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Title: **1911 + Viv to Zella ABT Martina pg 1.jpg**

Provenance:

Category: **Document**

Person:

Date: **06/01/2024**

Alva and Zella Matheson files from LaKay M. Weber's home.

Martina M. Peterson Born in Horsens Jutland Denmark April 15 1835. Her mother's maiden name was Lamb.

Her father was from Germany. Had a trace of Jewish blood.

She was married to a man by the name of Peterson. Soon after her marriage the Mormon missionaries came

into their vicinity, preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ of

Latter-day Saints. They became interested and attended

their meetings regularly. She was much more enthused than her husband. She studied their literature

and prayed earnestly to the Lord to know if

their teachings were true. In answer to her prayers

she received a testimony that never failed her

in more than 50 years of trials and hardships.

They both applied to the Elders for baptism.

Mormonism was new and extremely unpopular.

Mobing of the Elders was a very frequent occurrence

in various parts. They did not dare to perform

baptisms openly in daylight. So they went with

the Elders at night to a river in the

woods. It was early spring the river was

frozen but they broke the ice, were baptized

and confirmed members of the church.

When it became known that they had joined

the hated mormons they were scorned by all

acquaintances; disowned by relatives, deserted

by friends. They were pointed out on the street as

mormons. Not unfrequently they served as targets

for eggs, potatoes and other missiles.

During this trying time a little girl