

CHARLES JOHN LAMBERT

LILLY HARRIET ALMIRA DRUCE LAMBERT

March 25, 1905



Charles John Lambert



LIFE SKETCT OF CHARLES JOHN LAMBERT

Charles John Lambert, my Grandfather, was the oldest son of Charles Lambert and Mary Alice Cannon Lambert, born in Nauvoo, Illinois November 5, 1845 during the hard times the Saints were experiencing following the martyrdom of the Prophet Joseph Smith and his brother Hyrum.

His parents remained in Nauvoo for the defense of the city after the exodus of the main body of Saints, as his father had promised the authorities of the Church at the time of the dedication of the Nauvoo Temple that he would help the less fortunate to leave in safety. They tried several times to go west, but had stopped each time, due to circumstances which had arisen.

In February 1848 they again set out for the journey westward. That journey of 150 miles from Missouri to Winter Quarters at this season was a terrible one but was bravely accomplished. While crossing the river from Ferry Point to Winter Quarters the ice broke through, letting a wagon with all their possessions go down. His mother stood on the bank with grandfather in her arms and her younger brothers and sisters clinging to her skirts, to see all they possessed sink to the bottom of the river, and could do nothing to help. However, by the kind help of any volunteers most of the things were recovered, although some was spoiled, and the next day the wagon was pulled out. Following the advise of Pres. Young they decided to return to Missouri, where his father had work, until the next spring. They then started out again, and after six more months of travel, reached Utah in the fall of 1848,

coming over in Allen Taylor's company, great-grandfather being captain of the ten. By this time grandfather was four years of age.

Growing to youth and manhood in this country, he was early identified with the activities of the pioneer and from tender years had performed his full share of all these experiences that made for the building of the foundation of the State of Utah. As a lad he often herded cattle and horses on the open range, which is now Salt Lake Co.

One of the sports as a lad was to go swimming. To this his parents consented except on Sundays. One Sunday, being urged by his companions and thinking his parents would never know, he went in a creek on Sixth West between Ninth and Tenth South Streets. They floated on the logs and had a good time until the log grandfather was on overturned and he was mysteriously held under it. The other boys could not find him so they ran a mile for help. Grandfather said he could see his body under the log, see them looking for it, and wondered why they were unable to see it. He was made to realize that this all happened through disobeying his parents. He was given the chance to return if he would remember this. He said. "I have disobeyed my mother, I must go back and tell her how sorry I am to have done so." He saw them take his body from the water and then, after much rolling and working, he was bought back to life. He had no pain leaving his body, but the pain was almost unbearable upon returning. This was always a great lesson to grandfather, never to disobey his parents, or anyone else, and his mother said that he never did again. I remember when

I was a small child, grandfather taking me in his knee and telling me this incident, urging me not to disobey my mother and it has helped me in many times of temptation.

As a young man Grandfather worked along with his father at stone cutting, masonry, logging and farming. He also drove the carriage for his Uncle John Taylor's family as he was very good with horses.

Grandfather fought in the Black Hawk War in Sanpete Co. being mustered into service in the spring of 1866. He was a member of the John R Winder Company, serving about three months; he was body guard for General Wells when they reached Salina Mill Creek and while camped there the Thistle Valley fight took place. When the Kimball Co. reached Thistle Valley the Indians had left, so they followed them; however, they lost track of them so returned and went to Fish Lake and Castle Valley. All this time there was much suffering because of the lack of water and provisions. On returning to Salt Lake they were released.

In the year 1867 he was called by President Brigham Young to get married and settle in Dixie. His name was called out in General Conference in the Tabernacle, from the stand. At that time he called on Lilly Harriet Almira Druce a few times, but had no thought of being married very soon. He had only three weeks before he was to leave, so he made arrangements and they were married on 26 October 1867 and left immediately for their mission to settle on the Muddy. While on their way they were stopped by President Erastus Snow and Grandfather was told his call was changed and he was to go to St. George to help erect the Tabernacle

there. He worked there as stone cutter, but in 1868 he had to return to Salt Lake because of ill health. He then worked on the construction of the Union Pacific Railroad. He worked as foreman, with his father who had the contract doing the rock work on the bridge.

In March 1870 he began working at the Paper Mill of the Desert Paper company in Sugar House in the building which was later used for 25 years for the Bamberger Coal Company. A monument has been completed, erected directly west of the structure in memory of the pioneer Sugar Industry as the building was first built for that purpose. This paper mill in Sugar House furnished wrapping paper for the stores of Salt Lake as well as newspaper. After two or three years he became Superintendent.

On May 23 1879 it was decided that a new mill would be built at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon. Charles John Lambert, T. E. Taylor and Henry Crow, the architect, were sent East to investigate and get new ideas on mills - materials and machinery, they visited Chicago, New York, Philadelphia, Boston and other large cities. On account of the difficulties of building at that time it was December 27, 1882 before the mill was completed, at a cost \$150,000.00. The machinery was moved from the old mill; later, new machinery was purchased and both used.

The family lived in a home near the mill, just a little farther up the canyon so that grandfather could be near his work. They then had one boy and five girls, twins girls Hattie and Nettie were born while they lived there.

In march of 1884 Grandfather met with a very serious accident

while working at the paper mill in Big Cottonwood Canyon, being kicked in the face by a horse. They carried him into the office thinking him dead. The nearest telephone was about seven miles away and it was necessary to phone to Salt Lake for a Doctor. He was brought to Salt Lake in a one seated buggy, a distance of 15 miles. He lay unconscious for 30 days and after regaining consciousness he remained ill for two or three months unable to return to his work. The Doctors did not think it would be possible for him to live but with fasting, prayer and with the faith of his family and friends, with the help of the Lord he was again able to resume his work for more than four more years, until poor health required a change of occupation. During that time, however, he was always willing to sacrifice in order to see the paper industry grow, working day and night when necessary, feeling that with proper management it would become a big paying industry for Utah.

On November 28, 1878 he married Mary L. Hovey, the daughter of James G. Hovey and Susannah Goodrige, as a plural wife, and was the step-father to Gensive Hardy, her mother passed away when she was a baby.

In September 1888 he purchased a farm in Granger, buying forty acres of wet alfalfa land. His endeavors to drain the wet lands was successfully, thus making the land produce and raised 75 bushels of oats to the acres and other grains in proportion. He operated this farm until 1917, when his youngest son Joseph was called into service for the world war, and he moved to Salt Lake. During the time he was in Granger he worked at intervals for the Lambert Paper Company, operated by his brother, George.

He lived in Salt Lake the remainder of his life and spent most of his time working in the Salt Lake Temple, being called to be a worker there. He was the father of ten children - two boys and eight girls.

Charles John Lambert died at the L.D.S. Hospital following an Operation, on February 17 1924. His funeral was held in the old Farmer's Ward Chapel, which was filled to capacity with his many relatives and friends. He was loved and honored by all who knew him.

Prepared by Nettie W. Miller

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