

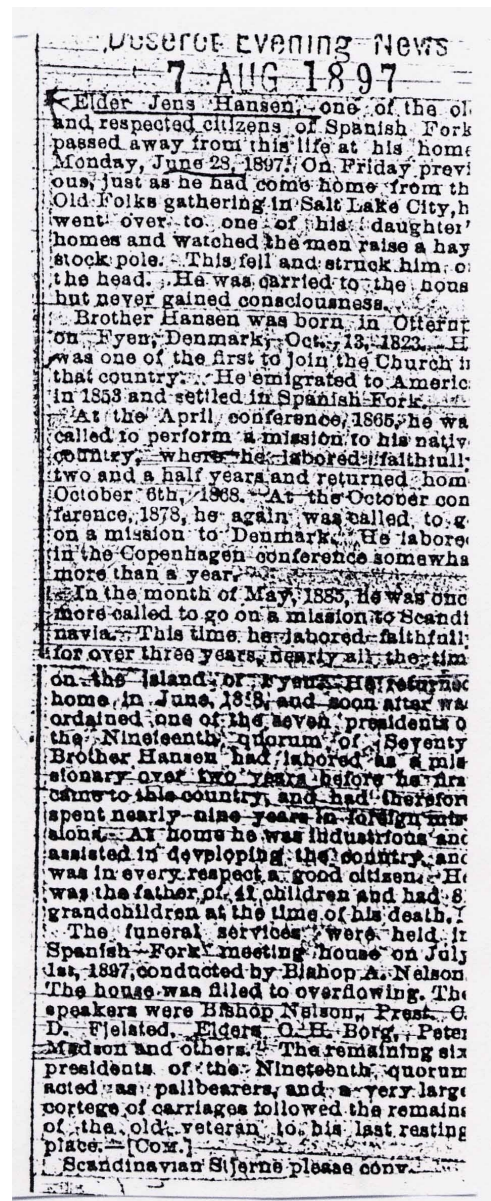
Deseret Even News  
7 Aug. 1897

Elder Jens Hansen, one of the oldest and respected citizens of Spanish Fork passed away from this life at his home Monday, June 28, 1897. On Friday previous, just as he had come home from the Old Folks gathering in Salt Lake City, he went over to one of his daughters homes and watched the men raise a hay stock pole. This fell and struck him on the head. He was carried to the house but never gained consciousness.

Brother Hansen was born in Otterup on Fyen, Denmark, Oct 13, 1823. He was one of the first to join the church in that country. He emigrated to America in 1853 and settled in Spanish Fork.

At the April Conference 1865, he was called to perform a mission to his native country, where he labored faithfully two and a half years and returned home October 6<sup>th</sup>, 1868. At the October conference, 1878, he again was called to go on a mission to Denmark. He labored in the Copenhagen conference somewhat more than a year.

In the month of May, 1885, he was once more called to go on a mission to Scandinavia. This time he labored faithfully for over three years, nearly all of the time on the island of Fyen. He returned home in June 1888 and soon after was ordained one of the seven presidents of the Nineteenth quorum of Seventy. Brother Hansen had labored as a missionary over two years before he finally came to the country, and had therefore spent nearly nine years in foreign ministry alone. At home he was industrious and assisted in developing the country and was in every respect a good citizen. He was the father of 41 children and had 9 grandchildren at the time of his death. The funeral services were held at Spanish Fork meeting house on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1897, conducted by Bishop A. Nelson. The house was filled to overflowing. The speakers were Bishop Nelson, Pres. C. D. Fjelsted. Elders O. H. Borg, Pres. Madson and others. The remaining six president of the Nineteenth quorum acted as pallbearers, and a very large protege of carriages followed the remains of the old veteran to his last resting place.



“Springville Independent” July 2, 1897

Last Friday afternoon, James Hansen, an aged gentleman of Spanish Fork and well known in Utah, had just returned from the old folk’s excursion and was standing near his son Ezra’s hay shed watching, he and some others erecting a hay fork apparatus when by some mishap one of the heavy poles fell, striking the old gentleman on the side of the head knocking him against a gate post near by. The blow knocked Mr. Hansen senseless, tearing off a portion of the scalp. He never recovered consciousness and died on Monday evening at 6 o’clock p.m.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. in the Spanish Fork Meeting House. The deceased was 70 years of age next August and has been a very conspicuous figure in Utah from its early days. His home has been a landmark for many years; it is on the main road entering Spanish fork and is inevitably pointed out as the place where each door represents a wife, each window pane a child and many others sensical and nonsensical ideas have been told and retold.