worked on the police force in the city. While in this employ, he was endowed on 3 February 1866 in the Endowment House. That same year, he was appointed a president of the Fourth Quorum of the Seventy (Neve, “Journal of Søren Peter Neve: His Life’s Story as Written by Himself”).

Ten years later, at a general conference in Salt Lake City, he was called to serve a mission to Denmark. He accepted the call and was set apart by Elder John Taylor. His wife, Emma, accompanied him on the mission. Søren served as president of the Copenhagen Conference, which numbered nine hundred people at that time. Upon leaving Denmark, he was appointed leader of sixty-three Latter-day Saint emigrants aboard the steamer Cato bound for Hull, England (Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 226–27, 232).

Søren boarded a steamer bound for Malmö, Sweden, and continued preaching there. After completing this mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 17 May 1878 aboard the steamer Cato. When the steamer arrived in Hull, he journeyed by train to Liverpool (Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 232). From Liverpool, he voyaged to America.

When he returned to Salt Lake City, he worked for ZCMI as an upholsterer. He left that employ to begin a furniture and upholstery business with five friends. The business venture was short lived (Neve, “Journal of Søren Peter Neve: His Life’s Story as Written by Himself”).

Søren accepted a second mission call to Scandinavia in 1885. He was set apart for the mission by Franklin D. Richards. He arrived in Copenhagen on 17 April 1885 and was assigned to labor as President of the Ålborg Conference. During this mission, he gathered family genealogy and visited relatives before being banished from Denmark for preaching.

Upon returning to Utah, he faced persecution because had more than one wife. To escape the persecution, he moved to San Francisco, where he found work in the upholstery trade. From northern California, he moved to El Paso, El Paso County, Texas (Neve, “Journal of Søren Peter Neve: His Life’s Story as Written by Himself”). Søren died in 1902 in Salt Lake City at age sixty-three.

Andrew Christian Nielsen

Andrew Christian Nielsen
1840–1924

Residence: Ephraim, Sanpete Co., Utah
Arrival in Copenhagen: 5 November 1881
Missionary labor: Århus and Copenhagen conferences
Departure from Copenhagen: 15 June 1883
Departure ship: Pacific (Milo)

Birth date: 23 March 1840
Birthplace: Moien, Ugilt, Hjørring, Denmark
Father: Pedersen, Niels
Mother: Andersdatter, Ane Magrete
Spouse: Anderson, Mary (Maren) Kristine
Marriage date: 4 December 1864
Death date: 28 January 1924
Death place: Ephraim, Sanpete Co., Utah

Andrew was baptized a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in 1858. After his baptism, he immigrated to America. He journeyed to the Salt Lake Valley with an ox-team company and settled in Ephraim, Sanpete County, Utah, in 1865 (see “Early Settler Passes Away,” Ephraim Enterprise, 1 February 1924).

While a resident of Ephraim, he accepted a mission call to Scandinavia in 1881. He arrived in Copenhagen on 5 November 1881 and was assigned to labor in the Århus Conference. Later he served in the Copenhagen Conference. After completing this mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 15 June 1883 with seventeen other returning missionaries (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 262, 264, 269).

Returning to Ephraim, he was an active member of the Church and was known as one of the pioneer...
builders of the community. He is credited with organizing the Mutual Improvement Association in town. He was always willing to help those in need. He died in 1924 after a short illness in Ephraim at age eighty-three (see “Early Settler Passes Away,” Ephraim Enterprise, 1 February 1924).

Andrew Spendrup Nielsen

Anders Christensen
1844–1921

*Residence:* Ephraim, Sanpete Co., Utah
*Arrival in Copenhagen:* 30 May 1873
*Missionary labor:* Århus Conference
*Departure from Copenhagen:* 27 August 1874
*Departure ship:* Cato

*Birth date:* 27 August 1844
*Birthplace:* Hvidsten, Gassum, Randers amt., Denmark
*Father:* Nielsen, Christen
*Mother:* Andersdatter, Ane Catrine
*Spouse:* Christensen, Elsa Kirstine
  *Marriage date:* 26 May 1866
  *Marriage place:* Spendrup, Randers amt., Denmark
*Spouse:* Hansen, Karen
  *Marriage date:* 25 April 1878
  *Marriage place:* Endowment House, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah
*Death date:* 5 April 1921
*Death place:* Manassa, Conejos Co., Colorado
*Burial place:* Sanford, Conejos Co., Colorado

Andrew was baptized on 31 March 1867. He departed from Copenhagen aboard the *Waldemar* with other Latter-day Saints. He departed from Liverpool on 21 June 1867 aboard the *Manhattan*, which was bound for New York Harbor. By 4 July 1867, he had arrived in the Salt Lake Valley, and on 5 October 1867 had settled in Ephraim, Sanpete County. He was endowed on 8 November 1869 in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City.

He worked as a farmer and participated in the Black Hawk War before accepting a mission call to Scandinavia in 1873. He arrived in Copenhagen on 30 May 1873 and was assigned to labor in the Århus Conference as an assistant to Christian F. Schade. After completing this mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 27 August 1874 aboard the steamer *Cato* with 214 emigrating Latter-day Saints (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 214–15, 220).

After his mission, he resided in Chester, Sanpete County, Utah, and served as a second counselor in the bishopric of that ward. In 1880, he accepted a call to settle on “The LaJara” in the San Luis Valley in southern Colorado and moved the family of his second wife, Karen, to the nearby settlement of Sanford, Conejos County, Colorado. He was later called to help colonize the newly planned settlement, Eastdale, Costella County, Colorado. In July 1897, he was called to serve as a second counselor to Bishop Christen Jensen until the ward was dissolved in 1910. He then moved his family back to Sanford. Andrew died from arthritis deformans in 1921 in Manassa at age seventy-six (see correspondence from Della Steinekert).

Hans Enoch Nielsen

Hans Enoch Bendtsen
1833–89

*Residence:* Hyrum, Cache Co., Utah
*Arrival in Copenhagen:* 6 November 1880
*Missionary labor:* Ålborg Conference
*Departure from Copenhagen:* 16 June 1882
*Departure ship:* Albano

*Birth date:* 3 January 1833
*Birthplace:* Hosterkjeb, Birkerød, Frederiksborg amt., Denmark
*Father:* Nielsen, Bendt
*Mother:* Eilertsdatter, Grete
Hans embraced Mormonism in 1853. By December 1853, he had immigrated to America. He crossed the plains in Perry Olsen’s company in 1854 and arrived in Salt Lake City on 5 October 1854 (see correspondence from R. Nick Nielsen). He settled in West Weber, Weber County, Utah, where he received his patriarchal blessing from Isaac Morley on 19 November 1854 (see Morley, “Isaac Morley’s Book,” 15 B 15:215).

He served in the territorial militia during the Echo Canyon campaign before moving to Spanish Fork, Utah County, in the summer of 1858. By April 1860, he was residing in Hyrum, Cache County, and was recognized for bringing water from the Bear River into the community (see correspondence from R. Nick Nielsen).

Hans was known as a minuteman in Hyrum and was often called upon to protect the community from Indians. He had a horse saddled and ammunition ready at all times. He further served his community as a member of the board of directors of the United Order, the water board, and city council (see correspondence from R. Nick Nielsen).

He interrupted his civic service to accept a mission call to Scandinavia in 1880. He arrived in Copenhagen on 6 November 1880 and was assigned to labor in the Århus Conference. After completing this mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 27 September 1888 with the last company of Saints to emigrate from Scandinavia that year. He journeyed with 102 Saints and six missionaries (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 304, 306).

Returning to Logan, he became involved in a merchandising business. He was an ordinance worker in the Logan Temple for eight years. Hans died at his home on 400 North in 1919 from a long-standing stomach ailment. He was sixty-seven (see Logan Journal, 24 January 1919).
Jens Christian Nielsen

**Jens Christiansen**

*1829–89*

**Residence:** Gentile Valley, Bingham Co., Idaho  
**Arrival in Copenhagen:** 4 May 1885  
**Missionary labor:** Copenhagen Conference  
**Departure from Copenhagen:** 30 May 1887  
**Departure ship:** Argo

**Birth date:** 4 April 1829  
**Birthplace:** Orup, Roholte, Præstø amt, Denmark  
**Father:** Nielsen, Christian  
**Mother:** Jensen, Kerstina  
**Spouse:** Hansen (Hansdatter), Margrethe  
**Marriage date:** 24 October 1849  
**Marriage place:** Roholte, Præstø amt, Denmark  
**Spouse:** Hansen, Mary  
**Death date:** 16 February 1889  
**Death place:** Cleveland, Bannock Co., Idaho  
**Burial place:** Cleveland, Bannock Co., Idaho

Jens joined The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on 30 January 1858 in Stavnstrup (Everdrup Parish) Præstø amt, Denmark. In the records of the Vordingborg Branch, he is listed as “Jens Christian Nielsen.” At birth his name was recorded as “Jens Christiansen.” However, on his Lutheran confirmation record of 1843 and at his marriage in 1849 his name was recorded as “Jens Christian Christiansen.”

Jens’s wife, Margrethe, Hansdatter was baptized on the same day as her husband. Their twin daughters, however, chose to wait until 30 July 1858, their nineteenth birthday, to enter the waters of baptism.

The Vordingborg Branch records list that Jens emigrated on 19 April 1865. Perhaps he was staying behind to finish up work or sell his smithy, since these same records indicate his wife and daughters emigrated in May of 1864—a somewhat unusual emigration pattern.

Jens was a resident of Gentile Valley, Bingham County, Idaho, when he accepted a mission call to the Scandinavian Mission. He arrived in Copenhagen on 4 May 1885 and served in the Copenhagen Conference. In January of 1887, Elder Jens C. Nielsen reported that he had a pleasant visit to the island of Bornholm and that the membership had grown from nineteen members to thirty-four members in only eighteen months. He departed from Copenhagen on 30 May 1887 (see Jenson, *History of the Scandinavian Mission*, 301).

Jens passed away on 16 February 1889 in Cleveland, Bannock County, Idaho. He died a faithful Latter-day Saint. He was mourned by two wives and families (see Deaths Neilson, Deseret News, 23 February 1889).

**Jens Christian Nielsen**

*1830–1920*

**Residence:** Moroni, Sanpete Co., Utah  
**Arrival in Copenhagen:** 2 December 1876; c. 28 April 1885  
**Missionary labor:** Århus Conference  
**Departure from Copenhagen:** 23 June 1879; 18 August 1887  
**Departure ship:** Cato

**Birth date:** 10 August 1830  
**Birthplace:** Hvingelenhuus, Fåborg, Ribe amt, Denmark  
**Father:** Christiansen, Niels Jens  
**Mother:** Jeppesdatter, Maren  
**Spouse:** Andersen, Ana Maria  
**Marriage date:** 2 October 1856  
**Marriage place:** Big Cottonwood, Salt Lake Co., Utah  
**Spouse:** Christensen, Karen  
**Marriage date:** 29 September 1873  
**Marriage place:** Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah  
**Spouse:** Petersen, Ane Christine  
**Marriage date:** 14 June 1883  
**Marriage place:** Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah  
**Spouse:** Petersen, Tomaline  
**Marriage date:** 20 September 1911  
**Marriage place:** Manti, Sanpete Co., Utah  
**Death date:** 26 December 1920  
**Death place:** Moroni, Sanpete Co., Utah  
**Burial place:** Moroni, Sanpete Co., Utah

My parents was of the Lutheran faith and in that faith educated, and I took my examination as a good Christian,” wrote Jens. He received a
meager education in the Noruf School in the Noruf District. Due to the poverty of his parents, he was forced to seek employment at an early age. His main employment was cork cutting in the city of Vejle. By 1852, he was superintendent over the cork factory and "everything was looking good for me in the future" (Nelson, "History of Jens Christian Nielsen"; Bitton, Guide to Mormon Diaries and Autobiographies, 257; Carter, Our Pioneer Heritage, 5:486–92).

In 1852, he attended his first Mormon meeting. After the meeting, there arose a disturbance, and threats were made against the elders. Jens said to the disturbers, "They [have] not said anything but what was Bible doctrine." He was baptized on 1 February 1852 by Elder Winberg. He wrote, "I received a testimony that I had done right and felt satisfied that I had embraced the truth" (Nelson, "History of Jens Christian Nielsen"; Bitton, Guide to Mormon Diaries and Autobiographies, 257; Carter, Our Pioneer Heritage, 5:486–92).

After his baptism, he boldly shared the truths of Mormonism with everyone he met. His words led to a whipping, being shot at with a pistol, and having rotten eggs thrown at him. Wanting to avoid further harm, on 4 June 1852 he departed from Denmark bound for Hamburg, Germany. In Hamburg, he was ordained an elder and participated in local missionary work. "I scattered a number of our pamphlets," he penned. Unfortunately, he also faced persecution, arrest, and imprisonment. He suffered through many court appearances and jail but admitted, "I will say that the warden treated us with respect and kindness" (Nelson, "History of Jens Christian Nielsen"; Bitton, Guide to Mormon Diaries and Autobiographies, 257; Carter, Our Pioneer Heritage, 5:486–92).

He next traveled to Copenhagen, where he boarded the steamer Britannia and sailed to Hull, England. Then he journeyed by train to Liverpool, where he boarded the vessel Helias for America. This was a difficult time for Jens. He had no money and felt "a burden to the Saints that was poor and young in the gospel" (Nelson, "History of Jens Christian Nielsen"; Bitton, Guide to Mormon Diaries and Autobiographies, 257; Carter, Our Pioneer Heritage, 5:486–92).

After arriving in America, he was advised by Elder Erastus Snow "to work with those who had apostatized and others, hold meetings and if possible bring them back into the Church." He accepted the advice and visited many old friends and past acquaintances in the St. Louis, Missouri area. From there, he journeyed up the Missouri River. After arriving in the camps of Israel near Council Bluffs, Pottawattamie County, Iowa, Jens wrote, "I visited the Saints and tried to encourage them in the gospel of Christ" (Nelson, "History of Jens Christian Nielsen"; Bitton, Guide to Mormon Diaries and Autobiographies, 257; Carter, Our Pioneer Heritage, 5:486–92).

He stayed for a time in the midwest and presided over the Danish Saints in Mormon Grove, Pottawattamie County. From Mormon Grove, he wrote letters "to the scattered Saints that work far off." He taught the Saints "to get up in the meeting and bear testimony, the sisters as well as the brethren, and it brought a good spirit in the congregation." He faced apostates, like Niels Syrup, who "tried to turn the Saints against me, and said the building of temples was wrong, and Brigham Young was from the devil" (Nelson, "History of Jens Christian Nielsen"; Bitton, Guide to Mormon Diaries and Autobiographies, 257; Carter, Our Pioneer Heritage, 5:486–92).

His call to return the Saints to greater faithfulness ended on 7 April 1857, when he was released and given permission to continue his journey to Zion. Jens arrived in Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska, aboard the steamer Keystone. He then purchased a team of oxen and began his trek to the Salt Lake Valley in the Knute Petersen company. "We had our trials, especially in crossing rivers and in the buffalo country many times our oxen stamped," he wrote (Nelson, "History of Jens Christian Nielsen," 1; Bitton, Guide to Mormon Diaries and Autobiographies, 257; Carter, Our Pioneer Heritage, 5:486–92).

After arriving in Salt Lake City, he worked on the canals in Big Cottonwood Canyon and on the road leading toward Fort Union, Salt Lake County. He prepared himself to fight against the U.S. Army and was ordered to march up Emigration Canyon in three feet of snow—"I was very tired and sick and no provisions or at least very little," he penned (Nelson, "History of Jens Christian Nielsen," 1; Bitton, Guide to Mormon Diaries and Autobiographies, 257; Carter, Our Pioneer Heritage, 5:486–92).
Mormon Diaries and Autobiographies, 257; Carter, Our Pioneer Heritage, 5:486–92).

When the threat of war passed, Jens moved to Spanish Fork, Utah County. From there, he moved to Sanpete County. It was in Ephraim, Sanpete County, that he learned the cooper’s trade. By spring of 1859, he had moved to Moroni, Sanpete County. There, he dug ditches, made dams, and tried his fortune at farming. It was also in that community that he participated in the Black Hawk War as a first lieutenant. He fought in the Salina Canyon and Grass Valley engagements (see History of Sanpete and Emery Counties, Utah, 428; Bitton, Guide to Mormon Diaries and Autobiographies, 257; Carter, Our Pioneer Heritage, 5:486–92).

In 1876, Jens received a mission call to Scandinavia. He arrived in Copenhagen on 2 December 1876 and was assigned to be a traveling elder in the Árhus Conference. He served as president of the Randers and Árhus branches. He recalled cutting holes in the ice to perform baptisms. He visited his brothers who had not joined the Church. He wrote, “the hand of the Lord has been over me and he has blessed me greatly in my labor and I do rejoice to labor in the work of God” (Nelson and Blackham, “Excerpts from His Mission,” 74–83). But he did lament, “O When we think all is well then we are mistaken; . . . how hard it is to get the people to serve the Lord” (see Journal of Jens Christian Nielsen; Bitton, Guide to Mormon Diaries and Autobiographies, 257; Carter, Our Pioneer Heritage, 5:486–92). From 1877 to 1879, he served as president of the Árhus Conference. After completing an honorable mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 23 June 1879 aboard the steamer Cato with 331 emigrating Latter-day Saints (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 240, 498).

At his arrival in Moroni, he was welcomed by a choir that followed him home, singing hymns in his honor (see Journal of Jens Christian Nielsen; Bitton, Guide to Mormon Diaries and Autobiographies, 257; Carter, Our Pioneer Heritage, 5:486–92). From 1877 to 1879, he served as president of the Árhus Conference. After completing an honorable mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 23 June 1879 aboard the steamer Cato with 331 emigrating Latter-day Saints (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 240, 498).

He accepted another mission call to Scandinavia in 1885. He traveled aboard the steamer Nevada to Liverpool and on 28 April 1885 reported to President Lund of the Scandinavian Mission. The president appointed him to labor in the Árhus Conference. Once again, he was assigned to be the president of the Randers Branch. In that branch, he preached repentance. He wrote that the “better classes of people do not come to hear.” In October 1887, he was appointed president of the conference (see Journal of Jens Christian Nielsen; Bitton, Guide to Mormon Diaries and Autobiographies, 257; Carter, Our Pioneer Heritage, 5:486–92).

After his release, he again returned to Moroni. “I am now home again and I feel to thank the Lord our Eternal Father for his blessings unto me,” he wrote (Journal of Jens Christian Nielsen; Bitton, Guide to Mormon Diaries and Autobiographies, 257; Carter, Our Pioneer Heritage, 5:486–92).

In Moroni, he was president of the local co-op store and later a stockholder. He was one of the presidents of the Thirty-seventh Quorum of the Seventy and a ward clerk for ten years. He served the community as mayor for two terms before being captured for violating federal laws against plural marriage. The court, failing to find him guilty, released him (see Nelson, “History of Jens Christian Nielsen,” 1). Jens died in 1920 in Moroni at age ninety.

Lars Peter Christian Nielsen

Lars Peter Christian Mathiasen

1855–1922

Residence: Mantua, Box Elder Co., Utah
Arrivals in Copenhagen: 11 October 1892
Missionary labors: Copenhagen Conference
Departure from Copenhagen: 8 June 1893
Departure ship: Bravo
Tracing the parentage of Lars is difficult. He was the firstborn son of his mother, Sidse Andersdatter. Although his father was Mathias Larsen, he was adopted by Ole Nielsen, Sidse’s first husband. He was also the stepson of Thomas Christian Anderson (see Hansen, “From Ålborg to Ammon, A History of Four Generations of the Thomas Christian Anderson Family,” 28).

At age seven, Lars immigrated to America with his mother. Aboard ship, his five-year-old brother died and was buried at sea. Adding to the family tragedies was the death of his sister at Winter Quarters, Douglas County, Nebraska. Lars and his mother were the only survivors of the family to reach the Salt Lake Valley. When they arrived in the valley, they had only fifty cents and no relatives or friends, except those who had traveled with them (see “Lars Peter Christian Nielsen, Father of Leo J. Nielsen,” 1–2).

They settled in Mantua, Box Elder County, where Lars’s mother remarried. His biographer wrote, “It seemed to [Lars] that his [new] step-father delighted in letting him go hungry.” At age eighteen, Lars left home. He spent two years working on a Church farm at Bear River City, Box Elder County. In this employ, he met his future bride, Sarah Hansen (see “Lars Peter Christian Nielsen, Father of Leo J. Nielsen,” 2).

While he and Sarah were residing in Mantua, Box Elder County, Utah, Lars accepted a mission call to Scandinavia in 1892. He arrived in Copenhagen on 11 October 1892 and was assigned to labor in the Copenhagen Conference. On this mission, he received word that his wife had died (see “Lars Peter Christian Nielsen, Father of Leo J. Nielsen,” 4). Upon learning of her death, he departed immediately from Copenhagen on 8 June 1893 aboard the steamer Bravo with 105 emigrating Latter-day Saints and other missionaries (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 328–29, 332).

He remarried soon after returning to Mantua. In that farming community, Native Americans called him “Great White Chief.” He moved his new family to Idaho in 1904, and it was there that he accepted another mission call to Scandinavia. He took his wife, Mathilda Carlson, with him on this mission (see “Lars Peter Christian Nielsen, Father of Leo J. Nielsen,” 5).

On 14 April 1904, they arrived in Copenhagen, where Lars was assigned to labor in the Copenhagen Conference (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 402, 405).

Some years later, they were both called on a six-month mission to Southern California. Returning from this third mission, Lars built a comfortable home in Ammon, Bonneville County, Idaho. He died in 1922 from polycystic kidneys in Ammon at age sixty-six (see “Lars Peter Christian Nielsen, Father of Leo J. Nielsen,” 5).
On 16 September 1868, Martin was baptized a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the North Sea by his father. At age twelve, he was given responsibility for the singing at meetings in his local Church branch. Three years later, he and his family immigrated to America. They arrived in Salt Lake City on 24 July 1873 (see Autobiography of Martin Nielsen).

By 1874, they had settled in Levan, Juab County, Utah. After one year in Levan, Martin moved to Salt Lake City and was employed by Brigham Young to work in the fields—an area now known as Liberty Park. On 25 February 1877, he was ordained an elder by George Stephensen and on 19 January 1885 a seventy by John Borrowman. By 1888, he had returned to Levan and was engaged in gardening and farming (see Autobiography of Martin Nielsen).

While living in Levan, Martin accepted a mission call to Scandinavia in 1891. On his voyage to Scandinavia, his ship was struck by a schooner and badly damaged. The ship had to be chained together to stay afloat to reach Liverpool (see Autobiography of Martin Nielsen). He arrived in Copenhagen on 19 September 1891 and was assigned to labor in the Århus Conference and later the Copenhagen Conference. From 1892 to 1893, Martin served as president of the Århus Conference. After completing this mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 7 September 1893 aboard the steamer Bravo with twenty-four emigrating Latter-day Saints and other missionaries (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 328–29, 333, 498).

Upon returning to Levan, Martin resumed his farm labors. His Church responsibilities at that time included ward clerk, choir leader, home missionary, superintendent of the YMMIA, and superintendent of the Sunday School. For seven years, he served as first counselor in the Levan bishopric after being ordained a high priest by George Teasdale (see Autobiography of Martin Nielsen).

On 29 November 1905, Martin returned to Copenhagen to serve a second mission. After an honorable release from this mission, he once again returned to Levan (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 412). In 1907, he was elected to be a Juab County commissioner and served a two-year term. His greatest service to the community of Levan was as a member of the school board for eighteen years. He was also the city assessor for two years (see Autobiography of Martin Nielsen).

In 1911, Martin moved his family to Provo, Utah County. In that community, he worked as a painter and interior decorator. At this time, most of his children attended the Brigham Young Academy. Martin ended his autobiography by stating, "I am at present residing in California, where I attend priesthood as often as I am able" (Autobiography of Martin Nielsen). He died in 1946 in Los Angeles at age eighty-eight.

Nephi Hyrum Rasmussen Nielsen
1862–1914

Residence: Huntsville, Weber Co., Utah
Arrival in Copenhagen: 20 June 1892
Missionary labor: Ålborg Conference
Departure from Copenhagen: 5 April 1894
Departure ship: Bravo

Birth date: 16 June 1862
Birthplace: Brigham City, Box Elder Co., Utah
Father: Nielsen, Lars K.
Mother: Jespersdatter, Sarah Marie
Spouse: Jacobsen (Hansen), Anna Jensine Dorothea
Marriage date: 4 November 1886
Marriage place: Logan Temple, Logan, Cache Co., Utah
Death date: 22 February 1914
Death place: Huntsville, Weber Co., Utah
Burial place: Ogden City Cemetery, Ogden, Weber Co., Utah

Nephi, a resident of Huntsville, Weber County, Utah, accepted a mission call to Scandinavia in 1892. He arrived in Copenhagen on 20 June 1892 and was assigned to labor in the Ålborg Conference. After completing this mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 5 April 1894 aboard the steamer Bravo (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 328–29, 336).

It appears that he served a second mission to Scandinavia. Andrew Jenson reported that in 1905, he was appointed to labor in the Bergen Conference (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 408). Nephi returned to Huntsville, where he served as superintendent of the Middleton Ward Sunday School for a number of years. At the time of his death,
he was the instructor of the elders and seventies of the Huntsville Ward. He died at his home in 1914 at age fifty-one ("Nielson," The Ogden Standard, 23 February 1914).

**Peder Nielsen**

1813–83

**Residence:** Washington, Washington Co., Utah  
**Arrival in Copenhagen:** 11 November 1879  
**Missionary labors:** Århus Conference  
**Departure from Copenhagen:** 28 August 1880  
**Departure ship:** Otto  
**Birth date:** 22 February 1813  
**Birthplace:** Krollerup, Øster Snede, Vejle amt., Denmark  
**Father:** Jensen, Niels  
**Mother:** Christensdatter, Helvig Dorthe  
**Spouse:** Israelson, Anne Marie  
**Marriage date:** 26 November 1847  
**Marriage place:** Korning, Vejle amt, Denmark  
**Spouse:** Sorensen, Caroline Karen Nielsen  
**Marriage date:** 14 January 1855  
**Marriage place:** aboard the James Netvius Nesmith  
**Spouse:** Brown, Harriet  
**Marriage date:** 23 May 1873  
**Marriage place:** Washington, Washington Co., Utah  
**Death date:** 9 April 1883  
**Death place:** Washington, Washington Co., Utah  
**Burial place:** Washington, Washington Co., Utah

On 22 February 1862, Peter was baptized a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints by J. J. Jorgensen. He labored as a local missionary in various branches of the Copenhagen Conference. During his early missionary experiences, he was imprisoned in Frederiksværk for twelve days for preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ (see Jenson, *Latter-day Saint Biographical Encyclopedia*, 1:573).

He immigrated to America in 1865 (see Bitton, *Guide to Mormon Diaries and Autobiographies*, 258). His writings of this journey included mention of a fire aboard the sailing vessel BS Kimball and struggling to breathe as “we had no air pipes; all the air had to come through the stairways. The stench coming from below was very bad indeed, and the place so infested with vermin that we could not rest.” Peter stopped five weeks in Wyoming before continuing his journey.
to the Salt Lake Valley. He arrived in the valley on 8 November 1865 with the Miner G. Atwood company. Upon arrival he shook hands with Brigham Young (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 187).

Peter served a mission to Scandinavia from 1880 to 1881, laboring mostly on the isle of Bornholm. During the mission, he was imprisoned for two days for selling tracts in Rønne. After completing an honorable mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 20 June 1881 aboard the steamer Cato with Latter-day Saints from the Göteborg and Skåne conferences. He was one of three elders in charge of the emigrants aboard ship. He also had responsibility of the same emigrants crossing the plains (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 255).

In 1897, he fulfilled a mission to California. After returning from this mission, he became very involved in Sunday School work and Scandinavian meetings in Draper, Salt Lake County, Utah. He accepted another mission call to Scandinavia in 1907. On 7 September 1907, he arrived in the Danish-Norwegian Mission. He was assigned to labor in the Århus Conference. After completing this final mission, he returned to Utah, where he was ordained a high priest on 6 July 1909 by Joseph Keddington (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 186).

He served as a postmaster in Draper, Salt Lake County, for nine years. During those years, he was also chairman of the school board and a justice of the peace. In 1908, he moved his family to Salt Lake City. He died in 1933 of ailments incident to age at his residence located at 1321 East 400 South in Salt Lake. He was eighty-seven years old (see “Peter A. Nielsen, Pioneer, Dies” Deseret News, 20 February 1933).

Rasmus Nielsen
1835–1908

- **Residence**: Logan, Cache Co., Utah
- **Arrival in Copenhagen**: 27 November 1877
- **Missionary labor**: Århus Conference
- **Departure from Copenhagen**: 30 August 1879
- **Departure ship**: Albion

Rasmus accepted a mission call to Scandinavia in 1877. He arrived in Copenhagen on 27 November 1877 and was assigned to labor as president of the Århus Conference. After completing this mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 30 August 1879 aboard the steamer Albion bound for Hull, England. He served as a counselor to Nils C. Flygare from Liverpool to the United States aboard the steamer Wyoming (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 152, 155, 177, 230–31, 240–41, 498).

He died from congestion of the brain in 1908 at Logan, Cache County, Utah, at age seventy-three. Seven children and his wife mourned his loss. His funeral was held in the Logan Fifth Ward meetinghouse (see “Rasmus Nielsen,” Logan Tri-weekly Journal, 11 April 1908).
Thor Christian Nielsen
1872–1952

Residence: Brigham City, Box Elder Co., Utah
Arrival in Copenhagen: 28 September 1890
Missionary labor: Ålborg Conference
Departure from Copenhagen: 18 August 1892

Birth date: 25 March 1872
Birthplace: Brigham City, Box Elder Co., Utah
Father: Nielsen, Jens Christian
Mother: Frederiksdatter, Marine Margrethe
Spouse: Hansen, Olivia Christine Martine
  Marriage date: 30 June 1893
  Marriage place: Logan Temple, Logan, Cache Co., Utah
  Spouse: Hastings, Jane May
  Marriage date: 15 May 1937
  Marriage place: Salt Lake Temple, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Death date: 3 November 1952
Death place: Long Beach, Los Angeles Co., California
Burial place: Long Beach, Los Angeles Co., California

Thor was born in a shanty-like adobe house in Brigham City, Box Elder County, Utah. He was baptized on 31 October 1880, at age eight, and became a member of the Brigham City Branch band. At age twelve, he was a member of the Brigham City Third Ward choir, and at age fifteen he was the leader of that choir (see Jenson, Latter-day Saint Biographical Encyclopedia, 4:106).

Under the tutelage of his father, Thor became proficient at making furniture. He was employed in the furniture department of the Brigham City co-op (see Jenson, Latter-day Saint Biographical Encyclopedia, 4:106). Later, he learned the watchmaker and jewelry trade and graduated as a registered optometrist (see Muir, A Century of Mormon Activities in California, 2:288).

In 1890, he was ordained a seventy and called to fulfill a mission in Scandinavia. He arrived in Copenhagen on 28 September 1890 and was assigned to labor on the isle of Bornholm, in the Ålborg Conference, where he organized a choir and taught an English class (see “Life History of Thor C. Nielsen,” 1). After completing this mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 18 August 1892 (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 316–17, 327). Upon returning home, he found “all well and happy to see me back safe” (“Life History of Thor C. Nielsen,” 1).

He received his endowment on 30 June 1893 and was sealed for eternity in the Logan Temple to Olivia Hansen, a young woman whom he had helped immigrate to America, (see “Life History of Thor C. Nielsen,” 1). He and his bride settled in Montpelier, Bear Lake County, Idaho. There Thor started the Nielsen Furniture Company (see Jenson, Latter-day Saint Biographical Encyclopedia, 4:106). In Montpelier, he served as a chorister at both the ward and stake levels.

In 1904, accompanied by his wife and two children, he visited Scandinavia. After touring Sweden and Norway, he and his wife were called to labor as missionaries and choir leaders in Copenhagen. He was present at a missionary reunion on 3 January 1905 held in Copenhagen. Of this missionary reunion, he wrote, “Greatly enjoyed our missionary labors in Christiania and had just cause to feel that our labors here had been very successful” (“Life History of Thor C. Nielsen,” 1).

In 1909, he was ordained a high priest and called to be second counselor in the bishopric of the Montpelier Second Ward. Two years later, he was appointed first counselor. From 1911 to 1912, he represented Bear Lake County in the Idaho State Legislature (see Jenson, Latter-day Saint Biographical Encyclopedia, 4:106).

In 1926, he moved to Long Beach, Los Angeles County, California, where he was ordained and set apart as the bishop of the Long Beach Ward on 29 August 1927. He was released upon returning to...

Anton Nielson

Anton Jensen
1866–1958

**Residence**: Huntington, Emery Co., Utah

**Arrival in Copenhagen**: 12 November 1892

**Missionary labor**: Ålborg Conference

**Departure from Copenhagen**: 25 October 1894

**Departure ship**: Rona

**Birth date**: 20 December 1866

**Birthplace**: Almind, Almind, Viborg amt, Denmark

**Father**: Nielsen, Jens

**Mother**: Hansen, Ane Kirstina

**Spouse**: Lott, Sarah Mae

- **Marriage date**: 4 August 1897
- **Marriage place**: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah

**Death date**: 20 July 1958

**Death place**: Castle Dale, Emery Co., Utah

**Burial place**: Huntington, Emery Co., Utah

Anton came to America with his parents when he was six years old. They arrived in Utah on 24 July 1873. At age eight, he was baptized a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. After his baptism, he and his family moved to Huntington, Emery County. As a youth, he enjoyed playing ball, horse racing, sleigh riding, and dancing (see Engle, "The Life of Anton Nielson—From Data Furnished by Himself," 1). He received his endowment on 8 June 1882 in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City.

In 1892, Anton was called to fulfill a mission to the southern states. He wrote, "I felt myself very much unqualified for such an undertaking, for I had not so much as an eighth-grade education." At his father's request, the call was changed to Scandinavia on 10 October 1892. Anton was set apart by John W. Taylor. He voyaged across the Atlantic aboard the steamer Arizona. Of his voyage, he wrote, "The ship rocked so that for two nights we were unable to sleep for fear of falling out of bed and hurting ourselves. The danger was so great that I tied one of the Brethren in bed." He arrived in Copenhagen on 12 November 1892 and was assigned to labor in the Ålborg Conference. In that conference, he visited relatives who "took me to theaters and did all they could to entertain me and show that I was welcome." He also attempted to learn more about his ancestors: "We worked all day searching through the old church book to find the dead and make a list of them, so their names could be sent to the temple and work done for them" (Engle, "The Life of Anton Nielson—From Data Furnished by Himself," 1–3).

After completing this mission, he received a letter from C. W. Sorensen, thanking him "for the zeal you have evidenced in spreading the truth" (correspondence from C. W. Sorenson, 22 September 1894). He departed from Copenhagen on 25 October 1894 aboard the steamer Rona with twenty-three emigrating Latter-day Saints bound for Zion (see Jenson, *History of the Scandinavian Mission*, 337). Aboard ship, he wrote:

> Blew the wind merrily over the sea,
> Singing and bringing bright visions to me
> Dreams of the dear ones and fancies of love
> Bright was my heart as the stars were above.
>
>(Engle, "The Life of Anton Nielson—From Data Furnished by Himself," 10)

Returning to the States, he was ordained a high priest and a bishop on 14 January 1906 by Rudger
Clawson. Anton served as bishop of the Huntington Ward of the Emery Stake of Zion from 1906 to 1916 (see Jenson, *Latter-day Saint Biographical Encyclopedia*, 4:462). There were one thousand one hundred people at one time in his ward. Of this experience, he penned, “Many a night I've come home late in the dark from some meeting or other official business and have even fallen in the ditch” (Engle, “The Life of Anton Nielson—From Data Furnished by Himself,” 11).

In 1917, he was appointed president of the YMMIA. He served in this calling for eight years. On 26 November 1921, he was elected mayor of Huntington City and reelected on 26 November 1923 (see Engle, “The Life of Anton Nielson—From Data Furnished by Himself,” 12). Anton died in 1958 in Castle Dale, Emery County, Utah, at age ninety-one.

Christian Nielson

*Christen Nielsen*  
1832–1907

**Residence:** Pleasant Grove, Utah Co., Utah  
**Arrival in Copenhagen:** 24 June 1885; 29 May 1889

**Missionary labors:** Ålborg Conference; Trondhjem and Christiania Conferences

**Departure from Copenhagen:** 12 August 1886; c. 1889–90

**Departure ship:** Bravo

**Birth date:** 3 January 1832  
**Birthplace:** Skræderdal, Hjørring amt, Denmark  
**Father:** Christensen, Niels Christian  
**Mother:** Christensdatter, Malene  
**Spouse:** Nielsen, Kirstine Marie  
**Marriage date:** 15 June 1856  
**Marriage place:** Hjørring, Hjørring amt, Denmark  
**Death date:** 19 September 1907  
**Death place:** Pleasant Grove, Utah Co., Utah  
**Burial place:** Pleasant Grove, Utah Co., Utah

Christian learned the trade of a miller before being inducted into the military in Denmark. His military assignment was to manage a commission store in Hjørring for eight years. During those years, he was baptized a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Immediately following his baptism, he was advanced to the rank of corporal and fought in the war between Denmark and Germany. After the war, he was ordained a teacher on 6 November 1864 and an elder on 5 March 1865. After these ordinations, he and his family immigrated to Utah in 1865.

They resided for seven years in Salt Lake County before settling in Pleasant Grove, Utah County. There, Christian was ordained a seventy on 30 March 1884 by William W. Taylor. One year later, he accepted a mission call to Scandinavia. He arrived in Copenhagen on 24 June 1885 and was assigned to labor in the Ålborg Conference. On this mission, he baptized fifteen converts. After completing the mission, he departed from Copenhagen aboard the steamer Bravo on 12 August 1886 as a leader of 131 emigrating Latter-day Saints (see Jenson, *History of the Scandinavian Mission*, 273, 275, 287, 292–93, 298).

Christian accepted a second mission call to Scandinavia in 1889. He arrived in Copenhagen on 29 May 1889 and was appointed to labor in the Trondhjem and Christiania conferences (see Jenson, *History of the Scandinavian Mission*, 372, 376).

Beginning on 8 May 1890, he was called to preside over the Scandinavian meetings in Pleasant Grove. He suffered from depression after his wife died. He was found drowned in a pond on 19 September 1907. He was seventy-five years of age (see “Aged Man Drowns Himself in Pond,” Deseret News, 19 September 1907).
Jens Christian Nielson

Residence: Brigham City, Box Elder Co., Utah
Arrival in Copenhagen: 24 June 1885
Missionary labor: Copenhagen Conference
Departure from Copenhagen: 30 May 1887
Departure ship: Argo
Birth date: 22 August 1848
Birthplace: Rønne, Bornholm amt, Denmark
Father: Nielson, Jens
Mother: Gønberg, Johanne Christine
Spouse: Fredericksen, Marine Margarethe
Marriage date: 21 June 1871
Marriage place: Copenhagen, Københavns amt, Denmark
Spouse: Hansdatter, Ane Marie
Marriage date: 11 October 1874
Marriage place: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Spouse: Frederiksen, Boline Christine
Marriage date: 13 March 1879
Marriage place: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Spouse: Julia
Death date: 24 September 1926
Death place: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah

Jens was baptized a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on 19 August 1866. He immigrated with other Latter-day Saints to America on the Wisconsin from Liverpool on 28 June 1871 and arrived in New York City on 12 July 1871. By 1872, he was residing in Brigham City, Box Elder County, Utah. In that community, he made furniture that was sold in the Brigham City co-op (see Jenson, Latter-day Saint Biographical Encyclopedia, 4:106).

While residing in Brigham City, he accepted a mission call to Scandinavia in 1885. He arrived in Copenhagen on 24 June 1885 and was assigned to labor in the Copenhagen Conference. After completing this mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 30 May 1887 aboard the steamer Argo with 138 emigrating Latter-day Saints and ten other returning missionaries (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 294–95, 302). Jens died in 1926 in Salt Lake City at age seventy-eight.

Lars Nielson

Birth date: 3 May 1849
Birthplace: Vinge, Sønder Vinge, Viborg amt, Denmark
Father: Nielsen, Jens
Mother: Larsdatter, Metta
Spouse: Christiansen, Marie (Mette) Mikkelen
Marriage date: 27 November 1871
Marriage place: Endowment House, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Death date: 27 January 1929
Death place: Fountain Green, Sanpete Co., Utah
Burial place: Fountain Green Cemetery, Fountain Green, Sanpete Co., Utah

At age seven, Lars first attended a Mormon meeting on Easter Sunday in 1857. He remembered hearing the congregation sing “O Israel, O Israel, in All You Abiding” (Seager, “A History of Lars Nielson,” 1). He and his family were baptized on
18 May 1857 and became the first family in Sønder Vinge to join The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (see McRae, “A History of Lars Nielsen,” 1).

Lars immigrated with his parents to America in 1859 aboard the William Tapscott. After arriving in New York Harbor on 14 May 1859, they traveled by rail to Florence, Douglas County, Nebraska. They then journeyed by ox train across the plains in the Captain R. F. Nelsen company to the Salt Lake Valley (see History of Sanpete and Emery Counties, Utah, 530). Lars walked most of the way to the valley (see McRae, “A History of Lars Nielsen,” 1–2).

He and his family settled in Spanish Fork, Utah County. They lived in a dugout for four years. During these years, they gained employment carding, spinning, and weaving cloth and carpets. In 1863, the family moved to Fountain Green, Sanpete County. Although Lars was only fifteen years old at the time, he had saved his money and was able to purchase one of the finest farms in Fountain Green. He attempted to protect his farm from Indian troubles during the Black Hawk War by serving guard duty and riding pony express. Years later, he received twenty dollars a month for his service in that war (see McRae, “A History of Lars Nielsen,” 2–3).

After the Indian troubles subsided, he enjoyed playing a saxophone in the Fountain Green band and working as secretary in the local co-op store (see McRae, “A History of Lars Nielsen,” 3).

He was ordained an elder and was endowed on 27 November 1871 in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City (see Jenson, Latter-day Saint Biographical Encyclopedia, 2:165). Nine years later, he received a mission call to Scandinavia. He accepted the call, leaving his wife with four children, the oldest being eight years old. From 1880 to 1882, Lars presided over the Vejle Branch in the Århus Conference. During his presidency, thirty-six people were converted, fifteen of which Lars baptized (see McRae, “A History of Lars Nielsen,” 4). After completing an honorable mission, he departed from Copenhagen aboard the steamer Albano with 573 emigrating Latter-day Saints and fourteen other missionaries (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 251, 265).

Returning to Fountain Green, he was appointed a ward clerk and superintendent of the Sunday School. On 5 August 1884, he was ordained a seventy by Carl C. A. Christensen. He served for eight years as president of a seventies quorum (see Jenson, Latter-day Saint Biographical Encyclopedia, 2:165). After being ordained a high priest on 9 December 1900 by Anton H. Lund, he served as a high counselor in the North Sanpete Stake for seventeen years and as a home missionary for twenty-five years (see McRae, “A History of Lars Nielsen,” 4). Lars was also active in civic affairs in Fountain Green. He served as a town trustee for six years, town president for four years, a justice of the peace for fourteen years, and a notary public for twenty-eight years (see McRae, “A History of Lars Nielsen,” 4). He died in 1929 in Fountain Green at age seventy-nine.

Lars Peter Nielsen

Lars Peter Nielsen
1835–1926

Residence: Provo, Utah Co., Utah

Arrival in Copenhagen: 1 June 1878; 6 June 1888

Missionary labor: Skâne Conference; Alborg and Christiana conferences

Departure from Copenhagen: 30 August 1879; 25 April 1890 (from Christiana)

Departure ship: Albano
Lars left Sweden in 1852 and moved to Copenhagen, where he was baptized on 8 November 1852. Soon after his baptism, he immigrated to America. He resided for four years in Alpine, Utah County, Utah, before settling in Provo, Utah County, in 1858. He is remembered as helping build the first road through Provo Canyon (see Lund, Scandinavian Jubilee Album, 174).

Lars accepted a mission call to Scandinavia in 1878. He arrived in Copenhagen on 1 June 1878 and was assigned to labor in the Skåne Conference, principally in the Karlskrona, Kristianstad, Ystad, and Hälsingborg branches. At each of these locations, his life was threatened by mobs (see Lund, Scandinavian Jubilee Album, 174). After completing this mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 30 August 1879 aboard the steamer Albion (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 307–8, 314).

On 6 June 1888, Lars again arrived in Copenhagen to serve a mission. At that time, he listed his residence as Ovid, Bear Lake County, Idaho. He was assigned to labor in the Ålborg Conference and later the Christiania Conference. He sailed from Christiania on 25 April 1890 with Elder Ludvig Ehrnstrom and twenty-nine emigrating Latter-day Saints (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 307–8, 314).

After returning to Provo, Lars was ordained a high priest on 10 February 1898 (see Lund, Scandinavian Jubilee Album, 174). He died in 1926 in Provo at age ninety.

Mads and his parents joined The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on 18 November 1853. In December 1853, they boarded a vessel bound for America. After safely arriving in the States, they crossed the plains in Captain Olsen’s ox-train company, arriving in the Salt Lake Valley on 5 October 1854. By late October they were residing in Ephraim, Sanpete County, Utah (see History of Sanpete and Emery Counties, Utah, 502).

In 1865, the family moved to Circle Valley. In 1867, due to Native American disturbances in the area, Mads and his extended family returned to Ephraim. By 1872,
they were residing Spring City, Sanpete County. In that city, Mads owned 192 acres of farmland (see History of Sanpete and Emery Counties, Utah, 502).

On 7 August 1884, he was selected as one of the presidents of the Eightieth Quorum of the Seventy. Six years later, he accepted a mission call to Scandinavia. He arrived in Copenhagen on 14 April 1890 and was assigned to labor in the Copenhagen Conference. He presided over a branch on the isle of Bornholm. After completing this mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 29 October 1891 aboard the steamer Volo (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 316, 319).

Returning to Spring City, he served on the city council for a short time before his death in 1899 at age fifty-six (see History of Sanpete and Emery Counties, Utah, 502).

**Mons Nielson**

Måns Nilsson

1834–1923

**Residence:** Ephraim, Sanpete Co., Utah

**Arrival in Copenhagen:** 30 September 1879

**Missionary labor:** Skåne Conference

**Departure from Copenhagen:** 20 June 1881

**Departure ship:** Cato

**Birth date:** 19 December 1834

**Birthplace:** Färarbäck, Södra Sallerup, Malmöhus län, Sweden

**Father:** Månsson, Nils

**Mother:** Swensdotter, Boel

**Spouse:** Pehrson, Marie

**Marriage date:** about 1858

**Marriage place:** Sweden

**Spouse:** Jensen, Johanna Froyd

**Marriage date:** 10 November 1866

**Marriage place:** Endowment House, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah

**Spouse:** Nielson (Nilsson), Bengta

**Marriage date:** about 1881

**Spouse:** Tolberg, Annetta

**Marriage date:** about 1881

**Death date:** 2 April 1923

**Death place:** Ephraim, Sanpete Co., Utah

**Burial place:** Ephraim, Sanpete Co., Utah

From age twenty to age twenty-four, Mons participated in the Swedish military. He worked for the railroad, during which time he broke his leg in 1860. While convalescing, he investigated The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and accepted the gospel. Desiring to be with other Latter-day Saints in America, he emigrated in 1862. He crossed the plains in Captain John Van Cott's pioneer company. After arriving in the Salt Lake Valley, he settled in Ephraim, Sanpete County, Utah (see Nilson, "History of Mons Nielson," 1).

By 1864, he was residing in Circleville, Piute County, Utah. There he endured hardship and persecution from hostile Native Americans. Mons fought in the Black Hawk War with the hope of protecting settlers in Ephraim (see Nilson, "History of Mons Nielson," 1).

He accepted a mission call to Scandinavia in 1879 while living in Ephraim. He arrived in Copenhagen on 30 September 1879 and was assigned to labor as a traveling elder in the Skåne Conference. After completing this mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 20 June 1881 as one of the leaders of 147 emigrating Latter-day Saints aboard the steamer Cato (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 238–39, 255).

Returning to Utah, he faced difficult times. On 16 September 1888, he was sentenced to four months in prison and to pay a two-hundred-dollar fine for unlawful cohabitation. He was discharged from the penitentiary on 5 February 1889 (see Jenson, Church Chronology, 16 September 1888; 5 February 1889).

After his release, he served in the Ephraim North Ward bishopric. He helped erect schoolhouses, the tabernacle, and the Snow Academy. In addition, he owned a seventy-acre farm and raised two thousand six hundred sheep (see History of Sanpete and Emery Counties, Utah, 332).

Mons died in 1923 in Ephraim at age eighty-eight after being bedfast for four days. At the time of his death, his posterity believed that he was the oldest Scandinavian missionary in Utah (see Nilson, "History of Mons Nielson," 2).
Nils was the eldest child of Matts and Elna Svensson. He didn’t attend school because he had to help on the farm. He became an apprentice wheelwright. The family was introduced to the gospel by missionaries in the 1860s. Nils was baptized on 31 July 1870. The family saved enough money to send Nils to America. He worked for three years and sent the money to Sweden. With this money and the amount his father collected from selling all his possessions, the whole family was able to come to America in 1876. They settled in Sandy, Salt Lake County, Utah, on the west side of State Street. Nils soon acquired a farm and built a five-room house. He is also credited with building the towers of the Assembly Hall located on Temple Square (see Jenson, Latter-day Saint Biographical Encyclopedia, 2.680; correspondence from Dixie Hepworth, 20 August 2001).

Seven years before accepting a mission call to Scandinavia, Nils was ordained a seventy. He fulfilled a mission to Sweden from 1891 to 1893, laboring in the Skåne Conference. Returning to Sandy, he served as a Sunday School superintendent for twenty-four years and a ward teacher. He was also secretary of the Ninety-third Quorum of the Seventy until being selected as a president of that quorum on 1 April 1900. He was ordained a high priest in 1910 by Robert Elwood (see Jenson, Latter-day Saint Biographical Encyclopedia, 2.680).

Niels died at his home in 1917 in Sandy at age sixty-four (see “Niels M. Nielsen, Respected Citizen, Passes Away,” Deseret News, 26 November 1917).

Christian was baptized a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints by Nils Andersen on 15 October 1855 in the city of Lund, Malmöhus län, Sweden. He was a member of that branch until 25 April 1861 when he left.
It is possible he immigrated to Utah at that time (see Lund Branch Records, FHL film 0082941, items 18–21).

Christian and his wife Cecilia were residing in Spring City, Sanpete County, Utah, when the 1880 U.S. Census was taken. He was a carpenter by trade (see FHL film 1255338, 436 C). He accepted a mission call to Scandinavia in 1883. He arrived in Copenhagen on 4 May 1883 and was assigned to labor in the Skåne Conference. After completing an honorable mission, he departed from Copenhagen in May 1885 (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 273).

He returned to Spring City, where he died following a brief illness in 1900 at age seventy-two. He was a “respected citizen and lived and died a faithful Latter-day Saint” (“Christian Nilsson,” Deseret Evening News, 4 April 1900).

Lars Lofvendahl Nilson
1864–1933
Residence: Provo, Utah Co., Utah
Arrival in Copenhagen: 2 May 1890
Missionary labor: Stockholm and Göteborg conferences
Departure from Copenhagen: 12 May 1892
Birth date: 1 October 1864
Birthplace: Provo, Utah Co., Utah
Father: Nelson, Lars Peter
Mother: Lofvendahl, Mary Magdaline
Spouse: Nelson, Eliza
Marriage date: 16 March 1890
Marriage place: Manti Temple, Manti, Sanpete Co., Utah
Death date: 15 September 1933
Death place: Provo, Utah Co., Utah
Burial place: Provo, Utah Co., Utah

On 3 November 1872, Lars was baptized a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He received his schooling at the Brigham Young Academy (see Lund, Scandinavian Jubilee Album, 174).

He was ordained a seventy on 10 January 1890, just prior to his mission call to Scandinavia. He labored in the Stockholm Conference in the Uppsala and Norrland branches. Later, he was assigned to labor in the Göteborg Conference, principally in the Trollhättan Branch (Älvsborg län) (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 46, 317). On this mission, he baptized many, held hundreds of meetings, and sold thousands of gospel tracts (see Lund, Scandinavian Jubilee Album, 174). He departed from Copenhagen on 12 May 1892 with sixty-four emigrating Latter-day Saints and other returning missionaries (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 525).

Upon returning to Provo, Lars was appointed city recorder and clerk for the Utah Stake high council. He was elected member of the Provo city council and later president of the city council in January 1900 (see Lund, Scandinavian Jubilee Album, 174). He served as bishop of the Provo Second Ward from 1902 to 1929. He died in 1933 in Provo at age sixty-eight (see Jenson, Latter-day Saint Biographical Encyclopedia, 4:658).

Olaus T. Nilson
1843–1917
Residence: Heber City, Wasatch Co., Utah
Arrival in Copenhagen: 8 November 1887
Missionary labor: Göteborg Conference
Departure from Copenhagen: 17 October 1889
Departure ship: Cameo
Olaus was baptized a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Surte, Sweden, by Carl J. Johnson. He became a member of the Göteborg Branch, where he was ordained a priest on 24 April 1866. That same year, he immigrated to Utah (see Göteborg Branch Records, Book 3590, FHL 0082939, item 9, 5).

From 1869 through 1874, Olaus and his family resided in Salt Lake City. He was ordained to the office of a seventy on 22 March 1872. By the fall of 1875, the Nilson family was residing in the Heber East Ward boundaries (Wasatch County, Utah).

While a resident of Heber City, Utah, Olaus accepted a mission call to Scandinavia in 1887. He arrived in Copenhagen on 8 November 1887 and was assigned to labor in the Göteborg Conference. He departed from Copenhagen aboard the steamer Cameo after serving an honorable mission (see Jensen, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 304, 310).

Olaus returned home to Heber City after his mission. Toward the end of his life, he moved. He is recorded as “removed to Pleasant Grove 29 April 1915” (Heber East Ward Records, 1901–1903, libr. 24890, entry 410–411, FHL 0026026).

Peter’s parents were poor, which necessitated his finding work in his early youth. By age ten, he was working as a shepherd and had little opportunity for schooling. He and his parents were baptized members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on 14 May 1854. In 1855, his parents sold the family home and went to Copenhagen. His father worked as a bricklayer before the family departed from Scandinavia bound for America (see Geary, “Peter [Pehr] Nilson,” 1).

They arrived in New York Harbor on 28 February 1856. They then traveled to Iowa, where they remained until 1859. They crossed the plains in the James S. Brown pioneer company, arriving on 29 August 1859 in the Salt Lake Valley (see Geary, “Peter [Pehr] Nilson,” 2–3).

By 1860, Peter and his family were living in a log house on the south side of 200 South and Main Street in Smithfield, Cache County. Scandinavian meetings were often held in their home. Peter supported his family by working on a twenty-acre farm and hauling rock. He hauled the first loads of rock used to build the Salt Lake Tabernacle (see Geary, “Peter [Pehr] Nilson,” 4).

Twelve years after receiving his endowment on 17 November 1862, he joined the United Order of Smithfield. His participation in that order ended when he accepted a mission call to Scandinavia in 1879. He arrived in Copenhagen on 29 November 1879 after a stormy voyage. “I was not very well at sea, but I was not in bed,” he wrote. Once in Copenhagen, he was assigned to labor in the Göteborg Conference. In that conference, he visited with relatives: “I was welcomed…. They were very talkative and good people.” Of the Scandinavian Latter-day Saints, he penned, “The brothers and sisters in the gospel are very good and kind and helpful” (Nilsson, “Missionary Journal of Peter Nilson: Missionary to the Scandinavian Mission”).

Persecution from police led Peter to pen, “[God] has protected me up to this moment and I thank him daily.” He traveled much throughout the mission and although forbidden to preach, he did not desist. He not only shared the gospel but sought occasions to find his family genealogy (see Nilsson, “Missionary Journal of Peter Nilson: Missionary to the Scandinavian Mission”). After completing an honorable mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 20 June 1881 aboard the steamer Cato as a leader of 147 emigrating Latter-day Saints (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 238–39, 255). Upon arriving home, Peter found all well.

A letter from President John Taylor in 1887 called him on a second mission to Scandinavia. He traveled with fifty-three elders aboard the Wisconsin to England. He arrived in Copenhagen on 14 June 1887 and was assigned to labor in the Skåne Conference (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 304–5, 310). Again he visited family, shared the gospel, and looked for family genealogy. He served in the Kristianstad and Halmstad (Malmöhus län) branches. This mission proved difficult: “I became sick…. I had started to be white from freezing so much. . . . I have never seen such a cold winter in all my life and many have been freezing to death” (Nilsson, “Missionary Journal of Peter Nilson: Missionary to the Scandinavian Mission”). After completing his second mission, he boarded the steamer Milo on 30 May 1889 and began his journey back to Utah.

In Utah he was faced with many problems. In 1891, while homesteading a farm near the Bear River, he was arrested for unlawful cohabitation. On 28 November 1891 he was found guilty. He was confined to a penitentiary for six months before being discharged on 28 April 1892 (see Geary, “Peter [Pehr] Nilson,” 7). When he was released, Peter moved to Franklin, Franklin County, Idaho. There, on 17 January 1904 he was ordained a high priest (see Geary, “Peter [Pehr] Nilson,” 9). He died in 1927 in Smithfield at age eighty-six.
Samuel Peter Nilson
1863–1945

Residence: Smithfield, Cache Co., Utah
Arrival in Copenhagen: 4 May 1883
Missionary labor: Göteborg Conference
Departure from Copenhagen: 15 June 1885
Departure ship: Panther
Birth date: 13 July 1863
Birthplace: Smithfield, Cache Co., Utah
Father: Nilson, Peter
Mother: Tufvesdotter, Svenborg
Spouse: Miles, Loretta Lucinda
Marriage date: 9 October 1885
Marriage place: Logan Temple, Logan, Cache Co., Utah
Death date: 5 October 1945
Death place: Smithfield, Cache Co., Utah
Burial place: Smithfield Cemetery, Smithfield, Cache Co., Utah

Samuel's parents joined The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Sweden and immigrated to America before his birth. They settled in Smithfield, Cache County, Utah, in 1870. One of Samuel's earliest memories was meeting Martin Harris, a witness of the Book of Mormon. After conversing with him, he was baptized a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on 7 September 1871 by Seth Langston. His favorite childhood memory was reading chapters in the Book of Mormon with his grandparents. He also remembered helping his grandfather cut grain in the fields (see Smith, "Life Sketch of Samuel Peter Nilson, A Sketch of My Life," 1).

In his youth, while chopping wood in a canyon, an ax glanced his left foot, and his toe had to be amputated. It took months before he regained strength in his leg (see “Samuel Peter Nilson, A Sketch of My Life,” 2).

In 1883, Samuel, still a resident of Smithfield, accepted a mission call to Scandinavia. En route to the mission, he stopped in Salt Lake City to receive his endowment on 5 April 1883. As he traveled on various steamers to the mission field, he recalled, “I never was so sick and I thought I was sure going to die. All were up on deck on hands and knees ‘heaving up Jona.’” He arrived in Copenhagen on 4 May 1883 and met the mission president. At that time, Samuel was wearing a silk handkerchief around his neck. The president immediately untied it and said, “You must wear a white collar.” (Smith, “Life Sketch of Samuel Peter Nilson,” 3).

After being in the mission headquarters for only a few hours, he boarded a small steamer for Malmö, Sweden, as he had been assigned to labor in the Göteborg Conference. He served in the Vingåker Branch (Södermanlands län) but felt hampered in this service because he did not know the Swedish language. On the mission, his leg caused him so many problems that “I cried. I thought that if I did not get better I would have to ask the president for my release.” At a conference held in Göteborg, the elders anointed his leg. “From that time I began to get better until I had fully regained my strength in that leg. . . . It was the first time in my life that I witnessed the power of God in the healing of the sick” (“Samuel Peter Nilson, A Sketch of My Life,” 3–4).

Samuel labored in the Jönköping Branch (Jönköpings län) for eighteen months and baptized thirty-four converts. “They all remained true to the church, except one, a young man of about thirty,” he wrote (“Samuel Peter Nilson, A Sketch of my Life,” 17). After completing this mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 15 June 1885 aboard the Panther with 273 emigrating Latter-day Saints and several other returning missionaries (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 290).

After arriving in Utah, he married his sweetheart, Loretta Miles. They resided in Logan, Cache County, where Samuel became a cattle rancher and farmer. In 1900, he accepted a call to work in the Logan Temple, which he did for two years. After asking for a release,
he lamented, “that was about the worst thing I ever did when I quit the temple” (“Samuel Peter Nilson, A Sketch of My Life,” 9).

In 1916, he accepted a second mission call to Sweden that was issued by Joseph Fielding Smith. He was assigned to be president of the Skåne Conference. During his mission, the epidemic flu of 1918 ran rampant throughout Sweden. He wrote of administering to many of the Saints during this time and of much preaching as “we were short of Elders.” The last six months of his mission were devoted to genealogical research (see “Samuel Peter Nilson, A Sketch of My Life,” 13–16).

He returned to Utah in 1920. His biographer wrote of him, “He was a great student of the Book of Mormon, having committed many passages to memory.” He was a widower for eight years until his death at the home of his daughter, Fern, in 1945. He was age eighty-two at the time. Fern wrote of him, “He was kind hearted, humble and sincere, a hard worker and a very religious man who feared the Lord” (“Samuel Peter Nilson, A Sketch of My Life,” 10).

On 1 July 1856, Mathias was baptized a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Sweden. He labored as a local missionary in Sweden and presided over the Göteborg Branch until immigrating to America (see Lund, Scandinavian Jubilee Album, 175). In 1859, he pushed and pulled a handcart across the plains to the Salt Lake Valley. Once in the valley, he earned the needed funds to help his parents immigrate to America (see History of Tooele County, 550).

Mathias lived most of his life in Tooele, Tooele County, Utah. There, he was ordained a seventy on 9 May 1860. Soon after the ordination, he served as an early mediator between the Native Americans and settlers in Skull Valley (see Lund, Scandinavian Jubilee Album, 175).

In 1872, he entered the hotel business. He served twice as mayor of Tooele (1887–91) and two terms as a city councilman (see History of Tooele County, 550).

Mathias accepted a mission call to Scandinavia in 1872. He arrived in Copenhagen on 28 May 1872 and was assigned to labor as president of the Stockholm Conference. During his presidency, he was visited by Elder Erastus Snow. He departed from Copenhagen on 18 June 1874 with 703 emigrating Latter-day Saints and four other missionaries (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 215, 219, 484).

After returning to Tooele, he was ordained a high priest and set apart as a high councilor in the Tooele

Mathias Brock Nilsson
Mathias Nilsson
1829–1926

Residence: Tooele, Tooele Co., Utah
Arrival in Copenhagen: 28 May 1872
Missionary labor: Stockholm Conference
Departure from Copenhagen: 18 June 1874
Departure ship: Milo (Humber)

Birth date: 8 March 1829
Birthplace: Västra Vemmenhög, Malmöhus län, Sweden
Father: Svensson, Nils
Mother: Brock, Lena Maria
Spouse: Chappelle (Woodward), Caroline (div)
Marriage date: 6 September 1859
Marriage place: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Spouse: Larsen, Hannah Catherine
Marriage date: 1878
Marriage place: Utah
Spouse: Lundmark, Hedvig
Marriage date: 31 January 1878
Marriage place: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Death date: 8 May 1926
Death place: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Burial place: Tooele, Tooele Co., Utah
Stake on 18 March 1882. He also served as a record keeper, tithing clerk, and secretary of Church books (see Lund, Scandinavian Jubilee Album, 175). He died in 1926 in Tooele at age ninety-seven.

Ola Nilsson

1836–1917

Residence: Millville, Cache Co., Utah
Arrival in Copenhagen: 20 November 1878
Missionary labor: Skåne Conference
Departure from Copenhagen: 5 July 1880
Departure ship: Cato
Birth date: 3 April 1836
Birthplace: Östra Odarslöv, Odarslöv, Malmöhus län, Sweden
Father: Nilsson, Ola
Mother: Larsdotter, Karna
Spouse: Olson (Jenson), Elsa
  Marriage date: 29 November 1867
  Marriage place: Utah
  Spouse: Nilson, Karna (Carrie)
  Marriage date: 21 October 1876
  Marriage place: Endowment House, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Death date: 5 December 1917
Death place: Millville, Cache Co., Utah
Burial place: Millville, Cache Co., Utah

Ola grew to manhood in a poor family and out of necessity started herding pigs and geese at age nine. He learned about Mormonism when Latter-day Saint missionaries came to his home. He and some others planned to interrupt a Mormon meeting but instead of causing a disruption, Ola accepted their message. He was baptized on 4 February 1864 by Peter Nilson. He was the only child in his family to join with Mormonism. Family members were angry with him for his religious choice (see Nielson, “History of Ola Nielson [Nilsson],” 1).

In fall 1865, Ola left Sweden to begin his voyage to Zion. He crossed the Atlantic Ocean aboard the Wyoming to reach New York Harbor. From there he traveled by train to Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska, and then by ox team to Zion. He arrived in Salt Lake City in December 1865 (see Nielson, “History of Ola Nielson [Nilsson],” 1–2).

He settled in Millville, Cache Valley. At that time, all he owned were the clothes he wore and what he could carry in his red handkerchief. Through working for others and saving, he was able to buy a city lot. He built a log house on that lot for his first wife, Elsa Olson (see Nielson, “History of Ola Nielson [Nilsson],” 2). Ola and Elsa never had children. But he did have thirteen children with his second wife, twelve of whom lived to adulthood.

Ola is remembered as fighting in the Native American wars and helping emigrant families come to Utah. He received his endowment on 29 November 1867 in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City before accepting a mission call to Scandinavia (see “History of Ola Nilson,” 2).

Ola arrived in Copenhagen on 20 November 1878 and was assigned to labor in the Skåne Conference. He spent much of his mission in Hälsingborg, Malmöhus län (see Nielson, “History of Ola Nielson [Nilsson],” 3). After completing an honorable mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 5 July 1880 aboard the steamer Cato with 346 emigrating Latter-day Saints and other missionaries (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 235–36, 244).

He returned to Millville and began farming, claiming, “Work was a blessing.” He often said, “When I can’t work anymore, I hope I can die.” Due to his great capacity for work and an inherent desire to save, he was able to purchase an organ and a piano (see Nielson, “History of Ola Nielson [Nilsson],” 5).

By 1891, he was stricken with sciatic rheumatism. The problem caused him so much pain that his screams were heard a block away. Ola died in 1917 in Millville at age eighty-one. His biographer said of him, “He was loved and respected by all who knew him, especially for his cheerful disposition” (Nielson, “History of Ola Nilson [Nilsson],” 4).

Swen Ole Nilsson

1854–1936

Residence: Fairview, Sanpete Co., Utah
Arrival in Copenhagen: 1 December 1885
Missionary labor: Skåne Conference
A year after his birth, Swen’s parents moved to Denmark. At age seven, Swen was working in a chicory factory at three cents for a half day’s work. He attended school the other half of the day (see History of Sanpete and Emery Counties, Utah, 376).

In 1863, he and his mother, brother, and sister immigrated to America. They lived for a few years in Mount Pleasant, Sanpete County, Utah, until relocating in Fairview, Sanpete County. In that community, Swen was baptized in September 1867 by Mads Anderson. Following his baptism, he herded, farmed, and attended school when possible until age seventeen. Then he began driving teams to Pioche, Lincoln County, Nevada (see History of Sanpete and Emery Counties, Utah, 376).

It was not long before he returned to Fairview to form a partnership with his brother Lars. They acquired one thousand two hundred acres. In 1879, he and his brother built a sawmill in Dry Creek Canyon. In 1885, they opened a general store and carried stock worth twelve to fifteen thousand dollars. In addition to this “first-class” country store, they bought and shipped sheep, cattle, and grain, and imported Cotswold sheep. Prosperity attended this partnership. Swen became superintendent of the Fairview creamery and a member of the Fairview city council (see History of Sanpete and Emery Counties, Utah, 376). He interrupted his financial success in Fairview to accept a mission call to Scandinavia in 1885. He arrived in Copenhagen on 1 December 1885 and was assigned to labor in the Skåne Conference. Unexpected poor health led to his early release from the mission (see History of Sanpete and Emery Counties, Utah, 376). He departed from Copenhagen on 8 April 1886 aboard the steamer Bravo (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 294–95).

Back in Utah, his health improved, as did his prosperous circumstances. He formed the firm of Swen & Lars Nielson—Merchants and Farmers. He was an ardent Republican, chairman of the county committee, and a member of the state committee. He served as chairman of the county commissioners and was nominated to run for the legislature, though he was not elected (see History of Sanpete and Emery Counties, Utah, 376).

He moved to Provo, Utah County, in 1919. There he opened a shoe store, which he operated for six years. During those years, he became a member of the Provo Elks Lodge. He died in 1936 in Provo at age eighty-two. His funeral services were held in the Provo Masonic temple (see Swen O. Neilson Passes Away,” Mount Pleasant Pyramid, 12 June 1936).

Karl Hyrum P. Nordberg
Carl Pettersson or Jönsson
1856–1933

Residence: Lewiston, Cache Co., Utah
Arrival in Copenhagen: 2 November 1886
Missionary labor: Göteborg and Stockholm conferences
Departure from Copenhagen: 30 May 1889
Departure ship: Milo
Birth date: 5 November 1856
Birthplace: Axeltorp, Everöd, Kristianstads län, Sweden
Father: Jönsson, Petter Olaf
Mother: Olsdotter, Elsa
Spouse: Andersson, Kristina Beatta
Marriage date: 6 December 1883
Marriage place: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Death date: 9 September 1933
Death place: West Jordan, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Burial place: West Jordan, Salt Lake Co., Utah

Karl became a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in 1876. Four
years later, he had migrated to America and was residing in Salt Lake City. While a resident of Lewiston, Cache County, Utah, he accepted a mission call to Scandinavia in 1886. Karl arrived in Copenhagen on 2 November 1886 and was assigned to labor in the Göteborg Conference. He was later called as president of the Stockholm Conference from 1887 to 1889. He departed from Copenhagen aboard the steamer Milo on 30 May 1889. With him on the steamer were 239 emigrating Latter-day Saints and twelve other missionaries (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 299–300, 309, 484).

He returned to Utah, where he died of infirmities incident to age in 1933 at his home in West Jordan, Salt Lake County. He was seventy-six years old. His funeral services were held in the West Jordan meetinghouse (see "Karl H. Nordberg," Salt Lake Tribune, 10 September 1933).

Ola Jonsson Nordberg
Ola Pettersson or Jönsson
1865–1933

Residence: Logan, Cache Co., Utah
Arrival in Copenhagen: 14 June 1887
Missionary labor: Göteborg Conference
Departure from Copenhagen: 8 August 1889
Departure ship: Bravo
Birth date: 30 October 1865
Birthplace: Axeltorp, Everöd, Kristianstads län, Sweden
Father: Jönsson, Peter
Mother: Olsdotter, Elsa
Spouse: Anderson, Emma
Marriage date: 15 October 1892
Marriage place: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Death date: 26 April 1933
Death place: Smithfield, Cache Co., Utah
Burial place: Smithfield, Cache Co., Utah

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a, a resident of Logan, Cache County, Utah, accepted a mission call to Scandinavia in 1887. He arrived in Copenhagen on 14 June 1887 and was assigned to labor in the Göteborg Conference. After completing this mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 8 August 1889 aboard the steamer Bravo with 150 emigrating Latter-day Saints and other returning missionaries (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 301, 305, 309).

He died at his home in Smithfield on 26 April 1933 at age sixty-seven. Funeral services were held at the Smithfield First Ward chapel. He had been a resident of Smithfield for nineteen years (see “Ola Jonsson Nordberg,” Deseret News, 28 April 1933).

Olaus Johanson Nordstrand
Olaus Johansen
1833–1922

Residence: South Cottonwood, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Arrival in Copenhagen: 6 November 1882
Missionary labor: Christiania Conference
Birth date: 17 November 1833
Birthplace: Nærsnesje, Røyken, Buskerud amt, Norway
Father: Olsen (Heggum), Johan
Mother: Olsdatter, Karen (Winnes)
Spouse: Amundsen, Anna Helena Dyresen
Marriage date: 9 September 1863
Marriage place: Echo Canyon, Weber Co., Utah
Spouse: Thomasen, Paulina
Marriage date: 15 January 1867
Marriage place: Endowment House, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Spouse: Larsen, Marin
Marriage date: 15 July 1880
Marriage place: Endowment House, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Spouse: Johnson, Helena Anne
Marriage date: 12 February 1919
Death date: 22 March 1922
Death place: East Midvale, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Burial place: Murray City Cemetery, Murray, Salt Lake Co., Utah

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t age nine, Olaus entered the fishing trade with his father. By age fifteen, he had left home to become a sailor. After six years on the seas, he was commissioned to be a captain. He basically lived on the sea until he was twenty-nine. “I wanted to become known along the whole Norwegian coast, so that I someday . . . could get a vessel of my own or be the captain of one that belonged to somebody else.” He wrote that “the last two years of my sailing I sailed as a recognized pilot” ("Olaus Johnson Record—taken
from the personal writings of Olaus Johnson Nordstrand, "54). In his absence, his parents and sister joined The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Upon learning of their baptisms, Olaus began to investigate Mormonism. It took him two years to accept the gospel: "The biggest reason for this is that I had a severe habit of using tobacco," he penned. After he quit his smoking habit, he wrote, "I have always given thanks to my Heavenly Father because He gave me strength to give it up for good." He was baptized in fall 1862 in Drammen by Elder Torgersen (see "Olaus Johnson Record—taken from the personal writings of Olaus Johnson Nordstrand," 54).

Olaus left the sea to sell scriptures and bear his testimony. He immigrated to America in 1863 and wrote that the 765 Latter-day Saint emigrants aboard ship were "wandering home toward that beautiful Zion in the west." While the ship was on the Atlantic Ocean, he was assigned to be a "watchman aboard, to ensure that nothing was stolen from the Saints." Once in America, he and fellow travelers took "long detours at times to avoid battlefields [Civil War] although we could hear the cannons roar." Just before they reached the Salt Lake Valley, Olaus married Anna Amundsen (see "Olaus Johnson Record—taken from the personal writings of Olaus Johnson Nordstrand," 66–70).

The newlyweds settled in South Cottonwood, Salt Lake County, Utah. Later, they moved to West Jordan, Salt Lake County, and Mill Creek, Salt Lake County, before moving to the Bear River Valley. At each of these residences, Olaus worked as a carpenter, mason, and farmer. He struggled in each locale to have a bountiful harvest. Yet he wrote, "We were happy with the hope in our hearts that we. . . . had obeyed the Gospel and had promises waiting that, based on obedience, all things would be given to us if we were faithful" ("Olaus Johnson Record—taken from the personal writings of Olaus Johnson Nordstrand," 70–71).

He accepted a mission call to Scandinavia in 1882. He left Salt Lake City with sixty-one other missionaries called to serve in Europe. He arrived in Copenhagen on 26 April 1897 and was assigned to labor in the Christiania Conference. He served as the leader of the Larvik Branch (Jarlberg og Larviks amt, now Vestfold fylke). His missionary ventures varied, but his joy among the Saints was always evident. However, he was summoned before the police on the charge that he was not preaching Christianity, and if he did not desist he would be fined or punished. He was forbidden to "speak again in the city of Larvik." These were difficult times, but he continued to preach in other areas until his mission ended (see "Olaus Johnson Record—taken from the personal writings of Olaus Johnson Nordstrand," 82–94). He departed from Scandinavia on 10 November 1898 (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 361–62, 366).

He returned to Utah and made furniture for his children and grandchildren. "He spent much time in his older years in his chair, sitting in the shade in front of his house at 6714 South State Street. He slept on a couch and put cheesecloth over his face.
to keep the flies off in the summer” (Despain, “Memories about Grandfather Olaus Johnson and Grandmother Anna Helena Amundsen Johnson,” 114). He died in 1922 in East Midvale, Salt Lake County, at age eighty-eight.

Anders Gustave Nygren
Anders Gustaf Nygren
1845–1923

Residence: Grantsville, Tooele Co., Utah
Arrival in Copenhagen: 28 September 1886
Missionary labors: Göteborg Conference
Departure from Copenhagen: 19 July 1888
Departure ship: Cato
Birth date: 11 July 1845
Birthplace: Kila, Värmlands län, Sweden
Father: Nygren, Johan
Mother: Andersdotter, Sara Kajsa
Spouse: Erickson, Selma
  Marriage date: 21 October 1876
  Marriage place: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Spouse: Hanson, Maria Petronella
  Marriage date: 21 December 1915
Death date: 19 February 1923
Death place: Grantsville, Tooele Co., Utah
Burial place: Grantsville, Tooele Co., Utah

On 18 July 1868, Anders was baptized a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints by John Anderson Quist. He immigrated to America in 1869 and located in Grantsville, Tooele County, Utah (see Lund, Scandinavian Jubilee Album, 180).

Anders accepted a mission call to Scandinavia in 1886. He arrived in Copenhagen on 28 September 1886 and was assigned to labor in the Göteborg Conference. He served in the Trollhättan Branch (Älvsborgs län) for thirteen months and later in the Västervik Branch (Kalmar län). He held seventy meetings, baptized six converts, and traveled one thousand six hundred miles on foot (see Lund, Scandinavian Jubilee Album, 180). After completing an honorable mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 19 July 1888 aboard the steamer Cato with 113 emigrating Latter-day Saints and two other returning missionaries (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 299–300, 306).

He died on 19 February 1923 from the effects of having his feet frozen in February 1922. He was a member of the high priests quorum of the Tooele Stake at the time of his death. He was a sheep raiser and farmer and had lived in Grantsville for fifty-three years. Funeral services were held in the First Ward chapel in Grantsville. (see “Death of A. G. Nygren,” Tooele Transcript, 23 February 1923).

Carl Nyman
1847–1931

Residence: Logan, Cache Co., Utah
Arrival in Copenhagen: 21 March 1891
Missionary labors: Stockholm Conference
Departure from Copenhagen: 1 February 1893
Birth date: 11 March 1847
Birthplace: Bergsgården, Stora Kopparberg, Kopparbergs län, Sweden
Father: Nyman, Anders
Mother: Qvarnström, Sarah (Carlsson)
Spouse: Loving (Hansen), Albertina Axelina
  Marriage date: 11 January 1870
  Marriage place: Endowment House, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah
Death date: 19 August 1931
Death place: North Logan, Cache Co., Utah
Burial place: Logan City Cemetery, Logan, Cache Co., Utah
Carl Nyman was baptized on 21 August 1862 in Fahlun, Kopparbergs län, a year after his father, Anders, embraced the gospel on 21 May 1861 (see Scandinavian Mission Index Fiche 6060482 #246). At that time, his father was a wealthy farmer and fisherman. He sold his farm and valuables to have the means to take his family to America in the spring of 1863. They sailed from Sweden to Copenhagen and then crossed the North Sea to England. In April 1863, they departed England and crossed the Atlantic in the BS Kimball with 684 emigrating Latter-day Saints. After arriving in the United States, they joined the John R. Murdock ox-train company to cross the plains. They arrived in the Salt Lake Valley on 29 August 1863 (see Smith, “Carl Nyman, Pioneer of 1863,” 1).

The family settled in Logan, Cache County, Utah. They lived in a dugout the first winter. To help support his family, Carl worked in Logan Canyon cutting logs. He also labored shearing, weaving, and spinning sheep wool. At age eighteen, he joined the Utah volunteers as a minuteman to ward off Native American attacks. In 1868, he helped bring Mormon emigrants from Winter Quarters, Douglas County, Nebraska, to the valley. Among those he helped was Albertina Loving, whom he later married (see Smith, “Carl Nyman, Pioneer of 1863,” 2).

In 1891, Carl accepted a mission call to Sweden. At the time, he was the father of eleven children. He arrived in Copenhagen on 21 March 1891 and was assigned to labor in the Stockholm Conference. After completing an honorable mission, he departed from Copenhagen on 1 February 1893 (see Jenson, History of the Scandinavian Mission, 319, 321, 333).

After the death of his wife, Albertina, in 1925, Carl lived alone until his demise. He died in 1931 at his home in Logan at age eighty-four (see Smith, “Carl Nyman, Pioneer of 1863,” 3). At that time, his daughter Annie reported that he had been “a very firm and stern man. He expected the children to be seen and not heard” (“Life of Annie Elizabeth Nyman,” 1).

The newlyweds settled in Logan, Cache County, where Carl purchased a lot for twenty-five bushels of wheat. He is credited with digging the first canal from Logan Canyon to Greenville and the first irrigation ditch on his farm. He built the railroad grade for the Union Pacific Railroad at Promontory Point. He was one of the first directors of the Irrigation Company and a local school trustee. He is remembered for hauling rock from Logan Canyon for the construction of the Logan Temple and Tabernacle (see Smith, “Carl Nyman, Pioneer of 1863,” 2–3).