



**CHRISTIAN PARLEY HENNINGSON**

Written by Ila Manwell Jorgensen, a granddaughter  
Person #4 on chart #2

My grandfather, Christian Parley Henningson was born 19 August 1860 at Nykobing, Falster, Denmark to Ramus Henningson and Cathrine Dorthea Hansen. He was the fifth child born to them and their second son. They first had a baby daughter whom they named Catherine D. Henningson. She lived only five days. A year and half later a son, Christian H. Henningson, was born to them. He died at the age of two months. The next year Pauline Marie was born. She grew up and married Hans Jensen and stayed in Denmark to live. Maria Mina was born when Pauline was two and half years old. She came to America with her mother when she was nineteen years old. She married Hans Peterson and lived in Manti, probably the rest of her life.

I remember Aunt Maria very well and spent lots of time visiting in her home. As a child, mostly as a teenager I spent lots of days visiting with her grandchildren, mainly June Esklund from Scipio and Dorothy Childs from Orangeville. Several years later, after we were married, Dorothy and her husband, Lowry Olson and Budd and I lived in Price

and associated together again. We still keep in touch with a Christmas card and a letter each year.

I continued visiting Aunt Maria quite often, until her death 17 November 1943. She really seemed to enjoy having me take Ruth to visit her. She always made everyone feel welcome in her home. She was our only relative on my grandfather's side of the family. Her husband died before I was old enough to know him.

The day after Aunt Maria was three years old, my grandfather, Christian Parley Henningson was born on the 19th of August, 1860 in Nykobing, Falster, Denmark. Then three and half years later, another son, Richard Clauf was born. He died at the age of twenty four. He died on the 27 October, 1888 while working in a mine at Tintic, Utah.

In 1860 my grandfather's parents, Ramus and Catherine Dorthea Henningson, heard the Gospel and were baptized members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in June of that year, Ramus on 3rd June and Catherine Dorthea on 17th June. My grandfather, Christian Parley, was baptized 5 August 1874.

In 1875 Christian, then 15 years old, and his eleven year old brother, Richard came to America and to Utah with their father, Ramus Henningson. A year later their mother, Catherine Dorthea, and nineteen year old sister, Maria, came to Utah.

Two years later, my great grandfather and great grandmother (Ramus and Catherine) were sealed in the St. George Temple. As this was in the days of polygamy, this same day Rasmus was also married and sealed to a young lady, thirty years younger than his first wife, Catherine. She had come to America with them. They had three sons and four daughters. My mother, Ellen, always associated and visited with the two youngest daughters of this marriage. I knew them well and enjoyed visiting with them. They were Aunt Pate and Aunt Martha.

When Christian Parley was twenty two, he married Silva Funk on New Years Day 1883. They had two children, a son, Parley Silvester Henningson, who I never knew and a daughter, Mary Jane, who married Peter Scow. They lived in Mayfield, a block and a half from Aunt Kate and Uncle Clarence, so I knew her and her family. As a child, I didn't know she was my mother's half sister. I thought the family connection was Pete and Uncle Clarence, both being Scows. Christian's and Silva's marriage ended in divorce. Each married again later.

Six years later my grandfather, Christian and my grandmother, Johanna Dennison, were married in the Manti Temple. They lived in Manti, Sanpete Co., Utah, and raised a family of four children. The first child, a son was stillborn. Then next Kate Maria was born, then two years later Henry was born. My mother, Ellen, came two and a half years later. Another two and half years later Gladys Myrtle was born.

Chris Henningson was a sawmill operator most of his married life. At first he had his sawmill in Six Mile Canyon. In a few year when they had cut enough trees, the sawmill was moved to Twelve Mile Canyon and later to the Muddy. His family went up the canyon and made their home at the sawmill during the summer months while they operated the sawmill. The rest of the year, he did whatever jobs he could get in town. Mostly he worked with his team of horses. My mother told me that he always made a good living for his family.

My mother, Ellen, tells of the good times they had riding horses in the mountains near the sawmill. Also of the work of cooking for the men who worked at the mill.

One summer the sawmill caught fire and burned to the ground. It was too late in the year to get it built up to operate that season and by next year, Christian's health wouldn't allow him to do that kind work. From that time on, they lived in town in Manti and he worked with his team of horses.

He brought young pine trees from the mountains and planted them in town. He planted pine trees all along 2nd South which was the street they lived on. He also planted them all through town, wherever people wanted them. My father told me Grandpa Henningson planted most of the pine trees in Manti.

In his later years, Christian enjoyed very much going to the movies, which had no sound. He went often and would always sit in the same seat near the back of the theater. On 16 May 1918, he went to the movie and while there he suffered a heart attack and died slumping down in his seat. He was fifty eight years old (lacking 3 months of being 58). He is buried in the Manti City Cemetery.

I, Ila Jorgensen, was born on my grandfather's birthday, so I feel I have a special tie with him. My mother would liked to have named me 'Chris' or something similar to his name but at that time those names weren't being used for little girls.

Written by Ila Manwell Jorgensen in 1979. Information from family group sheets and information my mother, Ellen Henningson Manwell, told me.