

besides some half-brothers and a half-sister. <sup>3</sup> His parents were not rich, so Grandfather was forced to work as much as possible. His father died when he was a young boy, and his mother married a man by the [name of ] Peterborg.

Not much is recorded about his early life, and no one seems to know much about it. In those times education was a rare thing. The poorer class didn't get much of it. We must assume that he was an average boy, or a little above average in some ways. So we will think of him under these conditions, and go on to his later life.

It seems that at a certain point in a man's life he becomes foolish and gets married to some sweet little girl. This time came to Grandfather. On August 20, 1854, he and Serena Peterson were married.

The first few years of their married life were very unpleasant. During one winter, in order to keep from starving to death, they were forced to mix sawdust with a kind of meal. This constituted the food for that terrible time.



*Julia Konstance  
Petersen*

The first child born to them died. <sup>4</sup> In their sorrow, they went out for a walk, and happened to come to a small church house. In it were some Mormon missionaries, and an invitation was extended to Mr. and Mrs. Jensen to stay for the meeting. They became interested, and this led to further investigation. Finally resulting in their joining the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The Church authorities of Norway persuaded them to immigrate to Utah, in the tops of the mountains. The date of their departure on that voyage across the ocean I know nothing about. They crossed the plains in an ox-team company. They buried their second child <sup>5</sup> on the way across the plains. They reached Lehi, Utah, in 1863. Here they remained for three years, after which they moved to Franklin, Idaho. Their final home was made on Worm Creek, two and three-fourths miles northeast of Preston.

Uncle Peter Jensen, son of Julia, <sup>6</sup> Grandfather's second wife, was the first white boy born on this flat. The family was growing and increasing.

On account of the lack of irrigation water Grandfather was very much interested in securing a means of irrigation. He filed on Cub river water rights. The water from Cub river was to be the only salvation for these settlers who lived around that place. With the crude methods of that day, digging ditch was not a pleasure. Grandfather worked on this ditch so much that he acquired the name of "David on the ditch." Can you imagine the thrill five men had when a small stream came running down the flat? This happened on July the Fourth, 1884, about ten o'clock in the morning.

Between 1877 and 1879 a few more families moved in. Grandfather was made Presiding Elder of the

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<sup>3</sup> My records indicate he had six half-sisters and one half-brother. Their mother was Dorthe Gundmedsen born in 1766. Jens married her 3 Jan 1795.

<sup>4</sup> Jules Segvard born 24 Dec 1860 and died 31 Dec 1861.

<sup>5</sup> Josphine Jensen born 5 Nov 1862 and died 13 Aug 1863.

<sup>6</sup> Julia Konstance Peterson born 30 Aug 1851 in Oslo, Norway and was married 18 Nov 1868 to David. She is a sister to Serena. JC Jensen is her fifth child and third son, my grandfather—RJB.