FISTORY OF INGER KIRSTINE NIELSDAITER JOHNSON

An oral testimony told by Inger and written by her granddaughter, Ida Nielsen

Compiled by Brian C. McBride
Assisted by Lois P. Wilson

Hyrum, Vtah 1993:

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A Special Thanks to RaKell Titensor, for her efforts spent in researching a "dead end" and her Christ-like charity in ensuring that this manuscript found it's way into our hearts and hands; for without her, this publication would not have been possible.

And Thank You to Lois P. Wilson, for, without her gentle prodding, this would yet be a dream.

And to Betty M. Reed, who shared much information on Hans and Inger and their families.

- Brian C. McBride

ABOUT BRIAN

Brian C. McBride is an extraordinary young man. Born of pioneer ancestors, he is a very caring and sensitive person.

Brian was born in Hyrum, Utah and is the second child of Warren and Trena (Milligan) McBride.

I was already acquainted with Brian's parents and grandparents, but didn't actually meet Brian until he was 16. We met at a Hyrum City Museum Board meeting, where plans were being made to start a museum. Brian completed his last two years of high school while he continued to serve as a museum board member and docent. He also actively participated in family history research. We enjoyed many hours together working at the museum setting up displays, and on trips to Salt Lake City to the Family History Library in search of ancestors.

- Lois P. Wilson

FORWARD

This journal was found by RaKell Titensor in the home of Howard Crook in Idaho Falls, Idaho. It accounts of Hans Jorgen Jorgensen (name later changed to Hans I. Johnsen), 1826, and his wife Inger Kirstine Nielsdatter, 1826, both born in Aale, Onso, Ostfold, Norway. It tells of their conversion to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, their emigration to the United States of America, and of their settlement in Utah. It was written for Inger's grandson, Lester Nielsen, then on a mission to Norway, near her ancestral home.

Included therein is Lester's Missionary Journal that he kept in the same book as the manuscript, his travel expenses, visits he made, and addresses.

The typed version of this manuscript is typed as is, no corrections have been made in spelling, grammar, nor punctuation.

We have added pedigree chart, family group sheets, photos, etc to enhance and clarify this history. Hopefully, this will help further the immense task of connecting the family of man.

- Brian C. McBride

Brian C. McBride 164 S. Center Hyrum, UT 84319 RaKell Titensor P.O. Box 648 Afton, WY 83110

Betty M. Reed 325 S. 200 East #14 St. George, UT 84770

PROLOGUE

It is a wonderfully strange account how this manuscript became a part of my family treasures; a dream come true for all family historians.

I sat in the easy chair, engrossed in some book, when my dear friend, Lois Wilson, called on my doorstep. In her hands were a jumble of papers and charts; clearly, fresh from the Cache Family History Center in Logan.

Because she lives in Hyrum, she was given the assignment, by her director, to find a descendant of Hans and Inger Johnson and pass this record on to them.

"Do you recognize any of these names?" she asked, pointing to a pedigree chart held to my view. I looked at the familiar McBrides and then, to the Norwegian names of Hans and Inger Jorgensen. "Yes, but where did you find Hans and Inger?"

I quickly darted to my room and gathered my charts to show where I fit in. Lois looked at my chart as I read the enclosed letter from RaKell Titensor.

My mind buzzed with excitement as I read. This journal of my ancestors had found its way into my hands! A little while later, I found myself entranced by the pages in my lap. As my eyes read the words written therein, my mind was filled with images of long ago, of Norway, of angelic choirs, of hardships in the untamed west, and of eternal joy. The testimony told by Grandma Inger filled my eyes with tears and my heart with gladness. I want to share this with you, my family and friends, for I would be most ungrateful if I did not!

I personally thank all those who have helped me in my search for my ancestors and may the Lord grant you success in yours.

Sincerely,

Brim C. Mc Brishe

Section I



HANS and INGER JOHANNESEN

Johnson Plot Hyrum City Cemetery Hyrum, Utah north west corner of Section A



back row

INGER C. JOHNSON Feb 22,1826 Mar 15,1915 JOHNSON H.I. JOHNSON

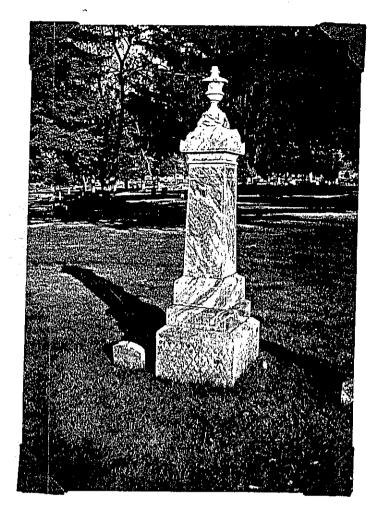
Feb 4,1901

GRETTA M. NIELSEN Aug 31,1826 May 12,1820 Mar 5,1889

front row

NIELSEN

JOS. H. JOHNSON June 2,1867 Mar 4,1870



Inger C. Johnson

JOHNSON headstone



H.I. Johnson

Gretta M. Nielsen

Inger C. Johnson



Gretta M. Nielsen



Jos. H. Johnson

This History is writen after maner in which it fell from the lips of Grandma Johnson on the 13 day of December 1908 in Town of Goshen in State of Idaho. Coppied by Grand Daughter Miss Ida Nielsen at said place, and sent to Grand Son Lester Nielsen who is in Norway on a Mission at His Request.

The Mormon Elders who were premuligating the Gospel of Christ traveled with out purs nor scrip trusting in God and the Hospatality of the People. The Elders were allways made welcome at our Home and allways received shelter and food but was denied the privelage of explaining the message of truth which they bore as my Father was a strong Lutherian

In the year 1845 I was Married to Mr Hans I. Johnson Mr Johnson was Born and raised about two hundred yards North of My Fathers Home in Ole, Onso, Norway. After we were Married the Elders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day saints visited us quite often. I did not believe in thier Doctorn and would not listen to thier testimonies

My Husband and allso a little Girl who I had taken to raise by Name of Julie Hess Joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints the Elders come qute often and sang songs of Zion and talk of the geathering of Esrial and the building up of Zion

I would not prepair food for them but go into a nother room But Julie Hess was a kind girl and she would make ready some thing to eat for the hungry Elders who walked so many miles without purs nor scrip preaching the word of God.

I could not think of leaving my dear Old Home Parents and Friends to go to Zion on a far distant Contenant among a strange Peopel and indure the hard ships which layed heavy upon the sholdiers of the Saints in Mosuri an Illinoise.

One day in June My Husband Julie Hess and I were out in the field planting Potatoes the sun was bright and the birds sang beautifull songs of Prais to their Creator we worked faithfull untill about noon day we had but one row left to plant I volunteered to stay and finish the remaning row while Julie Went to the House and prepaired dinner.

As I was working dropping the small pieces of Potatoes one by one into the tilled soil everything was still. I heard the voice of an unseen Quior sing songs of Zion and as near as I can translate it from Norweigen to English they sang, "Blessed are they who hear the chims of Zions Land".

The spirit of God filled my soul with happiness and He planted a testimony of Jesus Christ and the Divinity of Joseph Smith in my Heart. The songs of Zion rang in my ears, and I knew that the

Gospel of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints was the onely true Plan of life and Salvation I was willing to do anything to be obedient to its Doctorns I went to the House and told my Husband I was ready to sell our farm cattle Horses and everything and move to Zion

A few weeks latter I was Baptized by Elder Phrendres and made a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

We were very buissy making ready for our long journey to the West selling all of our Property and biding our Relation good bye.

I was the onely one in our family who joined the Church and my Parents were very bitter toward the Church but I knew it was true and knew I should obey God rather than Man The day come for our departure My Husband Hans Johnsen My four Children.

And Miss Julie Hess acompanied by My Father Mother and Hans Johnsons Father. We left our dear old Home where we were bread and Born and spent our Childhood days. down along the narrow road that leads to Fredrickstad.

We soon arived at the Fredrickstad Docks laying on the west side of the City at the mouth of the Glommen River where She empties into the North sea and as we stood gazing up the Beautifull river we saw in a distance the Steam Boat which would carry us away. She soon sailed up to the Pear and made fast and the Gangway plank. Was lowered It was their I said my last farwell to my dear Old gray haired Parents who wept as if thier poor Hearts would break we parted never more to meat again in this mortal existence but I knew that in some future time I would meet them in God's Royal courts on Heigh the Bell rang and we walked up the gangway. standing on the deck I clasped the Hand of my Dear old Parents for the last time the ship was soon under motion and we were sailing down the Glomming river and as far as I could see my dear old parents they stood waving thier Hands to us.

We arived in Christiania Norway where we met manny Saints who were leaving thier Dear ones Homes and Nation to emegrate to Zion we sailed with sam ship from Christiania to Copenhagen Danmark. where we found many Saints and friends waiting for us as our large sail Boat was waiting for its cargo. We boarded the sail ship Simspice and soon we were sailing out over the dark blew sea thire was about 300 emegrants and of different Nationality. we was soon out on the waving sea the winds blew

And a hard storm arose we were driven back to Fredrickshound Danmark. our ship left Fredrickshound driven by the wind toward England after a few hours of pretty weather a large storm arose and it carried our ship to Mandal Norway. we were delayed one week and a ship waiting for us in Liverpool.

We started out of the Mandal Bay and aproaching the Heart of the North sea when high storms arose and it seemed as thow we would be burried in a watery grave. We all knelt down and a Prayer was sent to God. asking Him to save us. as our ship had sprung a leak and and our souls were now standing at the murcey of the firce and restless North Sea. As we arose and gazed out over the rolling sea in a distance we saw a ship comming to our rescue it was the ship we prayed for it helped to fix our ship and the next day we landed in Hull England and for the first time set my feet on English soil

It was in Hull England where I saw the first Rail Road Train. we traveled from Hull to Liverpool England by by rail. we arived in Liverpool about dark tired and wornout and Hungry. we were made welcome by some Elders Bro. Baltime Rented a large Hall where tables were arainged and soon we were eating Horse supe rye bread and drinking black coffe we made family beds and used this Hall for a Hotel, the Boat Had gone and we were left in Liverpool.

Elder Hogan was very kind to us and and He found us a nice room which we rented for about three weeks. while in Liverpool. during my stay in this City my Baby took sick and the night before we Sailed from Liverpool Hans I Johnson went up town to buy some Medicne for my sick baby and the night being dark he lost His way and got lost. He could not speak one word English and the Police saw Him wandering around in the night thought he was a thief and took Him to the City Jail I was very restless and went and told Elder Hogan He went to Police Station and thier He found Mr Johnson and brought Him safe Home.

We sailed from Liverpool in the year 1853. on a large sail Ship their were about four Hundred Mormon emegrants on board as the large ship stretched Her large wings in the wind it looked as a large bird. We had a very rough voyage and the wind carried us back for the space of many days. and many were sick and during our voyage two of our company died and they were thrown over board.

The ship was very crouded so we just had one Bed for My Husband four Children and Julie Hess and My self. so while Johnson would sleep I would set up and while I would sleep he would set up. and keep watch on our belongings and Children

After a trip or voyage for eleven weeks and eleven days we landed on the soil of the poromissed Land in the City of New-Orleans in the State of Louisania in the Year of 1854 we sailed up the Mississippi river to St.-Louis Missouri where we stoped a few dayes and rested this is a beautifull City and many emegrants has stoped in St.-Louis

We then sailed up the Missouri river to the town of Levens-ward and their I gave birth to Mr Michael Johnson on the banks of the Missouri river in state of Kansas. having the pieces of an old tent for a House it was in this town where the Colra destroyed many of our people a family lost 4 in one night with this sicknest.

we were advised to leave Levensward and move to Mormons Grove which we did.

It was hear I heard from my Home in Norway and received the sad news that my Father and Mother had both Died and had been burried in the same grave. this filled my Heart with pain but still I had a hope burning within my soul. that some day we would meat again in the Kingdom of God.

We were orderd to make ready for the plains. we bought a wagon a pair Oxen and some food and different kinds of seed and then we began our long Journey over the mountains to the great Saltlake

valley after a few days Journey. Our Dear captian died and we burried him in the wild wilderness after chosing Bro Sicries of Salt Lake City we again journied toward our Gol.

We journied on day after day untill we arived at Fourt Cammer. then my oldest daughter Boletta became very ill and she laid in the wagon untill we reached S.L. City Utah I had five Children to care for three men to cook for and two cows to milk it took us five months to cross the plains I was quite weak but Julia Hess Helped us and she lived with us all her life. she was a dear little girl.

When we arived in the great Salt Lake Valley to our great suprise insted of finding a garden of eaden as we expected we found grass Hoppers by the millions and not a blade of grass all the leaves was eaten from the treas and bushes. a large Valley covered with sage brush and som places was as bare and white not a blade of grass just white salt beds.

Their were about 400 in our Company they were all Humble and indured the hard Journey fine we stoped in Salt Lake City three days at the request of Elder Hogan to let our Oxen recruit up a little after a short rest we began our Journey for south Weaber. We arived in South Weber in the fall of 1855. we had two good cows when we come to weber and they both died. we did not loose courage allthow starvation was stairing us in the face

Flour was inpossiable to get and my Dear Children would go to bed crying for something to eat we lived on brand bread and roots which we geathered but we were Humble Prayrfull and set our trust in the God of Heaven and Earth and a way was oppened unto us we bought a good cow and a nice calf. and in spring we planted nice gardens and set all the seed we had in the fground trusting in Heven for grouth.

We were buissy tilling the soil when we received orders from Salt Lake City that Jonsons army was coming to destroy the Mormon Church root and branch and Hang Brigham Young and all the leaders of the Church. Telling us to take our families and move south and to kindle wood under the corner of every House so it could be burned in front of the enemies Hands that they could not get take our hard earnings in posetion

We was soon buissy making ready for our long Journey to Lehi it was late in the fall and mutch rain and dew fell. We had no wagon cover so I was soon buissy with my old spining wheel and weaving michien weaving small pices of factory togeather and soon my great invention was compleated and it was of courious workman ship our wagon was soon packed with seed food and what little furniture we had and we wer soon gowing down over the muddy road toward Lehi Utah. about one hundred miles from our Home in Weber.

A short time after our arival in Lehi my oldest Son Jewlies become very ill with the Typhfoid feaver, and we spent about four mounths in Lehi when we received word from President Brigham Young that we may again return to our Home in Weber, with thanksgiving Hearts we Journied back over the long road to our old Log Cabin Home on our arival to Weber as we gazed out over our old Home Stad we saw a little patch of waving grain and some vegitables in our garden.

This made our Hearts rejoice as starvation was stairing us in the face our seed had been sown and our food had been eaten we were trusting in God for murcey and help. He had heard our prayers and blessed us with food during the comming winter Eleven days after our arival to Weaber

I gave Birth to Josephien Aug 26 She being my third Daughter. during the fall we aded another room to our Log Cabin and during the cold winter we faired quite well. untill a fals Prophet arose and brought a contintion among our little flock. He wore seven Keys around His neck and said He had been to Heaven seven times and each visit to Heaven He received a Key to the Kingdom of God. His plans did not work and He was unable to destroy the testimony which this little band had received during the time of persicution and oppisition. He could not decive any one And soon He became discouraged and His cunning plans fell.

Early in spring of 1858 we moved to Hyrum Cache Co Utah it was cold and stormy we had no Home so we lived in a Hole in the ground on the Public Squair untill warm weather come.

We bought a piece of Land and soon began to till the soil sow and plant we worked very heard trying to build up our new Home summer came with its rays of sunshine and our seed began to shoot its tiny blades through the dark soil and a bright future was prayed for. all our seed was in the ground we knew that if our seed failed to grow that starvation would be our fate as food could not be bought and it was a thousand miles or more to the nearest Railroad Station and about 2000 to the nearest Steam Ship Port.

Our grain and potatoes was looking fine and our Hearts were filled with Hope but to our great astonishment swarms of Grass Hoppers came and eat our grain off untill it looked as if it had been shaved with a knife. We had some potatoes planted near the House but three of us with large flags made of a long willow and a large piece of cloth bound to it were unable to keep these Grass Hoppers from destroying the Potatoes and allso a small patch of beans which we had planted with a spade and worked so heard trying to protect them from the hungry Grass Hoppers

Dark clouds had stretched Her black wings over the future which was once so bright and the dark vails of starvation seemed to lower Her dreadfull wings upon us. our Hearts was sad and the crys went fourth What shall we do? What shall we do? our crops had failed our seed had been planted in to the earth our food was nearly gone and my Dear Children had to live on half rashions. many times they would go to bed crying for bread

Prophet Brigham Young called a special Comfrence at Logan City and sent word for all Saints to be present. Prophet Brigham Young stood before this large body of Saints and prophisied in the Name of Jesus Christ that if they would go Home and plant all the seed they Had and pland potatoes and when it began to come up plow a light furrow of earth over them althow it was the 27th of July. that they should reap enough to live on during the comming winter

We went Home and done as He comanded us and we did reap ripe corn wheat and Potatoes so our lives was spared and our testimonies were

strengthened and we knew that Gods pertection was over us in this Desert.

In the year of 1858 my oldest Son Julies was called on a Mission He took a team of Oxen and went to Omaha after emegrants the arived at Omaha Nebraska and soon was loaded and on the way Home they Hade to cross many rivers and they reached Green river it was in spring and the river was very Heigh in making an atemt to cross the river on a farry it turned over and a number of the Missionaries were drowned.

In the spring of 1859 we sowed our seed and it come up very nice and prospects were good for a large Harvest but the summer was very dry and our grain and potatoes stood and burned down instead of beautifull green fields was a dry and withered and burned up Desert

Apostel Benson from Logan sent word for all the Saints in Hyrum to fast and Pray and He would come and hold a meeting that day, which we did we all geathered at our place of woship. Apostal Benson spoke fine and incouraged us we Held Prayer and ask God to spair our lives and prayed that he would Send us rain that our starvation may be quenced and before meeting was out the rain come down in pours. and we got wet to the skin on the way Home.

I seen many things that strengthened my testimony and learned me that God Did Live and that the Gospel of Jesus Christ was again upon earth in its fullness.

I have Heard Prophet Brigham Young Prophesie many things and have Lived to see many of these Prophicies fullfilled I in memory I can see Prophet Brigham Young standing in the Meeting House at Logan and as He waved His Hand our over Cache County He said I can see the time when a great iorn Horse will run through these valleys and instead of riding with Ox teams You will sit in plush seats on railroad trains and travel where you will in America Instead of these old wagons you will use fine Carriages drawn by fine Horses. I have lived to see that day we can go from Hyrum to any Point of America, and instead of drawing a hand cart I own a fine Horse and Carrage and many thousands are enjoying the Blessing Prophesied by Prophet Young.

Brigham Young was the first man who thought of Education for our Children He Bought large tracts of Land and as Land raised in value He sold it and bought fine Schools for our Children It was very Heard to get teachers to teach our Children as we were but few and very poor so my Childrens school days were limited.

In State of Utah we Have three Brigham Young Acadames and in 1908 in the City of Hyrum we have ten schools which shows we have been working for the Education of our Posterity

I am the Mother of ten Children and have burried three of them two were married and had families Dying of Sicknesses. and one was singel He was accidentialy shot and killed. In the year 1902 My Husband was weeding Garden and a weed struck im in the eye and put his eye out this effected his other eye and it allo become blind and the last year He lived he was in bed all the time and dyed in 1903 in Hyrum City Cache Co. Utah and since 1903 I have been living alone as all my Children are Married and have Families

When I look at my Children and at thier Children and see How my Postarity has been blessed I feel like a Bless Mother in Zion My Son Julies Johnsen fullfilled two Honerable Missions one in the United States and one in Norway. My Son Michael Johnsen fullfilled two Honerable Missions in Norway among My Relation.

I have Had six Grand Sons fullfill Honerable Missions In year 1908 I have living Seven Children and Sixty 63 three Grand Children and one 1 Great Great Grand Child.

And I feel that God Has Blessed me in nameless ways. I am now at the age of 83 and can ride on train from Hyrum City Utah to Shelley Idaho and take care of my own baggage and am now at the Home of my Daughter Josephien Nielsen I received a Photo from my Grand Son Lester Nielsen who is fullfilling a Mission in Norway and my eye sight is so good that I can see Him and Know Him. I have now told my History in breef and my Grand Daughter Ida Nielsen Is writing it down as it falls from my lips this is Just allittle of My History but should I tell it all it would take up to mutch space.

My Humble Prayr is to God that You My Dear Grand Son Lester Nielsen may live a good Praysworthy life as I have done be Humble and prayerfull and God will Bless You May Peas be with you is my Humble prayer.

Mrs. H. I. Johnsen

SS:

18 Nov 1993	I MITLE MOOL REGULD 20	Page 2 of i
HUSBAND Hans Jorgen JOHAN WIFE Inger Christine N	NNESEN-15	Yr of Birth 1826 Yr of Birth 1826
CHILDREN (continued)		
5. NAME: John HANSEN OR	:=====================================	
	PLACE: Aale, Fredericks, Norway	B: 8 Aug 1861
M CHR.:	PLACE:	E: 12 Feb 1885
	PLACE: Millville, Cache, UT	SP: 13 Mar 1885
	PLACE: Hyrum, Cache, UT	WETH
SPOUSE: Sarah Jane C MARR: 1 Jan 1880	OR 115-200 PLACE: Hyrum, Cache, UT	MRIN: 20
NAME I JUNE 1	rtabe: nyrum, bache, ut	SS: 12 Feb 1885 LG
6. NAME: Michael JOHNSO		
BORN: 11 Apr 1855	PLACE: Ft. Leavenworth, Windsor, KS	B: 18 Sep 1863
M CHR.: DIED: 9 Sep 1942	PLACE: PLACE: Logan, Cache, UT	E: 4 May 1874 EH
	PLACE: Logan, Gache, UT	SP: 13 Mar 1805 has other marriages
SPOUSE: Annie Sofia I		MRIN: 21
	PLACE: Logan, Cache, UT	SS: 11 Apr 1878 EH
7 NAME: 7-1	TOURICON 00	
7. NAME: Johanna Joseph: BORN: 26 Sep 1858	PLACE: South Weber, Weber, UT	B: 7 Jun 1867
F CHR.:	PLACE:	E: 21 May 1884 LG
DIED: 20 Dec 1940	PLACE:	SP: BIC
BUR.:	PLACE:	
SPOUSE: Hans Peter N	IELSON-203	MRIN: 23
MARR: 1 Dec 1880	PLACE:	SS:
8. NAME: Hans George JOH		
BORN: 12 Apr 1861	PLACE: South Weber, Weber County, UT	B: 31 Jul 1870
M CHR.:	PLACE:	E: 3 Jan 1884
DIED: 12 Aug 1948	PLACE: Hyrum, Cache County, UT	SP: BIC
BUK.: 16 Aug 1948	PLACE:	has other marriages
SPOUSE: Betsy Sophia MARR: 3 Jan 1884	PLACE: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, UT	MRIN: 11
	TEMOE. Sate take oftey, Sate take obuilty, of	SS: 3 Jan 1884
9. NAME: Henery Issac JO	·	
	PLACE: Hyrum, Cache, UT	B: 7 Sep 1871
M CHR.:	PLACE:	E: 30 Jan 1889
AIID -	PLACE: Hyrum, Cache, UT PLACE: Hyrum Cemetery, Cache, UT	SP: BIC has other marriages
SPOUSE: Henrietta FIS	HER-205	MRIN: 25
MARR: 30 Jan 1889	PI ACE -	•22
LO. NAME: Joseph Hyrum JO		
BORN: 2 Jun 1867	PLACE: Hyrum, Cache, UT	B: Child
M CHR.:	PLACE:	e: child
DIED: 4 Mar 1870	PLACE:	SP: BIC
BUR.:	PLACE:	
SPOUSE -		

SPOUSE: MARR:

PLACE:

SS: 1 Feb 1899 LG

PLACE: Hyrum, Cache, UT

MARR: 3 Feb 1893

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY 35 NORTH WEST TEMPLE

Genealogy of Brie H. D. Johnson This History is writen after maner of Grandma Johnson on The 13. day of December 1908 in Jour of Loshen in State of Velaho. Locked by Grand Saughter Miss Ada Wilsen said place and sent to Grand Son Letter melen who is jim narway on a minor at This Request. V. was Born February 22-1826 in Jour of Cla in Just Co. Place with tather & Mother four sisters V four Brother my Hathers mame being Mothers name tather owned a small farm which gave the Family unployment. It was hear on this Cittle Horn Stade where the Gospel of Tens of Krist was first Freached to our family father lying a thristian and of the Lutherian Faith Taught His The Mornion Poler who knows premuligating the Gospel of Shrist Stravelet with out price now scrip trusting in End and the Hospatality of the Teoper The olders were allways made welcome at our Home land allways but was desired the privelage of explaining the message of truth which they love as my father was a strong Lutherian

1011 Ils writing it down as it falls my lips this is Tues ablittle of the take up to mutch space My Humble Prays is to Hod that you My Dear Grand Son Lester nielsen may live good fraysworthy life as have done be Humble a Brayerfull and God will Blue you May Jean be with you is my Humble prayer. mrs. H. V.