

The following is courtesy of '*Gerry*' (*Cassell*) *Bankson*, fourth generation, Anna's branch—Editor.

History of Charles Peter Johnson
as written by Anna Myers.

“He was born on July 4, 1846 in Bornholm, Germany. It was a small colony of Danish people but was under the German government. My father was getting to be draft age and he didn't want to go to into the army so he stowed away on a ship. The captain did not know he was there until they were way out at sea so that is the way he got to America.

His name was not Johnson but he could not talk plain and everyone thought he said Johnson instead of Jensen and of course he thought that was all right being in disguise. It has been Johnson ever since.

I don't know how he got to Salt Lake and Provo but that is where he met Annie Christopherson. They were married in the endowment house. He was 24 and Annie was 22 years old and to that union eleven children were born. 6 were born in Spring City, Sanpete County, Utah.

Then father was called by the church with a colony to come to Price, Utah and settle that country. My father went first and fixed a dugout for us to live in. Then he moved the family in the spring of 1882.

My father was a jack of all trades. He helped build houses and was a blacksmith and he and some other men made adobe and that was what our first house was built of. Father worked in the shingle mill and his first injury was to get both hands mashed. It took a long time to get over that.

We had a small farm and my brothers took care of that until they were old enough to haul freight to Fort Duchesne and then they would haul asphalt back to Price.

The first few years we had to go to Sanpete to get our staple groceries. We went every fall and got enough to last all winter. My father had the shoemaker make each of us a pair of shoes in the fall and they would last till the next fall. 5 children were born in Price. My little sister Nora died at the age of 6 months. Then father got sick and had a mastoid operation. Soon after that he and brother Louis was hauling lumber from the mill in the Huntington canyon and the brake on father's wagon broke and threw father under the wagon. This broke his leg in 3 places. He was just getting so he could get around a little when brother Oliver was drug to death with a horse. Father saw the horse coming and ran out to try and stop him and fell and broke his leg again.

He was laid up again for a long time but the boys were old enough to work out and I also worked out and we all helped to support the ones at home. Then father got a job shoeing Government mules but that was hard work for him. In 1900 we sold the place at Price and moved to Green River, Utah.

In 3 or 4 years we moved to Shoshone, Idaho and bought the old Murphy place. Only stayed there one year then moved to Marley where he and my brothers lived for many years. Then father sold and moved to Provo, Utah and lived there the rest of his life. He died on April 30, 1930.

Your mother said he lived at Emmett Idaho before he moved to Provo.”

Editor's note: Our ‘Annie’s maiden name was Bennedsen.