

Martha Henrietta Lunt Jones

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Mrs. White

4th grade ancestral essay

Martha Henrietta Lunt Jones was born November 12, 1858 in Cedar City, Utah to Henry Lunt and Mary Ann Wilson. She is my great, great, great grandma. She was the oldest of their eight children. Throughout her life she was known as Henrietta. Just after she was born her father left to preach to the settlers in the southern settlements.

Henrietta was a young girl in her early teens when she first started working as a telegraph operator in her fathers hotel. Major John Wesley Powell often stayed at the Lunt Hotel and it was Henrietta's responsibility to send and receive his telegraphs. On one occasion Major Powell gave Henrietta a beautiful cameo with matching earrings. She was able to pass these valuable items down to her daughters. I learned that a cameo is a necklace. I like jewelry too!

While working at the hotel Henrietta saw many people passing through by stagecoach. Some of the more memorable stagecoach visitors were hauling silver from Silver Reef. The stagecoaches were heavily guarded. Because of her exposure to so many different people traveling through and staying at the hotel she became very educated in dealing with the public. She often accompanied her father in his travels throughout the state. I love going to hotels to stay overnight. I wonder if I would like to go to work with my dad? Maybe.

Henrietta had known Lehi W. Jones most of her life and naturally a courtship began to blossom. They were married February 13, 1878 in the St. George Temple. Later in life Henrietta told her children that she had been heavily criticized for going out with Lehi because she came from wealth and he did not. Lehi and Henrietta proved them all wrong and

worked very hard and gained a substantial amount of wealth. I think love is more important than money.

The home Henrietta and Lehi built still stands in Cedar City today on 100 West. It was the first home to receive electricity from the hydro-generator up Cedar Canyon. Together Henrietta and Lehi raised nine wonderful children. They were all great people and contributed to their communities. I also come from a family of nine kids. I hope to have a big family of my own one day.

When present day SUU was in its beginnings, Henrietta and Lehi mortgaged their home to pay the teachers wages. She died May 31, 1932. I hope I can be the kind of person that my great, great, great grandmother was. " Her life was an inspiration to all who knew her and especially to her own family, who knew her best. One who spends a great deal of time working for the public, does so at the expense of her duties at home, but Henrietta had the capacity and efficiency to do both well. Furthermore, her home interests reached beyond the household duties. She was a good foreman, so to speak, in directing her boys with the farm and livestock projects, such as making ready a camp outfit, or killing a mutton, if necessary. If she saw the need for a fence to be moved or a wood pile or pigpen to be cleaned up, she accomplished that, with available help. She was a rare combination of practicality and refinement."