

Leta V. Burrell

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The Oregon Society
of the
National Society
Daughters of the American Revolution
is proud to reissue this volume
in honor of all revolutionary ancestors,
this bicentennial year.
We rededicate ourselves to the ideals
of our country and of our society,
historical, educational and patriotic.

Mrs. Herbert W. White, Jr.
State Regent
Mrs. Albert H. Powers
State Bicentennial Chairman



JOSEPH L. MEEK

Men of Champoeg

A RECORD OF THE LIVES OF THE PIONEERS
WHO FOUNDED THE OREGON
GOVERNMENT

By
CAROLINE C. DOBBS

With Illustrations



BEAVER-MONEY.
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MANY VOLUMES have been written on the history of the Oregon Country. The founding of the provisional government in 1843 has been regarded as the most significant event in the development of the Pacific Northwest, but the individuals who conceived and carried out that great project have too long been ignored, with the result that the memory of their deeds is fast fading away.

The author, as historian of Multnomah Chapter in Portland of the Daughters of the American Revolution under the regency of Mrs. John Y. Richardson began writing the lives of these founders of the provisional government, devoting three years to research, studying original sources and histories and holding many interviews with pioneers and descendants, that a knowledge of the lives of these patriotic and far-sighted men might be preserved for all time.

The work was completed under the regency of Mrs. Earl C. Bronaugh, Jr., and met with such extensive appreciation that in response to a general demand the biographies are being published in this book under the title *Men of Champoege*.

Grateful acknowledgement is due Miss Nellie Pipes, librarian of the Oregon Historical Society and editor of *The Oregon Historical Quarterly*, not only for generous aid in the search for material but for her invaluable assistance in reading and verifying the entire text of the book.

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Chapter I

CHAMPOEG

THE GREATEST historic drama of the Pacific Northwest was enacted on a little plain lush with grass and growing grain on the banks of the Willamette river, which was gleaming in the sunlight and was bordered by huge trees standing through the years past as sentinels in the solitude.

About the scene was a border of hills, whose green slopes, powdered with occasional blossoms, blended into a skyline cut into sharp relief by forests of pointed fir.

Hastening from all directions, singly and in groups, gathered the settlers. Coming in boats along the river, swimming their horses across the stream and riding over the plain, they came from far and near.

This was the time and place for the final decision between the factions opposing and favoring the establishment of a government—a test of strength between the French Canadians and Hudson's Bay adherents and the Americans.

Here they assembled, the old and young, the hard-bitten mountain ranger, the missionary, the seaman, and the blacksmith, merchant, doctor, farmer, jack-of-all-trades—a typical cross-section of America. No weaklings were among their ranks. Pioneers all, who had burned their bridges and cut themselves off from civilization when they pushed out to this last frontier, there to find themselves forsaken by their mother-country, helpless and defenseless in the wilderness. They should be held in high honor for all time for the manner in which they rose above their difficulties and conquered this vast and lonely land.

Title to a country may be based on discovery, exploration and occupancy. America laid claim to discovery of the Columbia river by Captain Robert Gray in 1792, and exploration by Lewis and Clark who were sent out by the United States Government in 1804-06. Settlement was first made in the establishment of an American trading post by John Jacob Astor's company at Astoria in 1811. This, as well as other attempts to get a foothold in Oregon, was of short duration and was taken over by the North West Company and eventually by Hudson's Bay Company.

Great Britain laid claim to the territory on the grounds of previous and numerous discoveries and explorations and to her long-established settlement at Fort Vancouver under the Hudson's Bay Company. This organization was backed by powerful political and financial interests in England, and held undisputed sway over the Pacific Northwest, ruling the country with an iron hand. The Indians were loyal and obedient subjects, and they, with the French Canadian trappers, brought in the pelts and furs that furnished the wealth of the company.

A treaty of joint occupancy had been negotiated with England in 1818, whereby citizens of both countries would be privileged to settle unmolested, but many were the means devised and used by the Hudson's Bay Company to frustrate business encroachments.

Dr. John McLoughlin, chief factor of the company, extended always a private hospitality and drew upon the rich stores of Fort Vancouver to supply the needs of American immigrants who arrived often in a deplorable condition of starvation and destitution. His sympathy and generosity to the Americans won for him the oppo-

brium of the company, and finally resulted in his withdrawal in 1845. From his private resources he repaid the company for supplies loaned the settlers. He became an American citizen and made his home in Oregon City, where he died in 1857.

Into this inhospitable atmosphere of thinly-veiled hostility pushed the American missionary and the venturesome immigrant. A few valorous men were holding over from the Astor and Wyeth failures, but by 1840 in the entire territory embracing Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and part of Wyoming and Montana, there was a population of only two hundred, exclusive of Hudson's Bay operatives. The conviction was growing that England would ultimately consent to the relinquishment of territory south of the Columbia, but would insist upon the retention of all country north.

It was the invincible spirit of these colonists which compelled British interests to waive even those claims and forced the enlargement of United States boundaries, as fixed by the treaty of June 15, 1846, to the present limits. Vainly the colonists had petitioned the United States again and again to extend aid and protection to them in their isolation; but, while the pioneers were patiently building homes and schools and developing their farms, Congress was hesitating and haggling over the disposition of Oregon. Senators Lewis F. Linn and Thomas H. Benton, both of Missouri, steadfast friends of Oregon, worked tirelessly for its recognition, but, despite their efforts, Congress delayed extending its jurisdiction over the disputed territory.

A body of American citizens, victims of their country's neglect, were forced for their own protection to form an independent government. In so doing these

courageous settlers wrought out the destiny of the last frontier. Relying only upon themselves, with recourse to no outside help, they worked out a form of government and code of laws, well conceived and wisely administered, known as the "provisional government," under which they lived for five years. Then only, in 1848, did the United States take over as a territory this land of promise won by the blood and sweat of those who pressed on to the consummation of their hopes.

No guns were fired, no peoples slaughtered, to gain this prized land lying verdant the year round beyond the rigors and snows of the mountains. It is the only part of our great republic which never knew alien domination—the only section acquired, not by purchase or conquest from a foreign power, but by colonization under the American flag.

A list of men present and voting for the provisional government at Champoeg on May 2, 1843, was compiled by George H. Himes, curator since 1898 of the Oregon Historical Society, and for forty-six years secretary of the Oregon Pioneer Association. These names were chosen on information given him by those actually present, and, after careful investigation and verification, placed on a monument erected to their memory in 1901 at Champoeg through an appropriation of \$300 by the state legislature.

With a gift of land at this time by Messrs. Hofer and Zorn, enthusiasm grew to make into a public park the scene of this and of other stirring events, and the state has at intervals acquired 107.70 acres set aside and designated as the Provisional Government Park at Champoeg.

An inadequate building houses a valuable collection of

manuscripts, papers and historic treasures, collected largely through the devotion of Albert Tozier, custodian under the State Board of Control.

A reproduction of a log cabin dedicated to the pioneer mothers was built on the banks of the river in 1931 by the Oregon Society of the Daughters of the Revolution and contains numerous relics.

Champoeg Park has become an historic shrine visited yearly by thousands of pilgrims from all parts of the country. In 1931 there were 166,000 visitors.

Although controversy has arisen over the accuracy of Mr. Hime's list, there can be no question that, whoever else may have figured in the development of Oregon, the Men of Champoeg included in these pages and listed on the monument were formative men of the period and must be recognized as among the founders of the provisional government.

The steps by which a handful of men reached this high achievement are given in the life-sketches of LeBreton, Dr. Babcock, and others.

Following is a list of those whose names appear on the monument at Champoeg as having voted for the provisional government:

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| *Armstrong, Pleasant | *Cook, Amos |
| Babcock, Dr. I. L. | *Davie, Allen J. |
| *Bailey, Dr. W. J. | *Doughty, William M. |
| *Beers, Alanson | *Ebberts, George W. |
| Bridges, J. C. | *Fletcher, Francis |
| Burns, Hugh | *Gay, George |
| Campo, Charles | *Gale, Joseph |
| Cannon, William | *Gray, William H. |
| *Clark, Rev. Harvey | *Griffin, Rev. John S. |
| *Crawford, Medorem | Hauxhurst, Webley J. |

*Hill, David	*Newell, Dr. Robert
Howard, John	*O'Neil, James A.
*Holman, Joseph	*Parrish, Rev. J. L.
Hubbard, T. J.	Pickernell, John Edmunds
Johnson, William	*Robb, James R.
*Judson, Rev. L. H.	Russell, Osborne
Le Breton, George W.	Shortess, Robert
*Leslie, Rev. David	*Smith, Alvin T.
*Lewis, Reuben	*Smith, Sidney
Lucier, Etienne	Smith, Solomon H.
*Matthieu, Francois X.	Tibbetts, Calvin
*Meek, Joseph L.	Weston, David
McCarty, William	Wilson, A. E.
McKay, Charles	*Willson, Dr. W. H.
Moore, Robert	*Wilkins, Caleb
*Morrison, John L.	

(Stars indicate the men whose graves have been marked by Multnomah Chapter, Oregon, of the Daughters of the American Revolution.)

It is the records of the lives of these men, and of their adventures and achievements, which form the subject matter of this book under the title *Men of Champoege*.

Chapter II

THE EARLIEST SETTLERS

The territory west of the Rocky Mountains has scarcely been crossed by travellers, except in one or two routes, and is very little known. It is traversed by a ridge of mountains near the coast. The soil is in some parts excellent; in others rugged and sterile. The climate on the coast is milder than on the Atlantic; but among the mountains, it is of course cold. Indians are almost the only residents. Astoria is a small settlement of fur-traders, at the mouth of the Columbia River. — *Second Edition of Woodbridge's Geography, Hartford, 1827.*)

THE CLASSIFICATION in this book of the Oregon colonists is not arbitrary and within it there must necessarily be some degree of overlapping, but, as a matter of convenience in arranging the biographical sketches, the men are listed in the order of their arrival in the Willamette Valley.

When the first settlers came to the Oregon Country it was occupied by Indian tribes, and by British subjects maintaining at Fort Vancouver a trading post under the name of the Hudson's Bay Company.

At the Fort were many of the comforts of civilization and some retention of the decorum which the Englishman has traditionally taken with him to the far parts of the world. The vast Oregon Territory was otherwise a wilderness of wild country through which the Indians and French-Canadian trappers, with their beaver skins and other pelts, were coming and going on the waterways in friendly business relations with the great fur company.

At last some of the white men of the Fort became too superannuated for so adventurous a commerce. "Dr.

McLoughlin," says Professor R. C. Clark, "offered to send back to Canada several of the men at Fort Vancouver who had been working there for many years, but they told him they wanted to remain in Oregon. The governor asked them what they wanted to do. They said they would like to have farms of their own. He advised them to look for some good land along the Willamette River, and he promised them some wheat for their first planting." Thus some of the trappers were among the first permanent settlers.

There was another group, still more important to this record of the Men of Champoeg, and described in this way by Judge Charles H. Carey: "The first permanent residents of Oregon were members of the Astor party who settled in the Willamette Valley. Some of these later threw their influence in favor of the United States rather than in favor of Great Britain when the question of a temporary government of the Oregon Country hung in the balance."

Although many of those who first dared the hazards of settlement, were rough men, they were a necessary factor in helping to clear the way for a desirable and successful expansion, and should receive proper credit for what they did in establishing the first permanent homes and tending the first privately cultivated acres in the Oregon wilderness.

There were no white women in the country and some of the men took native wives, many of whom, Dr. Elijah White says, "became refined, engaging and agreeable." They were frequently women of noble qualities who made good wives and mothers and whose descendants today are valued citizens.

1

DR. WILLIAM J. BAILEY

DR. WILLIAM J. BAILEY was born in England January 13, 1807, of good parentage. Dr. Elijah White states that young Bailey learned the medical profession but, associating "with the young bloods of London, acquired an insatiable thirst for spirituous liquors." In a none too successful effort to break these habits his mother moved with him and his two sisters to America.

One morning after a severe rebuke from his mother on his dissipations he slipped off and engaged as "a common hand" on board a vessel sailing around Cape Horn into the Pacific. Gently reared as he was, this life was not to his taste and he deserted when the ship reached California. There he wandered around among a people of loose habits for several years.

In 1835, Dr. Bailey started for the Columbia on a trapping excursion in company with several others. Dr. White says: "Having selected no leader and all aspiring to that honorable office, their journey was a continual scene of bickering and contention." On the Rogue river they were attacked and nearly exterminated by Indians, Dr. Bailey being badly wounded and carrying the rest of his life a disfiguring scar inflicted by a tomahawk. The survivors wandered half starved, subsisting first upon the carcass of their last horse and then upon snails and insects.

Eventually Bailey made his way to the Willamette opposite the Methodist Mission and attempted to swim across, but had strength only to return to the shore. Almost unconscious, he lay upon the bank until rescued and carried to the Mission.

He was placed under a surgeon's care at Fort Vancouver and recovered his strength.

In 1837, Dr. Bailey joined the Willamette Cattle Company under Ewing Young, sailing to California on the *Loriot* and driving back an importation of cattle. After his return, Dr. White met him and learning of his knowledge of medicine invited him to enter his home and review his studies and prepare himself to take up again the practice of medicine.

At the end of six months, Dr. White says, "his modest, unassuming manners, and studiousness had elevated him in public estimation, and he possessed its entire confidence as a skillful physician, which he proved himself to be." For the first time in seven years he wrote his mother informing her of his whereabouts.

Dr. Bailey wooed and won as his wife Miss Margaret Smith, who came in 1837 to teach in the Methodist Mission. T. J. Farnham, in writing of his visit to Oregon, spoke of them as "a happy little family" and said Mrs. Bailey offered to make a blanket coat for him while he and the doctor went off to visit the Mission. The couple spent several months in the East, visiting Dr. Bailey's mother, after which the doctor settled down to his profession and became a life-long resident of the Champoeg district.

His name appears on Lee's petition of 1837 to the United States for territorial government.

On the first Tuesday in June, 1841, Dr. Bailey was elected chairman of a committee from the Willamette settlement "to confer with the Commodore of the American squadron and John McLoughlin, chief factor of the Hudson's Bay Company, with regard to forming a constitution and code of laws for this community." On

the advice of Commodore Wilkes the matter was dropped and thus ended the first effort to organize a local government.

At the first general election after the provisional government was formed, Dr. Bailey was elected, May 14, 1844, as one of the executive committee, the highest office to be conferred.

The following honors were bestowed upon him: a candidate for governor in 1845; member of the convention of 1846; elected member of the legislature, June 12, 1848; and representative from the Champoege district when the last session of the legislature convened in 1849.

Dr. Bailey died on February 5, 1876, and is buried at St. Paul in the Catholic cemetery.

2

WILLIAM CANNON

IN THE OLD French records treasured throughout the years by the Catholic church at St. Paul, is this entry, dated "April 30, 1854: We the Archbishop have buried the body of William Cannon who died the day previous, widower of Chinook woman, after he received the sacrament of the church, age 99 years. Witnesses, Cuthbert Lambert and Casimere Garderpy who could not sign. F. N. (Francis Norbert Blanchet) Archbishop of Oregon City." The body was removed twenty years later to the new cemetery which was dedicated December 3, 1875.

Cannon and Lucier were the first of the founders to come to the Oregon Country, and the former must have been fifty-seven years old when he became a settler in

1812. Cannon was born in 1755 in Virginia, and he repeatedly stated to his neighbors that he had served in the Revolutionary War. He was a soldier at Fort Mackinaw on the island of the same name at the confluence of Huron and Michigan lakes when Wilson Price Hunt came seeking volunteers for an expedition to Oregon. It was a French trading post and a center for returning and departing fur traders and trappers. The men would enlist for three to five years' service, most of them demanding their debts in the community to be paid and their wages advanced for a final fling before launching into the wilderness. Men were enlisted by Hunt as hunters, as oarsmen, as camp tenders and fighters—a company of sixty being considered the minimum for safety.

Gathering at Fort Mackinaw, the motley crew embarked in a huge barge for St. Louis.

A company had been formed under John Jacob Astor to establish an American fur trading post on the Columbia, one division to proceed by ship and another to go overland under the leadership of one of the partners, Wilson Price Hunt. This was only the second time an attempt had been made to cross the continent. Thorough preparations had to be made, guides, cooks and interpreters to be engaged, and supplies and equipment provided. These details were completed at St. Louis, and finally the company set out on the Missouri river in three boats when their wild and hazardous adventures began. John Day, for whom John Day river is named, was one of the company. While on their journey, they passed Daniel Boone, hunter of Kentucky fame, who then in his eighty-fifth year was returning from a successful trapping expedition.

Washington Irving in his *Astoria*, published in

1836, tells the whole vivid, colorful story of that trip. He relieves the narrative with lighter touches and relates ludicrous incidents about Cannon, who, he says, was an inexperienced hunter and a poor shot, and was often ridiculed by his skillful companions. He went off alone one morning and succeeded in shooting a buffalo. Much elated over this deed, he packed some of the choice bits of meat into a bundle on his back and started on his return to camp. In a narrow ravine he heard a noise behind him, and beheld to his dismay a grizzly bear, hot on his tracks. Cannon took to his heels, threw away the meat, finally his rifle, and climbed a tree. At the base the bear stood guard; night came on, and the trapped man dared not descend. In the morning he ventured down, picked up his rifle and hastened to camp.

Trying to follow the route of Lewis and Clark, the expedition kept to the streams as far as possible. They were beset with every danger and misery, and the venture was filled with horrors. They were spoken of as "an undisciplined mob struggling across the country." Some deserted, some went mad, some were drowned or murdered, and a whole party of them got separated and lost, the survivors arriving separately in a pitiable plight.

The company founded the first American settlement, but chiefly in consequence of the War of 1812 were forced after a time to transfer their holdings to the North West Company, which was taken over later by the Hudson's Bay Company. It was, however, an important factor in settling successfully the controversy with Great Britain over the ownership of the Oregon Country. Two of the Astorians who had a part in this first settlement, Lucier and Cannon, remained to help found

the government that became an integral part of our great nation. After they had joined the Hudson's Bay Company, they were both in a party sent into new country to the south described by Jedediah Smith, and there met with disaster, losing all they possessed.

Cannon is referred to by all historians or narrators who mention him as a very old man. Gustavus Hines speaks of "an old man Canning" working in a grist mill built by Thomas McKay at Champoeg, February 16, 1843. He states that a high flood forced Canning to flee to the second story where a friend came in a canoe through the window and rescued him. There, perched high on a box, he was taking refuge in a corner.

It is maintained that Cannon built for Dr. McLoughlin, near Vancouver, Washington, the first flour mill in the country in 1828. Cannon settled on the west bank of the Willamette, opposite the falls, and there spent the last years of his life. His grave in St. Paul cemetery is unmarked.

3

ETIENNE LUCIER

LUCIER WITH William Cannon and Joseph Gervais were the earliest arrivals among the settlers, coming with the Wilson Hunt party in 1812 to establish John Jacob Astor's trading post on the Columbia. When this venture was taken over by the English, Lucier worked as trapper under the British company.

In 1828 the Hudson's Bay Company sent out two expeditions to trap in new territory toward the south. In one party of forty men were Lucier, Cannon and Joseph Gervais, equipped for a year's absence and led by Alex-

ander McLeod. On their way south they gave the names in southern Oregon to "Jump-Off-Joe," "Rogue River," and "Siskiyou Mountain," meaning bobtail, so called because an old white bobtailed horse was stolen there. Successful in their trapping, they were yet caught in the snows, lost their horses and were unable to get out of the mountains with the large packs of furs and traps. Three men volunteered to go afoot to Vancouver to procure horses and supplies. But those left behind with McLeod, finding themselves near starvation, cached the furs at the base of Mt. Shasta, which they called McLoughlin, and started on a desperate though successful attempt to reach Vancouver. When the relief party returned to the deserted camp the following spring, they found the melting snows and swollen river had ruined the entire cache. The stream was thereafter known as McLeod river, later corrupted to McCloud.

On his return from this profitless venture. Lucier, stripped of all he possessed, applied to Dr. McLoughlin, factor of the great company, for aid. Dr. McLoughlin's personal papers state that he offered to start his trapper in wheat farming, but Lucier concluded "there was too remote a prospect of this becoming a civilized country," and so resumed hunting.

During this time Lucier is said to have lived in a rough cabin on the east side of the river within the present city limits of Portland. This would make him the first Portland resident, but the location of his cabin is not definitely known.

The next year, 1829, Dr. McLoughlin made known conditions upon which employes of the company might take up farming. It was against the company laws to discharge the men and leave them stranded with their

Indian wives and children, lest their resentment might prove a menace. Therefore, their names were to be carried as employes on the company books, but they could be allowed to settle as farmers on French Prairie. This site Dr. McLoughlin insisted upon for four reasons: It was the best farming land with an outlet via waterways; there the company could protect them from Indians; the children could be brought up with the advantages of white Christian children; and they and their Indian mothers would serve as hostage for the good behavior of their relatives in the interior. Hence, Lucier took his family to French Prairie. The company loaned him seed and implements and supplied his other needs on credit and he raised the first wheat grown in Oregon. These conditions applied to all retired Hudson's Bay trappers, and a settlement of French Canadians grew apace. McLoughlin says they all paid their obligations to the company within three years. Lucier built the first three cabins for Dr. McLoughlin in the Oregon Country south of the Columbia river in 1829.

In November, 1835, Lucier acted as guide in the exploration of the Willamette Valley by the Reverend Samuel Parker representing the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. Lucier's associations with the Methodist Mission workers farther up the river had been already established.

Three years later, Lucier was one of a committee of delegates from the Canadian settlement to "wait upon" the Catholic Mission arriving at Fort Vancouver in reply to requests that religious teachers be sent to Oregon. Mass was first celebrated at Fort Vancouver on November 25, 1838. Reverend F. N. Blanchet later in the season spent a month in the Willamette Valley. He

then baptized the children and married the parents who hitherto had been living together without the rites of the church. He also remarried those who had been united by the Protestant ministers. The Catholic church was formally dedicated in what is now St. Paul in 1840. Much bitter feeling developed between the two sects. Lucier seemed to have the confidence of both factions and was elected a member of the first committee that was formed, February 18, 1841, to draw up some form of government for the country.

This attempt proving abortive, he was again chosen, March 6, 1843, at the Second Wolf Meeting as one of a committee of twelve "to consider the propriety of taking measures for the civil and military protection of the colony." This happily evolved into the formation of the provisional government at Champoeg.

The story goes that the cause might even then have been lost had not Lucier broken away from the other French Canadians who had been instructed to vote "no," and cast the deciding affirmative vote with the Americans.

Lucier died on March 8, 1853, at the age of 60 years, and was buried the following day, as recorded in the parish records of St. Paul, in the old Catholic burying ground. When this was abandoned, his remains were moved to the new cemetery which was consecrated December 3, 1875. Here his ashes rest near those of his old companion, William Cannon, in an unmarked grave.

4

WEBLEY J. HAUXHURST

BORN OF Quaker stock on Long Island, New York, in

1809, Webley Hauxhurst as a young man ran away and joined a sailing crew for the Pacific. When the vessel reached the California coast, he determined to explore that strange, alluring country and took French leave of his ship.

For three years he lived in Monterey, where he earned his living in part by making furniture, meanwhile learning to speak Spanish from his associates. Here he fell in with Ewing Young, who had been stirred by Hall J. Kelley into an enthusiasm for forming a settlement in Oregon.

Kelley, a school teacher in Massachusetts, had been advocating the immediate colonization of Oregon by American settlers as early as 1817. Indefatigable in his efforts to stimulate immigration, he published circulars and pamphlets and finally in 1829 organized "The American Society for the Settlement of Oregon Territory," which planned several expeditions that did not materialize. Kelley personally made the attempt to bring in a colony, but by the time he met Hauxhurst in California he had encountered persecution and misfortunes to such an extent that a less invincible soul would have turned back. Notwithstanding, he still believed in his vision of a great American colony, and gathered up a little company of seven men who shared the golden dream. They were rough and unlettered, but of bold and enterprising spirit, and started north with about a hundred head of horses and mules. On their way they were joined by a party of nine other men, who proved to be disreputable fellows, with fifty-six animals which, as it turned out, they had stolen from ranches. The newcomers soon turned back, but not in time to prevent the Governor of California from sending word to Dr. Mc-

Loughlin that a band of thieves were on their way to Oregon with stolen horses.

The first forced-march of settlers from California with cattle was an undertaking without precedent and fraught with cruel hardships. Kelley himself was stricken with sickness, and had it not been for the kindness of some Hudson's Bay trappers he might never have lived through the ordeal. It was in this attempt to push through to Oregon that two Indians were shot at the Rogue river, and thus began a feud that cost many lives and bloodshed at that spot in years to follow.

In company with the Hudson's Bay trappers, the little band finally reached Fort Vancouver on October 15, 1834. Word of their evil character having preceded them, their reception to the land of promise was absolute ostracism. Kelley, being sick, was allowed to remain in a shelter outside the Fort and was given some attention, but Young and the others were outcasts. It was years before Young could clear his name of this stigma. Kelley, though bitter about the indignities put upon him and disillusioned as to his hopes, returned East in March and never ceased his efforts to populate Oregon under the United States flag. A martyr to the cause, it cost him a loss of \$30,000, but his was the voice of the prophet that started a popular interest.

Hauxhurst settled first at Champoeg and there on funds furnished by Dr. McLoughlin he erected in 1834 the first grist mill in Oregon. This met a real need, as up to that time the inhabitants had to pound their wheat and barley in mortars. The mission folk had a crude "cast-iron corncracker" in which they "ground wheat after a fashion," but were thankful enough to avail themselves of the advantages of the new mill.

It was the policy of the Hudson's Bay Company to keep liquor from the Indians, and the Methodist Mission had formed a temperance society which Hauxhurst joined. Ewing Young all this while had been treated like an outcast by the Hudson's Bay Company, which refused to receive even his furs in trade. It became known that as a means of eking out a living, he was fitting up a distillery with the purpose of selling liquor to the Indians. Realizing the seriousness of inflaming the Indians with "ardent spirits," the Temperance Society in January, 1837, communicated with Young urging him to "abandon the enterprise forever" and offering to reimburse him for what he had already expended in equipment. Hauxhurst's name appears on the subscription list as donating \$5.00 toward this end. Young replied without delay that he would accede to the request and added: "Gentlemen, we do not feel that it is consistent with our feelings to receive any recompense whatever for our expenditure, but we are thankful to the society for their offer. We remain yours, Young and Carmichael."

Lieutenant William Slacum was in the country at the time on a mission for the government, and, sensing the need of American-owned cattle, he helped organize the Willamette Cattle Company. He was convinced that Young had been wronged, and that he was a man of great force of character and experience, well fitted to act as leader. He advanced clothing and money to Young and gave transport to the whole company on his ship the *Loriot* to California. Hauxhurst joined the company and started with them, but when an accident in the Columbia delayed the party for several months he returned home to continue his duties there, leaving in

the company a sum of money to be invested in cattle for him.

While in California, Young saw to it that he was exonerated from the false charges against him, and when he returned with a large importation of cattle, Dr. McLoughlin retracted his former accusations and Young's character was vindicated.

Hauxhurst had been a man of rough exterior, but, falling under the influence of the missionaries, developed the finer side of his nature, and he became an estimable man. He is claimed by Lee and Frost as the first white convert in January, 1837. The missionaries certainly threw the fear of God into these early settlers and held them trembling over the very fires of Hell. Many were swayed by the powerful hypnotic spell of the camp meetings and professed conversion, only to fall back into their old ways. Hauxhurst, however, never turned back but became a truly religious man, allied with the church interests the rest of his life. He joined the church as an original member and was elected as a member of the board of the Oregon Institute on May 29, 1843. He served on the first board elected to Willamette University after it was chartered in 1853, and in 1859 subscribed \$500 as an endowment for a perpetual scholarship.

At the first call to arms after the fight with Cockstock and his Indians in Oregon City in 1844, Hauxhurst enlisted in the Oregon Rangers. They were a company of mounted riflemen. Although they met and drilled, fortunately they were never called out for defense.

Some unsought publicity came to Hauxhurst the next spring when several outrages were committed against him by a Joel Turnham, and he and his wife were threatened with further violence. Turnham was killed after a

long fight in resisting arrest, but public opinion exonerated Hauxhurst as blameless in the matter. He was held in high esteem by all and is spoken of in Reverend George Gary's diary as "a more pleasant and agreeable man than the ordinary class of men."

In the mission records an entry reads: "Saturday, February 25, 1837, Webley Hauxhurst married by Jason Lee to Miss Mary of Yamhill tribe at the Mission House, Willamette settlement." The family bible gives the date as March 16, 1837.

Hauxhurst next took up a land claim at Mill Creek, near the present penitentiary at Salem. There during the gold rush he did a successful business making pack saddles for those going to the mines.

Two years later he sailed around the Horn to visit his family in New York. The wanderer was warmly welcomed, and presents were sent by his mother to the wife and children in Oregon. The daughter, Mrs. John Day, said she was thus sent the first wax doll in the West.

On his return Hauxhurst sold his donation land claim and moved to Salem. There he hauled freight back and forth to Portland and, about 1862, helped to transport the first circus. This caused a great sensation and was the delight and wonder of the children. Hauxhurst's children were allowed to go but forbidden to look at the monkeys as they were considered by the father as indecent. Needless to say, they took a peek and later confessed to their father that they were indeed shocked by the antics of the monkeys.

The next move was away from city life to the Red Hill district, where the family remained until about 1866.

Later, while on a trip to Tillamook, Hauxhurst became enamored with Bay Ocean. Here the sheltered bay and the great stretch of ocean, with the waves beating upon the shore, brought back happy memories of his youth on Long Island, whereupon the similarity of the environment had such an alluring effect upon his nature that it influenced him to make that his home. He bought a "squatter's right" from a man living there, and started once more — now far away from his former haunts which, he may have felt, were getting too congested for his free spirit. There on the last bit of land projecting into the great ocean he was as far west as a frontiersman could thrust himself. Once more he must face the problem of suffering the hardships of the pioneer. His cattle not being acclimated, all died, and the former trials of farming were repeated. Nevertheless, he persevered, and his descendants are still living on that beautiful but isolated spot on the coast.

During his residence near Tillamook, Hauxhurst, or "Hoxie," as he was always called, plied as captain the schooner *Champion* between that port and Portland.

His eldest daughter had attended Oregon Institute and was persuaded to join the family at Bay Ocean and to share with her little brothers and sisters the advantages of an education she had enjoyed in Salem.

Hauxhurst did not live long to enjoy this beautiful country, but died on January 23, 1874, and is buried in an unmarked grave near Tillamook.

5

WILLIAM McCARTY

WILLIAM McCARTY is spoken of by Shortess as an

Irishman who arrived in 1834. The only prominence he had in the formative days of the country was in being elected constable at the first meeting ever held for the purpose of organizing a government, in February, 1841. This effort, as described elsewhere, was unsuccessful, but McCarty was staunch in his allegiance to the cause, and voted with the American party at Champoeg on May 2, 1843, when the previous attempts were brought to a happy culmination. At this time he was elected as captain.

McCarty settled at Chinook, Washington, where he had a fine farm on the Point. He married a daughter of Chief Carcowan of the Chehalis tribe.

He was called Brandywine from having formerly sailed in the frigate *Brandywine*. By the upsetting of a canoe in the Wallacut river in 1854 he was drowned, leaving a daughter of 10 or 12 years of age. His will was admitted to probate on December 11, 1854.

6

JOHN HOWARD

LIKE A shadow flitting across the pages of history appears the name of John Howard. Little is known of him except that he came with Hauxhurst in company with Young and Kelley in 1834.

His name appears in the Oregon archives as being elected major at the Champoeg meeting on May 2, 1843. Although there was no real military organization, this office conferred an honor that showed an appreciation of Howard's qualities.

7

GEORGE KIRBY GAY

GEORGE KIRBY GAY was born in Gloucestershire, England, in 1796. At the age of ten years he shipped as mess boy aboard a vessel bound for the South Sea islands and other foreign ports. In 1810 he landed in New York and from there went to Missouri where he spent the winter.

While there he attached himself as "camp-keeper" to the Pacific Fur Company under Wilson Price Hunt and came overland to Astoria in 1812. In the company were also Pierre Dorion and his wife, since known as Madam Dorion, Joseph Gervais, and John Toupin, all subsequently connected with the Gay family by marriages.

Gay left Astoria in 1813 on the ship *Beaver* and for twelve years sailed the seas to all parts of the world.

These facts, at variance with those previously published, are furnished by James Willard Gay, who lived with his grandfather, George Gay, and was given this information by him and by his last wife, who survived him many years.

J. Willard Gay says his grandfather was in the West from 1824 or 1826 until the time of his death. But Nesmith gives the date of his entry into Oregon as 1835, when he is listed as a member of John Turner's overland party of eight men coming from California. He relates that Gay was on guard at the "Point of Rocks" on Rogue river when Indians began dropping into camp in the early morning hours. Gay awoke the leader, Turner, who saw no cause for alarm; but, before long, there were gathered four or five hundred Indians who

suddenly made a savage attack, obtaining three of the eight guns in the party, and forcing the whites to a furious and desperate resistance. Gay, once borne down by the savages, was released only when the mighty Turner seized a huge fir limb from the burning camp-fire and beat off his assailants. The brutal and one-sided fight continued until two men were killed and all were wounded. In a mad flight for safety, two were left to die on the way. The horses, baggage and equipment were all lost; but four men managed to elude the blood-thirsty Indians and escaped.

When, after acute suffering and toil, they reached the head of the Willamette Valley, they differed about the route. Three of the men followed down the Willamette river until, in a famishing condition, they reached the Methodist Mission near Salem.

Gay had cut up his buckskin breeches for moccasins for the party and had little clothing but a tattered shirt. Intent upon reaching the Columbia, he kept to the foothills until, finally, a naked, wounded, starving man, he completed in August this five-hundred miles of torture at Wyeth's trading post on Sauvie's Island.

It was in January, 1837, that this fearless adventurer volunteered his services to the Willamette Cattle Company, just formed under the leadership of Ewing Young. Lieutenant William A. Slacum, who was investigating for the United States Government, sensed the paramount need in the new settlement at this time for cattle. Whereupon, he offered a free passage on his ship, the *Loriot*, if a company would go to California and there purchase some herds. All who were able, took stock in the venture, half of which was bought by the Hudson's Bay Company. Some, who had not the means to invest,

engaged as drivers at a dollar a day, to be paid in cattle at actual cost. Gay was one of twenty to make this attempt to stock the country.

A purchase was made of about 700 Spanish cattle, which proved hard to manage. Annoyances and misfortunes beset the party on every hand of the return trip. Difficult trails, wandering cattle, lack of water, quarrels among themselves and fear of Indians, augmented their troubles. The story is told that attacks by Indians were precipitated by the shooting, in revenge, of a friendly Indian by Gay who was a survivor of the Rogue river massacre of 1835. Gay carried in his back for five years a stone arrow-head as a reminder of an affray in which the company was ambushed in a narrow ravine and some of the cattle killed and wounded. Although about two hundred were lost on the way, after nine months of endeavor, a goodly number of cattle were brought through, and the colony benefitted by this first business venture of importing cattle.

George Gay secured a land claim near Wheatland, and, with his new cattle as a start, gradually covered the hills with his herds and became by repute the wealthiest man in the country.

On a knoll commanding a view of the beautiful estate, Gay erected a spacious brick dwelling, the first of its kind west of the Rocky Mountains. The house was begun in 1841 under the direction of a George Holman, a brick mason from England who lived at Vancouver. The native clay was "tramped barefooted" and the bricks were molded and burned on the place. It was two years before "the old brick house" was completed.

Though now crumbling and falling, the house, shielded by two giant oak trees, is still a landmark. The

hand-dressed woodwork, and particularly the woodwork around the fireplaces, hand-carved with severe simplicity, bears evidence to the taste and patience of the one who dreamed of a mansion on a hill. Here was the scene of unbounded hospitality to all travelers and immigrants. Within its walls were entertained Commodore Wilkes and his officers, officers of the *Peacock* and the *Shark* of the United States Navy, and subsequently all officers of the British men-of-war who were visiting in the Columbia, among the latter being Lieutenant William Peel, third son of the famous Sir Robert Peel.

The south wall of the house is still designated in the Oregon archives as a point in the southern boundary of Yamhill county, established by the districting committee of the provisional government in 1843.

At the Wolf Meeting on March 6, 1843, which preceded the founding of the government, Gay was chosen one of a committee of twelve to "take into consideration the propriety of taking measures for the civil and military protection of this colony." It was this committee which promoted the epochal meeting at Champoeg on May 2, following.

In 1848, George Gay was one of the first to follow the lure of gold to the California mines, where with gusto he plunged into the absorbing quest.

Commodore Wilkes in his report spoke of a "pretty Indian wife," who assisted in the care of the property and looked after the children. She was the adopted daughter of William Johnson and the mother of eight children.

Several years later, Gay took as his third wife Marianne, a daughter of Madam Dorion of the Astor expedition, then living in the Willamette valley with her

third husband, John Toupin, father of Marianne. A daughter of Marianne Toupin Gay by a former marriage, Marguerite Gervais, married George Gay's son, John, the father of J. Willard Gay.

In a tiny plot of ground unmarked and overgrown beside the woods on his own farm are the graves of George Gay, his first wife and other members of his family.

Commodore Wilkes wrote: "Gay is a useful member of society in this small community. He undertakes all and every sort of singular business; few things are deemed by him impossibilities. His general character throughout the settlement is that Gay is every ready to help those in trouble."

Gay died on October 7, 1882, and, as his grave is indistinguishable, a large boulder has been placed by Multnomah Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, near the entrance to his farm beside the road at the junction of Yamhill, Marion and Polk counties. On a bronze plaque attached is an inscription noting the brick house, the dates of his birth and death, and of his service in forming the provisional government.

Chapter III

WYETH'S PARTIES

NATHANIEL J. WYETH made two attempts to establish an American trading post and salmon fishery on the Columbia. The first effort was a tragic failure, due in part to the loss of his ship with all his supplies; but Wyeth persisted and made a second attempt two years later. He then built on the lower end of Wappato (now Sauvie's) island, a post he called Fort William, and started a salmon packing plant.

He was a man of high motives, genuinely combining colonization with commerce in his purposes, but his vicissitudes were many.

Troubles with the Indians developed, his men were killed or drowned and by the time he had half a cargo of fish he was forced into defeat. He became convinced that no enterprise less powerful than the Hudson's Bay Company could long survive in this country.

How the men brought with him shared in these catastrophies is told in the following pages.

1

SOLOMON HOWARD SMITH

SOLOMON H. SMITH was born at Lebanon, New Hampshire, December 26, 1809. His father was a surgeon in the Revolutionary War and died at Plattsburg, New York, in 1813. Soon afterwards, Mrs. Smith moved to Norwich, Vermont, and it was there that Solomon attended the military school of Colonel Partridge. He also studied medicine, but never took a degree.

When Solomon became of age, he craved a broader ex-

perience, and therefore went down to Boston and engaged as a clerk in a store. From this he launched on a cod fishing enterprise, sailing on a schooner to the banks of Newfoundland where he expected a share of the profits. However, unfortunately, the schooner on her return trip was rammed, and sunk during a fog. The fishermen were rescued, taken to Portland, Maine, and then returned to Boston.

During this time, 1831, considerable publicity was given the new Oregon Country, and Hall J. Kelley was strewing broadcast his plans for American occupancy. Nathaniel Wyeth was stirring up interest for a business venture at the mouth of the Columbia, and enlisted Smith as one of his recruits from Boston. Captivated with visions of great things in a far land, the party started in March, 1832, going by water down to Baltimore, across the mountains to the Ohio river, sailing down this to the Mississippi, thence up the Missouri to Independence, from where they struck out over the plains of Nebraska.

The difficulties of the march were not so appalling until the little band, now reduced to twelve, parted with the fur company at Pierre's Hole. After the divide of the Rockies had been passed and the men reduced to desperation by hardships and starvation, they divided into two groups, one of which Smith commanded. Subsisting mainly on rose hips, they felt their lives saved when they came upon an Indian lodge where buffalo meat was boiling over a camp fire. Welcomed here, their hunger was appeased, and the men were revived for the last stretch of the journey.

It was nearly November before the party reached Vancouver, where they were hospitably received. Here

Wyeth's business venture of salmon packing met with adroit discouragement.

Finding Smith an educated man, McLoughlin requested him to teach a school that had been conducted by John Ball for a short time. This was the first school west of the Rockies, and was for the children of the men of Fort Vancouver and their native wives. He received a salary of \$80 a month, teaching nine months a year for two years.

Here he fell in love with a beautiful Indian girl, Celiast, daughter of Kobaway, chief of the Clatsops. She had been the wife of one Porier, a French baker, and was the mother of three children. She was evidently a woman of courage, resource, and devotion, and was said to be every inch a queen.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith made their first home on French Prairie, where they opened a school in 1834. This was the first school in Oregon proper, somewhat antedating that of the Methodist Mission. It was held in the house of Joseph Gervais, whose wife was a sister of Mrs. Smith. Later, both Mr. and Mrs. Smith assisted in teaching at the Indian Mission school.

In 1836, Smith moved to the mouth of Chehalim creek on the Willamette river to build a sawmill and a grist mill in partnership with Ewing Young. The Mission sent all its wheat there on horse back to be ground. Here Smith remained four years. The site of the mill is now marked by Champoeg Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution.

After the coming of the missionaries, the records show the formal marriage of Solomon Smith to Miss Ellen, daughter of the chief of the Clatsop tribe, by Jason Lee on February 11, 1837.

Under the zeal of the fiery preaching of David Leslie, Mr. and Mrs. Smith's names appear in the lists of converts. It was Mrs. Smith's deepest longing to return to her own Clatsop home and people as a missionary.

When Daniel Lee came down from his mission at The Dalles to meet his sweetheart on the *Lausanne*, he stopped at the Willamette Mission, and Solomon Smith and his wife accompanied him to the mouth of the Columbia. They started on May 16, 1840, and held religious services with the Indians wherever they found it convenient to land.

Lee and Smith agreed with Mrs. Smith in enthusiasm for the beautiful Clatsop country and influenced Jason Lee to establish a mission there under the Reverend J. H. Frost. Dr. McLoughlin had before objected to the Smiths' going alone to settle there, stating "The Clatsop Indians are not a safe people." However, with the two families went also Calvin Tibbetts who had come out with Smith in Wyeth's party. This gave an added element of safety, but even then they had several narrow escapes from Indian hostility, and bloodshed was averted only by the quick perception and intervention of Mrs. Smith. A full account of their unremitting toil in getting a foothold at Clatsop was published by Lee and Frost in 1844 in *Ten Years in Oregon*.

The topography of that section has changed since those days. The shifting sands and rising waters have done away with groves and dunes that then existed.

The little party first settled in the fall of 1840 at the Indian village of Neacoxa, 18 miles from Astoria, where the creek of that name joined two others. This was a spot rather inaccessible, ten miles inland over marshes and sand dunes. In the spring, Smith located a claim

extending from the Skipanon creek to the ocean beach where he erected the first white man's cabin on Clatsop plains. It was a one-story structure, 20 by 30 feet, and was completed February 10, 1841. Frost's cabin was next built on an adjoining claim to the north.

By slow and painful process the tiny settlement developed. Before building his house, Smith had returned to harvest his crops at Chehalim and had brought back two horses, transporting them 100 miles on a platform laid over two canoes. These were the first horses of the whites on Clatsop Plains, and were a godsend in relieving the men from pack-horse duty.

The next fall, Smith took Tibbetts and an old sailor, Taylor, and made a long trip down the coast to Salmon river and across the mountains to the Willamette Valley to find a route for bringing cattle to Clatsop. They returned with cattle through Yamhill, over the Coast range and were the first whites to use the Grand Ronde pass.

At the meeting at Champoeg May 2, 1843, Smith voted with the American party and was elected captain.

In 1845, when the Methodist Mission was investigated by Reverend George Gary, this branch was discontinued and the properties sold out. However, the following year, Smith helped support a subscription school near his claim. Miss Lucy Fisher, W. W. Raymond and Miss Almira Phillips were among the early teachers.

At the time of the gold rush Smith started in a career of business that became quite extensive. Those were the days of high prices and great demand for goods, wherein Smith prospered by selling American produce and goods at Skipanon landing. Butter sold as high as \$2.00 a pound, and potatoes at \$5.00 a bushel.

Smith had invested \$5000 in the building of a saw-mill on Lewis and Clark river in partnership with one Harrall, and in 1851 was himself attending to its operation.

From the first days of settlement, Smith's home was a mecca for travelers going and coming from the mouth of the Columbia where they would stay often for weeks at a time.

Gustavus Hines tells how Smith, while taking Mrs. Hines and the children in his cart on a journey down to Fort George (Astoria) came upon the body of a whale washed ashore. He says this was a common occurrence, and that each person was entitled to all he could get of the mammal. All progress was halted while Smith and the Indians in the rear rushed to get a share. Smith staked out his claim by tracing the portion he wanted with his jack knife. His boundaries were respected by the Indians, who cut their division of the spoil, leaving Smith's intact for him to get later.

Smith was ever ready to help new settlers and was neighborly and public spirited, and always interested in school matters. He usually held some office, such as clerk or director in the district. He was county commissioner of Clatsop two terms, and at the time of his death a member of the state senate. He was a liberal contributor to the first Presbyterian church and to all good causes in the community. He died in 1874.

2

CALVIN TIBBETTS

CALVIN TIBBETTS was a stone-cutter from Maine who, with Solomon Smith, joined Nathaniel Wyeth's little

company in Boston, formed in 1832 for the purpose of starting a salmon packing industry on the Columbia. Wyeth had visions of building up a far-reaching business on the west coast, and each man was to share in the profits. They were a highly-organized band, attracting attention by their neat uniforms, their drills, and by a contrivance in the way of a wagon that could be converted into a boat. They camped out on Boston Common to harden themselves before the start; however, notwithstanding their preparations, their ignorance of the needs and of the route compelled them to get rid of their boat, wagons and other original equipment and reconstruct their plans and outfit at St. Louis.

They found that their only safety lay in uniting with W. L. Sublette and his caravan of traders and hunters as far as Pierre's Hole. By this time it was borne in upon the adventurers that the dangers and hardships thus far were but an intimation of what lay ahead, and seven faint hearts deserted and returned east with the Sublette party. After a battle with the Blackfeet Indians, eleven faithful followers continued with Wyeth on the perilous way to Fort Vancouver, reaching it on October 29, 1832.

Captain Wyeth had sent a ship loaded with supplies to meet them in the Columbia. What was their consternation to learn the ship had been lost and their dreams of starting the business project shattered.

The men were released from their contracts and three remained to become permanent settlers. Wyeth, undeterred by this failure, returned east and brought out a larger company two years later. This trading venture was also a dismal failure, but Wyeth's advent into the country and his publications contributed to the geo-

graphical knowledge and general interest, and was therefore a factor in establishing the claim of the United States to the country.

William A. Slacum, lieutenant of the United States Navy, present on a mission from the government in 1836, reports that a meeting was held at Champoege January, 1837, of those who wished to organize a company to bring cattle from California. There was a general attendance of settlers at this meeting. He offered free passage on his ship the *Loriot* to drivers, and advanced \$500 to Jason Lee of the Mission for stock. A company was organized and a sum of \$1600 was raised, to which was added nearly \$900 by McLoughlin for the Hudson's Bay Company. The Methodist Mission sent P. L. Edwards as treasurer. Ewing Young acted as leader for the company.

Slacum reported to the Secretary of War that he addressed the settlers at this meeting and enlarged upon the advantages that would accrue to them if the United States Government took possession of the country. He obtained many signatures both among Americans and Canadians to a petition written by P. L. Edwards praying Congress of the United States to "recognize them in their helpless and defenseless state, and to extend to them the protection of its laws, as being, or desiring to become its citizens."

Four days after the company was formed, eleven members set off in a canoe for the *Loriot*, boarding it on January 21. The next morning Jason Lee, head of the Mission, gathered the company together on the quarter deck and offered prayers for the success of the undertaking, and then bade them Godspeed.

Troubles began to brew at once in that the ship parted

her cables in the rough sea at the mouth of the Columbia and was driven ashore. She was rescued without harm by sister ships, but, in replacing the damaged equipment, it was held up in the river until February 10. However, after nine days, port was made at Fort Ross, California, and eight of the men left to work at Coopers Mills until Young needed their services.

The intricacies of business dealings with the political and religious authorities were left to Young. General Vallejo lent his influence with the Mexican government to get permission for the Oregon company to purchase and drive out 700 cattle which were to be purchased of the government, and not of the missions to which they really belonged. The missions sought to evade and block the sale; consequently, with these complications working against them at every turn, it was not until June 22 before all the cattle were delivered. As a result, many of the animals were so starved as to be unable to travel. The company had reassembled, however, and faced the problem of getting the wild cattle within control. When they were driven into the San Joaquin river, they would turn and swim back in a panic. The expedient was tried of lassoing and towing each animal over singly. In order to do this, rafts of bulrushes were made and one man would pull the raft across by means of a rope fastened on the farther shore, while others dragged by the horns the frightened animals. This tedious task required over a week, and even then seventeen of the herd were drowned. From one difficulty to another the cattle company struggled on, every day facing its dangers and irritations. It was nine months after they started from the valley before the company had the gratification of delivering the Mexican stock. The losses and expenses

brought up the cost from the purchase price of \$3.00 a head to almost \$8.00 to the settlers; but the monopoly of the Hudson's Bay Company was broken, and the first importation of cattle was accomplished. This could not have been done without the leadership of Young, who was the only one who knew conditions in California and how to overcome the almost insuperable obstacles of purchasing and driving out Spanish cattle.

The five founders who participated in this drive might well have been proud that they were factors in thus assuring the successful and permanent occupancy of the Oregon Country.

In 1840, Solomon Smith induced Tibbetts to throw in his lot with him in Clatsop Plains where there were good undeveloped farm and grazing lands, and the Mission was to finance a station. This was at a rather inaccessible and isolated spot; but, anticipating the rise of a large city at the mouth of the Columbia, the men believed it a strategic location. They had plenty of troubles transporting food, goods and supplies during the rainy season, but persevered until houses were built, gardens planted, and cattle secured. Tibbetts accompanied Smith on his trip of discovery and in use of the Grand Ronde pass in bringing in the first cattle from Chehalim.

Among the visitors to this little outpost was Commodore Wilkes, sent by the United States Government to explore and report on Oregon Territory. One of the three ships of his squadron, the *Peacock*, had been wrecked in an effort to cross the Columbia river bar July 18, 1841, and although all on board were saved, the *Peacock* was a total loss. However, this did not deter him from finding means of surveying and charting the lower

Columbia, and his report on the rivers and harbors of the Pacific Coast were the first of value.

He sent expeditions to explore overland, and one Tibbetts joined, leaving late in August, 1841, for California. In this party, led by Lieutenant Emmons, were eighteen officers and men, the naturalist, Titian R. Peale, and other scientists, four families wishing escort, and several settlers, listed as thirty-nine men with seventy-six horses. Peale had been in the wreck of the *Peacock*. His journal and letters are preserved. This was traveling de luxe for Tibbetts, inured as he was to hardships, and the company reached Fort Sutter on October 19, 1841.

Tibbetts returned to Clatsop in 1842 with a number of cattle, bringing with him one Peter Brainard. This second importation of cattle added much to the prosperity of the country.

Tibbetts was elected by the legislature as one of three judges of Clatsop county in 1845. He was also at the memorable meeting at Champoeg in 1843 and voted with his compatriots.

A letter from Courtney Walker, dated August 26, 1849, announces the death of Calvin Tibbetts. He was on the *Forrest*, owned by Bobb, Lee, and Priest, returning from the gold mines of California. Stricken like so many with the cholera, he died and was buried at sea before the vessel landed in Oregon on August 11.

Among the papers of Robert Shortess was found an order of the court, dated September 23, 1853, evicting persons occupying Tibbetts' old claim, ordering them "to vacate and depart" from the property that belonged to Grace and John Tibbetts, "heirs of Calvin Tibbetts, deceased."

3

OSBORNE RUSSELL

OSBORNE RUSSELL was one of that hardy race of Mountain Men, and he vividly portrays through the pages of a journal the daily life, adventures, and hazards of himself and his comrades. The journal was kept from April, 1834, until June 6, 1843, and was published in 1914 by L. T. York of Boise, Idaho.

Russell was born in Hallowell, Maine, on the Kennebec river, June 12, 1814. Obsessed with the desire to become a sailor, at the age of sixteen he ran away and shipped on a sailing vessel. The skipper was so hated that when they reached New York the crew deserted. At this point he joined and during the next two years, worked with a fur trapping company operating in Wisconsin and Minnesota.

At Independence, Missouri, his diary states that he engaged on April 14, 1834, with the Columbia River Fishing and Trading Company from Boston, headed by Nathaniel Wyeth. Among the fifty-eight members of the company were Nuttall and Townsend, botanists and naturalists, also Jason and Daniel Lee and Captain Thing, an eminent navigator, who was to plot the route across the mountains by astronomical observations.

They followed, in the main, what is now known as the Old Oregon Trail, with Wyeth in the lead. They rode in double file, each man leading two loaded horses, while the rest, with twenty head of extra horses and as many cattle, brought up the rear. Over prairies, mountains and streams the cavalcade advanced until they came to the now historic rendezvous at Green river, just over the Continental divide. Here were gathered about 600 men,

half-breeds, Indians and whites, including two companies of trappers and traders. One was the American Company under Dripps and Fontenelle, and the other the Rocky Mountain Fur Company, whose partners were Thomas Fitzpatrick, Milton Sublette and James Bridger.

On Wyeth's first trip, two years previous, he had contracted to supply the Rocky Mountain Company with merchandise for trade with the Indians. Upon his arrival with the goods, to his indignation he found the contract had been broken, whereupon he was able to dispose of only a small part of his stock. He vowed they would repent their treachery, and the story of his retaliation in selling out to the rival British company will follow. After a two weeks' stay at Green river, the march was resumed on July 2, 1834. When they arrived in what is now the southeastern corner of Idaho, they met Captain Bonneville with about twelve men killing buffalo and drying the meat for their journey to the Columbia.

Wyeth did not tarry long to visit, but pressed on, and in a couple of days crossed the great valley of the Snake river. Here Wyeth determined to build a fort, store the remainder of his merchandise, leave a number of men to guard it and to trade with the Snake and Bannock Indians, while he with the rest of the company continued the trek to the west coast. The diary states: "On the 18th (July) 1834, we commenced the fort, which was a stockade 80 feet square built of cottonwood trees set on end, sunk two and one-half feet in the ground and standing about 15 feet above with two bastions 8 feet square at the opposite angles. On the 4th of August (after 18 days' work) the fort was completed, and on

the 5th the stars and stripes were unfurled to the breeze at sunrise in the center of a savage and uncivilized country over an American trading post."

The uncertainty of the location of the American trading post, the first Fort Hall, seems quite definitely settled when Russell states that the stream called the Portneuf ran into the Snake river about 12 miles below the fort.

Twelve men, Russell included, were left in charge and Wyeth took his departure on July 19. The journal says that it was the most lonely place in the world, with not a human in sight except the men at the fort.

With this spot as headquarters, Osborne Russell spent eight years hunting and trapping in the Rocky Mountains. It did not always remain so lonesome, as whole encampments of Snake and Bannock Indians moved near the fort; hunters and trappers from other companies gravitated toward it; and, being in the line of travel, emigrants stopped on their way west. Little houses had been erected for shelter and men from the Hudson's Bay Company, the first white women with their missionary husbands and others well known in western history made this a stopping place.

On December 20, 1835, after his venture had proved such a dismal business failure, Wyeth returned and signed up discharges for all his men. Allying himself with Bridger's company at one time, and independent groups at other times, Russell served two expeditions, as camp tender under the intrepid leader Joseph Gale. A "camp tender" took care of the horses and the camp, procured firewood, cured the skins, and waited on the trappers. What these men passed through on their protracted winter hunting trips, and how they survived

the dangers and suffering can only be sensed from the meager entries in the diary. It is one hair-raising adventure after another, with grizzlies, buffalo and elk, and brushes with the Indians.

Besides his association with Joseph Gale, he speaks of encountering several times "Major Meek," both afterwards founders of the provisional government. Thomas J. Hubbard and James O'Neil were also of Wyeth's company of 1834.

After Wyeth withdrew from his enterprise, he sold Fort Hall with all its stock to the Hudson's Bay Company in the year 1837. This gave the British company a foothold in the territory of the Rocky Mountain Company, and proved the latter's undoing. Still it was a hospitable sanctuary in the wilderness and afforded to Russell a retreat in hours of extremity. He cites a case when he arrived starved and naked, wounded in the leg by an Indian arrow, and robbed of every possession. He was taken in by Courtney Walker of the Hudson's Bay Company, who brought him clothing, blankets and a fine supper. Having been without food for three days, he ate sparingly. His wound soon healed because of the attentive care that it received.

After years of hunting in the Yellowstone, Salt Lake, and other sections, he made up his mind to "go to the mouth of the Columbia and settle in the Willamette or Multnomah Valley." Hence, he joined Dr. White's company just coming from the East, and traveled with them to the falls of the Willamette (Oregon City), arriving there September 26, 1842. Here he found a number of Methodist missionaries and American farmers who had formed a company to erect mills. A sawmill, then under construction, was in operation two months later.

When in the employ of the American company during the erection of a flour mill, on the 6th of June, 1842, a rock said to weigh 60 pounds struck him on the right side of the face, throwing him six feet backwards. When he was assisted to his lodging, it was found that nine pieces of rock "the size of wild goose shot" had penetrated his right eye and destroyed it. At this sad incident his journal closes with a poem that he wrote in June, 1842, when leaving the mountains for the Willamette Valley. It is called "The Hunter's Farewell." Notwithstanding the close of his journal with this accident and his reluctance at again assuming the restrictions of civilization, Osborne Russell adapted himself readily to the life and customs of more populous centers.

He was never married. He is referred to as a man who never lost his virtuous habits, but always remained true to his principles; also as a man of education, refined feelings and exceptional ability.

He was on hand when the provisional government was formed at Champoeg in 1843. At the first annual election the next year, in May, 1844, he was elected one of three on the executive committee with powers of governor. The legislature made startling changes in the laws as drawn up the previous year. They recommended the first uniform tax. This was adopted by the legislative committee, incorporated into an amended organic law, and ratified by a large majority at a special election. The amended organic law also abolished the executive committee and vested the executive power in a single individual to be known as Governor to be elected at the next annual meeting, June, 1845. The oath of office was modified then to allow all citizens, whatever their nationality, to participate in the government

without sacrificing allegiance to their native country. This letting down the bars to the English and French Canadians was branded by some as "impolitic and unpatriotic." The legislative committee was superseded by a House of Representatives, the seat of government was established at Oregon City, and sweeping changes made in the land law. Drastic restrictions were drawn against the missions appropriating such large and valuable tracts.

As one of the executive committee, Russell signed and sent to the United States Congress, on June 28, 1845, a memorial setting forth conditions and needs of the Oregon Country, begging for protection under the civil laws, military escort for emigrants, a public mail service, commercial and land claim regulations, but, above all, the establishment of a territorial government in Oregon.

At the first election of a Governor, June 3, 1845, Russell's name was put in the field against George Abernethy, and two others. Although being next to Abernethy in the number of votes received, the former had the majority and became the first Governor.

He left for the California gold mines in September, 1849. Letters give the name of his town as "Gallows town, 55 miles east of Sacramento within four miles of the American river." He was in partnership with a neighbor from Oregon, Gilliam, who was there with his family and operated a store and a boarding house. He said that 3,000 had gone into that section within a year and cities and towns were rising in the hills as if by magic over an extent of 400 miles in the gold region.

Letters sent east indicate that Russell was residing later in Polk county, Oregon, and minutes of Pacific

University at Forest Grove name him as one of the original trustees of that institution in 1854.

Russell returned to California and spent many years near Newtown, Placerville, where he was afflicted with miners' rheumatism in later days and was obliged to enter Eldorado county hospital at Placerville, May 1, 1884. There he remained until his death on August 2, 1892. Buried in the hospital cemetery, his grave, like others of the period is unmarked and as yet unidentified.

4

THOMAS JEFFERSON HUBBARD

THOMAS J. HUBBARD was born in 1806 in Kinderhook, New York—Martin Van Buren's town—and came to Oregon as gunsmith in Nathaniel Wyeth's Pacific Fishing and Fur Company of Boston in 1834. This was Wyeth's second attempt to get a business foothold in Oregon which was like the first doomed to failure. It was, however, the means of adding to the number of settlers who among themselves wrought out a great destiny for the new country. The publicity given the venture attracted attention throughout the East to the needs and opportunities of the Pacific coast. Further details of the trip may be found under the sketch of Osborne Russell.

The salmon packing company did progress as far as building Fort William as a trading post on Wappato (now Sauvie's) island. The company's ship, the *May Dacre*, was moored to the bank, the men were living in rough huts, and it looked as though a rival of the Hudson's Bay Company was getting under way; but the competition endured only a short time, and the fort

was abandoned two years later and the men released.

Hubbard was implicated in an unsavory affair that is of interest because of its judicial aspect. A few years after his arrival he was living with an Indian girl as his wife who had formerly received the attentions of one Thornburgh. The latter had vowed to get her back, and with this purpose in view, in the dead of night, he forced an entrance into Hubbard's home. Hubbard, on the alert and armed with loaded pistols, fired at the intruder and shot him through the breast. The wound proved mortal and Hubbard was called to account for the murder. The Reverend David Leslie acted as judge, and a self-appointed jury held an inquest bringing in a verdict of "justifiable homicide." In such a manner the colonists tried to maintain standards of conduct without laws or courts.

Hubbard was formally married to the girl, Miss Mary Sommata, at the house of Mr. Billeck of Willamette settlement by Jason Lee on Monday, April 3, 1837.

Thomas Hubbard's name figures as leader of a band of men who set out in 1840 to bring cattle from California. This is known as the Second Cattle Company, and the number is given as from twenty to twenty-seven men. After three weeks, a trapper of the Hudson's Bay Company announced that the expedition had been attacked by Cheste Indians and every one killed. White, writing in 1848, says: "The emotions of the families of the party may be imagined but not described. An awful gloom spread over the colony. They hoped it might be a false report, and waited long for a relief to their anxiety, when one day they heard the firing of guns at some distance from the Mission on the opposite shore of the river. They hastened in the direction of the sound,

and to their infinite joy found nearly all the party they had feared were slain. They had been defeated by the savages, driven out of their way, and wandered about in the mountains, some of them suffering severely from their wounds." They had arrived only as far as the Rogue river—that fatal spot bathed in battle and bloodshed—when they were forced to an ignominious return, thankful to escape with their lives.

In reply to all the urgent pleas to the United States Government for aid in behalf of the helpless and defenseless citizens in Oregon, the first response came with the appointment of Dr. Elijah White as sub-Indian agent. He came out in 1842 with his commission, and in his *Ten Years in Oregon* he gives a full account of a meeting held September 23, 1842, a record of which he transmitted to the Government of the United States. It is recorded that a committee of seven was appointed to draft resolutions "expressive of the feelings of the community with regard to the intentions of government as communicated by Dr. E. White." T. J. Hubbard was chairman. They withdrew and shortly reported resolutions expressing their happiness that the United States Government "have manifested their intentions of extending their jurisdiction and protection over this country" and that it would give them "the highest pleasure to be brought as soon as it may be practicable under the jurisdiction of the mother country."

At the Second Wolf Meeting, March 6, 1843, Hubbard was elected one of the committee which called the meeting at Champoege and presented resolutions in favor of a political organization. There he was again honored by being elected on the legislative committee responsible for the whole matter of forming a suitable constitu-

tion. This was a stupendous work and one that proved a credit to the amateur statesmen. When the committee began its deliberations, Hubbard was allotted work on the judiciary and military sub-committees, and helped draw up laws that were adopted on July 5, 1843, at a mass meeting.

Gustavus Hines states that while sailing with his family on the brig *Chenamus* for the Sandwich Islands, he encountered Thomas Hubbard. Under date of August 16, 1845, he makes lengthy mention of Hubbard, and then adds: "The manner in which Hubbard and the rest of our fellow passengers spend their time on the voyage indicates that they have neither become wise nor virtuous from the history of the past. They seem incapable of interesting themselves, save at backgammon or the card table; nearly all the time not consumed in eating or sleeping is employed at one or the other of the two games."

When the first army of Oregon was hastily formed in 1847 after the Whitman massacre, and the cry went out for help in equipping the soldiers, Hubbard's name appears as the donor of "one rifle and one pistol."

The next year, men were leaving crops unharvested and were rushing madly into California in quest of gold. Hubbard, after sizing up the situation, built a ship at Oregon City. Bancroft says he "loaded it with flour and in it safely sailed to San Francisco where he sold both cargo and vessel. He also built a sawmill in the Willamette valley."

Sydney Smith of the Peoria Party speaks of finding refuge over a week-end in 1839 at the home of Thomas Hubbard. This must have been at French Prairie, where he did blacksmithing for some time with James O'Neil.

T. J. Hubbard moved to Umatilla county in 1864 and lived near Pilot Rock. He died in 1875 at the Umatilla agency where he had been taken during his last illness. His widow never married again. She died at the Walla Walla hospital in 1907, aged 90.

5

JAMES A. O'NEIL

JAMES O'NEIL came out with Wyeth in 1834, when the latter made his second futile attempt to establish salmon packing plants and a direct trade between Boston and the Columbia river. Wyeth did succeed in building several trading posts, but it was a costly venture, as his records indicate: "Our people are sick and dying off like rotten sheep. Our sick list has been usually one-third of the whole number and the rest much frightened." His memoir, printed by order of Congress, attracted attention and stimulated immigration.

Lieutenant William Slacum, in his report on the Oregon Country to Congress, stated: "Nothing was wanting to insure comfort, wealth, and every happiness to the people of this beautiful country, but the possession of meat cattle, all those in the country being owned by the Hudson's Bay Company, who refused to sell under any circumstances." Hence, he assisted in forming the Willamette Cattle Company in 1836, and O'Neil was one of eleven members of the company to accept passage on the *Loriot* as the guest of Lieutenant Slacum, bound for California. From January 17, 1837, when the company embarked, nine months were consumed in this attempt to bring in cattle. P. L. Edwards of the Mission, who

was treasurer, kept a diary of the trip that is full of descriptions of the complications, hazards and agonies suffered. One passage reads: "Most of the party cursed the day on which they engaged, and would gladly exchange a draught of cool water for their share of the profits." But all survived the ordeal and brought in about 600 cattle, which opened a new era in colonial prosperity.

The petition sent to Congress in 1837 for the establishment of a territorial government in Oregon, bore O'Neil's signature, with those of other settlers.

O'Neil must have been well established by 1839, as Sidney Smith notes in his diary that he worked for O'Neil for forty-eight days, and received in payment a cow and a calf.

Late in December of 1840 revival meetings were held at the Mission, where under the earnest preaching of the Reverend David Leslie many converts were made. Among them is listed the name of James O'Neil.

Agitation was going on for forming an independent government, although the American sympathizers were keeping the matter under cover lest antagonistic interests should thwart the movement, as had happened in the attempt after the death of Ewing Young. Thus a meeting of the settlers in the valley was called in February, 1843, for the avowed purpose of devising means of protection against predatory animals. This was known as the First Wolf Meeting, and was followed by another on March 6. Although the real purpose of this second meeting was kept secret, O'Neil was quietly notified of the ulterior purpose and was elected chairman. He transacted the ostensible business with dispatch, making adequate provision for protection of the herds by arranging for bounties on wild animals.

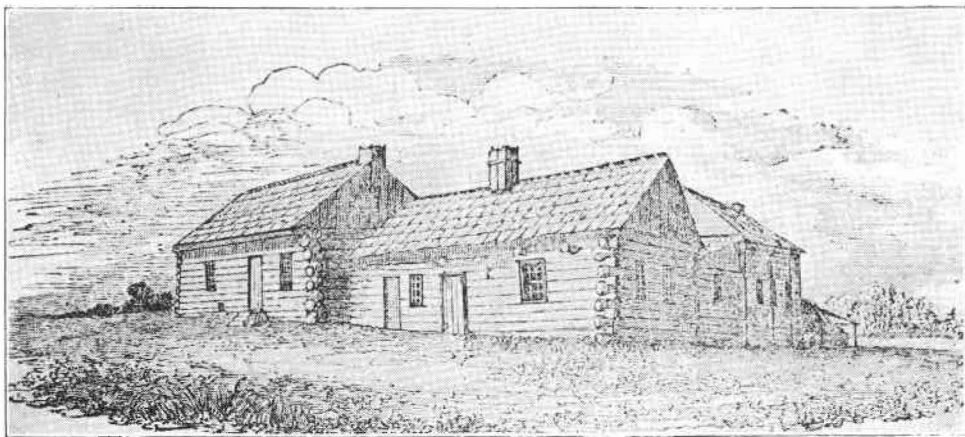
Shortly afterwards, in a speech by William Gray, was revealed the true purpose of the leaders, to protect the lives of settlers as well as of their cattle. A committee of twelve was appointed under O'Neil "to take into consideration the propriety of taking measures for the civil and military protection of this colony." It was this committee which called the general meeting of May 2, 1843, at Champoeg, now famous as the birthplace of the provisional government. Here O'Neil was put on the legislative committee of nine and became an important factor in forming the plan of government. When the committee met, O'Neil was placed on a sub-committee on ways and means and also on the judiciary committee. Differences of opinion exist as to what assistance they had in framing the laws drawn up at this time. J. Quinn Thornton states: "They were without any books (excepting one copy of the Iowa Statutes) to which to refer for assistance in framing their laws." George Himes quotes Medorem Crawford as saying: "O'Neil had studied law to some extent in his native state, and had a copy of the New York Statutes." However, when the committee presented its report on July 5, 1843, the minutes state it was moved and carried to adopt the remainder of the judicial report, viz., to adopt the laws of Iowa as recorded. Judge Carey says: "It was also voted to purchase the several law books of James O'Neil, these to be the property of the community." Under date of September 20, 1843, the records show \$10.50 was paid O'Neil for three books — *Laws of Iowa*, *A Guide to Judges*, and *Jefferson's Manual*. From all this it seems evident that O'Neil supplied the foundation for the local government. At the mass meeting of July 5, 1843, where the new code of laws was formally adopted and the new

government got under way, O'Neil was elected justice of the peace for Yamhill district. Two years later he was elected one of three judges for the same district.

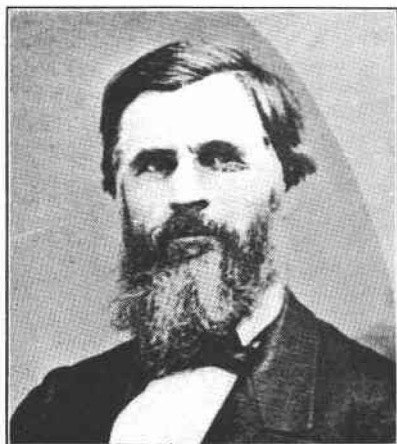
He built the first grist mill in Polk county in 1845. This he sold, and later built and conducted a store at Tampico. O'Neil was married to Miss Tabitha C. Bowman, on February 1, 1855.

By the legislature of 1853-54 he was appointed as one of the commissioners to build the Oregon-California railroad, although the undertaking was never fulfilled.

O'Neil was born in Georgia in 1800, and died in Polk county near Lewisville in September, 1874. He was buried there on his own farm, and later, when the farm fell into other hands, his body was removed to the private cemetery known as the Hart cemetery, near Lewisville, southwest of Dallas, Oregon.



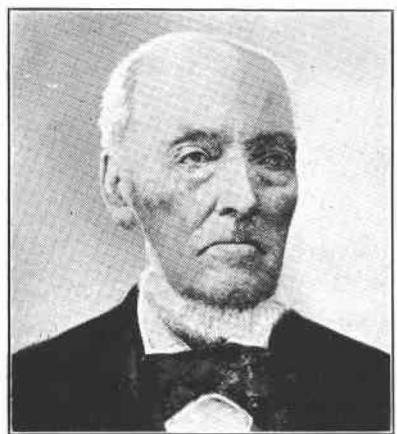
FIRST METHODIST MISSION, ESTABLISHED IN 1834 AND LOCATED ON THE WILLAMETTE RIVER, TEN MILES BELOW SALEM



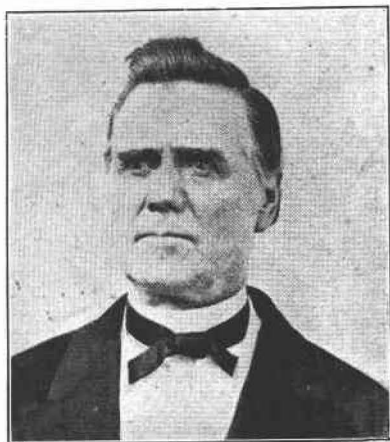
WILLIAM H. GRAY



DR. WILLIAM HOLDEN WILLSON



REV. JOHN SMITH GRIFFIN



REV. GUSTAVUS HINES

Chapter IV

THE METHODIST MISSIONARIES

IT WAS with the holy ardor of crusaders that Jason Lee and his followers sailed away to an unknown land, there to redeem the souls of the Indians. Living in a realm of spiritual ideals, on their arrival they were brought face to face with the very material problem of how to get a foothold in this lonely frontier. They had been reared amid the comforts and luxuries of civilization and suddenly to be thrown on their own resources in the wilderness required an adjustment that was grievous and difficult, particularly to the delicately nurtured women of the Mission.

The original intention had been to work for the conversion of the Flathead Indians; but Dr. McLoughlin persuaded Lee to establish the Mission in the Willamette Valley. So there began a hurried erection of shelters for themselves and the gradual development of the Mission for the Indians. This proved a disheartening project, due to no fault of the missionaries, but in part to the low order of Indians in the valley and the ravages of disease among the tribes. So, disillusioned by this failure to inspire and teach the Indians, they turned their attention to other things.

Not having to struggle for their daily bread, but having behind them the benign coffers of the Methodist Board of Missions, they built up a large settlement, and by 1842 the Methodist Mission had become of great power and influence in the new land. The community was dependent upon the Mission for supplying temporal wants as well as for spiritual food. From its farms, stores and granaries it could furnish sustenance, implements and

all the necessities of life, as well as employment. It moulded public opinion and took the lead in the promotion of the country. The Hudson's Bay Company at last had a worthy American rival.

Then arose jealousy and suspicion among the independent settlers because of the vast tracts of land claimed and held by the missionaries; and because of their control over the Willamette Valley. By this time complaints had reached the Board of Missions of the collapse of the Indian work and of the diversion of mission funds to secular and material aggrandizement. The Reverend George Gary was sent out to investigate, whereupon, he discharged the mission workers, sold its properties and brought to a close, in 1845, the supremacy of the Mission.

These pioneer preachers, however, continued as leaders in the forefront of civic and educational affairs, their spiritual influence pervading the political and social structure of the American colony. Without doubt, they left their impress upon the country, directed its course and helped to determine its destiny.

The city of Salem stands today as a monument to their labors.

1

WILLIAM HOLDEN WILLSON

WILLIAM HOLDEN WILLSON came out as a layman in the first reinforcement for the Methodist Mission from Boston by way of Honolulu, arriving on the brig *Diana* on May 18, 1837.

He was born in New Hampshire in 1801, where he had been a ship carpenter and cooper, and had sailed out of

New Bedford on more than one whaling voyage. On the long voyage to Oregon he applied himself to the study of medicine under Dr. Elijah White, who was at the head of the Mission force. Afterward he was given the title of doctor to distinguish him from others of the same name. He was a tall man of cheerful temper, affectionate disposition, and kind alike to animals and children. Possessing such qualities, he was always a general favorite.

Active and efficient in all departments, William H. Willson was licensed as a local preacher, and in 1839 was sent with the Reverend David Leslie to establish a branch mission on Puget sound, near the present city of Tacoma. Here, the next year, he was married by Dr. Richmond to Miss Chloe Clark, a member of the great reinforcement, assigned to the same post, who became in 1842 the first teacher of the Oregon Institute.

Willson was elected to the board of the Oregon Institute in 1843, and acted as secretary in 1845. At that time he was agent for the property which comprised, with the holding of four of the trustees, the entire town site of Salem, and was empowered by the board to sell lots, (retaining a small commission), and to donate twenty lots to deserving people and organizations. This board was responsible for laying out and apportioning tracts in the town of Salem. Some of the land was sold for \$12 an acre.

At the Champoeg meeting in May, 1843, Willson was chosen as one of three secretaries, and later in the day as the first treasurer of the provisional government. At the July meeting he was continued in office as secretary.

On March 9 of the following year he served as chairman of a meeting called by the executive committee to

organize military forces for defensive measures after the conflict with Indians at Oregon City, in March, 1844. This resulted in the formation of the first military organization in the new territory, known as the Oregon Rangers, never used, however, for active service.

After the Whitman massacre, a real army was an imperative need, and various companies were hastily assembled. Then came the appalling problem of defraying the cost of the army. The Hudson's Bay Company refused to advance a loan to the government, and from the United States no aid could be obtained. Commissioners had been appointed to secure funds, but were unsuccessful in procuring sufficient amounts, and resigned. A new board of three commissioners was appointed by the legislature, one of whom was W. H. Willson. Appeals were made to the people for contributions, and nobly the citizens and volunteers themselves gave of their private resources. Difficult it was to supply equipment, food and clothing, and almost impossible to obtain cash to pay for clearing roads, and for military operations. Orders **on** stores and private loans were the measures resorted to in order to get the volunteers in the field. Willson was designated as commissary agent in the records of this Cayuse War, which continued from December, 1847, until August, 1848. All the fighting and marching of the war was executed by the colonists without aid from any source, and by the time the United States Government answered the appeal for help, the war was over. It was only in 1854 that Congress completed the payment of \$150,000 as a reimbursement for the cost of the war to the provisional government. The Cayuse War marked and closed the existence of the provisional government.

At this time the medium of exchange had been largely beaver skins and wheat, until gold dust was introduced late in 1848. After that, pouches of gold dust were carried about; a pinch of gold dust was counted as a dollar. Stores were equipped with scales for weighing this valuable mineral. This was so unsatisfactory that the legislature of that year passed an act on February 16, 1849, authorizing the installation of a mint at Oregon City, and elected W. H. Willson melter and coiner. The act was signed by Governor Abernethy; however, before the plans could be carried out, Joseph Lane, the new territorial governor, arrived and he forbade the proceeding as illegal.

Willson then, with seven other men, formed a company known as the Oregon Exchange Company. They started a mint, melted the gold dust, removed the impurities and minted \$5 and \$10 coins bearing the stamp of a beaver instead of an eagle. Hence, this has always been known as beaver money. On the coins were the initials of the surnames of each man in the company. They were K. M. T. A. W. R. C. S., two standing for Abernethy and Willson. About \$58,000 was coined and later most of it found its way to the San Francisco mint where the high gold content of the coins gave them a special value and to the owners a real profit.

Willson ran as an unsuccessful candidate against Lane for Congress in 1851, both being on the Democratic ticket. He acted as county commissioner in 1853. He died suddenly on April 17, 1856, and is buried in the I. O. O. F. cemetery at Salem, Oregon.

REVEREND DAVID LESLIE

DAVID LESLIE was born in Washington, New Hampshire, in 1797, a son of the Reverend George Leslie, of Puritan stock. Leaving his home in Salem, Massachusetts, Leslie came west with his wife and three young daughters in 1837 in a company of Methodist missionaries on the ship *Sumatra*. This was known as the second reinforcement, and brought the number of residents at the Mission up to sixty, half being Indians. The ship was loaded with supplies for the Mission, and these were transported with difficulty up the Willamette river during the fall.

The little colony was increasing in numbers and influence, and assumed the leadership of the American settlers. With the consent of Dr. McLoughlin in 1839, Jason Lee appointed Leslie as one of two magistrates for the country south of the Columbia. The settlers acquiesced in their designation to this office and entrusted cases to their wise decisions. One of the most notable cases was the Hubbard murder trial, an account of which will be found under Hubbard's name. This may have been the first trial by jury in the western territory.

The same year Leslie was sent with W. H. Willson to establish a mission on Puget sound. At Nisqually, near Tacoma, they erected buildings and held services.

When T. J. Farnham, of the Peoria Party, left for the East, he carried with him a petition signed by David Leslie and others begging protection under the United States Government. This petition, pervaded with lofty American sentiment, was presented to the senate by Senator Linn of Missouri on June 4, 1840.

An appalling toll of life was taken by the rivers of Oregon. One drowning was averted through the courage of Leslie. He, in company with Mrs. Elijah White and her infant son, was descending the raging waters of the Columbia just below The Dalles when the canoe upset and threw them all into the water. Nothing could be seen of the child; but by almost superhuman efforts Leslie helped the mother to cling to the overturned canoe as it dashed down the river. When the canoe was finally grounded and turned over Dr. White's son was found drowned beneath it, having been carried along with his struggling mother, who had escaped death by a narrow margin.

That same winter, while Mrs. Leslie was seriously ill, their house with all their personal effects burned to the ground.

At the "primary meeting of the people of Oregon," called February 18, 1841, to consider plans for forming a government, Leslie was chosen chairman. He presided also at the meeting following, on June 11, to hear the report of the committee empowered to form a constitution and a code of laws. This committee had not met and the effort proved futile to organize a government; however, Leslie was in the forefront of the endeavor. He was appointed by Judge Babcock to administer the estate of Ewing Young, whose death had brought about this attempt to organize.

On January 17, 1842, he was appointed one of a committee of three to report on a plan for an institution of higher learning for white children, and on February 11 the Oregon Institute was organized, with Leslie one of the board of trustees. To this cause he contributed \$500.

For the advancement of education and religion, he was a diligent worker, but because of unauthorized expansion of building plans at the Mission, he was left without appointment and without salary in the year 1842-43. His wife, formerly Mary A. Kinney, had died in 1841, leaving him with six children and under these circumstances he determined to go to the Sandwich Islands. They were all on the ship ready to sail, September, 1842, when Cornelius Rogers, an outstanding young man, persuaded Leslie to give him in marriage his eldest daughter, Satira. They were married on the ship and disembarked for the land, taking under their care two of the little sisters. One daughter left with Leslie died and was buried in the Islands; a terrible fate awaited two others in Oregon. It was in February, 1843, that Rogers, his bride and her little sister were swept over the falls of the Willamette in a canoe at Oregon City and drowned. This disaster plunged the whole community into mourning.

The following spring Leslie was recalled, returning in the Fur Company boat the *Llama* in April, 1843.

At the forming of the provisional government shortly after his return, Leslie was chosen one of three on a committee to draft and administer the oath of office to persons elected on May 2, 1843.

He was the first pastor and organizer of the Methodist Episcopal church in Salem, 1841, and again served as pastor in 1843. At the same time he had charge of the societies in the Willamette Valley, and preached with great power and earnestness at many camp meetings. He opened for public worship in 1844 the first frame church in Oregon City, and followed Gustavus Hines as its pastor.

The year 1844 was marked in Leslie's life by his marriage to Mrs. Adelia Judson Olley, and by the arrival of the Reverend George Gary, who was empowered by the Board to investigate the Mission.

Leslie was chaplain of the first territorial legislature in 1849. He was elected president of the board of trustees of the Oregon Institute in 1845, and held that position through its transition into Willamette University until the time of his death. It was he who laid the cornerstone of the new brick building which was put into use October 21, 1867. Possessed and driven by religious ideals, he ceased his struggles for his beloved Oregon on May 1, 1869, when seventy-two years of age. He is buried in the I. O. O. F. cemetery at Salem, Oregon.

3

ALANSON BEERS

ALANSON BEERS, son of a soldier of the Revolutionary War, was born in Connecticut in 1800. He was a blacksmith by trade. In May, 1837, he came west on the *Diana* as a lay worker for the Methodist Mission under Dr. White.

After their arrival, Beers and Willson spent most of the summer transporting by canoe the Mission goods which were brought in the *Diana*. A log house and a shop were erected for Alanson Beers and his family. He worked as a blacksmith hammering out nails and irons for new buildings. Later he had charge of the Mission farm and helped erect several mills and houses.

In 1837, he was an enthusiastic worker in the Oregon Temperance Society, in the Mission Manual Labor School for Indians, and in the Oregon Institute. Of this

latter he was a member of the board until his death, and served as treasurer for several years.

At the Champoeg meeting of 1843, Beers was elected one of a legislative committee of nine which framed for the new country the code of laws adopted and used for many years.

When the committee met May 16, Beers was chosen as chairman of the judiciary committee and one of a committee of three to divide the entire country into districts. On July 5, when the report of this and other committees were accepted, a governor was to be chosen; but the rivalry between the different factions in the community made a compromise advisable whereby the power would be distributed among the Mission, the settlers and the Mountain Men, each having a candidate. Consequently an executive committee of three was formed, and Beers was elected to represent the Mission faction on this committee. It was a position of authority, as the members of the committee exercised the full powers of governor.

The first great responsibility the executive committee met was the issuing of a proclamation to call for an organization of military forces of the settlement after the Indian encounter at Oregon City in 1844. Notices were sent to the American population to meet on the ninth of March with arms, to organize for defensive measures. Beers represented the committee at this meeting at Champoeg, and was instrumental in forming the first military organization in the Northwest.

When in the reorganization of the Mission under Reverend George Gary, the lay workers were given the option of receiving passage money to their former residences in the states, or an equivalent in value, Beers

took the equipment and the farm where he had been living, the blacksmith shop, together with \$1,000 in money, as a claim against the Board for himself, wife and six children, July 11, 1844.

Two years later, Beers in partnership with Abernethy, bought out the "island mills" at Oregon City, took over the credits and the liabilities of the Mission in the mill, and allowed Gary to hold the island as collateral security on their purchase. An advertisement in *The Spectator* of February 5, 1846, states: "We will hereafter carry on the business as a partnership under the name of the Oregon Milling Company, which will fill orders for lumber and lath, and a flouring mill will be fitted up for the manufacture of flour suitable for exportation." This was the island that Dr. McLoughlin had claimed as part of his original tract.

Just before his death, Beers built a house which he wished to be used as a dormitory for the Oregon Institute, that was purchased by Willamette University after his death for \$300, and was known as the Beers House. In recognition of his services, each of his children was presented with a ten-year scholarship.

"Efficient, reliable and honest in all relations, winning the favor and confidence of all with whom he had intercourse," he passed away on February 20, 1853, and is buried in the Mission cemetery at Salem, Oregon.

4

REVEREND GUSTAVUS HINES

REVEREND GUSTAVUS HINES was born in Herkimer county, New York, in 1809, entered the itinerant ministry in 1832, and was appointed missionary to Oregon

in 1839. With his wife and one child, and accompanying Jason Lee, he came west in the *Lausanne*, taking nearly eight months for the trip. The ardor of this band of pilgrims expressed itself in a program of preparation for missionary work and in religious meetings, culminating in a celebration of the centenary of Methodism, on which occasion the Reverend Gustavus Hines preached the sermon and a sum of \$650 was raised for Indian work.

At a meeting of the missionaries held on their arrival at Fort Vancouver in June, 1840, Hines was allotted to the territory of the Umpqua river for his labors. Jason Lee accompanied him on the exploration of this section, and a full account of their trip, together with a journal of the voyage in the *Lausanne* and other journeys, is preserved by Hines in a book entitled *Exploring Expedition to Oregon*. Conditions were not favorable to the establishment of a mission on the Umpqua and the plan was abandoned.

Aside from his religious duties, Hines took an active part in the formation of the government. He also came to be recognized as a historian whose writings are of much importance. John Parsons says of Hines: "His person was large, his voice had great force and compass, his appearance was commanding and majestic."

With the first attempt to start a local government, at Ewing Young's funeral, February 17, 1841, Hines was chosen secretary, and at the adjourned meeting the next day he was re-elected. He was also placed on a committee of nine to draft a constitution and code of laws. Since the chairman, Reverend Mr. Blanchet, never called a meeting, this effort at organization proved fruitless.

In the spring of 1842, Hines was appointed superintendent of the Mission school and pastor of the Methodist church which he had helped to organize in Salem the previous year.

On January 17, 1842, Hines was one of a committee of three to evolve a plan for an institution of higher learning for white children. This, on February 1, Hines helped organize and named it the Oregon Institute, which started with the support of the entire community as a non-sectarian school. Soon \$4,000 was subscribed in lumber, cattle and grain, the men giving, Hines says, from one-quarter to one-third of all they possessed. He subscribed \$300 and served on many committees.

The Methodist church, on October 26, 1842, took exclusive control of the Institute, which action was formally ratified May 29, 1843, "lest there be doubt of the validity and propriety of the transfer of the property to the church."

The committees formed by the new government, May 2, 1843, were to render their reports on July 5 at Cham-poeg. There with a new fervor on Independence Day gathered the colonists from far and near, and a rousing patriotic address was delivered by Hines. The next day, when deliberations began, Hines was called to the chair and presided at the first meeting of the provisional government.

A few months later, Hines and his family started East with Jason Lee for the purpose of soliciting funds and of cultivating an interest in the Oregon missions. When they arrived at the Sandwich Islands, transportation for all was unavailable. Therefore, Lee left his little motherless child with Mr. and Mrs. Hines and sailed East by himself.

Word had come that the Reverend George Gary had been appointed by the Board to investigate and take charge of the Mission in Lee's place. As a consequence, Hines decided to return there, and arrived April 23, 1844. The missionaries held their annual meeting, allotted their fields and assigned Hines to the Tualatin Plains and Oregon City, which appointment was confirmed when Gary took charge. He also served as the first pastor of the Oregon City Methodist church.

Mr. and Mrs. Gary took up their abode with Mr. and Mrs. Hines in Oregon City, where Hines assisted the new superintendent in the reorganization of the Mission and the sale of its properties. Gary calls attention in his diary to the fact that Mr. and Mrs. Hines were always burdened with the responsibility of entertaining in their home all visiting missionaries, often with large families, for months at a time, an hospitality, he felt, which should have been shared.

Hines relinquished his work and took what he spoke of as his final departure on August 10, 1845, when he sailed for his old home. However, 1853 found him returning to Oregon and resuming many of his old interests.

At the second annual meeting of Willamette University he was elected secretary of the board. He represented the conference of Oregon at the General Methodist conference in the East in 1869.

A man of letters, Hines was the author of other books besides the one mentioned. These are valuable in depicting conditions and growth of the Oregon country. Two brothers, also ministers, joined him in Oregon, his brother Harvey Hines being the author of a missionary history of Oregon published in 1893.

The last act of Jason Lee's life was to write to Hines about the little daughter left in his care: "I must hold you responsible under God to train that child for heaven." She became one of the most accomplished graduates of Willamette University and a shining light in the faculty both before her marriage to Mr. Grubbs and after. Mr. and Mrs. Hines had lost their own and only child, a daughter.

Gustavus Hines died December 9, 1873, at Oregon City and is buried in the Mission cemetery at Salem, Oregon.

5

REVEREND LEWIS JUDSON

LEWIS HUBBELL JUDSON was born on August 6, 1809, at Stratford, Conn., which was the family home for over two hundred years. His ancestors came from England in 1634 and members of the family had been in the service of the colonies during the Revolutionary War. Judson's father had been a wheelwright, and the son, learning the trade, spent his summers making spinning wheels and other wooden articles. In addition to this, he worked as a carpenter, and during the winter months studied, until at the age of eighteen he began teaching school.

On August 13, 1831, Miss Almira Roberts was married to Judson and entered into his aspirations of being a missionary. To prepare himself for this work, he began reading all medical works available, acquiring knowledge which proved very valuable, especially so when he was in the Clatsop country.

Allying himself with "the great reinforcement," he

sailed on the *Lausanne*, and reached Oregon in company with other pious missionaries under the leadership of Jason Lee in June, 1840.

There was plenty to do in the new country, alike for preacher and lay worker. Many were sick at the Mission; the Indians were disappointing converts; and the sparse quarters were crowded to overflowing with the recruits; however, all turned to with a will, erected new buildings and mills, made furniture and distributed themselves around to various sections and types of service.

There is written testimony in the hands of Lewis E. Judson, grandson of Lewis H. Judson, that on the *Lausanne* the passengers decided the name of the new town they would found should be Salem, derived from the ancient name Jerusalem.

Judson worked on the construction of the first dwelling in what afterward became Salem, the Jason Lee mission house, still standing at 960 Broadway. In part of this structure, he and his family lived, on the second floor north, while three other families shared the rest of the house.

The most important project was the organization and the building of a school for white children. This was begun in February, 1842, with Judson on the board of trustees. He acted as chairman of a committee of three to draw up a prospectus and code of by-laws for the governing of the Oregon Institute. This report was adopted on March 15, 1842. In the list of subscribers to the cause, we find Judson enrolled for \$500, and the first to head the list. He also helped organize and support the Methodist church.

Not only in religious and educational affairs was Judson interested, but in political affairs as well. He was on

hand for the Champoeg meeting and was elected magistrate.

In 1844 his wife passed away, leaving him with four children. Two years later he married Miss Nancy Hawkins.

After the reorganization of the Mission in 1844 all lay workers were released and given funds to pay their passage home, or the equivalent in Mission property if they preferred to stay. Judson decided to remain, and bought the mills near the Mission with their fixtures and equipment for about \$6000.

He developed wide interests in the country and became a permanent and valued citizen. His ability as a mathematician enabled him to use this knowledge in surveying tracts of land for settlers and resulted in his appointment as surveyor of Marion county.

During the whole of the time spent in this country, he never forgot he was a missionary to the Indians and lost no opportunity to befriend them. He was intensely patriotic and at all times used his influence in support of his country, especially during the Civil War times.

He died on March 3, 1880, and is buried in the I. O. O. F. cemetery at Salem, Oregon.

6

REVEREND JOSIAH L. PARRISH

JOSIAH L. PARRISH was born of Dutch Puritan descent in Onondaga county, New York, on January 14, 1806. He left New York in 1839 to come out with Jason Lee as a lay worker in company with a band of missionaries on the *Lausanne* and arrived in June, 1840, accompanied by his wife and three children.

There were only three little log houses on the bank of the Willamette in what was the original Oregon Mission Manual Labor School for Indians. Here were crowded the earnest Christian men and women, together with six white children and Indians.

Parrish was a versatile man, who performed all manner of tasks, particularly those pertaining to blacksmithing. He stated in a letter that it was he who in 1841 hammered out the nails and irons from the Mission supplies which united the timbers of the *Star of Oregon*.

In 1830, he had been licensed to preach in the East, and was the first Methodist preacher ordained in Oregon. He was circuit rider in Yamhill following the Reverend David Leslie.

On February 18, 1841, after the death of Ewing Young, who left an estate with no heirs, a "primary meeting of the people of Oregon" was held to elect officers for the government of the community, and particularly to provide for the proper disposition of the estate. Parrish was appointed on a committee "to form a constitution and to draft a code of law." Although the committee never met, it was at least an attempt toward the purpose that was consummated on May 2, 1843, at Champoeg.

Parrish was an original trustee and subscriber of the Oregon Institute founded in 1842, and also one of a committee to draft the prospectus. The following year he was given the territory of Clatsop Plains in which to labor for the Indians. He went on a missionary tour to the mouth of the Columbia and established himself in Clatsop, where he developed a mission and a farm with the assistance of Solomon Smith and others. He hospitably received under his roof travelers who were going

and coming to Fort Vancouver from the ships of the Pacific. This mission was abolished when the Reverend George Gary took charge of affairs in 1844, and the farm and stock were sold to Parrish.

For five years, beginning in 1849, Parrish acted as Indian agent in the territory extending from California to British Columbia and then worked in the section between Coos Bay and California.

In 1853 he was treasurer of Willamette University. In the early sixties he and his wife donated a valuable piece of ground near Salem for an orphan asylum. In 1869 he was elected president of the board of the university, and later, "honorary life president."

Gustavus Hines wrote in regard to Parrish as follows: "He was identified with many extensive business operations, occupied prominent positions in the county and amassed wealth."

Parrish was, with Holman, the first breeder of pure-bred sheep. There is a bill of sale to them dated March 31, 1860, of \$1,700 for a merino buck and ewes. He is also credited with introducing white clover into Oregon.

He was a commissioner for a railroad project incorporated by the legislature of 1854, which was never built. The honor was given Parrish of driving the first spike in the Oregon and California railroad on the east side of Portland in 1868, and also of driving the first spike in the street railroad at Salem in 1889.

For many years Parrish made weekly visits to the penitentiary and preached to the prisoners. He was known throughout the country as "Father Parrish."

Parrish's first wife was Elizabeth Winn of New York, whom he married in 1833. His second wife was Jane Lichtenthaler of Portland, who died in 1887. Parrish

married, for the third time, in 1888, Mrs. M. A. Pierce, who still survives him, and is living on the Parrish home site in Salem, Oregon.

Parrish lived to be nearly ninety years old, passing away on May 31, 1895, and is interred in the Mission cemetery at Salem, Oregon.

7

DR. IRA L. BABCOCK

ALTHOUGH Ira L. Babcock, M.D., was in the Oregon Territory but four short years, his name remains immortalized by his outstanding leadership during that formative period.

Dr. Babcock was sent out by the Methodist Board as a physician for the Mission, and he arrived with his wife and one child on the *Lausanne* on June 1, 1840. At the meeting of the Mission colony two weeks later he was assigned duty with Daniel Lee at Wascopam, now The Dalles. This was a post isolated from all contact with white people, in a bleak, bare country, and was a severe introduction to his new field. However, Dr. Babcock was called back and forth between the stations with demands for medical skill that would require the services of a dozen physicians. The change of climate and diet, with the exposure and privations, brought sickness upon many of the missionaries and their families. As a consequence, they were frequently ailing and needing attention. The Indians were a prey to all kinds of infectious and contagious diseases and were dying off by the hundreds. Their medicine men had their own method of cure; beating drums to scare away the evil spirits, and putting the sick into hot steam baths and

then plunging them into the icy river waters. If an Indian died after taking the white doctor's medicine, he was believed to have been poisoned. The story also circulated that the white man uncorked a bottle and let out evil spirits, causing the epidemics that swept their ranks. It is obvious, then, that a doctor in Oregon faced many serious problems and a life of unremitting toil.

Dr. Babcock soon took up his headquarters at the missionary base in Willamette Valley, and became an integral part in the growth of the colony. It became evident that a school was needed not only for the Indians but for the white children, who were getting more numerous. So Jason Lee called a meeting on January 17, 1842, and appointed Dr. Babcock as chairman of a committee of three to report a plan for an institution of higher learning. Less than a month later the committee returned its report, and the Oregon Institute was founded, to which Dr. Babcock contributed \$160. He was on the board of trustees and helped select the location which was at Wallace Prairie, a few miles up the Willamette from French Prairie.

Petitions had been sent the United States Congress setting forth the need of civil laws in the infant colony, and praying for protection under the national government.

With the influx of settlers and missionaries it became evident that some form of government would soon become necessary; although peace and good order prevailed generally. Action, however, could be no longer postponed when at the death of Ewing Young it was obvious that somebody must have authority to dispose of his estate which was considerable. Whereupon, the settlers gathered on February 17, 1841, and resolved to

draw up a constitution and code of laws and to elect a governor, supreme judge, three justices of the peace, three constables, three road commissioners, an attorney general, a clerk of courts, a treasurer, and two overseers of the poor. This new government would give its protection to all settlers south of the Columbia and all north not connected with the Hudson's Bay Company.

The next day there was a large attendance of French and Americans, and in an effort to propitiate both factions, a majority of French Catholics were placed on the committee of seven, appointed to draft a form of government. Supporters of Dr. Babcock, intending to make him governor, hesitated to press the issue, and compromised by nominating him for supreme judge with probate powers. He was elected and instructed, until the new government was put in operation, to govern the colony according to the laws of the state of New York. The committee were to report at a meeting called at St. Paul for June 7, 1841; but, defeated by the very men put on the committee and other sympathizers with the British interests, the whole affair fell through. Vainly hoping month by month that the United States would extend its jurisdiction over them, the Americans let the matter drop for a period of two years. Meanwhile, Dr. Babcock was the governing power and executive, and to him came all matters of dispute, the French Canadians uniting in recognizing the authority of the officers elected. He first had the estate of Ewing Young probated and settled. It might be interesting to state that no heirs being found, \$1500 out of an estate of \$3735 was spent in building the first jail in the West at Oregon City, and that the money so spent was refunded years later to a man from Mexico who claimed to be a son.

Dr. Babcock directed the administration also of the estate of Cornelius Rogers whose tragic fate is mentioned in the life of David Leslie. The sum of \$1500 was paid over to the heirs in Utica, New York.

In the midst of his judicial and medical duties, Dr. Babcock helped in the organization and erection of a Mission hospital which must have been in steady service.

As a gesture in response to the clamorous demands of the Oregonians, the United States Government sent out Dr. Elijah White as Indian sub-agent in 1842. In his history published in 1848 he records that he called together a meeting of the settlers at Champoege, on September 23, 1842, when Dr. Babcock was unanimously elected chairman. There resolutions were passed expressing approval of the appointment of an Indian agent, gratitude to the United States for the "intended liberality toward the settlers, and for its intention to support education and literature among us," and expressing a final hope of being brought soon under the jurisdiction of the mother country.

By February 2, 1843, the settlers determined to make one more attempt to establish a proper system of government, and gathered in the Oregon Institute for what was later known as the First Wolf Meeting. Dr. Babcock was elected chairman and presided. There is scant record of any business transacted except the appointment by Dr. Babcock of a committee of six to call a meeting at the home of Joseph Gervais, half way between Salem and Champoege, on March 6. After plans had been formed for protection against the wild beasts, the hidden purpose of the meetings was revealed, and Dr. Babcock was elected chairman of a committee to see



Dr. Babcock was elected chairman of a committee to see the hidden purpose of the meeting and to reveal all that had been forward for protection against the world powers and to inform the American people of the same. At the same time a resolution was passed that the American people should be informed of the same. Dr. Babcock was elected chairman of the committee to see the hidden purpose of the meeting and to reveal all that had been forward for protection against the world powers and to inform the American people of the same. At the same time a resolution was passed that the American people should be informed of the same.



MEM OF CHAMPOEG
MEN OF CHAMPOEG

80

79

bedrid and the child in all night; but before sunrise bridged
-There he learned that the Reverend George Garry had
been appointed by the Methodist Missionary Board to
New York to supersede Jason Lee in the Oregon Mission.
He met Hines and Lee when they arrived at the
Islands, and imparted to them the information
which caused an entire shift of plans.

Dr. Babcock with Hines returned to Oregon aboard
the *Chenamus*, arriving there April 23, 1844. Within a
month he was again selected to the office of superintendent.
The new superintendent took up a short time
later his duties of reorganization of the Mission, and
the report of all his dealings was sent to the Board and
later published. He speaks at some length of his visit
of inspection to the mission of Wasco, and his horror
at the state of the Indians. He relates the same in
detail as does Dr. White which is as follows:

Mr. and Mrs. Perkins, in charge of the mission, learned
that the son of the chief had fallen prey to disease that
was sweeping the tribe. The young boy died at his com-
stant attendant and companion a little slave boy whom
had been captured from another tribe. These Indians
had a custom of burying their dead in a huge wooden
sarcophagus, built on a rocky island surrounded by the
swift waters of the Columbia. Here the dead would be
placed one after another, and the bones pushed aside to
make room for other corpses. The dead were well clothed
and supplied with whatever they might need in the
future life. The loving father could not send his son
forth without his slave to wait upon him. He had the
little slave strapped and bound on top of his dead master
and imprisoned in this charnel house to die. Graves
and horrible are the details of this infernal custom
counted by the Reverend and Mrs. Perkins. They had

pleasant memories of his former life on the Pacific coast.

to leave the child in all night; but before sunrise bribed the custodian to accompany them to the island and liberated the prisoner. Dr. White said several months later the child bore the cuts and scars from the thongs that had bound him.

A more cheerful entry in Gary's diary is of the date of October 2, 1844, at the Falls: "Attended court as a spectator. Doctor Babcock Judge. Indeed it looks like a land of law and order. One criminal fined for sending a challenge to fight a duel, \$500, and deprived of his eligibilities to any office of trust or profit; also of the privilege of voting at any election."

When the dissolution of the Mission was worked out, Reverend George Gary was loath to part with Dr. Babcock. Ordinarily very chary of praise, he none the less wrote: "Dr. Babcock has sustained a very fair and respectable standing in this community in all respects, and at the present time exercises the office and discharges the duties of Judge of Probate and Circuit courts with credit to himself and to the benefit of the community. It is a loss to the community to have him leave; but I cannot require his remaining here unless in my opinion the interest of the mission as a mission demands it. In view of this I consent he may leave, and he leaves with my high esteem and Christian regards."

Dr. Babcock sailed away with his family for Fort Vancouver and the States on November 11, 1844.

Law maker, judge, executive—Oregon could ill afford to lose a man of such caliber.

An item in the *Oregon Weekly Statesman* of April 15, 1870, states that Dr. Babcock was revisiting Oregon with his family, remaining for only a few days; that he was at that time a resident of Ohio and examining surgeon in the United States army; and that he retained pleasant memories of his former life on the Pacific coast.

Chapter V

OTHER MISSIONARIES

THE DIFFICULTIES of the independent missionaries were incomparably harder than those suffered by missionaries under the shelter of the denominational boards. The former must find means of establishing their missions and schools and at the same time wrest a living from an untried land. Baffled and beaten, some gave up the cruel fight and others stayed on only through their indomitable tenacity.

Educated women who had never known discomfort gave up their easy lives in the East and, with a vital urge to redeem the Indians, married men they had known but a short time, that together they might engage in this great work. Such was the sacrifice of the martyred Mrs. Whitman and the experience of many a noble woman who faced the loneliness of the great western frontier with sweet fortitude.

Knowing little of actual conditions, these missionaries must have been sadly disillusioned as to the redemption of the savages. But, possessing a certain amount of aggressiveness and self assertion, they saw an empire to be won and stayed to play their part in the great drama.

Frustrated in their hope of extensive missions for the Indians, they saw other crying needs and gave their lives to building up schools and churches for the colonists and their children, and to the evolution of a God-fearing and educated community. Congregationalism springing from the *Mayflower* on the Atlantic Coast had a counterpart on the Pacific Coast in the sacrifice and devotion of these pioneer missionaries. And col-



Chapter V

leges, schools and churches along the Willamette Valley are a monument to the earnestness and social-mindedness of these earnest men and women. The difficulties of the independent missionaries were undoubtedly harder than those suffered by missionaries under the shelter of the denominational promises of better things and so they were to the world. The former must find means of establishing their missions and schools and at the same time wrest a living from an untried land. Baffled and beaten, some gave up the cruel fight and others stayed on only through their indomitable tenacity.

ALVIN T. SMITH

ALVIN T. SMITH was a prosperous farmer, born in Branford, Connecticut, November 17, 1802, later moved to Illinois. He married Mary Little, daughter of a pioneer settler. Although a layman, he and his wife were devout and gave up their easy life in the East and with a vital interest in the West, they married and moved to the West to start an independent mission. Known but a short time, that together they might be consecrated associates of the Reverend Harvey Clark in their aspirations to save the souls of the Indians. To no one woman who faced the loneliness of the great West with Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Little, they traveled to the West to start an independent mission. This project failing, Smith stayed for some time with Dr. Whitman and Spalding. There he says he "helped fix up the mission grist and sawmill and made a room amount to a great deal of use in teaching the Indians. They had sheep, saved the wool, and soon made some good cloth." Undoubtedly this was the first spinning wheel west of the Rockies. In September, 1841, Smith came to the Willamette Valley and, with Harvey Clark, attempted to establish a mission for the Indians a mile south of what is now Forest Grove. A record drawn up by Reverend John S. Griffin of the Pacific Coast in the sacrifice and devotion of these pioneer missionaries. A record of the Pacific University.

that country, will be read with interest by all his old acquaintances in this region. It is dated—

“West Tualatin Plains, June 27, 1845.

“ * * * I will now try to give you an idea of our political concerns, in this beautiful land of Oregon.

“The people met on the 5th of July, 1843, and unanimously adopted what they termed the Organic law, which secures to every man over 18 years of age, a claim of 640 acres of land; it also forbids taxation to support our temporary government—the expenses are to be defrayed by voluntary contribution. They also adopted the Iowa laws, so far as they applied to our cases, but our petty legislature, as they are called, who were elected by virtue of the organization at its session last June, through the influence of the Hudson's Bay Company, threw away the Organic law, which was the basis of our temporary government, struck off the word, territory, from the laws, and laid a tax upon the people (which is in effect declaring themselves independent from our government), and disfranchising all who would not pay taxes, besides refusing them any benefit of the laws. And the Hudson's Bay Company, through their influence during the late elections, which took place on the 3d instant, elected one of the chief traders of the Company to one of the most important offices in the country. Such are the trials that the Americans have to encounter in this country at present. The Hudson's Bay Company are a very great detriment to the interests of the true-hearted Americans in this country; their policy is to break down all enterprise that is not for their interest; they have seized upon every commercial and manufacturing point in the country that they can, to exclude Americans, and by their large capital and by a vast sinking fund, they can under-sell, if necessary, and keep out all the merchants that would otherwise come in—thereby crippling the country very much. But I hope that it will not long remain as it is now; I hope that the people in the States will exert their influence with Congress, to have the treaty abrogated speedily. I think that if our Government would do so, and take possession of Oregon immediately, that it would make one of the best countries in the world. There are many Tories in the country, or those that sustain the Hudson's Bay Company, or English interests, as it was in the Revolution. So there are many that do

and will sustain American interests, even if our Government gives up the Oregon Territory to the English; for it is too good a country to give up to old England. I have heard it remarked, by one who has traveled considerable in Oregon, that it will sustain as large a population as New England. I am better prepared now to give a description of the country, than I ever have been before, because I have had more experience as it regards the climate.

It is healthy, mild and delightful. In the latter part of the fall, winter, and first part of the spring seasons, we have almost constant rain; but while we have rain, we have no frost, and but very little snow. The people can sow wheat from August until the middle of May. And for wheat I do not think that this country can be surpassed by any other on the face of the globe.— Fifty-five bushels of wheat to the acre was raised last year. Oats do fine in this country; peas, potatoes, turnips, and almost every kind of vegetables do as well here as they do in New England. Corn does tolerably well, but not as it does in the Mississippi valley. I suppose that I have raised from 45 to 50 bushels to the acre. Hemp grows fine, and I am told flax does, although I have never seen any growing in the country.—I sowed two bushels of oats last year on about one and a half acres, and during last winter I fed about half of them; in May I threshed the balance, and I had forty-three bushels. In March, 1843, I sowed 22½ bushels of wheat on 16 acres of ground, and that year I gathered 530 bushels, besides what I lost in the field and during the winter. Last year I gathered from the same ground, without plowing, harrowing, or sowing, upwards of 400 bushels. You can understand by the above, something about the productions of the Oregon Territory. Cattle and horses live here without any expense for feed, as we do not have frost enough to kill the grass; and it costs but very little to keep hogs; sheep do very well.—Last year about 20 head were driven from Illinois to Oregon, with the loss of but two. Last winter was rather more rainy than common, but not frost enough to kill the leaves on young peach trees. You may read this meager sketch of Oregon to all who think that Oregon is worth taking possession of. * * *

It will be recollected, perhaps, that Mr. Smith and lady, were connected with the Presbyterian Mission, located in that country. The following extract from a letter written by Mrs. Smith, shows the state of its affairs in that respect:

"You have perhaps heard that we have given up our Mission among the Indians; but we still live in the same place which we selected for missionary operations. The Indians were not willing to stop and cultivate the soil. Emigrants are rapidly coming in and taking up the country. The Methodist Mission have also given up their operations in this part. They have one station at The Dalles, farther up the country, which is the only one that remains. We have much reason to mourn over Zion; the spirit of the world prevails here too much, even in the hearts of Christians. There is much here to tempt and lead the mind from God. As it respects the things of this world, we have no complaint to make, excepting the political concerns of our country. We have long been impatiently waiting to have the United States extend their jurisdiction over us. * * *

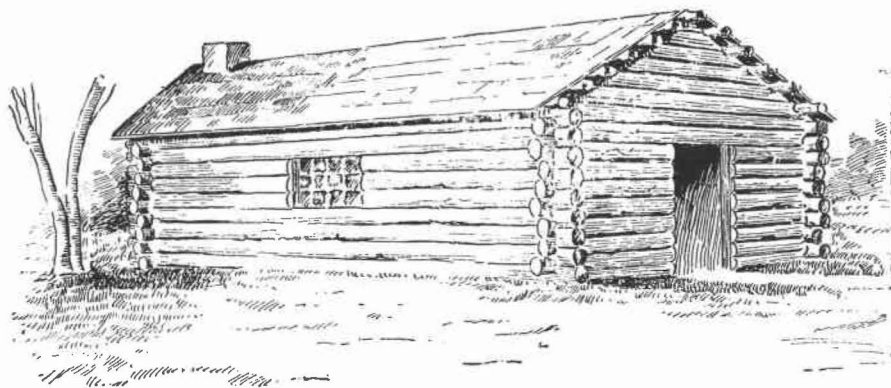
"The greatest thing wanting here is good society—or faithful, praying Christians. * * *

"I have quite a family to take care of; besides the two half-breed children, I have taken three children who lost their mother in coming across the mountains. * * * Our circumstances are such, at present, that we have many cares, and are obliged to work hard, but if Providence smiles upon us, we may be more easily situated after a while. * * *

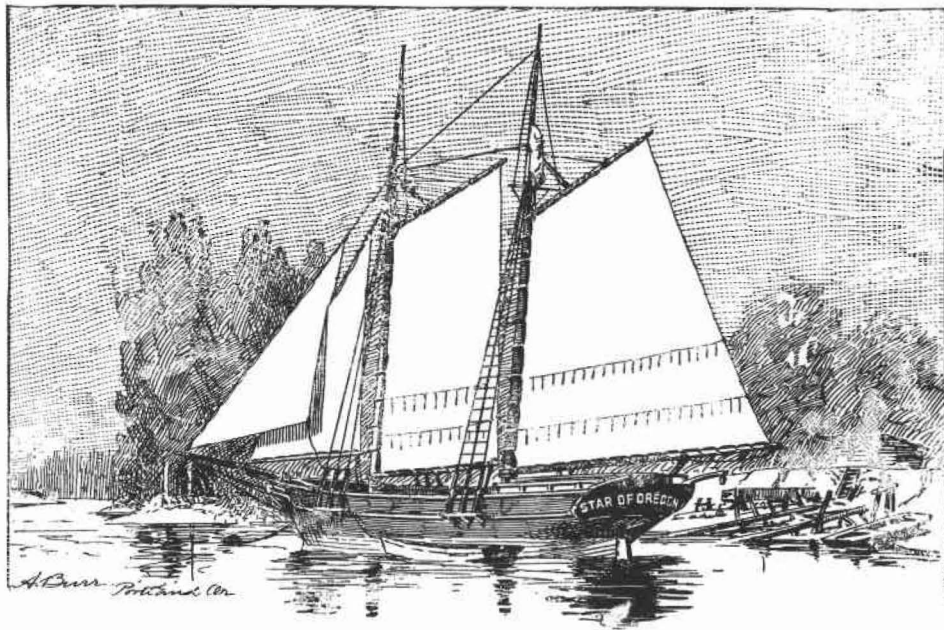
Responding to the call for recruits in the Cayuse War of 1848, Alvin Smith enlisted as a private but was not called out for active service.

From 1851 to 1855, he was postmaster of West Tualatin and his wife assistant. The postoffice was in their home and was the first one in Washington county.

Three years later, the woman who had so valiantly shared his fortunes on the frontier passed on and it was eleven years before Smith again married. He went to New England and took for his second wife, on October 19, 1869, Miss Jane Averill from his home town. Mrs. Smith came to the West with her husband and for many years participated in his interests, continuing



THE LOG CHURCH BUILT IN 1842 BY THE REVEREND HARVEY L. CLARK. USED IN 1848
BY TABITHA MOFFIT BROWN'S SCHOOL, WHICH GREW INTO PACIFIC UNIVERSITY



STAR OF OREGON

BUILT ON SWAN ISLAND IN 1840-41. AFTER ONE TRIP, IN SEPTEMBER, 1842, TO
SAN FRANCISCO, IT WAS TRADED TO A FRENCHMAN THERE FOR 350 COWS

his good works in the church and community long after his death.

Loyal to the end to the causes so dear to his heart, at his death a revenue from his farm was left to missionary causes. Mr. Smith died January 22, 1888, and is buried at Forest Grove.

2

REVEREND JOHN SMITH GRIFFIN

JOHN S. GRIFFIN was born in Castleton, Vermont, on November 23, 1807, of English parentage. His education was extensively carried on in schools and seminaries in New England and Ohio, and was finished in Oberlin. He was ordained to the ministry of the Congregational church, and the church of Litchfield county, Connecticut, supplied him with the necessary outfit to go West as an independent missionary to the Indians.

He left for St. Louis, Missouri, in February, 1839. There he met and married on April 10, 1839, Desire C. Smith, who was fired with zeal to do a similar work. Their bridal trip consisted of crossing the plains on horse back in company with another missionary couple, Mr. and Mrs. Asahel Munger, all of them arriving at Dr. Whitman's mission at Wailatpu on September 4, 1839. From there they went to Spalding's mission at Clear Water, where they spent the winter.

In the following spring, Mr. and Mrs. Griffin, with an Indian guide and several horses packed with an outfit for starting a mission, set off for the purpose of Christianizing and civilizing the Snake Indians. Their way lay across high mountains still covered with snow and the Indian guide, not liking the prospect of several hun-

dred miles of perilous travel, turned back and left them alone. Sustained by a mighty faith they pushed on, leading and driving their heavy-laden beasts, worn with toil and pinched with hunger. When the mountains had been conquered, the raging torrents in the valleys presented new hazards as they attempted to build bridges or to discover fords whereby they could cross.

After seemingly interminable suffering and dangers they reached Fort Boise, a trading post of the Hudson's Bay Company half way between Walla Walla and Fort Hall, and were received there with every courtesy. But the outlook of establishing a mission without any outside help, to sustain themselves and the mission by their own labor and toil, seemed so hopeless that the idea was abandoned, and they returned again to Dr. Whitman's mission, which was flourishing under the patronage of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

Griffin next went on to Fort Vancouver, where he was appointed by Dr. McLoughlin as chaplain, and remained for most of the winter of 1840 tutoring the children of the Fort.

In the spring he went to Tualatin Plains and settled on a farm he called "Rocky Mountain Retreat." There he organized a Congregational church in 1842, and conducted religious services for several years. His original records of marriages, baptisms, and church membership, together with other valuable documents and manuscripts from 1839 to 1848, were presented to Pacific University by his widow, Mrs. J. F. Griffin Ewing, and are in the college library.

Asahel Munger, who had crossed the plains with him, came also to the valley but in a frenzy of religious

fanaticism, expecting God to work a miracle, he fastened himself over the flames of his forge and died three days later from his burns, leaving a widow and a child.

When agitation for founding a provisional government was rife in 1843, Griffin was active throughout Tualatin Plains explaining the importance of the Champoege meeting and urging all the settlers to attend. His name was suggested as a member of the legislative committee, but his nomination was opposed on the ground that clergymen were not qualified "to enact laws adapted to a promiscuous community."

A man of strong opinions, he was outspoken in his convictions and expressed himself fearlessly at all times. He disapproved of the resolution adopted at the Champoege meeting and was convinced anarchy might follow as a result of the measures adopted. Although his fears proved groundless, his private records show that he himself presented a resolution he felt was superior and should have received more consideration. The record reads as follows:

"Record of a resolution which I attempted to substitute instead of the "great Swellings" brought forward by the committee of twelve at Champoege.

"Resolved, that the settlements of lower Oregon whose inhabitants have this day assembled to consider measures for public safety be resolved into three districts: Willamette, The Falls and Tualatin Plains, in each of which there be elected by this meeting such public officers as deemed necessary for mutual protection and safety.

"I have recorded this simple resolution that my part may be known should anarchy or other evils follow the complicated course and pompous assumptions entered

upon at this meeting. But as the resolution failed, the few simple offices I had hoped to see filled (with instructions to fall back upon the common usages in civilized world in the exercise of their simple functions) of course I had but little opportunity to plead for it.

"May, 1843.

J. S. GRIFFIN."

After the Whitman massacre, the first printing press of the West, known as the mission press and used at Lapwai, was transferred to Griffin in 1848 and later presented to the Oregon Historical Society in Portland. By its aid he edited and published for a short time a periodical called *The Oregon American and Evangelical Unionist*. A list of subscribers in the United States and foreign countries is among Griffin's records at Pacific University, and this interesting roster of pioneer subscribers—gathered among the scattered settlements with an energy worthy of a modern circulation manager—is printed in full as an appendix to this book, with all his curious spellings and the crossed-out names.

When Governor Lane provided for an election on June 6, 1849, to choose delegates to the United States Congress, Griffin received 8 votes against Judge Thornton's 470.

He died on January 5, 1899, and is buried at Hillsboro. His first wife, who shared for many years his trials and noble efforts, lies beside him and near them, her sister, the second wife of Reverend Henry Spalding.

3

REVEREND HARVEY L. CLARK

HARVEY L. CLARK was born in Vermont in 1807.

Deeply moved by a plea of the Flathead Indians who had sent East members of their tribe in 1831 begging to be taught about the white man's God, Harvey L. Clark, Alvin T. Smith and P. B. Littlejohn responded by coming to Oregon with their brides in 1840. They, like the Reverend J. S. Griffin, had no financial aid from the missionary boards but were dependent entirely upon their own resources to support themselves and build up a mission.

Motivated by this one strong desire, they were willing to face every obstacle and endure privation, but in spite of their aspirations the establishment of a mission among the Snake Indians was impossible and the little band migrated to the Willamette Valley in the autumn of 1841. They made the journey on horseback and left their effects at Fort Walla Walla to be forwarded down to Vancouver by boat. But the fort at Walla Walla took fire and all their goods and supplies were destroyed—a loss heavy and irreparable for those unaccustomed to the hardships of frontier life.

Clark, like his New England ancestors, was convinced that the foundation of all society was education and he was present at the home of Jason Lee when plans were made on January 17, 1842, to establish a school for white children and was one of a committee to select a site. He was employed as a teacher by the Methodists and taught the settlers' children in his own rude cabin near Salem.

After a few months Mr. and Mrs. Clark returned to Tualatin Plains where he and Alvin T. Smith had attempted in vain to establish an Indian mission. There together they erected a log cabin and in it on November 11, 1842, opened a little school which was the first edu-

cational institution in all this section and which by successive stages became Pacific University.

The Congregational churches at Forest Grove (then West Tualatin) and at Oregon City were, in 1844, the fruits of Clark's vision and effort. Later, in 1849, he was a teacher in the Clackamas Female Seminary at Oregon City.

Clark took part in forming the new government at Champoege, May 2, 1843, and on July 5, 1843, was chosen as one of a committee of three to draft and administer the oath of office to men elected on May 2 and to the supreme judge. This formality was carried out the same day and the new government began to function.

At the first session of the legislature, Clark was elected chaplain, but resigned after officiating for a short time.

While visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Tabitha Moffit Brown remarked that she would like to gather up all the poor little orphans in the settlement and be a mother to them. This sentiment met with warm response and Harvey Clark at once arranged for Grandma Brown to collect the little orphans and teach them in the log church, the site of which is marked by a petrified stump on the campus of Pacific University. From this beginning, the school grew into a boarding school and due to the added interest and enthusiasm "for higher learning" of an association of ministers at Oregon City, in 1848, resolutions were passed to establish an academy with the boarding school as a nucleus. This was incorporated on September 26, 1849, as Tualatin Academy.

The arrival in Oregon of Reverend George H. Atkinson brought needed aid to the cherished scheme of Har-

vey Clark, and a collegiate department was added to Tualatin Academy under the name of Pacific University.

Mr. and Mrs. Clark were indefatigable in their labors for education and for a time both of them acted as teachers. Clark was pastor of the church he founded and a trustee of Tualatin Academy and Pacific University from the time of its organization until his death. In further evidence of his untiring interest, he donated two hundred acres of his land claim, a portion to be reserved as a campus and the remainder to be sold off in city lots, thus affording revenue for the maintenance of the school.

A nature gentle as Saint John, kind and self-denying, he won the hearts of all and "blessed the country by having lived in it." Succeeding generations will evince increasing gratitude for a life so rich in noble aspirations and sacrifice in giving to the West its heritage of Christian culture.

Harvey Clark died in March, 1858, and is buried at Forest Grove.

4

WILLIAM H. GRAY

WILLIAM H. GRAY was born at Fairfield, Cayuga county, New York, September 8, 1810, the eleventh child of a Scotch Presbyterian minister, one of the sixth generation of loyal Americans.

He early mastered the trade of cabinet-maker, and afterwards studied medicine. As a young man of twenty-six years, he came west as a missionary lay worker with the Whitmans and Spaldings in 1836. For over a year he gave himself untiringly to the building up of the mis-

sions at Waiilatpu and Lapwai. At the end of that period he decided to go East and recruit the mission forces. A journal which he kept on that perilous trip recounts how the little band was beset by dangers and attacked by Indians. His Indian guides were killed, the men captured, and released only after they had been robbed of letters and of all their belongings, then thrown out to complete the journey as best they could.

Undaunted by this experience, Gray returned in 1838 with two missionaries and their wives, and a bride of his own. He had been married on February 27, 1838, at Ithaca, New York, to Mary A. Dix, a gracious woman of notable ancestry.

Gray centered his activities at the Lapwai mission, assisting Spalding. While he was there, in 1839, printing was introduced in the West by the publication of a few elementary books in the Nez Perce and Flathead languages.

Released in 1840 from obligation to the American Board of Missions under which he had been working, he engaged himself as secular agent to the Methodist Mission near Salem, Oregon, at a salary of \$400 a year. He supervised the erection of the first building on Wallace Prairie, and by November, 1843, he had expended the sum of \$3,000, to which he contributed \$50. He was elected to the board of the Oregon Institute.

He was a stern and rugged pioneer, conspicuous for the scope and variety of his services to the land of his adoption. Lyman says: "If Mr. Gray had done nothing else, his leadership in the provisional government would entitle him to the reverential regard of every son and daughter of the Northwest." He agitated the subject of forming a local government, canvassing

the community and consulting in his own house with a number of trusty men about the best means of getting the matter before the people. It was decided to call the settlers together February 2, 1843, on the pretext of devising means for the protection of cattle. At this First Wolf Meeting another meeting was arranged for March 6, 1843, which was known as the Second Wolf Meeting. Here Gray, in an eloquent and stirring address, introduced the real purpose of the gathering in a resolution that a "committee be appointed to consider taking measures for the civil and military protection of the colony." He was made a member of such a committee.

The committee met several times and drew up a report which proposed a form of provisional government and suggested a list of officers to be elected. They called a mass meeting for May 2, 1843, at Champoeg to act on these recommendations. The French and American settlers being assembled, Gray was chosen as one of three secretaries. The report of the committee, favoring a political organization, was read, but the result of a vote to accept the report was in doubt, and confusion followed. Next a motion was made and seconded by Gray for the voters to divide and be counted. When this act was finished it was found the report had been accepted by a majority vote; thereupon officers were elected and a legislative committee was chosen to draft laws for the new government, Gray being one of the members. When the committee met during May and June, Gray, with two others, prepared the rules of procedure of business and served on committees for military affairs and the division of the country into districts.

On July 5, 1843, at the first meeting of the provisional government, Gray made a forcible and convincing argu-

ment in behalf of the adoption of the report of the legislative committee for a plan of government, and influenced its acceptance. He was retained as secretary.

He presented resolutions and articles forming the basis of a volunteer organization of mounted riflemen at Champoeg, March 9, 1844, as a step in defense against Indians, becoming first sergeant in the company. This year also severed his connection with the Methodist Mission. In 1845 he was chairman of a committee "to draft a memorial to the Congress of the United States, setting forth the condition, situation, relation and wants of the country." This petition was presented to the Senate on December 8, 1845.

He was a member of the first legislature, and, in 1845, was again elected to represent Clackamas county.

From 1846 until 1855, he farmed on Clatsop Plains, living after that except for brief intervals, in Astoria. Wishing to stock his farm, he went East in 1853, and drove over the plains a large band of sheep. In a journey fraught with distressing hardships and danger, he succeeded in bringing them safely through the Cascades, and down the Columbia on a raft. When the venture seemed crowned with success and the precious cargo tied up within sight of his farm, a sudden squall tore loose and bore away the prize, and every sheep was washed overboard and drowned.

After the loss of his sheep, he built a sawmill, warehouse and wharf on the Lewis and Clark river near Astoria.

In 1858, he spent some time in the mining camps on the Frazer river, mining part of the time and building boats for use on the river. He crossed the Cascade mountains and began mining on the Okanogan. There he con-

ceived the idea of building a boat and taking supplies up to the mines at Lewiston. With his hand-built boat in 1861, he sailed down into the Columbia, took on food and various supplies, and by dint of indefatigable labor he forced the sloop up the rivers to Lewiston where he disposed of the cargo at a good profit.

In 1864, he began writing his *History of Oregon*, which was published in 1870. Though criticised as partisan and even intolerant, the history is one of the most valuable of all the original authorities.

Versatile and tireless in his efforts for his beloved Oregon, he was a pioneer in mission work, in statecraft, in business, commerce and as a historian.

As a labor of love, in his old age he sought to raise funds to erect a suitable monument to his martyred friend, Dr. Whitman, but it was only after Gray's death that the marble shaft was placed, partly as the fruit of his devotion and love.

He died on November 14, 1889, in Portland, whence his remains were taken to Astoria for burial. A quarter of a century later the bones of Mr. and Mrs. Gray were reverently removed and placed beside those of Dr. and Mrs. Whitman in the sacred spot where they began their labors for the kingdom of God — on the old mission grounds at Wailatpu, Washington.

Chapter VI

THE PEORIA PARTY

THE ORGANIZATION of the Peoria Party owed its inception to the glowing descriptions of Oregon given by Jason Lee when, in the autumn of 1838 at Peoria, Illinois, he was lecturing and raising funds for his work.

Nineteen young men started with the avowed patriotic purpose of colonizing Oregon "and taking possession of this fair territory for the American flag, and to aid in resisting the British fur-trade monopoly." They visioned a glorious future for this mysterious land and aspired to share in its unfolding. Their separate adventures tell how far they were successful.

A young lawyer from Vermont, Thomas Jefferson Farnham, was chosen captain and was at first a popular leader.

Each man was expected to furnish \$160 in money to serve for outfit and provisions; but under their brave insignia, "Oregon or the Grave," they were "ill-equipped for traversing the vast and rugged spaces lying between Illinois and the Pacific Slope."

On May 30, 1839, they left Independence, Missouri, but made a serious mistake in choosing the Santa Fe trail instead of the Oregon Trail by way of North Platte, Sweetwater and South Pass.

Farnham and others of the men have left us accounts of the trip and all agree upon the intensity of the suffering and the dissensions in the party. Their heroic spirit was somewhat broken as they endured the afflictions of the journey, and their approach to the coveted land of Oregon was not made in a body, but singly and in straggling groups. Their zeal for their country returned

in most cases and the members of the Peoria Party lived to see some of their aims carried out in their adopted country.

1

AMOS COOK

AMOS COOK was born in Washington county, Maine, on January 8, 1816. He later moved to Illinois, where after hearing a lecture by Jason Lee, he joined a company of high-spirited young men, who started from Peoria in 1839, full of ambitious plans and bearing a flag inscribed "Oregon or the Grave."

After dissensions and differences of opinion, the party separated and Amos Cook arrived at Vancouver, June, 1840, with only three of the original party. He and Francis Fletcher, who had been his close friend and companion through all the dangers of the trip, took up claims in Yamhill county, and lived and farmed together as the first settlers of that district.

Amos Cook was an enthusiastic supporter of the American party, voting with them at Champoeg on May 2, 1843, and was given the office of constable at the mass-meeting that followed on July 5.

When the Reverend George Gary came out to investigate and dissolve the Methodist Mission in 1844, Cook helped appraise the Mission property.

In 1853, he married Miss Mary Frances Scott, sister of Harvey W. Scott.

For several years he was in business at Lafayette, where he erected some important buildings. Later he returned to his farm and there he outlived most of the early settlers "as one of the earnest, unobtrusive men to whom Oregon owed much at its beginning."

He died on February 3, 1895, and is buried at Forest Grove.

2

FRANCIS FLETCHER

FRANCIS FLETCHER came from England to Canada with his family in 1825 and when he was eighteen years of age moved to the United States. Seven years later, his interest was caught by stirring accounts of the Oregon Country given by Jason Lee. Whereupon, he joined a party of other restless and adventurous young men—later known as the Peoria Party—going out to begin an American settlement. All had the fire and vigor of young manhood, although none had ever been west of St. Louis, or knew anything of the perils ahead. T. J. Farnham organized and dubbed his youths "The Oregon Dragoons," and led them forth in May, 1839.

After a few weeks, dissatisfaction with each other and with their leader disorganized the company and three dropped out and returned. The rest found new causes of discontent, and quarrels went hand in hand with dangers and misfortunes. By October their number had dwindled from sixteen to four. Some had turned back and a few had forged ahead. These four, Messrs. Fletcher, Cook, Holman and Kilbourn, were able to get along without friction, and determined to spend the winter at Brown's Hole. Here they constructed shelters, and remained in comparative comfort in the Indian settlement. Had they stayed a month longer, they would have escaped untold hardships but in February the weather turned mild and the approach of hostile savages forced them to break camp and start for Fort Hall.

This trip, which in good weather would take only ten days, due to severe storms and cold, delayed their progress two months and entailed intense suffering. It was June, 1840, before they reached Fort Vancouver. Dr. McLoughlin was almost disposed to send them home for runaway boys, but those American boys soon showed they were men. They became among the most resolute and energetic of pioneers and their names are worthily perpetuated in their descendants.

Fletcher and Cook were the staunchest of friends and took up neighboring claims in Yamhill. Later they decided one should work the claims while the other should work for wages. Hence, Fletcher in 1842 engaged his services to the "Wheatland Mission," while Cook improved their claims.

On December 2, 1843, Fletcher married Elizabeth Smith, who came with the White party in 1842. They moved at once to Fletcher's claim, where they lived until his death.

All the members of the Peoria Party seemed to have had sufficient adventures in their hazardous trip across, and were content to settle down quietly and to develop their farms and businesses.

Fletcher enlisted as a private at the call for volunteers in the Cayuse War of 1848, serving in companies E., H., I., J.; but he was not in active service.

He was elected a member of the first board of trustees of Willamette University after its charter was granted in 1853.

Born in England on March 1, 1814, he died October 7, 1871. He is buried at Dayton.

JOSEPH HOLMAN

JOSEPH HOLMAN, who was one of the famous Peoria Party, left the East in the spring of 1839. He began his career in the new country by teaching and doing other work in the Methodist Indian School, ten miles below Salem. His association in the Mission gave opportunity for the cultivation of an attachment between himself and one of the devout teachers who came out with Jason Lee on the *Lausanne*. The ship reached Vancouver the same day that Holman arrived there, June 1, 1840. He and Almira Phelps were married in 1841, and settled near Salem where he farmed until 1849.

Holman was an original member of the First Methodist church, subscribed \$100 for the founding of the Oregon Institute in 1842, and was elected to the board.

After the attack on Oregon City by the Indians on March 4, 1844, Mr. Holman was one of twenty-five men to enlist in The Oregon Rangers, organized after a meeting held at the Oregon Institute on March 23. It was deemed expedient to form a volunteer company of mounted riflemen to cooperate with other companies in bringing to justice all the Indians engaged in the affair of March 4, and to protect lives and property against depredations. The company used to drill, but was never called out for service.

From the years 1849 to 1853, Holman was a merchant in Salem. Keen and sagacious, he was one of the most active leaders in the development of the city he helped to found. He was a director in 1856-57 of the Willamette Woolen Manufacturing Company, a valuable industry which began the manufacture of wool on the Pacific

Coast with a mill at Salem. He early saw the possibilities of wool raising and was one of the first breeders of pure-bred sheep.

As early as 1854, the legislature appointed Holman a commissioner for the Eugene, Oregon City, and Portland railroad. Although the road was not built, the project indicated that Holman was alert to all needs of the country and ready to sponsor them.

Another project he promoted was the raising of flax seed and the formation of the Pioneer Oil Works, where the seed was converted into linseed oil. The first oil was made December 23, 1867, the plant being sold in 1878.

Holman built the Chemeketa Hotel and the Holman Block where the Oregon legislature held its sessions from 1860 through 1874. He was appointed one of three commissioners for the penitentiary and was also superintendent of the state capitol.

Besides his business interests, Holman retained his loyalty to the Mission, later serving on the first board of trustees of Willamette University and giving it his support.

Holman was born in Devonshire, England, on August 20, 1815, and came to America when he was nineteen years of age. After the death of his first wife, he married Miss Libbie Buss in 1875. His own death occurred on June 25, 1880. His remains rest in the I. O. O. F. cemetery at Salem, Oregon.

4

ROBERT SHORTESS

ROBERT SHORTESS, a native of Ohio, was born in 1797. He was a man of good education, and before leaving the

East, taught school or tutored. He had pushed out into western Missouri, the last outpost of civilization, when in 1839 he joined the Peoria Party for points still farther west. The disruption of the party resulted in the expulsion of Captain Farnham and others, and the election of Robert Shortess to the command of the remnant. Only eight kept together after the division of the men, and of the common stores and property. They struck out for St. Vrain's Fort in the present state of Colorado, and waited there six weeks for a convoy to Green river. In company with two trading companies they moved on to Brown's Hole where at Fort Crockett they met Joseph Meek and Robert Newell. Heavy snow fell for twenty-four hours to a depth of three feet, whereupon the emigrants decided to go into winter quarters and began building a shanty.

Shortess could not content himself with that prospect, but, finding that Newell and Meek were going on to Fort Hall to sell their furs, he determined to accompany them—a journey of 300 miles. From there the new companions were turning back to Green river, and Shortess was left alone. He was kindly treated by the representatives of the Hudson's Bay Company at the fort, but in a quandary as to whether he should proceed on his way. Finally, Mr. Ermatinger agreed to send on to Fort Vancouver by a Canadian and two Indians what furs he had and let Shortess accompany the train. Winter had now set in and storms at once began to buffet and drive to cover the little cavalcade. So terrific became the blizzards that the Indians deserted and left the two men to force a way for themselves and for fourteen horses across the desolate wastes. They traveled for days in snow from one to three feet in depth, the

animals hardly able to make their way through the drifts, and so weak from hunger and fatigue as to fall under their loads and refuse to move even under the severest blows. It must have been a weary, solitary trip for the two men who, speaking in different tongues, could not even talk over their troubles and plans. Amazing as it seems, they completed in safety the journey of 500 miles to Walla Walla.

Shortess spent the remainder of the winter at Dr. Whitman's mission at Wailatpu and alone set forth once more on March 12, 1840, for The Dalles. He fell in with an Indian chief, and they together traveled to the mission at The Dalles where Mr. Perkins provided shelter and work for the lone immigrant. From there Shortess journeyed down the Columbia in company with Dutton and Wright, who were driving Indian horses for sale in the settlements. Sliding their horses down the steep snow-covered mountains, swimming them through the swirling waters of the Columbia, and mounting the steep and rocky hills, were some of the minor thrills of the journey, the chief danger being threatened attacks by the Indians.

With Vancouver reached, hunger appeased and rest enjoyed for two days, Shortess stocked up and continued with the horse traders toward the Willamette settlements. He relates that by main force they had to throw the horses down a ten-foot embankment into the river to make a crossing, and then lost them after they swam into a dense forest just as night, and a rainy one, came on. However, the horses were gathered up in the morning and the hospitable cabin of Tibbetts and Hubbard gave a welcome to the wanderer in April, 1840.

Shortess went on up the river and worked for O'Neil

and for the Mission at the rate of a dollar a day and board.

Shortess declared that when he joined the Peoria Party he was informed by Captain Farnham "that their intention was to raise the American flag, take possession in the name of the United States, and drive out the Hudson's Bay Company."

Not forgetting his purpose in coming, Shortess therefore arrayed himself from the start as a bitter critic of the English domination in Oregon Territory. He was practically the author of a petition, written anonymously by George Abernethy and circulated in March, 1843, appealing to the United States to adopt measures against the Hudson's Bay Company, making many accusations against Dr. McLoughlin and the Company. There were 65 signatures to this memorial, but some of the men regretted ever affixing their signatures to so unfair an arraignment. Bancroft speaks of it as "an absurd document which afterward figured in the reports of Congress as the voice of the people." More of this will be included in the sketch of A. E. Wilson, who copied it.

Having obtained enough signatures, Shortess, with the connivance of Jason Lee, sent men in a forced voyage with the message up the Columbia, who overtook William C. Sutton on his way to the States, making him the emissary to Congress. William H. Gray insists in his history that Shortess suffered persecution at the hands of the Hudson's Bay Company for this agitation and suggested that "a pension should be paid to Robert Shortess and many others who dared to maintain the rights of the American people to this western coast;" adding, "Shortess has periled all and worn himself out

in struggling to save the country. The country owes much to him for his labor and influence in combatting slavery and shaping the organic policy for the settlements."

Shortess, being a reader and a scholar himself, was always interested in education, and made a contribution of \$100 to the Oregon Institute when it was founded in 1842. Among his papers was found, under date of March 23, 1843, the following: "This will certify that Robert Shortess is a proprietor of Multnomah Circulating Library and is entitled to all its rights and privileges from this day forward. W. H. Gray, Librarian, Wilamette Falls."

Shortess was first drawn into active participation in government affairs by being appointed on a committee of twelve "to consider measures for the civil and military protection of this colony" at the meeting of March 6, 1843—the Second Wolf Meeting.

At the Champoeg meeting on May 2, 1843, Shortess was elected as one of the legislative committee responsible for finding a workable medium for the government so ardently desired. He spared no effort in helping form legislation on the committee of ways and means, land claims and the judiciary, having the gratification of seeing the acts of legislation adopted at a called meeting of July 5. S. A. Clarke says in his *Pioneer Days of Oregon History*: "Robert Shortess probably had more influence on the legislation of 1843 and for moulding the destinies of the infant colony than any other man."

Shortess took up a claim at Astoria, building his home on the shore of the Columbia. His original claim began at the present eastern entrance posts to the city limits, known as Alderbrook section, and extended along the

highway and down to the shore of the river. His granddaughter and family are now living on part of the claim.

He was chosen judge for Clatsop county under the provisional government in 1845, and found his hands full in the many adjustments of cases with the Indians, often having to act as judge and jury, too.

He was appointed sub-Indian agent in 1849 and served in that capacity through the year 1854. At the request of the Department of the Interior on July 13, 1849, he conducted a census of the Indians in his territory, showing "the state, prospects and condition of the tribes." This was a prodigious undertaking.

A copy of a letter written Governor Joseph Lane on April 21, 1850, sets forth the "state of affairs" in Clatsop county. It reads:

"We are and have been for a long time past in a state of complete disorganization; there is not, to the best of my knowledge, a civil magistrate or any judicial or ministerial officer in the county; all those elected under the provisional government having resigned or left the country, and no election ordered to supply their places, the law providing for the election of county officers not being known here till long after the time specified therein for holding the election. * * * We cannot leave home without our families being exposed to insult and ill treatment from the vagabonds who are prowling about our shores. This is no imaginary danger as by experience I can testify. In fact our only protection as matters now stand is our own individual strength and resolution.

"One more evil of our disorganized state and one which calls for immediate attention is this: Several of our citizens have died within the past year or eighteen months, leaving families and also properties of which no disposition can be legally made and unless some person takes responsibility of acting without law, the property is wasted while the widow and orphan suffer want. The situation of the Indian in the vicinity is if possible even worse than that of the whites. The sale of liquor to them by the

whites has been carried on during the past winter (according to the Indians' statements) to an unprecedented extent, and great part of the money and property they possessed has been squandered. Their lands and fishing stations have been taken and they threatened with vengeance of the government if they opposed in any manner the encroachments of the settlers. They state that they have been told they might as well give up their lands for what they could get, as the soldiers would soon come and kill them or drive them off; that it was in vain for them to oppose the whites for they would have their land in defiance of them. The aged and infirm Indian and orphan child are in a state of destitution and suffering or dependent upon the bounty of a few white men, while others, and they (some of them at least) of the worst class, are speculating upon their property.

"Is there no way in which a check can be put upon the encroachments of individuals upon Indian territory? Has every white man a right to take their land where and how he pleases? * * * I have heard it intimated that the coast Indian would be removed to the Snake country. If the whites cannot wait until Death has done his work through causes now in active operation, I would suggest for their consideration whether it would not be a more philanthropic disposition as well as greater economy to collect them together and shoot them like deer in a German abattoir, rather than send them to that miserably bleak, barren region to die of famine. They would not relish eating each other, as I hear the Indians in their desperation do there. I have resided upwards of six years at the mouth of the Columbia river, and consider them a high-minded race with more honesty, generosity and gratitude than are usually found among whites when uncontrolled by law or conventionality of society. Believe me your excellency, Your humble servant, Robert Shortess."

In April, 1854, Robert Shortess was one of the victims of the most serious calamity that ever occurred in Oregon waters. The *Gazelle* was a "side-wheel boat" built by a local company for the upper Willamette, and had been in operation only a month. She was tied up at the wharf at Oregon City and had on board about fifty

passengers, when suddenly there was a terrific explosion and the ship was torn to splinters and the passengers blown like chips in all directions into the water. Twenty-two were killed outright, and many others injured, to die later. A more frightful tragedy could not be imagined. The whole community was plunged into mourning; the memory of the suffering and death of loved ones for years haunted the survivors like a nightmare. Shortess escaped with minor injuries, but it was an experience that saddened the rest of his life.

Mr. Shortess had for a wife a beautiful Indian girl given him by a Nez Perce chief for services to the tribe. They had one daughter whom Mr. Shortess took pride in educating. A printed bill among his papers shows Adelaide attended "The Young Ladies Boarding and Day School, conducted by the Sisters of Notre Dame, Oregon City," and that she studied, besides the rudiments, "piano, voice and painting." She lived with her father part of the time, and he taught her French and German and cultivated in her a taste for reading and study.

Shortess was elected first school clerk of District 4, Astoria, on August 16, 1858.

After he returned from the East the last time, he sold, on June 21, 1870, most of his property, reserving three acres for himself. He never built there, however; instead, he went to live with his daughter, then married and living in John Day hamlet, fifteen miles up the John Day river from Astoria, two miles below the present city water system. Here he spent his last years, and died in 1878. His body was brought down in a row boat around Tongue Point and buried in the Astoria cemetery.

5

SIDNEY SMITH

SIDNEY SMITH was born in Amsterdam, New York, October 2, 1809. He was the son of Captain John S. Smith, who served in the Vermont Dragoons in the War of 1812, and was the grand-nephew of Ethan Allen.

Toiling in the salt works of Syracuse, New York, he developed the strength and endurance which served him in good stead as a pioneer.

In 1833, Smith went to Ohio, and from there in May, 1839, he joined a company of young men—known as the Peoria Party—bound for Oregon under the leadership of Thomas J. Farnham.

Ignorant of travel and of the difficulties of the way, they pooled their resources, and, thrilled with the great adventure, set forth as a band of brothers. Difference of opinion, training and temperament soon brought about dissensions, which increased daily as the hardships multiplied.

In the midst of a heated argument in the tent, Smith tried to jerk out his rifle from the pack, but the trigger caught and discharged into his side a bullet which penetrated to the back and fractured several ribs. Smith rushed out of the tent, believing the shot had come from outside. Only after seeing his own smoking rifle, was he convinced of the facts.

A messenger was dispatched to a Santa Fe wagon train eight miles ahead, who brought back a Dr. Walworth. He dressed the wound and furnished a light wagon for the invalid.

Not daring to fall far behind the advance caravan,

they kept toiling on under the burning sun, soaked at night by heavy storms accompanied by terrific winds and thunder. The doctor and an old Indian chief kept the wound dressed, but the suffering was excruciating.

Some of the party had deserted, and at the crossing of the Arkansas river the bitterness had reached the stage of mutiny. The leader was deposed and Shortess was given command of the remnant.

Here the Santa Fe train was striking south, and the borrowed wagon had to be returned. Some of the group requested that the train take over Smith with the wagon, but this responsibility they refused to assume. Three of the Peoria Party left with the Santa Fe caravan for New Mexico, and one recruit was gained from their ranks, a Mr. Blair.

A whole day was consumed in trying to make a proper litter for the wounded man, but the effort being unsuccessful, Smith was obliged to ride on "the gentlest mule" obtainable.

A stay of a week was made at Bent's Fort, where Messrs. Farnham, Smith and two others procured a guide and proceeded by themselves. These two dropped out later; hence, Smith and Farnham were the first of the original company to reach their destination. They parted on most unfriendly terms at Walla Walla.

Farnham, on his return East, published a voluminous account of his travels and observations.

Smith kept a journal which was presented by his son, John U. Smith, to Pacific University. Although difficult to decipher, it states that they went without water for over twenty-four hours, eked out a ration of dog meat and roots bought of the Indians, and endured innumerable privations and intense physical suffering.

Finally, on September 3, Smith reached The Dalles as a guest of Reverend Perkins. His diary reads under that date as follows:

"Camped in the Reverend Mr. Perkins' House. Was received in a very friendly manner. He has a very amiable lady for a wife. I assure you it was very pleasing to me once more to be allowed the privilege of beholding the countenance of a civilized female after being absent from that society for four months. No one but those that have experienced this privilege can comprehend my idea of the contrast that is displayed, the cheerfulness and sociability that is felt, together with the open, frank, hospitable kindness that is spread around in their immediate vicinity."

His journal states as follows on October 1 and 2, 1839: "We finished raising the first frame house that I have seen in Oregon Territory; good size, 20x30 feet; one and half stories high. The party consists of five white, the balance Indians of the Chinook tribe."

The journal continues: "October 11, Friday. This day started once more to finish my journey to the Promised Land through the Valley of the Shadow of Death. October 19, spent the Sabbath at the cabin of T. J. Hubbard."

Smith reached his Promised Land half clad and half starved; worked at Oregon City in water up to his waist; and later found his way to the Methodist Mission. An item in the journal says that he worked for O'Neil for forty-eight days at a dollar a day, for which he received in payment a cow and a calf.

He left the Mission in 1839 and made his home with Ewing Young for two years.

In February, 1841, Young became ill, and died. The

question then arose, there being no heirs, what was to be done with the estate.

At the funeral, February 17, a large number of the settlers gathered and held a meeting to consider the formation of laws and the election of officers for the preservation of peace and good order. The meeting adjourned until the next day at the Methodist Mission.

On February 18, 1841, the first steps were taken to form a primary government. Smith was elected as one of two secretaries. Although the attempt fell through, a judge was appointed with probate powers and the estate recorded and administered.

Smith then purchased the possessory right to all the land claimed by Ewing Young, comprising the whole of Chehalem valley, and all of his unbranded cattle, for a sum between two hundred and three hundred dollars.

When the provisional government was founded at Champoeg, May 2, 1843, Smith was elected as one of three captains.

In the fall of 1845, a Mr. Bailey and his family, having just crossed the plains, came to stay with Smith until they could settle on an adjacent claim. On August 2 of the following year Smith was married to Miss Mianda Bailey, one of the daughters.

In the gold rush he went to California, leaving his wife and one child. He was forced home by an attack of scurvy, but brought three thousand dollars in gold dust with him.

During the Civil War, he took a firm stand on the Democratic side and announced his convictions in season and out of season in no uncertain terms, undaunted by the overwhelming majority against him.

Smith became one of the merchants at Lafayette,

which in 1852 was an important center of political and commercial activity. He became eventually a wealthy man, and gave his children opportunity for the best education available at that time.

His death occurred September 18, 1880, and he was buried in the Masonic cemetery at Lafayette.

6

ROBERT MOORE

ROBERT MOORE was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, on October 2, 1781, moving later to Mercer county. He married Margaret Clark, and they were the parents of ten children.

He served with the Pennsylvania militia in the War of 1812, attaining the rank of major. After the war service he went in 1822 to Missouri. He became a member of the legislature of that state in 1830. Thus he gained an insight and experience in legal and political matters that proved of inestimable value in forming the provisional government. It was in Missouri that he became a good friend of Dr. Lewis Linn, his family physician, who later in the United States Senate labored so persistently with Thomas H. Benton in behalf of Oregon.

After his term of office expired in Missouri, Major Moore moved on to Illinois. At Peoria he operated a ferry and met many immigrants going West. He interested a number of them from Vermont in founding a town in Illinois, which was called Oscola. This he laid out and helped promote until May 2, 1839, when he sold out his interest. The boom failed to meet the expecta-

tions of its founders, but it gave Major Moore experience in frontier development.

That same spring Moore linked his fortunes with the Peoria Party, which was bound for Oregon. Their journey is narrated in the life of Sydney Smith and others. It was only on their arrival in the Willamette Valley in 1840 that their miseries and misfortunes ended.

Moore had been a resident of Oregon only a year, when, after the death of Ewing Young, the need arose of settling his estate, whereupon the people called a meeting on February 18, 1841. Major Moore was the only one with any practical knowledge of legislation and he was one of a committee of nine elected to draft a constitution and code of laws for this little outpost. This was the first effort to form a government, but meeting formidable opposition in some quarters, and the committee being advised by Commodore Wilkes to drop the matter, it fell through notwithstanding the obstacles. At this time Moore was elected constable.

Oregon archives indicate that the next step in forming a government was at a meeting held on February 2, 1843, at the Oregon Institute to consider measures for the protection of domestic cattle. A committee of six was appointed to notify the citizens of a general meeting to be held the first Monday in March at the home of Joseph Gervais, as has been described in the life of Le Breton.

The Second Wolf Meeting led up to the famous Champoeg meeting. Here Moore was elected one of the legislative committee of nine to try again to draw up a code of laws. This proved entirely successful and the committee began their meetings on May 10. Moore was the eldest member of the committee, and at their meeting on May 16 he was elected chairman. While presiding

over the deliberations, Moore is described by Gray as "An old gray-headed man with fair complexion, bald head, light of eye, full of face, frequent spasmodic nodding forward of head, large amount of self importance, not very large intellectual development, with superabundance of flesh.

The document which they drew up will live forever in American history, and has well been called the *Magna Carta* of the Northwest. It embodies the organic laws and articles of compact and was presented to the people at a mass meeting at Champoege July 5, by the chairman, Robert Moore. Read by the secretary, it was ratified and adopted article by article. Moore was on that day chosen justice of the peace to fill the place of Hugh Burns, who had resigned.

Moore, unlike most settlers who simply took what land they wanted, purchased and received a deed to his land from an Indian chief. This transaction probably had no legal value, but was an indication of Moore's methods. The land he acquired was on a hillside by the river, directly opposite Oregon City, and was called Robin's Nest. Later, by act of legislature, on December 22, 1845, it was changed to Linn City, in honor of Senator Linn. In December, 1844, Linn City consisted of two log buildings and many tents, wherein immigrants made their quarters. Palmer states in his journal that later there were 15 buildings, "Inhabited mostly by Mechanics." By a legislative act on June 26, 1844, Moore was authorized to operate a ferry between Robin's Nest and Oregon City.

In an article published in the *Quarterly* of the Washington Historical Society by J. Orin Oliphant it is stated that Moore "built warehouses above and below the falls;

that he constructed a breakwater at the falls so ships could unload and cargoes be transferred to the lower warehouse and there loaded into boats again; that he had two steamers above the falls; and that Linn City was threatening the supremacy of Oregon City."

Moore did propose that Linn City be declared the seat of government. A road was improved from there to Portland in 1854 by public donation of funds at a cost of \$1146.

Wilkes stated in his published report of the country that "old Mr. Moore communicated to me in confidence that he intended to erect furnaces for smelting iron, etc. Although I saw the old man some time afterward and told him of his mistake (in believing iron was abundant on his land), he would not believe he had been in error."

Besides his smelting, he intended to develop the water power, and he put an advertisement in *The Spectator*, June 19, 1851, offering inducements to prospective buyers of water power.

His steamers and wharves were destroyed, and he believed it was at the instigation of his rivals across the river. The flood of 1853 was the death knell of his ambitions of city-building, and after his death the flood of 1861 completed the ruin. *The Oregon Argus* of December 14, 1861, states, "Linn City has only two houses and a warehouse at the works remaining."

Mrs. Moore had died on October 7, 1848, in St. Louis. *The Spectator* of December 23, 1851, carries the following: "Married at Portland 18th inst. by Reverend J. H. Wilbur, Mr. Robert Moore, proprietor of Linn City, and Mrs. Jane Apperson of Portland."

Moore was spoken of as a dour Scotchman, irascible,

opinionated and eccentric. He represented Tualatin county in the convention held at Oregon City in November, 1846. Records show he spoke there with eloquence and conviction against the thinly-veiled attempt to confiscate lands of Dr. McLoughlin. On September 19, 1850, he joined with others in signing a memorial to Congress protesting against this effort to deprive the British of their just claims. The same year he became owner of *The Spectator* and press, the pioneer newspaper of Oregon City. The following year he gave the paper to his daughter, Jean Painter, and she in turn made it over to her daughter on her marriage to David Schnebly. *The Spectator* was permanently suspended in 1855.

A little note of interest during his ownership of *The Spectator* comes to light in the minutes of Pacific University and Tualatin Academy, dated January 10, 1851: "The trustees extend thanks to Robert Moore for his generous offer to do the printing of the board without cost."

The article in *The Washington Historical Quarterly* is authority for the following example of Major Moore's obstinacy: "When the church with which he was affiliated in Oregon City changed from 'The Presbyterian Church of Willamette Falls' to the Congregational church, Major Moore withdrew, organized a Presbyterian church in his own house and employed a minister to preach to him each Sunday." The minister was Wilson Blain, who also for a time edited *The Spectator*.

Robert Moore died on September 2, 1857, and in *The Oregon Argus* of September 12, the death notice ends with these words: "The mandates of heaven were submissively bowed to and not without hope of a blissful immortality." His grave cannot be located.

Chapter VIII

THE MOUNTAIN MEN

NO CLASS of men packed so much adventure into their lives as did the trappers and hunters of the fur companies. They were recruited from the ranks of hardy young fellows who liked the spice of danger mingled with life's routine. Off to unknown regions they went, and signed up, often for a period of years, to hunt and trap in the vast wilderness of an almost unexplored country, sometimes alone for weeks or months in the mountains or hunting in small groups.

Then came the grand rendezvous where all congregated with their beaver skins for trade—the Indians with their winter's catch, and the traders to barter and exchange for money, clothing, blankets or even for a few trinkets, the furs representing a season's toil. These picturesque and colorful gatherings were looked forward to as the grand climax of the year's work. There reunions of old comrades took place; tales of thrilling adventure were recounted around the camp fire; and games, merriment, and hilarity broke the long spell of isolation. The gorgeous trappings of the Indians and their women lent a note of color. The trappers would vie with the Indians in decking out their Indian wives, their horses, and themselves in gaudy and expensive dress, expending all their earnings in lavish sartorial prodigality. These merry days would last for about a month and would be the occasion in some cases for debauchery and drunkenness of the lowest type—a protracted spree.

After this, the traders would leave with their riches

in fur and hides, and the companies would send out their men once more on their several ways. And dangerous ways they were amid the dizzy and slippery heights where a misstep would plunge one to death; where the rush of foaming waters might at any moment sweep away one's life; where lurked the menace of the grizzly bear and the arrow and tomahawk of an unseen foe. Death claimed many victims also by freezing, cold and famine. A Mountain Man understood that he took his life in his hand, and that on himself alone, on his personal courage, on his valor and prudence depended his existence. Many a man went out never to return, lost, slain, or overtaken by some misfortune. Notwithstanding, his comrades must not brood on these things, but must ignore painful episodes lest they lose their nerve in the dangers surrounding them. "Keep up your heart today, for tomorrow you may die," was the motto of the trapper.

It was not unusual for a man to lose all his traps by having them washed away by the floods or stolen by the Indians, or for the skins which he had so painfully collected to be likewise lost, or even for his horses with all his equipment to be stolen.

So the Mountain Men became fearless, resourceful and expert in surmounting difficulties. Francis Fuller Victor says: "Their training fitted them to become a valuable and indispensable element in the society of that country in whose peculiar history they played an important part. We witness their gradual transformation from lawless rangers of the wilderness to law-abiding, even law-making and law-executing citizens of an isolated territory."

Most of them had married Indian women by the na-

tive rites, and remained sincere and faithful in their attachment to them and to their children. The winter camps were a relaxation and a season of enjoyment and plenty. Lodges or tents of skins were erected and four trappers with two camp-tenders were allotted to each lodge. The hunters would go out on short foraging trips, while the camp-keepers would dry the meat and perform camp duties. There was time for making moccasins, cleaning arms and traps, playing games, wrestling and racing. The Indians would camp nearby and lend a fantastic touch to the motley assemblage.

On the other hand, there would be opportunity for reading and study, and discussion among the better educated with travelers and immigrants who often stopped over. In the camp were always numbers of good books, and more than one young Mountain Man learned to read, with the Bible and Shakespeare as textbooks, by the campfire.

When the game and beaver were exhausted, the camp was moved on with their long train of horses and mules. The skins of the lodges, well smoked and seasoned, were cut up into moccasins, or used as a carryall for luggage. At the rivers they were shirred up like a ball and floated full of goods over the waters. Another method of crossing rivers was to stretch buffalo hides stitched together over light frames, to caulk the seams with ashes and tallow and to use them for boats, known as bull boats.

The Mountain Man, because he was inured to hardships, seldom complained. If he was miserable, he was laughed at, and consequently soon learned to laugh at his own miseries and those of his companions. Life could not be taken too seriously.

The American and Rocky Mountain Fur companies were bitter rivals, fighting for their rights to trap on the streams and rivers in the mountains. Eventually they made a treaty and parcelled out the territory, pledging the American Company to keep in and about the Rocky Mountains. The Hudson's Bay Company excluded them from the country west of the Blue Mountains, and in between was contested ground. In 1835 the two American fur companies united under the name of the American Fur Company. Even that combination, however, could not endure against the strong British competition and other odds, and thus it dwindled away.

It was during this period of waning success that some of the trappers with whom we have to deal resolved to give up this losing game and to push on toward new fields of conquest in the far West.

1

WILLIAM M. DOUGHTY

WILLIAM DOUGHTY was born in Tennessee in 1812, going later to Missouri. He spent his early manhood as trapper in the Rocky Mountains. "The Rocky Mountain men who were prominent in the early government were," says Frances F. Victor, "a God-fearing class, * * * good fellows, brave and generous, and sincerely attached to their families."

From the Rocky Mountains, Doughty brought his native wife and family in 1841 and settled in West Chehalem at the foot of Chehalem Mountain.

Among the marriage records of the Reverend J. S. Griffin appears the following item:

"Married by J. S. Griffin, at the house of William

Doughty, before the congregation assembled in divine service, October 23, 1842, Mr. William Doughty of the state of Missouri, to Miss Pigeon Shoshone of Green River Valley, Rocky Mountains."

During the Wolf Meeting the first Monday in March, 1843, Doughty was voted a member of the standing committee of eight to attend to the protection of animals and arrange for all claims and bounties.

At the public meeting at Champoeg, May 2, 1843, he was elected as one of nine on a Legislative Committee—the first law-making body in the Oregon Country.

On May 16, 1843, during the first convening of the Legislative Committee, Doughty was appointed to the following important committees: (a) One of three on a Committee of Ways and Means. This committee devised a method of defraying expenses of the government by subscription and voluntary contribution, every member of committee subscribing to the full amount of his own per diem pay. (b) One of a committee of three on private land claims. (c) One of a committee of three to district the whole Oregon Territory.

On July 5, 1843, the report of the Legislative Committee formulating a body of laws, was accepted. "Its measures," says Lyman, "were on the whole so wise as to be a model for public acts and to forever silence the criticism that the people cannot legislate."

The service he rendered the country was of great value and importance, and a conspicuous factor in giving Oregon its heritage of civil government. He passed on, May 1872, and is buried at Gaston.

2

JOSEPH L. MEEK

JOSEPH L. MEEK was born in Washington county, Virginia, in 1810. At the age of eighteen he went westward to Louisville and St. Louis and set out in March, 1829, as a member of Sublette's hunting party. For many years he led the life of a hunter and a trapper in the Rocky Mountains.

On August 5, 1840, under the direction of Dr. Newell, Joseph Meek drove the first wagon, which had been left at Fort Hall by the missionaries Harvey Clark and P. B. Littlejohn, to Dr. Whitman's mission in Walla Walla valley, thus opening the way for a permanent wagon road to the western settlements.

From there Meek came on to Tualatin Plains with his native wife and children and settled.

A leader among the mountain men, Joseph Meek was at once the most picturesque and outstanding character. Among the stories told about him is that of the Cham-poeg meeting. Here, it is related, the vote as to forming a provisional government was uncertain and when confusion reigned, Meek called out in a clarion voice, "Who is for the divide? All those favoring the report of the committee follow me." Instantly they lined up, to be counted, the ayes on one side, the noes on the other, and thus a majority was found in favor of organizing.

At this meeting, May 2, 1843, he was elected sheriff. On May 14, 1844, he was again chosen for the office and also at the first annual election on June 3, 1845.

In pursuance of an act of the legislature, he took a census of the population, not including the immigration of 1845. His figures give a total of 2,110, representing

principally the Willamette Valley settlement. In June, 1846, he was elected to the legislature and again the following year.

Meek, although brave, was characterized by a reckless gaiety that led him into many a wild tale, and the more he could shock people the better he liked it. The first camp meeting was held by the missionaries near Hillsboro on July 12, 1843, and Joseph Meek was sure to be found where there was anything exciting or novel transpiring. Carried away by emotional frenzy, sixteen "turned to the Lord," including the hard-bitten mountaineer. Great was the rejoicing over the conversion of this lost sheep; but we fear the reclamation was of short duration.

When Lieutenant Peel and Captain Park were investigating for the British Crown in 1845, Joe Meek aroused their amusement by his boastful talk and stories. Mrs. Victor relates that one of the men said: "Mr. Meek, if you have been so long in the country and have witnessed such wonderful transformations, doubtless you have observed equally great ones in nature; in the rivers and mountains, for instance?"

"I reckon I have," replied Meek. Then waving his hand toward majestic Mt. Hood, towering thousands of feet above the summit of the Cascade range, and white with everlasting snows, he said: "When I came to this country, Mt. Hood was a hole in the ground."

In December, 1847, horror gripped the little colony with news of the Whitman massacre, in which Dr. and Mrs. Whitman and twelve others had been slain at their mission and sixty-two held in captivity by the savages. Terror stricken in the fear that they might be sur-

rounded and engulfed in a general uprising of the Indians, what could the helpless handful of settlers do, with no army, no money, no power of government behind them?

A call went out for volunteers who would furnish their own horses, clothing and equipment. Then a plea for help in the matter of obtaining food, ammunition, and funds was sent to the Hudson's Bay Company at Fort Vancouver and to the merchants and settlers, with the expectation that such advances would be considered as loans by the United States Government and later be repaid.

The provisional government voted to send Jesse Applegate to Governor Mason of California, through him to implore the commander of the United States squadron in the Pacific, to send into the Columbia river a vessel of war and lend, from the nearest arsenal, arms and ammunition for the present emergency. Applegate made a heroic effort but was unable to force a way through the snow in the mountains and thus failed to reach this source of help.

The legislature voted also to send a messenger to Washington telling of the dire straits and imminent peril of the United States subjects in the wilderness of the West. Appointed for this task with an appropriation of \$1000 for expenses was the intrepid Joe Meek, then a member of the legislature.

Joseph Meek resigned his seat in the House and began preparations for the hazardous mission. He induced George Ebberts, a neighbor, who had in former years shared with him the dangers of a trapper's life and would be of inestimable help, to accompany him. Seven other men joined the party and they set forth from

Portland for The Dalles on January 4, 1848. There they found Major Lee with the first regiment of mounted riflemen, and, tales being rife of the hostility of the Indians beyond the Des Chutes river, it seemed advisable to await the arrival of the remainder of the army before proceeding.

It was the middle of January before five hundred men under Colonel Gilliam reached The Dalles, and then a start was made for the seat of war. Meanwhile, Peter Skene Ogden of the Hudson's Bay Company had ransomed the women and children held in captivity and had delivered them at Oregon City, on January 10th. Their tales of barbarity and cruelty inflamed the troops to the point of frenzy, and great was the resentment that the army should be accompanied by three peace commissioners, who must treat with the Indians before the troops were allowed to attack.

What with the cold and snow and lack of everything needed to wage a campaign, with insufficient clothing and food, the army endured unimaginable suffering.

With this slow-moving, complaining force journeyed Meek, the emissary to Washington, who shared in an encounter with six hundred Indians at Well's Spring.

When the forces reached Waiilatpu they found the bodies of the slain had been dug from the shallow graves by the wolves and it was their task to gather up the bones of the martyrs and tenderly give them fitting burial. Among these were the remains of Joseph Meek's little girl, Helen Mar, a pupil in the Mission school, who, taken prisoner while sick abed, had died in captivity.

After these sorrowful rites, Meek and the little company consisting of seven men, were given a hundred riflemen as escorts to the foot of the Blue Mountains

and there left to make their perilous way east. Four of Meek's companions gave up and dropped out at Fort Boise and the other three continued on snow-shoes, facing death in a hundred forms, escaping by a narrow margin the onslaughts of cold, hunger, and hostile savages. (Meek owed his preservation in part to the use of the red belt and Canadian cap worn by the employes of the Hudson's Bay Company.)

Finally, after battling for two months with every known danger, they emerged in the spring at St. Louis, ragged, worn but triumphant, having made the quickest trip across the continent on record. Unembarrassed by his shabby, soiled, backwoods dress, he announced himself as "The envoy extraordinary and minister Plenipotentiary from the Republic of Oregon to the Court of the United States." Nothing was too serious to be treated as a joke by Meek and he always commanded the center of the stage. He attracted crowds and great publicity and continued in exuberant spirits on to Washington.

There, in his same ragged garments, he sought an interview with President Polk, was cordially received and became a guest within the portals of the White House. He did consent, however, to be groomed in the habiliments of civilization and with his vital, outstanding personality, he became the lion of the hour. His high spirits, his tales of adventure and handsome appearance won him popularity with the men and women of the capitol.

Before this trouble with the Indians developed, Judge Thornton had been appointed by the provisional government as a delegate to take to the United States Congress a petition for the entrance of the Oregon Country

into the Union. But, going by ship, he had been delayed and reached Washington only a few weeks before Meek. He was accorded the courtesy of sitting in at the sessions of the House as a consulting member or referee.

The delay in accepting Oregon as a territory was due to some of the southern senators refusing to accept the bill without an amendment allowing slavery, which Oregon had prohibited.

With Meek's startling news of the Whitman massacre and the Cayuse War, a new impetus was given the consideration of the bill, and he kept the ear of the President and legislators, mingling freely with them.

On May 31, 1848, Senator Benton of Missouri delivered a speech urging immediate action and never relaxed his efforts until Oregon became a territory. But discussion continued, and all summer the quarrel, waged over the land grant law and the slavery question, continued until the Oregon representatives were nearly desperate over the blocking of the measure.

Finally, after an all-night session, the bill was passed in the early hours of the morning of April 13, 1848, whereby Oregon became a territory. That was the day of adjournment, and there was no time to thresh out the moot question of how much land to allow each settler. So the land grant law was not passed until it was amended and re-amended and passed December, 1850.

Meek was appointed by the President as United States Marshal of Oregon and given a commission to deliver, in the shortest possible time, to General Joseph Lane of Indiana, making known to him his appointment as Governor, with instructions to see that the territorial government was organized during Polk's administration. Congress had appropriated \$10,000 for services and ex-

penses of such persons as the provisional government of Oregon had engaged to carry communications to and from the United States and for the purchase of presents as a reward to the peaceable Indians. Thornton received \$2600 of this, Meek \$7400, and the Indians nothing.

Relinquishing the role of pampered favorite, on August 20, 1848, after Meek's papers were signed by President Polk, he was off on his high commission. General Lane accepted the appointment and was ready in an incredibly short time to start for the new field with his marshal.

At St. Louis they were met by the Governor's son, Nathaniel Lane, and Lieutenant Hawkins, who was appointed in command of an escort of twenty-five riflemen, with Dr. Hayden as surgeon of the company.

Meek was a practical joker and acknowledged himself an incorrigible spendthrift. He told of champagne parties and other expensive treats he had given his friends and related the following incident: At St. Louis a peddler was vending his wares, and Nat Lane wished to buy one of the knives but refused to pay the price. Meek quietly bought up the whole lot of about two dozen knives and chuckled over Nat's disappointment at the loss of the coveted knife. He purchased also, against the protestations of the Governor, three bolts of silk at \$1.50 a yard and laughed at all preachments of economy, saying he wanted them for his wife.

By September 10th the new government of Oregon was really on its way; with Lane and Meek, officers, men and teamsters,—a company of about fifty-five. There were ten wagons and an extra supply of riding horses for each man.

The route, planned to avoid the northern snows, was

by way of Leavenworth to Santa Fe, thence down the Rio Grande to near El Paso, thence northwesterly by Tuscon, Arizona; from there to the Pimas village on the Gila river; following the Gila to the junction with the Colorado, and northwesterly again to the Bay of San Pedro in California; thence to proceed by ship to San Francisco, and from there up the coast and into the Columbia.

Meeting on the Santa Fe trail the United States army returning from Mexico under Price, they found wagons could not be used beyond Santa Fe. Their difficulties began with the cold, piercing winds blowing over the vast reaches of open country and the lack of subsistence for the animals in the areas swept bare by the army. Consequently, the wagons were abandoned, the train overhauled, and the loads packed on mules.

At Tuscon the dry and dusty region was too much for two of the riflemen who deserted. A company of Mexican packers joined the train at this point, and the guide and another rifleman were dispatched to capture the deserters, but they sacrificed their lives in the attempt, and the fugitives escaped.

Drought became a serious menace and grew steadily worse. Through the arid wastes the mules starved and fell by the way, almost the whole number perishing. From the Colorado on, the company became thoroughly demoralized, and the soldiers persisted in deserting. It was not the drought alone that caused this, but the exciting rumors all along the trail of the discovery of gold, and that gold and silver mines held out high hopes of better pay.

The question must have arisen if the office of Governor at \$1500 and Indian agent at \$1500 more was worth

all this 3000 miles of torture. Beyond Cook's Wells they came upon 100 wagons abandoned by Major Graham.

It became necessary for the men now to proceed on foot, as there were scarcely enough animals left to transport the baggage. The suffering from thirst became an increasing horror. So great was their extremity at one time that the stomach of a mule was opened to get at moisture to quench their thirst.

However, the hardships were survived, and about the middle of January, 1849, the Oregon government which started out so gaily from Fort Leavenworth arrived, weary, dusty, footsore, famished and suffering, at Williams Ranch on the Santa Ana river. Here they were graciously received and ministered to.

When Meek revived, he developed a talent for speculation and, after insistent demands, parted reluctantly with his knives and silk purchased in St. Louis, for a neat profit of \$500. Lane laughed and exclaimed: "Well, Meek, you were drunk when you bought those goods and drunk when you sold them; but drunk or sober, I will own you can beat me at a bargain." Such bargains were not, however, astonishing but quite usual at this time, memorable in history as the gold rush, when the commonest things were worth their weight in gold.

Once more comfortably mounted, the party proceeded to Los Angeles. Here was Major Graham's command whose wagons had been abandoned on the Colorado river. The town was crowded with miners of the roughest class.

At San Pedro they set sail with a crowd of fugitives from Mexico. On arriving at San Francisco they encountered 200 Oregonians who had joined the mad rush of the previous fall and had left their farms and families

in the frantic quest for gold. These were now returning home, some with shattered health and a few with small fortunes.

So wonderful were the tales that young Lane became infected with the gold fever and decided to try his luck. Meek also wished to have a part in the venture, and he, therefore, outfitted two or three of the teamsters who had remained with the party thus far, with the understanding that he was to share in their profits. All his profits, however, consisted in a few jars of dust sent him by Nat Lane, which no more than covered expenses.

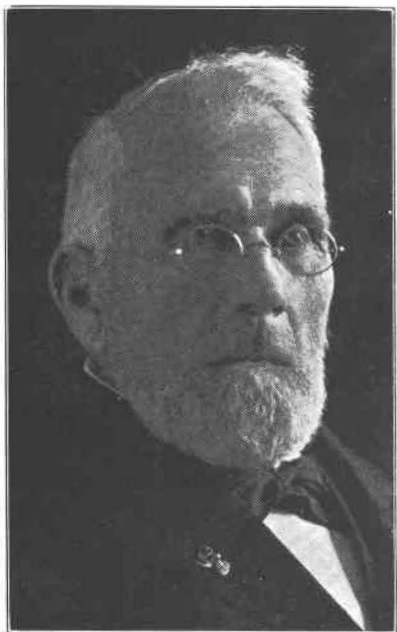
At the start the party had numbered 55. Now it had dwindled to seven—Lane, Meek, Hawkins, Hayden, and three soldiers.

After 18 days of tedious sailing, the ship *Jeanette*, packed with miners, reached the Columbia river. From Astoria they were conveyed in small boats to Oregon City, arriving there March 2, 1849.

Of President Polk's administration only one day remained in which to establish the territorial government as he had directed.

The new Governor issued a proclamation declaring that he had entered into his duties and that the laws of the United States were extended over the territory, March 3, 1849. Thus the provisional government came to an end, and a new era began.

After intermittent fighting with the Indians and threats of severe punishment at the hands of the United States, they were induced to give up five chiefs as hostages for the 200 implicated in the massacre. These were delivered to Governor Lane in the early summer of 1850 and brought down to Oregon City. They were proud and haughty and not all were guilty. Although they might



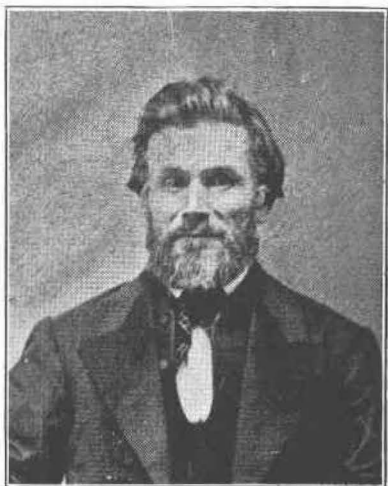
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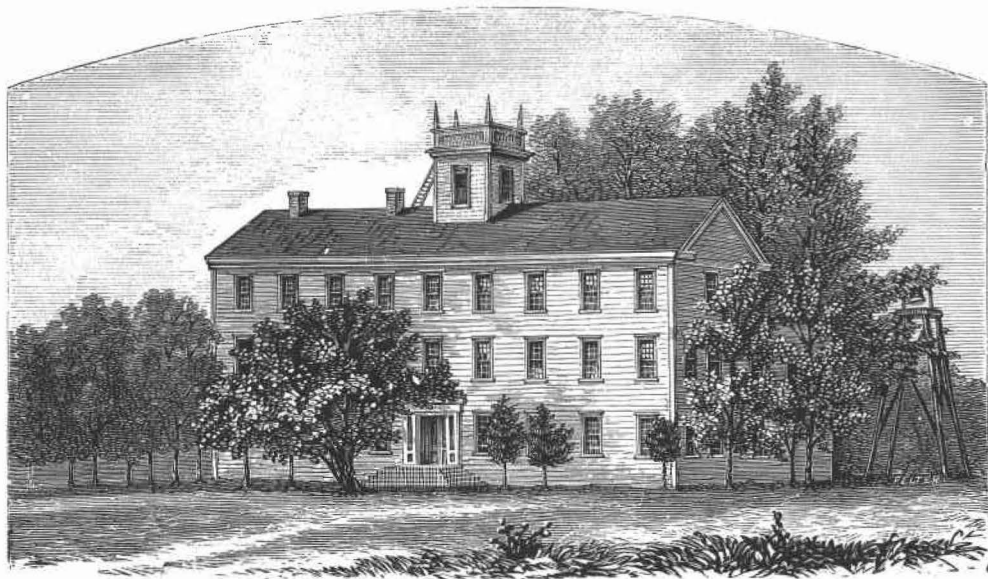
ALVIN T. SMITH



THOMAS J. HUBBARD



FRANCIS FLETCHER



OREGON INSTITUTE, "FOR MANY YEARS THE MOST IMPOSING BUILDING IN THE OREGON COUNTRY." IT WAS BUILT AT A COST OF \$10,000 AS AN INDIAN SCHOOL, BUT, FROM WANT OF PATRONAGE, WAS ABANDONED IN 1844 AND SOLD FOR \$4000 TO THE OREGON INSTITUTE, WHICH IN 1853 BECAME, BY CHARTER FROM THE TERRITORIAL LEGISLATURE, "WALAMET UNIVERSITY"

have escaped, they preferred to meet death rather than bring suffering and war upon their entire people.

A trial was held, the prisoners found guilty, and, notwithstanding the protests of many who felt the Indians should be reprieved, they were hung by Marshal Meek on June 3, 1850. Thus terminated the Cayuse War, a tragic chapter in the history of Oregon.

The office of marshal was retained by Meek under Governor Gaines, who followed Governor Lane in office in 1850.

His long service to his country not yet complete, Joseph Meek enlisted for the Yakima War in the first regiment of mounted volunteers on October 13, 1855.

At one time Meek gave a narrative of some of his experiences in a lecture entitled "From Wigwam to Whitehouse."

His death occurred on June 20, 1875. He is buried in the Scotch Presbyterian cemetery, north of Hillsboro.

3

JOSEPH GALE

JOSEPH GALE was born near Washington, D. C., in 1800. He followed the sea in his younger days and then became a trapper in the Rocky Mountains. He came into Oregon in company with other men under the leadership of Ewing Young and Kelley in 1834. Frances F. Victor narrates a thrilling encounter with Indians when he was trapping under Wyeth the same year. His little camp of men was nearly destitute of traps, blankets, knives, ammunition and guns, when a neighboring company under Joe Meek dropped in for a visit. They were suddenly attacked by Blackfeet, who set a fire that drove

the whites out of their grove into open ground. The Indians following the fire, fought furiously and killed most of the horses. All the possessions of the little company were lost, but the men escaped, although many were wounded.

After about five years of this wild life, Joseph Gale came with other trappers to settle on Tualatin Plains. Here he had hardly got a foothold when along came another adventure in the guise of the *Star of Oregon*.

The need was acute for more cattle in 1840 and a daring scheme was evolved by a few imaginative young men, whereby they should build a ship, sail to San Francisco, sell it for cattle, and drive them home by land.

Pleasant Armstrong was one of the six to organize a company for this purpose. They approached Joseph Gale, who had at one time been a seaman, but who was skeptical about the success of the enterprise and felt under obligation to remain with his fellow Mountain Men who had recently formed a settlement in Tualatin Plains. Nevertheless, he advised about the model and general construction, and promised to join them and to take stock as soon as he became convinced the work could be successfully completed.

These men secured the services of an excellent ship carpenter, Felix Hathaway. In the late summer of 1840 they procured tools, provisions and materials, and went to work on the east side of Swan Island to materialize their dream. On they toiled for months, meeting every kind of discouragement, until, when the ship was only a little more than half done, the master builder grew discouraged by the dubiousness of getting his pay and the scarcity of provisions, and quit. The rest, however, nothing daunted, boarded up the sides sufficiently to

make the vessel float, launched her—May 19, 1841—and guided her up the river to Willamette Falls.

A committee waited upon Joseph Gale, reminded him of his promise, and offered him command of the ship and a full share in the company. Gale then sold his farm, provided for his family at Champoeg, and devoted all of his time to completing the vessel.

Although the company could do the carpenter work, and the Mission blacksmith hammered out the nails and irons, the Hudson's Bay Company bluntly refused to supply sails, cordage, and other requirements for rigging the vessel. Dr. McLoughlin said they were simply building their own coffin, and would not sanction it, fearing that if the ship did stay afloat, the men might involve him in some venture construed as piracy on the California coast.

In their extremity they appealed to Commodore Wilkes, who was then on the Columbia river. He immediately took up their cause and used his influence to obtain credit for their purchases at the Hudson's Bay Company store. Hitherto, they had procured what equipment they could under the guise of farm needs. Now they boldly ordered cordage, canvas, paints and oils, paying for them in wheat and furs.

They persevered with the work until late fall, and still the ship was not in a fit condition for the sea. Two of the men lost all hope and withdrew, relinquishing their interest in the venture, leaving only five stout hearts to see it through.

Gale was stricken with fever and ague; hence, he was unable to do anything. At this time, Commodore Wilkes wrote about the necessity of having papers in order to show to what government the ship belonged,

also the port of departure and destination. Without these papers, the vessel might be seized. Gale wrote to the Commodore to convince him that he had a sufficient amount of knowledge to qualify as a navigator. Soon he received his papers—"a large document with the United States seal upon it." He also received from the Commodore a flag, an ensign, an anchor, and numerous other nautical supplies. With a few purchases, their outfit was complete, and yet they were not ready to go to sea. As it was now late in October, Gale advised that they should suspend operations for the winter. This they did.

Gale went to work for the Methodist Mission, running the sawmill, while the other men filled in their time to what advantage they could.

In June with unabated zest they rallied to the work of putting the last touches to the *Star of Oregon*. She was a natty little craft, clinker built, of the Baltimore clipper model, 45 feet, 8 inches keel; 53 feet 8 inches over all; 10 feet 9 inches beam, and drew in good ballast four feet six inches. She was built of oak and red fir, planked with red cedar decking and neatly painted.

It was generally predicted that when Captain Gale and his crew of landsmen saw the Pacific, their hearts would quail and they would return. However, in August, 1842, off they went in "the handsomest little craft that ever sat upon the water."

On the 29th they shot into the Columbia with the wind blowing a gale. Up went the new flag and bravely they flaunted its colors in the face of Fort Vancouver. In their exuberance, the crew cast anchor near the Fort and offered to carry dispatches to California. The offer was declined with the secret assurance that the slender craft would never reach its destination.

The crew consisted of four farmers, including Pleasant Armstrong, a little Indian boy and one passenger, not one of whom knew the compass, to say nothing of steering a vessel by it. Several days were consumed in taking on ballast and trying to teach the crew something about sailing. As they maneuvered in the Columbia, all were rejoicing over not being seasick.

On the 12th of September, 1842, they made a hazardous exit from the river, and found themselves launched on the Pacific Ocean. Gale says the crew had supposed they "would run into some little harbor along the coast and tie up to some rock or stick," but nothing was further from his mind. All were down with seasickness. Some of them wished themselves ashore, and were willing to give their interest in the schooner to that end. The wind freshened to a perfect gale, and the ship was spinning off eleven and a half knots an hour. The sea was heavy and even the captain, who stood unrelieved at the helm for thirty-six hours, feared at times the little craft could not live in it. A thick fog added to their danger, and it was three days before the captain could get an observation.

Then, as the single passenger wished to be landed, Captain Gale ran down the shore in the dense fog, getting so close he could hear the surf. Suddenly a rock loomed in their path, less than a cable's length in front of them, and it was only by a skillful tack the ship cleared it. The passenger and captain then gave up all effort to make a landing and continued in the fog.

On September 17, as related by Gale, "We reached San Francisco harbor and dashed through its portals like an arrow, and just as the sun went down dropped anchor abreast of the Old Presidio."

Gloom gave way to gladness and the pride of the captain was equalled only by the joy of the crew.

The vessel was sold to a Frenchman for 350 cows. Realizing that it would be impossible to get through the mountains that fall, the company settled up their accounts and went their several ways, agreeing on a rendezvous in the spring.

Captain Gale knew it would be unwise for a party of four men to undertake the trip alone; therefore, he sent out written circulars urging settlers to go to Oregon.

Captain Gale says that in the spring he trimmed a tall tree at Cash Creek and unfurled again the old Stars and Stripes, around which there soon rallied a company of 42 men bringing 1,250 cattle, 3,000 sheep, and 600 horses. Then followed a toilsome trip with comparatively small loss. This gave a tremendous impetus to the prosperity and wealth of the community and was an achievement of vast importance.

James W. Nesmith wrote: "The enterprise will be recognized as the starting point of a great commercial marine." Among the stock was the first importation of Spanish merino sheep. The flag presented by Commodore Wilkes was always a treasured possession of Joseph Gale. According to Nesmith, "no saint was ever more devoted to his shrine than Gale to that dear old flag."

The facts of this narrative are gleaned from records of Captain Gale as published in the *Transactions* of the Pioneer Association of 1891.

Gale was married to a Nez Perce woman of noble type, who is said to have been a sister of Chief Joseph. They had a little girl, Ellen. For her, as well as for the other children that followed, Gale was most solicitous as to proper care and schooling. The following letter will indi-

cate how he provided for her before leaving on the *Star of Oregon*.

Brother Smith.

Willamette, Aug. 2, 1842.

Dear Sir:

I am in hopes you will pardon the freedom I take of addressing these lines to you for it is upon a subject that very much engages my thoughts, and that is in the welfare of my little daughter.

I am about leaving this country to go to California for cattle, and I have no place to leave my little girl; and Sir, the principal reason for the liberty I have taken is to know if you and Sister Smith will be willing to take care of her until I return that is, if the Lord will permit me to return, and if not, you can act as the Lord will direct you concerning the child. It is true, she is small, but I think she will not be much trouble, for I shall leave her with sufficient quantity of clothing so she shall be as little expense to you as possible, and if the Lord spares my life to return, I shall endeavor to satisfy you for your trouble; no offense, Sir, for I know if you take her, it would not be for any pecuniary consideration.

If you and your lady are willing, please drop me a few lines at the falls of the Willamette, and in the meanwhile believe me, Sir, your

Most obedient servant,

JOSEPH GALE.

The little girl was taken by Mr. and Mrs. Alvin T. Smith and carefully educated at Tualatin Academy (afterwards Pacific University). She became the mother of Mrs. Miles Poindexter, wife of the United States senator and minister to Peru.

Following Gale's return, he was the recipient of the greatest honor that could be paid a colonist: a tribute to his integrity and leadership. On July 5, 1843, at the first election of the provisional government, he was selected as one of the executive committee of three men having the powers of governor. The pioneers of Eagle Valley, where he later moved, always spoke of him as Governor Gale.

Smith's diary states that Gale left with him on October 5, 1843, some of his cattle including "twenty-two head and seven head of horses which he gives me the use of." On November 1, 1843, he sent a boy from Oregon City for his "two yellow horses which owing to a contract" he is obliged to sell.

On October 6, 1843, Gale took up land a few miles out from Forest Grove, on what is still known as Gales Creek. Here at the foot of Gales Peak, Smith says in his diary, "June 27, 1844: helped Mr. Gale raise his mill." This was the first grist mill in that section of the country and was followed in 1848 by the erection of a saw-mill.

Before the latter was quite completed, Gale determined to better his fortunes in the gold fields of California. He left all his affairs in the hands of Smith, writing: "It is my particular request that no governor, no probate, nor any other of the Oregon officers or personages shall have liberty from me to meddle with my affairs. Should the Almighty think best to take me from this world, consider this matter and act according to your own judgment, and I shall be satisfied." He made arrangements for the conduct of his affairs and requested Smith to watch over his mills and property: "You will please cast an eye to matters, not that I would wish to give you any more trouble; it is merely to let them know there are eyes upon them." A Mr. Allen made an exchange of property with Gale and agreed, if the California property "is lost," to pay \$25,000 for the Gale holdings.

Notwithstanding the wanderings of Gale, the thought of his children's well-being was ever before him, and never did he fail to provide for their education. It is

touching to see a man whose life had been spent in rough company, amid savage and primitive surroundings, retain the delicate sentiments and aspirations for higher things. He was keen in his appreciation of education, and, poor as he was, he contributed \$100 to the establishment of the Oregon Institute in 1842, and subscribed also to the founding of Tualatin Academy. Here he kept his children in school and in his absence made provision for them, as his letters to Smith indicate. Evidently his wife and the younger children were with him part of the time in California, as they all send loving messages to those at home.

An extract from a letter dated December 1, 1848, states that he is sending by Captain Smith \$100 in gold dust, "Which you will appropriate to the following uses: Let Mr. Clark have \$30 (part time for schooling), keep \$30 for yourself in part pay of what I am owing you, and the remainder lay out in things for the children as you think fit. You will please do me the favor to send by Mr. Noyes Smith my son, Edward. Have Edward some clothes made so that he may come well clothed. Mr. Pomeroy is murdered, also preacher Newman, Newell's father-in-law. Let Edward bring his books."

At a later date an extract reads: "I have paid for a passage for Edward, but if you receive this before he starts you will please not let him come. I am afraid some accident may befall him. I would rather the children was kept in school."

By May 25, 1849, the \$100 sent by Mr. Smith had not been received, whereupon he sent \$100 by Hugh Burns. "I would send you more if I knew who to trust. At this present time I am worth \$15,000 in gold dust besides valuable goods. Give my wife's and my best love and

blessing to the children. If the Lord is willing, we will see them by the last of August."

"January 3, 1850. I came down from the mines early last fall, but before I could leave for Oregon the family were all stricken with bilious fever and were sick for six months. This is one of the most wretched places in the world here, as murdering and stealing is committed almost openly. In California we have no law but the law of self-defense."

He sent a draft of \$250 and a ticket for a cabin passage for Edward. He writes on May 7, 1850, from San Jose, Santa Clara county: "The rest of the children you will please keep until fall and I will come myself after them if my life is spared. I have understood you have sent my children to school for the last term or two. I am sorry to hear it, but, poor things, they were as orphans, for I understood by Ellen's letter that they heard I was dead."

In July 6, 1850, his letter states that he has purchased property near Pueblo and is improving it. He adds, "If you and Mrs. Smith think best, I would wish Ellen taught to sing by note. It is altogether improbable when I shall remove my children, for this is no place for them."

On January 2, 1851, he sent a bill of lading for articles shipped to Smith, including three dozen tin pans, one hundred pounds of Mexican brown sugar and a sixty-pound sack of table salt. Evidently Edward did not come, as his father writes, "I see that Edward has commenced writing and does tolerable well, the only fault is his holding the pen too tight in his hand. The cholera has raged here and has occasioned dreadful mortality. Death has visited our house, and providence has taken

our dear little Savina from us after suffering a few days in great agony. On the 11th of December she died, and on the 12th she was buried. It is impossible to visit you this winter, but as soon as I can sell my property here I shall return to Oregon to spend the balance of my days if God is willing. I have met with a number of losses one way or another, and if I can settle what I have I shall still have a competency. I shall have to make sacrifice of much of my property in order to return to Oregon." In quoting prices he says eggs are \$3 a dozen.

On July 24, 1851, Gale writes he has not heard anything from Mr. Smith in four months and is anxious, and that as it is impossible to leave the country without too great a sacrifice, he is coming to Oregon to get the children. "Meanwhile," he writes, "please keep the children close at it that they may learn all they can." All letters are well written with good spelling and excellent penmanship, addressed to "Mr. Alvin T. Smith, Tualaty Plains, O. T. Politeness of Mr. Lee, or other bearers."

The friendship between this mountain trapper and the prosperous and pious Mr. Smith was a beautiful thing. Perfect confidence on one side, and generous kindness and wisdom on the other. Gale must have prized the friendship of Alvin T. Smith and his wife, and coveted for his children an atmosphere of Christian culture. Undoubtedly, he profited much by this close association with people of lofty ideals and pure lives.

Evidently, the family lived in California for some time, then in Walla Walla valley and finally in Baker county, Oregon, at Eagle valley, the name which he is said to have given the place. Here he built a house just across Eagle Creek from what is now Newbridge, where he became almost the first settler. Although the house

has been moved and rebuilt, huge lilacs mark the original home site. Filling his days with the routine of farmer and gardner, Gale rested here from his years of roving. Later, adding to his own cherished family, he gave a home to three other children (whose surname was Darling) and brought them up as his own.

"Governor Gale" was a prominent figure in Eagle valley, beloved and admired by his compatriots. He died on December 13, 1881, and a fitting monument marks his last resting place.

4

GEORGE W. EBBERTS

GEORGE W. EBBERTS was born in Kentucky in 1810 and as a young man was apprenticed to a machinist. Before his contract expired he determined to leave and in so doing cost his widowed mother \$500 for his default in agreement.

He worked in St. Louis nearly a year and then with capital of \$100 entered the service of Sublette for a much smaller wage, \$300 a year. For four years he was under contract in the Rocky Mountains and for five years was trapping on his own account. He would earn one year as high as \$900 and another year would not cover his expenses.

In 1833, he came down with an express from Fort Hall to Vancouver and connected himself with the Hudson's Bay Company, for which he worked for three years.

During the years of 1837-38 he worked as blacksmith at the missions of Lapwai and Wailatpu. He married in that year a native wife and moved to the Willamette Valley on May 20, 1839.

George W. Ebberts was the first white settler on the land of which Champoege Park is a part. His entire claim he sold to Andre Longtain for one hundred bushels of wheat to be delivered during the next three years at the Hudson's Bay Company's store.

For a while Ebberts worked for the Methodist Mission, making tools, including a plough, and doing farm work.

He and Caleb Wilkins, his neighbor, would go off on short hunting and trapping trips and in various ways eked out a living.

In 1840, the family settled on a claim in Tualatin Plains, where Ebberts spent the rest of his life and was always known (and still is) throughout the country, as Squire Ebberts. At the election of officers at the Champoege meeting on May 2, 1843, George Ebberts was made constable.

Ebberts declared that when the Cayuse War broke out in 1848 Joseph Meek came to see him twice, urging him on behalf of Governor Abernethy to go with Meek to Washington to get aid from the United States Government, promising he should be well paid. This he consented to do and accompanied Joseph Meek up through the Indian country and through the snows and storms of winter in the mountains, sharing dangers and hardships without number until they reached St. Louis.

At Washington, Meek became the lion of the hour; but Ebberts was ignored and has never received the credit that is his due for assisting in this important mission. After three weeks in Washington, Ebberts went to Iowa and spent the winter with relatives. In order to get back home, he engaged to pilot a train to Oregon for \$72. The trip cost him a great loss of time

and over \$500 actual cash, for none of which he was ever reimbursed. It is possible that without his help Meek could never have accomplished the mission of bringing back Oregon's first governor, Joseph Lane, and some recognition is due George Ebberts for this service to his country.

He wrote a vivid account of the hazardous undertaking and other narratives of mountain and pioneer life in a manuscript called "Trapper's Life." Although he had little education, his writing reveals a man of good fellowship, brave and frank.

Mrs. Victor writes: "The pen of the historian can hardly honor adequately the part played in the commonwealth-building by this class of men. In every great emergency they accepted the part of danger or the heavy burden. They neither shrank from peril nor asked rewards."

5

CALEB WILKINS

CALEB WILKINS was a hatter by trade, born in Zanesville, Ohio, in 1810. He was associated with Bonneville and Wyeth in their premature and disastrous efforts to establish American business and agriculture in the Oregon Country in 1832 and 1834. Wyeth himself wrote in regard to their misfortunes: "We have lost fourteen men by drowning and scalping; none by natural death. Loss of property by hostility of Indians has been considerable."

Wilkins transferred his interest from this unsuccessful venture to the American Fur Company, with which he trapped in the Rocky Mountains for a period of years. It was while there he met George Ebberts and struck up

a friendship that endured through the rest of their lives. One terrific conflict they shared together was an encounter with Blackfeet Indians in 1835, while on a hunting and trapping expedition with three other men. They were robbed of all their horses and equipment, one man was killed, and the rest were obliged to tramp back through the snow to Fort Hall, suffering for food. This was a sample of the dangers and hairbreadth escapes surrounding the lives of trappers. The Mountain Men carried their lives in their hands, but later formed a bulwark of defense in the new country.

The American Fur Company broke up in 1840, leaving these men destitute. Among others deprived thus of a livelihood, and caused to turn their attention to agriculture, were Joseph Meek, Robert Newell, and William Doughty, all of whom settled in the Willamette Valley and helped found the new government.

Caleb Wilkins was a particularly good hunter, remarkable for his coolness and personal bravery.

Alvin T. Smith, who was crossing in 1840 with Reverend Harvey Clark and others, relates an incident as follows: "Caleb Wilkins, who had been accompanying our train, could talk the Indian language and understood their ways. Near Fort Hall, two of our horses were missing. Several Indians had been traveling and camping close by. When Wilkins questioned one about the horses, and received an impudent reply, he knocked the Indian down and ordered him to bring back the horses, which he did."

Caleb Wilkins shared with Newell and Meek the achievement of bringing through from this point to Fort Walla Walla the wagons that had been relinquished by the missionaries. It was a tedious proceeding, but it

gave them the honor of driving the first wagons to the Columbia. From there Wilkins continued to the Willamette Valley, where he met George Ebberts, for many years his companion in danger and distress, and they soon took up neighboring claims. They continued, practically as partners, developing their farms together and hunting and trapping a bit on the side. Inseparable as friends, they attended the Champoeg meeting and did their part in forming the provisional government. Others of the Mountain Men had settled in the valley and they made a hardy fraternity of staunch supporters for the flimsy organization.

By 1846, these neighbors had erected comfortable houses for their Nez Perce wives and children, and their farms were well stocked.

Reverend J. S. Griffin's marriage records contain the following: Married by J. S. Griffin in North Tualatin, March 28th, 1851, Mr. Caleb Wilkins to Mrs. Miriam Enyart, all of Washington county.

Wilkins held office as treasurer of Washington county in 1852 and was appointed supervisor of public roads of East Tualaty in 1851.

He passed away on October 5, 1890, and is buried near his friend, George Ebberts, in West Union cemetery, four and a half miles northeast of Hillsboro.

6

ROBERT NEWELL

ROBERT NEWELL, usually spoken of as "Doctor," "Doc" or "Bob," was born at Putnam near Zanesville, Ohio, on March 30, 1807. In Cincinnati he learned the saddler's trade, and from St. Louis, at the age of twenty-

two years, embarked on the career of trapper under Sublette.

It was amid the hazards of trapping in the mountains that he was thrown into companionship with Joseph Meek (then a lad of nineteen), George Ebberts and other Mountain Men, who cemented the associations there formed, into life-long friendships and common interests. Although in camp life he was a leader, and his jollity in song and story around the campfire was long remembered. He never demeaned himself with debauchery, which was so common at the rendezvous, or lost the inherent instincts of a gentleman.

After eleven years of trapping, he determined, after the breaking up of the American Fur Company in 1840, to take up agriculture in the Willamette Valley with a group of his old chums.

For payment of his services in piloting a band of missionaries from Green river to Fort Hall, he was given a harness and two wagons. One he sold, and the other he commissioned Joe Meek to drive to Walla Walla. So, accompanied by Caleb Wilkins in his wagon, the little caravan of virile pioneers with their native wives and children, made history by breaking the first wagon trail to the Columbia. There the wagons were left while the men went on to the Willamette Valley. The next year, 1841, Newell returned and claimed his wagon and took it down the Columbia by boat; this being the first wagon to reach the valley from across the plains and mountains.

Newell established his first home in Tualatin Plains, near Hillsboro, close to his mountain friends, later going to Oregon City. In 1844, he acquired land at Champoege, where he resided for nearly twenty years.

At the time of the forming of the provisional govern-

ment, Newell was made a member of the legislative committee and contributed much toward framing the laws adopted by the people at the mass meeting on July 5, 1843. The following year he was one of the legislative committee which abolished voluntary contributions as a source of income and provided for the first uniform taxation. He continued as a member of the legislature and served on important committees until 1849. He was twice speaker of the house. In this position he had, says Barry, "ability to hold in check extreme measures, and to harmonize differences by his prudence, sense of fairness and jovial good will."

Newell was fond of good reading, and in 1842 helped organize the earliest literary and debating society, called "The Oregon Lyceum," founded "to discuss the whole round of literature and scientific pursuits." He was also a director of the Oregon Printing Association, which published the first newspaper, *The Spectator*, on the Pacific coast on February 5, 1846. He placed in operation two "fast running" keel boats, the *Mogul* and *Ben Franklin*, for transportation between Oregon City and Willamette Falls. An amusing advertisement for his boat service appeared in the *Spectator* on April 30, 1846: "N. B. Punctuality to the hour of departure is earnestly requested. As time waits for no man, the boats will do the same.—Robert Newell."

He had taken for his wife in 1833 a daughter of a Nez Perce sub-chief. She was a sister of Joe Meek's wife, and one to whom he was faithful and devoted until her death in 1845. The following year he married Miss Rebecca Newman of Marion county.

At the time of the Whitman massacre, Newell was a speaker of the legislature, but Governor Abernethy in

1848 appointed him one of three peace commissioners to treat with the Indians. Accompanied by company "D," which he had helped organize, Newell went to Waiilatpu and helped bury again the bones of the martyrs of the Whitman mission.

There he made one of the principal speeches at the council on March 7, 1848. His influence with the Nez Perce Indians was valuable because of his knowledge of their dialect and his personal relations with them through his former wife; hence, it was partly due to this that the Nez Perce held aloof from the Cayuse War.

The next year, Newell was appointed Indian agent for the Indians south of the Columbia, but he relinquished these duties for the sake of searching for gold in the California mines. However, he was soon back, establishing a warehouse and commission business at Champoege.

Grown from a tiny settlement of French Canadians, known as French Prairie, Champoege had assumed the proportions of a thriving city, with mills, stores, warehouses, a blacksmith shop and a post office.

In 1854, he was one of the charter members of a committee to build a railroad from Eugene to the Columbia, but the plans did not materialize.

During the Yakima War of 1855-56, he organized thirty-five men into a company called "The Scouts," and served as their captain, doing valuable service in the Klickitat and Yakima country.

His name appears in 1859 as one of the lessees of the state penitentiary.

Just at the time when hope was high for a vast influx of wealth from the newly-discovered Oregon gold mines, the most terrible catastrophe visited the new country

in the shape of a disastrous flood. A deluge of rain in November, 1861, washed away houses, barns, bridges, store-houses and mills. Severe cold followed and cost the lives of as many as 25,000 cattle. The plains were strewn with dead men whose bodies were washed down by the next summer's flood. The floods of fall and spring destroyed the accumulations of years of industry along the lengths of the Columbia and the Willamette. Champoeg and Linn City were swept clean, while much of Oregon City and Portland was ruined and carried away. The water was over fifty feet above low water mark, and boats sailed over the Willamette Falls and over the fields of Champoeg where shortly before were village streets lined with houses.

This was a sad blow which ruined many prosperous citizens. Robert Newell's house on the hill survived the flood and was open to the destitute with whom he shared all he had left, thus further impoverishing himself.

With the hope of improving his fortunes, Newell went out to Idaho among his old and loyal friends, the Nez Perces. Documents signed by several of the chiefs show under date of June 9, 1871, that the Indians ceded to him a tract of five acres, lying in the oldest part of the city of Lewiston, and including the site of the Lewis and Clark hotel. He was the first white man granted lands by the Indians.

During the years between 1862-68, "Dr." Newell held different positions at Lapwai as special commissioner and as interpreter, both at the army post and at the agency.

In 1868, he visited Washington, D. C., in company with some Indian chiefs to assist in procuring amendments to the Indian treaties, as well as to secure his own

appointment as Indian agent. While there, he was nominated by President Johnson and confirmed by the senate as agent at Lapwai.

Two years before, he had sold his Champoeg farm and removed his family to Idaho. His second wife died in 1867, and in June of 1869 he married a Mrs. Ward, wife of a Methodist minister. He lived only a few months after this union, as it was in November, 1869, he became the victim of heart disease and passed away in the home built on land given him by his Indian friends. His last resting place is in the Normal Hill cemetery at Lewiston, Idaho.

Chapter VIII

THE IMMIGRATION OF 1842

THIS WAS the last group of colonists to arrive in time to help form the provisional government and the coming of such numbers did much toward determining the political and economic aspects of the country.

Dr. Elijah White, formerly connected with the Methodist Mission, was largely responsible, through his lectures, for the organization of the company which was the first to include families with children, for the avowed purpose of creating permanent settlements. Strict regulations were formed to debar those who might become dependents and men of shiftless or evil habits. It was required "that every male over eighteen years of age should possess at least one mule or horse, or wagon conveyance; should have one gun, three pounds of powder, seventeen rounds of lead, 1000 caps, fifty pounds of flour or meal, thirty pounds of bacon and a suitable proportion for women and children."

The train left Independence on May 15, 1842, one hundred and five people, fifty-one men over eighteen years of age, who with sixteen wagons together with horses, mules and cattle, started for the last frontier.

Dr. White, the nominal leader, although knowing Oregon, knew nothing of the perilous way thither, nor had any of the company ever been over the mountains. They never knew where they could find grass for the cattle or water and game for themselves, nor when they might be set upon by savages. They were forced to engage guides, paying one \$500 for his services from Laramie to Fort Hall. Even then their hope could hardly endure

through the hardships and discouragements of the trail. Necessity of fording the streams with the wagons presented serious difficulties and danger was so urgent that wagons were cut up into pack saddles, and, to lessen the loads, possessions of all kinds were thrown out and everything but essentials left behind.

Two of the men disappeared and at Devil's Gate a band of two hundred painted Sioux appeared with Hastings and Lovejoy as captives. These they surrendered after receiving presents, chuckling because they had captured the men while carving their names on Independence Rock.

The original party was joined by other immigrants on the way and, as White's leadership was unacceptable to many, the party divided. Further stories of the experiences of the company follow.

1

MEDOREM CRAWFORD

Medorem Crawford, Medorem Crawford,
What do you see in the trail ahead?—
Your Spanish oxen sway and lumber
Like shadows out of a moody slumber,
Weary and surfeited,
Medorem Crawford.

—Howard McKinley Corning.

A YOUTH of twenty-two years of age who was dissatisfied with prospects of advancement in central New York found in the big West scope for his energy and constructive work.

Born in Orange County, New York, June 24, 1819, Medorem Crawford joined Dr. White's party, coming through with a large train in 1842. In the same company

was a young lady by the name of Adalene Brown, whom he married the next year.

Teaching school at the Methodist Mission occupied Medorem Crawford's time for the first nine months after his arrival. Then he began farming near the present town of Wheatland.

The next move, two years later, was to Oregon City, where he labored hauling goods around Willamette Falls. His equipment consisted of a pair of old black oxen and a worn emigrant wagon, which furnished the means for "the first transportation monopoly in the West."

After the provisional government was formed, he was elected to represent Clackamas county in the legislature from 1847 to 1849. During the session, on December 8, 1847, he was appointed one of a committee of three to advise Governor Abernethy of the passage of a resolution authorizing the Governor to raise a company of riflemen, not to exceed fifty, and dispatch them to The Dalles as a means of protection after the Whitman massacre. Crawford himself was a commissary agent in this Cayuse War.

In 1852 he purchased property near the present town of Dayton which he developed through the ensuing years into a highly improved and profitable farm, from which he was frequently called to places of public trust.

In 1860 he was elected from Yamhill to the House of Representatives in the state legislature and during the next fifteen years became a prominent figure in political life.

While paying a visit to his father in New York in 1861, after an absence of nineteen years, Medorem Crawford was called to Washington to receive instructions as escort to an emigrant train across the plains.

He was in practical control and was given an appropriation of \$50,000 for this service, \$20,000 of which he returned to the treasury.

The next year he was appointed captain in the army and given command of the escort of another train. Again, in 1863, he conducted a similar expedition, returning to the treasury as usual an unexpended balance.

A conservative estimate of the lives lost in crossing the continent in those early days, according to G. H. Himes, is at least 25,000. We can, therefore, understand the value of this service in ensuring the safety of the emigrants from the fact that during or after Captain Crawford's military command no massacre occurred. He himself considered this work the greatest contribution he ever made to his country and fellowmen.

Resigning from this post, he was appointed collector of internal revenue for Oregon in 1864. This new and difficult position he filled for five years, receiving his salary in paper money worth twenty to fifty cents on the dollar.

From 1871 for four years he held the position of appraiser of customs at Portland. After this he returned to the development of his farm at Yamhill. Here he lived until his death, December 26, 1891.

In 1882 he was president of the Oregon Pioneer Association and gave the opening address.

"Medorem Crawford was a man who fixed the impress of his individuality and character upon the community—a man remembered for truth, integrity and fidelity. As a pioneer he was among the most intelligent, far-seeing and energetic, and as a state builder he bore a very important part."

HUGH BURNS

HUGH BURNS was Oregon's first mail carrier, receiving his contract in 1846 to carry mail once to Weston, Missouri, for fifty cents a single sheet. One of the greatest deprivations of the early settlers was being cut off from all word of their relatives and friends back in the States for months at a stretch. Letters were sent by the trappers and passed from one to another or by travelers going by boat. Either way took many months and was then uncertain of delivery.

In December, 1845, the legislature of Oregon established the first post-office in Oregon City, but, after six months trial, regular mail service was discontinued because it did not pay. Private subscription retained a haphazard semi-monthly service between some of the sections, and Hugh Burns was entrusted with mail from California during the gold rush. It was two years later before the United States started the organization of a mail service, and as late as 1850 Hillsboro was petitioning for mail delivery once a month from Portland.

Hugh Burns came out in the immigration of 1842 with Dr. White's party and took up a claim next to Robert Moore on land opposite Oregon City. He with his neighbor, at a session of the legislative committee in 1844, were granted rights to keep public ferries on the Willamette.

Nesmith speaks of him as a "shrewd Hibernian and the principal blacksmith west of the Rocky Mountains."

At the organization of the provisional government Burns was elected magistrate, a position he filled for one year.

On September 26, 1846, a public meeting was held at Oregon City to arrange for a convention of citizens to elect a delegate to carry to Washington the wants of the colonists, including a mail service to Oregon, the construction of a railroad, and the confirmation of land claims. Several other meetings were held previous to the convention, in which it became apparent that certain factions were planning this maneuver as a means of getting Congress to reserve all lands abutting upon "water falls, capes and town sites," thus evicting British subjects from their claims. Hugh Burns was elected a delegate, with Robert Moore from Tualatin county, and on November 2 attended the convention at Oregon City. Dr. Bailey joined the other two founders of the provisional government in "viewing with indignation and contempt the unwarrantable, unjust, and obnoxious efforts of certain individuals to deprive waterfalls and capes that had been settled for years and were rapidly advancing in value by improvement."

Burns offered a resolution that, as the legislature was the proper body to memorialize Congress, it be asked to remain under its present form according to the organic compact of Oregon.

Robert Moore offered a resolution that "it was highly improper to meddle with the rights or locations of the inhabitants of the territory, such interference being detrimental to the growth, prosperity and interests of the country." Bailey again recommended that the legislature embody in its memorial that persons interfering with the rights of others touching land claims should be debarred from receiving any land donations in the territory.

Feeling was running high, and the Oregon City pro-

moters of the scheme moved repeatedly that the convention adjourn. But Moore moved that the convention go on record as disapproving of the appointment of a delegate or of a petition to Congress. Burns moved that "the proceedings of the convention be signed by the president and secretary and published in *The Spectator*." This appeared in the issue of November 26, 1846. Both motions were carried, and the agitators for confiscation of Dr. McLoughlin's property were silenced for the time being. This gives an insight into the political rings of nearly a hundred years ago.

When the terrible Whitman massacre in 1847 threw the colony into panic, level heads had to plan measures of safety and provide for defense. An army of volunteers was organized to march against the savages in the Cayuse country, but how to secure funds to send them forth was a staggering problem. The commissioners appointed for this task gave up in despair and three new commissioners were elected, one of whom was Hugh Burns.

Not knowing what moment the whole land would be drowned in blood and carnage, a frantic appeal was sent to Washington by Joseph Meek. It said in part: "Having called upon the government of the United States so often in vain, we have almost despaired of receiving its protection. We have the right to expect your aid, and you are in duty bound to extend it. For though we are separated from our native land by a range of mountains whose lofty altitudes are mantled in eternal snows, although three thousand miles, nearly two-thirds of which is a howling wild, lie between us and the federal capital --yet our hearts are unalienated from the land of our birth. Our love for the free and noble institutions under which it was our fortune to be born and nurtured re-

mains unabated. In short, we are Americans still, residing in a country over which the government of the United States has the sole and acknowledged right of sovereignty and under such circumstances we have the right to claim the benefit of its laws and protection."

Knowing no help could come from this or any other source for many months, the commissioners settled to the task of provisioning the men and the horses, finding equipment, ammunition and shelter and making roads—all in the dead of winter.

In the suspense and anxiety, mutterings were heard against the Hudson's Bay Company, and threats to seize Vancouver, and to take over its stores, drove Douglas, the factor, to mount several guns as a precaution. But the company, though forbidden to accept any notes from the United States Government, was willing to accept personal notes and made over large allotments on the personal security of Governor Abernethy and the commissioners. Individuals and merchants contributed money and goods to the limit of their ability, and the commission struggled on with the overwhelming task. That they were able to wage the Cayuse War with their scanty resources, their lack of experienced leaders, and with no outside help, is a monument to their dauntless spirit. The war came and went, and with it the end of the provisional government and the inauguration of the territorial government.

Hugh Burns' report for the commission in the journals of the Oregon archives gives the aggregate amount of bonds issued as \$14,761.65. Further details are included in the life of A. E. Wilson.

Hugh Burns was born in Westmeath, Ireland, in 1807, and died in San Francisco, May 6, 1870, where he was buried in the Catholic cemetery.

ALLEN JONES DAVIE

ALLEN JONES DAVIE was listed as one of Dr. White's party of 1842, which was the first immigration containing families with little children. Arriving at the Willamette Falls in October, Mr. Davie remained there and helped develop Oregon City, which in one year grew from a town of three buildings to one of thirty.

In 1844, he was married to Cynthia Brown, the service being performed by Reverend David Leslie at Champoeg. Mrs. Davis survived her husband by nearly thirty years.

The newly married couple established a claim east of Aumsville, upon which Davie erected a sawmill. This, together with farming, hunting and fishing, occupied his time. In these latter occupations he excelled.

For several years he was justice of the peace, and being the only one in that section, he was forced to travel many miles in the performance of his duties.

When the little college of Sublimity was formally organized by the United Brethren on January 9, 1858, Davie was one of the original trustees and held the office of secretary. The first teacher was Milton Wright, father of the famous Wright brothers who invented the aeroplane.

After the Whitman massacre and the departure of troops to the Cayuse country, the Molallas and the Klamath Indians showed signs of insurrection and made several incursions into the settlements in the Willamette Valley. The people lived in a state of alarm, and after an attack on the house of Richard Miller at Champoeg, one hundred and fifty men and boys formed a vol-

unteer home guard in which Allen Davie was one of four captains.

The Indians had withdrawn with dire threats and were encamped on Abiqua creek. Here they were followed by the volunteers, the horsemen proceeding up the north side, and the foot soldiers up the south side. After a few shots were exchanged, the Indians retreated and darkness put a stop to further pursuit. At daybreak the chase was continued and the Indians were overtaken. One of the guards was hit in the breast by an arrow, but not harmed. Finally the Indians were driven to bay at a pass in the hills, and a number killed and wounded. Upon investigating the outcome of the battle, the whites were aghast to discover that the real culprits had eluded pursuit and had left their families and camp guards to suffer the attack. One Indian woman, armed with bow and arrow, was seriously wounded. So chagrined were the participants in this easy victory that it was seldom referred to and the "battle of Abiqua" was not listed in the defensive measures of 1848 until many years later when the facts were revealed in *The Statesman* at Salem, Oregon. The inglorious battle had, however, a salutary effect in quieting the Indians in the valley and may have averted serious trouble.

Davie was born in Alabama, February 28, 1816, and passed away on October 14, 1874. He is buried at Aumsville, Oregon.

4

REUBEN LEWIS

REUBEN LEWIS was born of Welsh descent in Tompkins county, New York, March 20, 1814. Little opportunity was afforded him as a boy to get an education in

schools. He left home at an early age, working as a tow-boy on the New York canal. Later he went to Iowa, where he remained until Dr. White's wagon train started for Oregon in 1842. This he joined in the capacity of a hunter for Gabriel Brown and family, and walked practically every step of the way.

This first large migration settled the question of occupancy of the disputed Oregon territory. There were over a hundred individuals in the company, with seventy armed men, and ten families with children—all ignorant of the vicissitudes awaiting them. The later emigrations were provided with experienced guides who knew the camping places and where good water was to be had, but this party never knew where they were going to camp at night, or where they could find water, grass or game. Fearful storms made them cold and miserable; sickness and death visited their ranks; grievances were many, and harmony was impossible. One intolerable annoyance was the number of dogs fighting and disturbing the peace at night. This was partly corrected by doing away at one time with thirty of the offenders.

The fear of hostile savages was ever before the emigrants, and terror was intensified when herds of buffalo thundered across their way, threatening to trample the whole company under foot. As far as the eye could reach, a sea of furious black brutes encompassed them on all sides. Treasured possessions were thrown out and left along the trail to lighten the loads. Thankful were these poor people if they could get through with their lives.

When Fort Hall was finally reached in the middle of August Lewis, with a few pack horses and supplies, left the company and journeyed by himself to Oregon City. There he assisted in erecting a sawmill and there worked for two years.



TUALATIN ACADEMY, NOW SCIENCE HALL, PACIFIC UNIVERSITY. OLDEST EXISTING
SCHOOL BUILDING WEST OF THE ROCKIES--IN CONTINUOUS SERVICE FROM 1851 TO
THE PRESENT

TO HONOR ONE
OF THOSE
PATRIOTS WHO ON
MAY 2, 1843
FOUNDED THE
PROVISIONAL
GOVERNMENT AT
CHAMPOEG, OREG.



MULTNOMAH CHAPTER
D. A. R. APRIL 15, 1931

MARKER USED BY MULTNOMAH CHAPTER, DAUGHTERS OF THE
AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Lewis was present at the Campoeg meeting May 2, 1843, and was elected constable.

On February 12, 1844, he was married to Polly Ann Frazer, who had come out in the wagon trail the previous year. This marriage was performed by Reverend Mr. Waller of the Methodist Mission.

The same year, he settled on his donation land claim of 640 acres located in the hills between Turner and Aumsville. Here he lived a quiet life until the gold rush of 1848, when he went to the mines in California and was successful in finding gold on Feather river. In an afternoon from one crevice there he took out with his penknife \$100 worth of the precious metal.

In 1856 he made a sea voyage, going by way of the Isthmus of Panama and New York to Wisconsin, for the purpose of getting his mother, who accompanied him back over the same route.

Reuben Lewis was a thrifty farmer, but generous toward all the less fortunate. Near his donation claim was a spot used by immigrants while seeking for locations of their own. It was his custom to slaughter a beef and divide it among the arrivals who were exhausted and hungry after months of travel.

He died on April 6, 1886, and is buried in Twin Oaks cemetery at Turner, Oregon.

5

JOHN L. MORRISON

JOHN L. MORRISON was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1819. At the age of twelve years he came to the United States and learned the carpenter's trade in Connecticut. Joining the train of 1842, under the leadership of Dr. Elijah White, he came to Oregon in company with seven

other men who were instrumental, a few months after their arrival, in helping found the new government.

Morrison found employment at first at the Oregon Institute, and then in Oregon City. While there an affray took place with Cockstock and a few Indians, wherein Cockstock was killed along with two prominent young Americans. The significance of and blame for this melee is variously interpreted, but it resulted on March 9, 1844, in the formation of the Oregon Rangers. This was the first military organization in the territory, and among the volunteers was John L. Morrison, who was elected first lieutenant. A clash of opinions resulted between Dr. McLoughlin, Dr. White and the colonists as to what policy was wise to pursue, and even the rangers became suspicious and averse to further involvement in the matter. Letters from Morrison and two others are on file in the Oregon archives demanding to know if after all there had been any cause for raising troops, and if their services were needed. They wished also to be informed where the military stores, provisions and pay were coming from, or if they were to fight at their own expense. Several small affairs signalized the existence of the rangers, such as capturing thieving savages, the last affair being on July, 1846, when some Indians, suspected of stealing horses, were fired on.

John L. Morrison's name has been perpetuated in Portland through the naming of a street in his honor.

Here he built the first frame house for F. W. Pettygrove and erected a dwelling in 1846 for Captain Crosby, as well as several other buildings. Scott's history states that he "established a little lumber and flour depot at the foot of Morrison street."

During the gold rush in California, he went there and

for years used to talk with his friends about experiences in the mines. Nothing definite can be learned in regard to him from the time he left Portland until about the year 1865, when he sailed to Skagit county, Washington, and took up a timber claim near J. W. Gray, who had a shingle mill there. The men became fast friends. In June, 1873, Gray sold out and moved to Orcas island, and Morrison followed him in the fall, being able later to dispose of his timber claim at a good figure.

From the children of his old neighbors, we learn that he lived with Gray's family for about six years on Orcas island. There is still standing on the place the house he painstakingly built from lumber which he and Gray whipsawed from timber on the place. Details of his meticulous work include the mantel, dressed and beaded, ceiling, wainscoting and molding, all hand done. In addition to the house, he made by hand a center table of maple, and a kitchen cabinet from native wood, which are still in excellent condition. Although unmarried himself, he cherished a great affection for the Gray family and named one of the little girls Florence Nightingale.

About 1879 Morrison evidently took up homestead rights on Shaw island and built there a log cabin for himself, which is still standing. Shaw island is not far away and his dear friends frequently used to take a day to row over and visit him.

While living in his cabin he soon began the construction of a large colonial house, which, says a later owner, was built as if it were a ship that needed to be strong enough to withstand gales. He used hand-hewn timbers, bolted together, both for foundation and ceiling plates. The front door was an exquisite piece of his handiwork. This house was used for occupancy until July 3, 1919,

when, having passed into other hands, it was burned to the ground.

Mrs. G. E. Burns of Shaw island writes of Morrison: "I know he was a handsome old man, kind and courteous, often paying me compliments by cleverly comparing my name to its floral namesake, or my face (I was only a child) to sunshine. He read a great deal, often until midnight. He owned property in Portland, but was tricked out of it by tricky lawyers whom he trusted. Often he lost money, because he was always ready to loan and was careless about security. He was never married (or at least no one here ever knew or thought he had been), therefore, he lived a quiet, secluded life, but was very friendly to all with whom he came in contact.

"A neighbor, missing for two days the usual smoke from the chimney of Mr. Morrison's house, investigated and found the old gentleman ill with a severe cold. She did what she could to make him more comfortable, and sent for a fellow Mason from Orcas, who took charge. Tenderly cared for by his friend and by neighbors, Mr. Morrison lingered a few days and then passed away December 22, 1899."

The funeral services were conducted by the Masons and his body borne to its last resting place in a boat he himself had owned and which was made years before out of lumber he had whipsawed by hand. The body is interred in lot 123 in the Valley Presbyterian cemetery on San Juan island, Friday Harbor, Washington. (Dates of death and birth are taken from his tombstone.)

His property was willed to a sister in Pennsylvania and purchased from her daughter by Mrs. Burns' family.

FRANCOIS XAVIER MATTHIEU

FRANCOIS XAVIER MATTHIEU was a native of Terrebonne, Canada. He was born in 1818. He was educated under republican teachers and was one of those patriots who participated in the agitation and rebellion for equal rights of the Canadians. Escaping to New York state in 1838, he moved to Milwaukee, thence to St. Louis and, in 1839, joined the American Fur Company at Fort Pierre, as trader among the Indians.

His territory lay in the Yellowstone country and from there he made an expedition to Santa Fe, returning in 1841 to Fort Laramie. Finding that the natives, from being furnished with rum, were becoming dangerous and savage, he decided, after a year, to join as guide an immigration party going to Oregon. His knowledge and association with the Indians saved the train from the menace of serious trouble.

Matthieu was well acquainted with the Canadian trappers and lived for two years with Etienne Lucier at Champoeg, farming and doing carpenter work. It was through this close friendship that Lucier's sympathies were drawn to the American party when the provisional government was formed. At that time Matthieu was elected constable.

Francois Matthieu was married in 1844. During the gold rush he went to California but, through sickness, lost everything, including his valuable train. In 1858 he travelled via the Isthmus to Canada and all over the United States.

In the Cayuse War, Matthieu was deputy quartermaster. He served in the state legislature from 1874 to

1878. He founded the town of Butteville and was one of the trustees of Butteville Institute, incorporated in 1859. During the last twenty years of his life there, he was engaged in the mercantile business.

For many years he was a director of the Oregon Pioneer Association and wrote several papers of value to historians, including a list of settlers on French Prairie.

He was the last survivor of the founders of the provisional government. He died on February 4, 1914, and is buried at Butteville.

7

JAMES R. ROBB

JAMES R. ROBB was born in Butler county, Pennsylvania, August 21, 1816.

He early learned the carpenter's trade and worked at it for several years. Reading in a Pittsburgh paper that Dr. Elijah White was organizing a party for Oregon, he decided to go, and crossed the plains with that train in 1842.

He settled at Oregon City where he soon became a useful member of the new colony. Voting with the American party at Champoeg, May 2, 1843, he helped form the provisional government. He contributed to the building of the Methodist church, the first Protestant church building erected in the West, and was one of the original trustees of the Oregon Institute, afterward Willamette University.

On April 6, 1845, he married Elizabeth Parrish, daughter of Reverend Edward Parrish, a pioneer of 1844.

After a trip to California in the gold rush of 1849, he returned and became a member of the firm of commis-

sion merchants of Holderness and Company. Later on he was one of the partners of George Abernethy in the mercantile business at Oregon City, from which he withdrew in 1855.

Some years after the death of his first wife, Robb married her sister, Mrs. Rebecca S. May.

He died in Portland on November 22, 1890, and is buried in Riverview cemetery.

8

DAVID WESTON

DAVID WESTON arrived with Dr. White's expedition in 1842. He was born in Indiana on July 4, 1820, and removed to Arkansas in 1836.

On the Willamette river, next to Dr. Newell's place, David Weston took a land claim and worked as a blacksmith for T. J. Hubbard, winning the esteem and lasting friendship of all the settlers in the valley.

He helped the American cause by being present on May 2, 1843, and voting for the provisional government.

His greatest service to his country was in the Cayuse War, for which he volunteered in 1848, when the Whitman massacre gave rise to the fear that all the white settlers might be exterminated by a general uprising of the Indians.

In *The Early Indian Wars of Oregon*, compiled from the Oregon archives and other original sources, with muster rolls, by Frances Fuller Victor, David Weston is listed as serving as "orderly sergeant 8th F.", and later as "First Lieutenant, I.J. Ft. Lee."

The legislature of 1891 authorized the publication of this book, empowering the state secretary "to turn over

to the grand commander of the Indian War Veterans of the North Pacific Coast so many copies as may be necessary, not to exceed 1000 copies, to be used and given away by said grand-commander to pioneers and veterans of the Indian War, who have had the largest experience in the early history of Oregon and who pledge beforehand to him to write out and correct all errors and supply omissions, etc., that they may find in said history, and give the fullest of all facts, incidents and experiences within their own knowledge and send same to him that it may be preserved from oblivion, and that material may thus be gathered while these men live who made history; that justice may be done to the pioneers and veterans that the whole state of Oregon will in years after be proud of."

Other records of financial statements show that David Weston received pay as a blacksmith in the army.

Colonel Cornelius Gilliam with a company of volunteers established at the Cascades a base of supplies called Fort Gilliam, commonly known as The Cabins. Supplies were scanty and, as the men moved on to The Dalles in the dead of winter, it became more of an issue of how to keep body and soul together among the troops than of launching an attack against the Indians. What that poor first army suffered in the way of insufficient food, clothing and bedding one can hardly imagine. Caught totally unprepared, they struggled as best they could without equipment, roads or supplies. Suffering and subsisting on next to nothing, it is no wonder that this undisciplined army of independent spirits was hard to manage. Complaints and disorders were rampant and the officers had a difficult time to maintain military regulations.

The war consisted of several lively skirmishes with the Indians and a fierce battle at the Umatilla river resulting in a decisive victory on February 25, 1848.

Further details of the campaign may be found in the life of Charles McKay, who also responded to the call to arms and fought in the ranks during the Cayuse War.

David Weston returned to his home after the war and lived until December 19, 1876. He is buried on his farm near Butteville in a plot reserved, when the property changed hands, as a family burying ground.

9

J. C. BRIDGES

MR. BRIDGES, a native of Kentucky, arrived with Dr. White's party in 1842.

The first Monday in March of the following year the Second Wolf Meeting was held in the home of Gervais. There resolutions were passed to govern the community "in carrying on a defensive and destructive war against bears, wolves, panthers, etc., which are destructive to the useful animals owned by the settlers of this colony."

A treasurer was elected, and measures taken to receive contributions, and also a subscription of \$5 from each man expecting to receive bounties. The bounties to be paid the whites were on a graduated scale from fifty cents for a lynx skin to five dollars for a panther, and half these amounts to the Indians. Bridges was elected one of two collectors, retaining a five percent commission on all receipts. At the meeting at Champoege two months later he voted with the American party and was elected constable.

In the large immigration coming out in 1842 under the new sub-Indian agent, Dr. Elijah White, was a man by the name of Lansford W. Hastings. He was an ambitious person of arbitrary disposition who won the adherence of many of the party and supplanted White as leader. He later wrote a book with the inclusive title of: *The Emigrants' Guide to Oregon and California, containing Scenes and Incidents of a Party of Oregon Emigrants; a Description of Oregon, Scenes and Incidents of a party of California Emigrants and a description of the Different Routes to those Countries, and all Necessary Information Relative to the Equipment, Supplies, and the Method of Travelling.*

The California immigration, of which he wrote, was the one he led. It was of fifty-three persons, including about a third of the adult male members of the White party, together with some women and children.

Moss' *Pioneer Times* is quoted as authority for the statement that this White party increased the buildings in Oregon City from "three or four to thirty"; but the hustle of developments failed to satisfy, and many were beguiled into seeking better conditions in that fair land to the south, Bridges being among the number. Shortly after the provisional government was formed, Hastings and Bridges and their satellites collected at Champoeg, and again formed in marching order with twenty-five armed men, and started for California on May 30, 1843.

When they reached Rogue river, they crossed in canoes rented from the Indians, but only by extreme vigilance was bloodshed avoided at that dangerous spot. Several days later they met a company bound for Oregon and about a third of Hastings' party, after long and heated discussions, turned back to Oregon with Leese

and McClure the leaders. Only sixteen were now left to complete the journey south, and they suffered two attacks by the Indians. They escaped unharmed, however, and reached Sutter's Fort where they were received with kindness and much needed care.

Bridges worked for Sutter in California till, like many others, he was stricken with disease and died the same winter.

Chapter IX

FREELANCE SETTLERS

AS THE FOLLOWING names do not fall naturally into any of the foregoing lists they are treated in a separate division.

They are the individualists, men who felt strong enough to strike out for themselves without being bound by the obligations of an organization, or hampered by a cumbersome caravan. They were men of all types and those who came at different times. All had tasted hardship and danger in the solitudes and all were ready when they reached Oregon to lend an ear to a brother's plea and spend their strength for the common good.

No matter how or when they came, all were knit together by the need of united action and by a unified purpose. Opportunity stretched limitlessly before them but life, though unbelievably simple, was unbelievably hard. Little wonder, as they sensed a future but no past in this great wilderness, they determined the direction of its development.

Here was opportunity to start afresh, to shake off the disappointments and trammels of the past and create conditions more ideal. So the scholar, the rough laborer and acquisitive business man tried to combine with the missionaries in plans for communal and personal prosperity.

Independent and unteachable to a certain extent, the individual could not be merged easily into this western melting pot; and the various factions were frequently antagonistic. But congregating from different parts of

the country they here became one people—Americans subduing this last frontier.

President Polk said: "The Oregon settlers have made no appeal to arms, but have peacefully fortified themselves in their new homes by the adoption of republican institutions for themselves, furnishing another example of the truth that self-government is inherent in the American breast and must prevail."

1

GEORGE W. LE BRETON

GEORGE W. LE BRETON was a young man of standing and good education, who crowded much of service to the country into the four short years of his life in Oregon. His coming with Captain Couch on the brig *Maryland* in 1840 was a distinct asset in adding to the colony a man of rare intelligence, of pleasing manners, and one accustomed to good society.

Le Breton settled at The Falls, and at once made a place for himself in the community, winning recognition by his ability and charm.

At the very first effort to establish a form of government after the funeral of Ewing Young, on February 18, 1841, he was elected clerk of courts and public recorder. This attempt, as we know, proved futile. However, he was elected and retained in office at all subsequent public meetings until the time of his tragic death.

Captain Couch had first arrived in 1840, in a ship owned by the Cushings of Newburyport, with the purpose of establishing a fishery on the Columbia. This proving a failure, Captain Couch sold the vessel in the Hawaiian Islands and returned East. Convincing his

backers he had mastered the secret of successful trade in Oregon, he procured a new brig, the *Chenamus*, and brought a stock of goods to Oregon in 1842. These he placed in charge of Le Breton and A. E. Wilson and opened a regular commercial station, plying his vessel in trade with the Sandwich islands, under the name of Cushing and Company.

Le Breton about this time allied himself with the Catholic church at St. Paul, but was spoken of at the time of his death by the priests as apostate. Bancroft says, "Seeing he could not get the girl he expected, he withdrew gradually from the church."

In reply to repeated petitions for recognition by the United States, the Government gave some little encouragement to the settlers by sending out in 1842 Dr. Elijah White, formerly associated with the Methodist Mission, as sub-Indian agent. He expected under the guise of this office to assume many of the powers of a governor. But since he had incurred animosity in his previous connection with the Mission, the colonists refused him support. In the course of his duties, Dr. White had taken into custody by April 1, 1843, eight Indian prisoners, but was in doubt as to his authority to deal with lawless whites.

The Indians had become excited and enraged over the large immigrations of people who were wresting from them their lands, and threatened a general uprising. Alarm spread over the entire territory, and White wished the settlers to bind themselves individually to keep on hand a good musket, a hundred rounds of ammunition, and to hold themselves ready to march at a moment's notice to any part of the country, if the savages attempted to invade the settlements. The In-

dians in the Willamette Valley had become insolent and hostile; however, no plan of preparedness could be agreed on.

Then, on April 20, White received an imperative call from The Dalles to come at once to quiet the Indians there. He must raise men and means for the expedition; but the only ones from the valley who could be induced to accompany him were Le Breton, one Indian and a Hawaiian.

They proceeded to Fort Vancouver, where White procured equipment, and on the 29th the party set out in canoes for The Dalles, leaving Le Breton to return to the valley.

White was treating with the Indians until May 27 before they were pacified, and the war cloud blew over. White felt he had been of value in protecting the citizens, but his pretensions as acting governor were repudiated from first to last. His coming and the Indian menace undoubtedly hastened the adoption of the provisional government.

There was considerable agitation about forming some sort of government, but the cleavages between the Catholic French Canadians, the American settlers and the Methodist Mission caused bitter differences of opinion. But wary politicians were not lacking in those days, and an adroit scheme was worked out for a coalition of interests.

All the settlers had suffered loss of stock through the depredations of panthers, wolves and cougars. Meetings were called to devise means of combatting this menace.

Le Breton was one of those who understood the purposes back of the advertised object of a meeting called

for March 6, and he did some quiet lobbying. This was the Second Wolf Meeting, and there was a full attendance at the home of Joseph Gervais near Champoege. George Le Breton was elected secretary, with James O'Neil chairman. The day was consumed in making provision for the protection of domestic animals, and then a resolution was slipped in, that measures be considered for the protection of the settlers themselves. The chairman, cognizant of the scheme, promptly appointed a committee of twelve and the meeting adjourned.

This committee, headed by Dr. Babcock, held several meetings and drew up a report favoring a form of provisional government and a list of officers that would be needed. Meanwhile, skillful and discreet canvassing was going on among the colonists, and a mass meeting was called for May 2, 1843, at Champoege.

The committee submitted their report for a form of government and the motion to accept seemed to be lost. Confusion resulted. Le Breton was a man of the keenest perception and was resourceful in suggestion, and it was he who arose and moved that the meeting divide in order to be counted. Gray seconded the motion, and the chairman directed those in favor to file to the right, and those opposed, to the left. When all fell into their respective sides, it was found the majority favored the resolution of the committee. Business proceeded, with the dissenters withdrawing. Le Breton was elected to the office of clerk and recorder, and other proposed offices were filled.

A legislative committee was chosen to draw up a constitution and laws for the new government and to report on July 5 at another mass meeting. Gray says the committee secretly added Le Breton to their num-

ber, feeling need of his services. They held sessions May 16 to 19 inclusive, and on the 28th and 29th of June, Le Breton acting as clerk.

There were still advocates of a government independent of the United States, but they were in the minority, and when the report of the committee was formed, it read, "We, the people of Oregon Territory . . . agree to adopt the following laws and regulations until such time as the United States of America extend their jurisdiction over us."

It was Le Breton who read before the assembled multitude on July 5, 1843, the voluminous report of the committee, so laboriously prepared. It was accepted and adopted article by article, and the new government was well started on its way. Le Breton was continued in office as clerk or recorder for another year, or until his successor was elected.

Although warlike manifestations of the Indians were repressed, their resentment of the land-grabbing Americans was still smouldering the next year. A troublesome Molalla Indian sub-chief, Cockstock, was indignant over a flogging administered to a relative, and in revenge broke windows in Dr. White's house at Oregon City.

Other depredations followed and were laid at the door of the miscreant. Dr. White made a vain effort to apprehend Cockstock, and then offered a reward of \$100 for his capture.

On March 4, 1844, into Oregon City rode the turbulent trouble maker with six followers. Consternation reigned, as for several hours the Indian rode up and down the street, armed and decked out in paint. Then the little band set out for an Indian village on the op-

posite shore. Convinced he had gone to recruit a large force for an attack, the citizens were in a frenzy of excitement. Dr. White in his published account of the affray written shortly after the tragedy, states: "Cockstock obtained an interpreter and recrossed the river, as other Indians state, with the purpose of calling the whites to an explanation for pursuing him with hostile intentions." The fact that he appeared in broad daylight with only six followers lends credence to the statement that he wished to clear himself of charges against him.

White continues: "All classes and both sexes ran in confusion and disorder toward the point where the Indians were landing . . . some to take him alive, and others to shoot him at any risk to themselves. . . . The Indians were met at the landing, and firing simultaneously commenced on both sides. . . . Mr. George Le Breton, after the discharge of his pistols, rushed unarmed upon Cockstock and he received a heavy discharge in the palm of his right hand, lodging one ball in his elbow and another in his arm. A scuffle ensued, in which he fell with the Indian, crying out instantly, 'He is killing me with his knife!' At this moment a mulatto ran up, named Winslow Anderson, and despatched Cockstock by breaking his skull with the barrel of his rifle, using it as a soldier would a bayonet. In the meantime, the other Indians were firing among the whites in every direction with guns, pistols, and poisoned arrows, yelling fearfully. Two men, who were quietly at work near by, were wounded with arrows. They were Mr. Wilson and Mr. Rogers, but neither, **as** was supposed, dangerously wounded. Mr. Le Breton, the surgeon being absent from town, was removed,

therefore, to Vancouver where he received every attention ; but the canoe having been ten hours on the voyage, the poison had diffused itself all abroad in his system, and proved mortal in less than three days from the moment of the horrid disaster. Mr. Rogers lived but **one** day longer."

Careful search of burial grounds and records fail to reveal where Le Breton's body was buried.

2

JOHN EDMUNDS PICKERNELL
(Or John Edmunds)

JOHN EDMUNDS PICKERNELL was born in Wendall, New Hampshire, on September 5, 1818, coming to Oregon in 1837. In Yamhill county he married Emmeline Redhead in 1838 and had four children. For many years he acted as pilot on the lower Columbia, operating tow and passenger boats through that dangerous channel. Many serious wrecks had taken place at the mouth of the river, and often boats would anchor and wait for weeks before daring to venture across the bar.

For several years he was one of only three white men living in what is now Pacific county, Washington, on the north shore of the Columbia.

Pickernell enlisted in the Oregon Rangers, March 9, 1844—the first military organization. In an attempt to maintain law and order in 1845 Pickernell, or Edmunds as he was then known, was sworn in as deputy to arrest one Joel Turnham who had made a vicious and unprovoked attack upon Webley Hauxhurst. The attempted arrest resulted in a regular pitched battle, and finally, to save his own life, **Edmunds** was obliged to fire upon

his assailant, killing him. Edmunds was exonerated and no charge brought against him.

Judge Thornton in his *Oregon and California*, published in 1849, narrates in diary form a thrilling incident on the start of his journey to Washington as a delegate from Oregon. He states, under date of October 30, 1847, that "Mr. Edmunds, a worthy and enterprising man, came alongside our vessel in a whale-boat with a seaman, Mr. Reeves, while we were anchored above Tongue Point. They came aboard and left shortly and hoisted sail although a violent gale was blowing at the time. We thought they were acting imprudently in doing so, but saw them at length take it in. In a few minutes they were again seen to hoist their sail." The weather was cold and rainy and a severe gale was blowing.

It transpired that battling with the storm the boat capsized, but the men with difficulty succeeded in climbing on it. There they "made every demonstration in their power" to call attention to their plight, but in vain. Although there were three vessels within sight, none saw the helpless seamen, and they were abandoned to their fate. Reeves after five hours of exposure slipped into the water and was drowned. Edmunds was able to cling on, and all through the night he was buffeted by the waves at the mercy of the stormy sea.

A little before daylight the boat was washed ashore and Edmunds, chilled nearly to death after forty-eight hours in the icy waters, was just able to make his way to a house a short distance above Astoria.

The next year Pickernell, undaunted by past hazards, set forth to the gold fields of California, where, no doubt, he shared in new adventures unknown to us.

He died near Ilwaco, Washington, November 12, 1877.

3

ALBERT E. WILSON

ALBERT WILSON came from Massachusetts in 1842 with Captain Couch on the brig *Chenamus* with a stock of goods. This was the captain's second attempt to establish a mercantile business in the new country, and it proved to be more of a success than the first one. A store was opened at Oregon City, with Wilson and LeBreton in charge, and a regular trade opened with the Sandwich islands.

Wilson was preeminently a business man, and must have been looked upon as promising material by the older residents, for he was at once drawn into participation in community affairs. It was he who copied, in March, 1843, the famous Shortess petition to the United States Congress, making serious accusations against the Hudson's Bay Company and asking for speedy legislation as a means of protection. Half of the 65 signers had been in the country less than six months, Bancroft says, and were unqualified to pass judgment on the matter.

The chief grievance was that Dr. McLoughlin had built a mill on the land he had claimed since 1829, and that it interefered with the Island (mission) mills built on the same claim. The manifest purpose of the signers was to seize the Doctor's claim, all of which resulted in litigation and animosity for many unhappy years.

At the same time Wilson was a member of the Oregon Lyceum at Oregon City in 1842, formed "to discuss the whole round of literary and scientific pursuits." A series of debates and discussions were being held on the subject of forming a local civil government. There was a

great difference of opinion as to the advisability and practicability of such a move, and arguments were hot and heavy. It was an excellent method of informing and educating the inhabitants and also of gauging public opinion.

All this agitation came to a climax when the settlers assembled for the public meeting at Champoege on May 2, 1843. The vote of the people declared for a provisional government, and steps were taken to put it in operation. Wilson's popularity was attested to by his election to the office of supreme judge with probate powers. This was an office hitherto filled by Dr. Babcock and one taken over again by him the following year.

Wilson had no further prominence in governmental affairs, but continued in business. In *The Free Press* of August 26, 1848, he, with David McLoughlin, advertised for patronage under the firm name of "Pettygrove and Company at Oregon City, Portland and Champoege."

The last act of public service by Wilson of which we have record is during the Cayuse War which was alarming the citizens at this time. Reports in the Oregon archives listing the expense, claims, and other financial statements, are signed by "Albert E. Wilson, Assistant Adjutant General."

With the scanty resources and flimsy new local government, it was a prodigious feat to organize an army and conduct a war, cut off from all help from the mother country—an achievement without parallel. The close of the war marked the close of the provisional government, with the advent of Governor Lane, the territorial governor, in 1849. The United States Government reimbursed loans for the war and adjusted claims, with appropriations amounting in 1854 to \$175,000.

In 1846, Wilson is listed as the first American merchant to settle at Astoria. According to John Minto, Wilson bought out the interest of B. T. Wood in a mill and lumbering project 30 miles east of Astoria. Minto says the laborers had been cutting and hauling the timber by hand and that it was slow and difficult labor until Wilson came in with a team of oxen. He contracted also for a force of five Sandwich islanders at the rate of \$5 a month, with salmon and potatoes furnished. As a hard-headed business man, Wilson was one of the founders of Astoria and a pioneer in the exportation of lumber. He was buried with Masonic ceremonies at Oregon City on March 31, 1861.

4

CHARLES RICHARD MCKAY

CHARLES MCKAY was born at sea in 1808 while his parents were on the way from Scotland to Canada. The family settled at Winnipeg, Manitoba, and there in 1827 Charles married Letitia, the daughter of the governor, James Byrd.

Charles McKay, his wife and three children joined a large party organized in 1841 by Governor Simpson, agent for the Hudson's Bay Company, to colonize and save for England the Oregon Country in dispute north of the Columbia.

This immigration, led by James Sinclair, left Red River about the first of June. Each family had two two-wheeled carts and bands of horses and cattle, making a procession a mile long. After a toilsome, difficult journey, the carts were abandoned at the Rocky Mountains, and the trip was continued on horseback.

At Fort Spokane the immigrants came to rest and the

fourth child was born to the McKay family. The party remained there in camp for ten days to allow the pioneer mother to recuperate before resuming the journey. After the mountains were crossed the families settled in territory adjacent to Fort Nisqually, near the present town of Dupont, belonging to the Puget Sound Agricultural Company.

Here there was much dissatisfaction. The soil was light, and the country was not at all up to the expectations aroused by the representations of Simpson. Furthermore, the English overseers were found to be domineering and unpleasant. Whereupon, the following year, 1842, the harrassed and disappointed colonists once again moved on. This time they chose the rich, fertile lands of the Willamette Valley, and McKay took up a claim on Tualatin Plains. Here he reared his family and became a valued citizen. He gave the name of Glencoe to a town site named for the family's native home in Scotland. North Plains, part of which is still occupied by his descendants, was included in the claim.

When the word went around that the Americans were going to form a government, McKay traveled over to Champoeg with Caleb Wilkins and George Ebberts, his neighbors, and cast his lot in with his new friends. The family stated that in renouncing his British allegiance he lost financial assistance that he had been receiving from England.

At the Wolf Meeting held two months previous he had been chosen as one of a committee to consider "measures for the civil and military protection of this colony." On July 5, 1843, when the provisional government was formally adopted, he was elected captain. The name in both cases is given as McRoy, but undoubtedly was a mistake in transcribing.

When the horrors of Indian warfare loomed after the Whitman massacre, McKay offered his services in the volunteer company of mounted riflemen. The militia to which McKay had been elected captain at the formation of the provisional government four years before, fortunately had not been required for service and had no organization.

McKay is listed in the muster rolls as first lieutenant of Company "D"-7, and as 4th sergeant I. J. 9th. These volunteers met with more than usual risk and privation, and the brave effort to protect the colonies without any adequate means was a discouraging proposition.

As soon as possible the regiment was dispatched to The Dalles and thence to the scene of carnage. There at Wailatpu the wolves had dug from the shallow graves the victims of the merciless savages. Reverently the bones of Dr. and Mrs. Whitman and other martyrs of the mission were gathered up and buried together in one large grave.

The murderers had not been apprehended, but some of the tribes declared themselves friendly and willing to help in their punishment.

The troops moved on and had one severe encounter with the Indians. Thirty hours of fighting without rest or food, left them exhausted but victorious. However, the army was in a sorry plight. The report sent by Captain Maxon stated that the 150 men left at Fort Waters were almost without clothing and ammunition, and wholly without bread. He begged fathers to send bread to their sons "who were keeping danger away from their hearthstones" and to mothers to provide clothing to "protect their children from the winter blasts." A show of force and increasing numbers of soldiers, had con-

vinced the hostile or neutral Indians that there was a power they dared not flout, and the friendly tribes were confirmed in their allegiance to the Americans. The missionaries, Messrs. Walker and Eells with their families, were escorted from Fort Colville, but the dearth of supplies made a further campaign almost impossible. A council of officers in June decided to leave a company of volunteers in the field with Fort Waters as a base, and to give over the active campaign and disband the army. Through the lack of ammunition and the poverty of the commissary department, the Cayuse War was brought to an end that summer.

The Cayuse lands, which the Indians had committed murders to retain, were declared forfeited and were opened for colonization.

For another year desultory warfare continued, and peace was consummated only by the surrender and execution of five Indians on June 3, 1850.

An interesting fact brought to light by the family of McKay is that it was he who shot Five Crows and shattered his arm, whereupon the chief fell from his horse and was carried away by two Indians. Five Crows of the Cayuse tribe was the most prominent of all Indian chiefs, and had been elected to represent all the tribes in the conference with Dr. White, the Indian agent, who persuaded them in 1843 to accept a code of laws to govern themselves and to regulate their relations with the Americans.

Many years afterwards McKay and Five Crows met, and the latter although he had but one arm, said: "You tried to kill me and I tried to kill you, but I am not mad at you." In proof of his forgiveness, he gave McKay a handsome saddle horse that the family prized for many

years. Five Crows used to come down into the Plains in after years regularly to sell ponies, and was a picturesque figure, well known to his former foes.

After McKay's return from war, he left for the California gold mines. This absence was followed by participation in business in Portland for a time, and then by a return to California to look after his mining interests. When this last journey was finished, McKay returned home broken in health and died there, in 1874.

He is buried with other members of his family in a private burying plot known as the Harrison cemetery, near North Plains, adjacent to a little station on the Oregon Electric railroad listed as Vadis.

5

WILLIAM JOHNSON

IN 1842, William Johnson was the only settler within the present limits of Portland. Little he thought when he made his crude log hut what a mighty city would replace the forests on the river bank. Portland's first house was built of rough logs cemented with mud and occupied by Johnson, his native wife and his children, spoken of in 1843 as the only settlers below The Falls. This home proved too isolated and the family later moved to French Prairie where they would be less lonesome.

The property changed hands several times, and was eventually acquired by the city for delinquent taxes. Here the Oregon Historical Society erected a temporary marker reading: "Site of first house west of the River, built by a sailor of Old Ironsides." This marker was unveiled with appropriate ceremonies sponsored by the Portland Council of Boy Scouts on February 14, 1925,

but has since disappeared. It was hoped at the time that the city would set aside a half acre as a public park.

A drawing of the cabin was made by Captain William L. Higgins, who had been a visitor at Johnson's, and a model constructed by Thomas H. Burgess which is preserved in the Oregon Historical Society.

Johnson was a fine specimen of English tar who abandoned his allegiance to his native country and joined the United States Navy. He was assigned service aboard the *Constitution* ("Old Ironsides") and took part in the famous engagement with the *Guerriere* on August 19, 1812. The mode of battle was quite different with the wooden ships of those days, and Johnson was one of a party ordered to board the captured prize. Knowing the manner of English attack, he took the precaution to place in the top of his cap a couple of pieces of hoop iron crossed. This proved to be the only thing that saved his life, for he was struck over the head a tremendous blow from a British cutlass and carried scars on his head the rest of his life.

After an honorable discharge from the United States Navy, William Johnson sailed to the Pacific Coast and first settled near Champoeg. When William A. Slacum of the United States Navy visited the region on a mission for the government, Johnson signed the petition the former took back in 1837, praying Congress to recognize the colonists "in their helpless and defenseless state and to extend to them the protection of its laws."

Thomas J. Farnham, writer and traveler, came out with the Peoria Party in 1839 and published an account of his explorations and observations. His books did much to awaken interest and call attention to the Oregon Country. In them he mentions Johnson as his guide for

several days and states he conducted the writer up the Willamette and through the valley.

When the first attempt was made, February 18, 1841, to form a government in the new land, Johnson was placed on a commission to draft a constitution and code of laws. This body was instructed to consult with Commodore Wilkes of the United States Navy, then in the Columbia. The latter advised against the move, discouraging and frustrating the effort as premature. Later in his published narrative he seeks to excuse his attitude with the statement: "William Johnson was the only one of the settler class not French on the committee, and he said that there was as yet 'no necessity for laws, lawyers or magistrates'."

At the same meeting, in 1841, Johnson was elected high sheriff, representing, by virtue of his birth, the English element in the colony.

Commodore Wilkes was also a friend of Johnson and spent a night at his house. He spoke of a picture of the battle of "Old Ironsides" hanging over Johnson's fireplace.

Johnson broke ground in 1842 for his new home in what is now Portland. From here the old sailor acted as pilot for the trading vessels that were becoming more numerous in the Columbia. He was skillful in piloting them around the treacherous sand bars at the mouth of the river and his services were in great demand.

William Johnson died in 1850, but his burial place cannot be determined.

6

DAVID HILL

DAVID HILL was born in Connecticut in 1809 and

came as a pioneer to Oregon on July 4, 1842. He settled on the present site of Hillsboro, where he became at once a prominent figure, holding the highest offices and responsibilities in the government from its inception on May 2, 1843. On that date he was elected as one of nine on the legislative committee, and, on May 16, appointed on a committee of three on private land claims.

On July 5, 1843, Hill was the choice of the people as one of three having the powers of governor and known as the first executive committee. This great honor was followed by his election in 1844 as representative from the Tualatin district to the legislative assembly. At the first annual election in 1845, he was chosen as representative to the legislature and again in 1847 and in 1848, thus attesting to his continued popularity.

The legislature of 1848 was forced to suspend sessions because of the rush of members-elect to the gold fields. Governor Abernethy had issued a proclamation for the election of substitutes and David Hill was chosen for Tualatin; but, even then, only nine members were present at the first assembly of the legislature. The sergeant-at-arms compelled the attendance of four members from Champoeg, but that was but thirteen out of twenty-three representatives and the house adjourned until a special election could fill the vacancies.

This was done and on February 5, 1849, at Oregon City, convened the last session of the legislature of the provisional government. The governor announced that transactions of business had to do with the adjustment of expenses of the Cayuse War, which he expected would soon be assumed by the United States; that the country would soon be under territorial government; but before the new officials arrived some matters of

amendments must be wound up. The legislature adjourned on February 16, having as far as possible put the provisional government in order, ready to pass on its enactments and all its affairs to United States control. From beginning to end Hill shared in the deliberations of the legislative body.

Among Reverend J. S. Griffin's records is the following item:

"Married by J. S. Griffin in Tualatin Plains at 4 o'clock p. m. on the 4th of June, 1846, David Hill Esq. of Columbia to Mrs. Lucinda Wilson late of Missouri."

Hill was postmaster in 1850 in the settlement then known as Columbia (afterwards named for him, Hillsboro, and now the county seat), and petitioned for a monthly mail from Portland. This office he held until the time of his death, which occurred on May 9, 1850.

To honor the memory of this notable and loyal citizen, at the suggestion of Mrs. Edyth Tozier Weatherred, a handsome monument was erected over his grave in Hillsboro by the school children of Washington county.

7

PLEASANT ARMSTRONG

PLEASANT ARMSTRONG, in the spring of 1840, fell in with members of the American Fur Company and the missionaries, Reverend and Mrs. Harvey Clark and Mr. and Mrs. Alvin T. Smith, all joining forces for safety as they moved farther west.

Together they journeyed to Green river, and thence to Fort Hall under the escort of Rocky Mountain men who themselves became settlers in the Willamette valley and founders of the government.

Some historians say Armstrong came in 1842; but

Smith mentions him as part of their train in 1840 and Joseph Gale states he was a member of the company who built and sailed the *Star of Oregon* with him in 1841.

This was a romantic project that must have enticed Armstrong soon after his arrival and was a vital factor in developing the ill-stocked country by the importation of cattle. A full account of the prodigious undertaking and its successful outcome may be found in the life of Joseph Gale.

With the cattle so dearly bought as a nucleus, Armstrong took a land claim near Amity, increased his holdings and became a prosperous farmer with every indication of wealth.

Crossing in Dr. White's party of 1842 were the Smith family with several attractive daughters. These were so admired and coveted by the Indians that their demands for white brides became a serious menace. One handsome Sioux brave offered twenty horses for Jane Smith. She refused this flattering proposal and became, on October 30, 1845, the wife of Armstrong. Two months later her sister married Francis Fletcher, of the Peoria Party.

Early in August, 1853, trouble began in the Rogue river section with the perpetration of murders by the Indians. The whites entrenched themselves at Jacksonville and other points, and several encounters took place followed by the whites retaliating in barbarous fashion.

About this time, says Frances Victor, "Pleasant Armstrong was in the Umpqua Valley with a James Cluggage in a vain endeavor to enlist the Klickitats against the Rogue River Indians." According to the family, he was driving a band of cattle.

Governor Lane heard of this Indian uprising while,

near Roseburg and quickly organized a small company of volunteers, including these two men, and proceeded to Camp Stewart. Other companies from southern Oregon and California had also hastened to the Rogue river. Altogether, a battalion was formed of about 300 men, each man mounted, armed and dressed according to his own fashion. The forces divided. Governor Lane was in command of one division which was to advance to Evans creek.

On August 23, Governor Lane set out with a small number, including Armstrong, to track the Indians over a dim trail in mountainous, precipitous and bushy country. Two days they struggled through the smoke of burning forests and then discovered the enemy encamped in a thick wood almost impenetrable with underbrush.

A volley of bullets surprised the Indians but they immediately rose to the attack, soon wounding Captain Alden, and almost capturing him as he fell. A hot fight ensued, in the midst of which Pleasant Armstrong was mortally wounded by a bullet in his breast. It is said he fell exclaiming, "A dead center shot."

Governor Lane himself was shot in the arm, and several others wounded and killed before the Indians asked to treat for peace. An armistice of seven days was agreed upon, after which a conference was held at Table Rock, and a treaty arranged whereby the Indians were given a reservation in that locality.

Armstrong's body was never recovered, and it is believed his remains were disinterred and cut to pieces by the Indians. His sacrifice was not wholly in vain, as peace, though temporary, brought respite from Indian terrors.

He was the only Founder to die in battle. He is buried in the family burial plot at Dayton, Oregon.

CHARLES CAMPO

ONLY A NAME is Charles Campo, given the office of magistrate at the Champoeg meeting where he voted with the American party in forming the provisional government on May 2, 1843.

Narcissa Whitman, that beautiful martyr of the massacre in 1847, makes mention of him in letters dated April, September and October, 1838. One extract reads: "Quite early in the spring, Charles Compo, Mr. Parker's interpreter, came here and put himself under our protection, and went to cultivating land here, and assisting my husband in his cares. He is an excellent man and we feel as if the Lord had sent him here. Husband left him in charge when he went to Mr. Spalding's, having got all the crops in. Imagine, if you can, the care and constant watch necessary to preserve a farm exposed to every depredation, without a fence, and not only our stock, but the Indians', too, far and near." Another statement reads: "His superior knowledge of the language makes him truly a helper in our work. He has been a regular attendant upon our family social and Sabbath worship and given much attention to the study of Holy Scriptures since living here—"

Reverend Samuel Parker was sent out in 1835 under the auspices of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions with the assistance of the Dutch Reformed Church of Ithaca, New York, so noted in their history published in 1840. He and Dr. Whitman explored the country and chose as the first Presbyterian mission site Wailatpu, near Walla Walla.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

DEDICATION OF TABLETS HONORING THE
FOUNDERS OF THE PROVISIONAL
GOVERNMENT OF OREGON

MULTNOMAH CHAPTER of the Daughters of the American Revolution to perpetuate the memory of the men who by their service helped save the vast Oregon country, the Pacific Northwest, to this nation, marked with bronze tablets the graves of thirty-one founders of the provisional government.

As a project of Mrs. John Y. Richardson, regent, thirty graves were found and permanently marked in 1930-1931 by a committee appointed by her, consisting of:

Mrs. John Y. Richardson, regent	Mrs. Clyde Lewis
Mrs. John F. Dobbs	Mrs. Joseph T. Peters
Mrs. Gage Haselton	Mrs. Roy S. Stearns
Miss Manche Langley	Mrs. John Travis

One tablet was placed in 1929 on the grave of Joseph Meek under the auspices of Mrs. J. Thorburn Ross, regent; Mrs. Willard H. Chapin, chairman, and Mrs. Ludlow J. Merrill.

Formal dedications, accompanied by suitable programs of music and addresses, were held in Oregon at the Scotch Presbyterian Church, north of Hillsboro; at Pacific University, Forest Grove; the Methodist Episcopal Church, Dayton; the First Methodist Episcopal Church, Salem; at Eagle Valley, Baker county; at San Juan Island, Friday Harbor, and Wailatpu, Washington; and at the Normal Hill cemetery, Lewiston, Idaho.

A ceremony of unveiling was held at each grave, conducted by members of Multnomah Chapter assisted by representatives from other chapters and organizations

of Oregon, Washington and Idaho. Descendants of the pioneers thus honored, unveiled the tablets.

Names of men whose graves were marked are starred on pages 5 and 6.

APPENDIX B

RECORD OF MARRIAGES BY J. S. GRIFFIN,
PASTOR OF CHURCH AND CONGREGA-
TION OF TUALATIN PLAINS,
OREGON TERRITORY

(These records of Oregon marriages in the 40s and 50s are contained in the manuscript papers of the Reverend J. S. Griffin in the library of Pacific University. These early marriages were recorded in no other place.)

Married by J. S. Griffin at the house of Robert Newell, before the congregation assembled in Divine service, August 7th, 1842, Mr. Henry Black of the United States to Mrs. Lisette Warfield of this territory.

Married by J. S. Griffin at the house of William Doughty, before the congregation assembled in divine serve, October 23, 1842, Mr. William Doughty of the state of Missouri to Miss Pigeon Shoshone of Green River Valley, Rocky Mountains.

Married by J. S. Griffin at the house of Richard Ough, before William Baldra and his wife as witnesses, November 6, 1842, Mr. Richard Ough of Cornwall, England, to Miss Betsy Siahuts of Columbia Cascades.

Married by J. S. Griffin at the house of Henry Black, December 23, 1842, Mr. Henry Wakefield King, of London, England, to Miss Mary Ann of the Clickitats of Columbia River, Oregon Territory. Witnesses: Henry Black and wife and family, John Cunningham, Richard Lineter.

Married by J. S. Griffin at the house of Rev. Harvey Clark, April 6, 1843, Mr. Henry Buxton of England to Mrs. Elisa Munger of the United States. Witnesses: Rev. Harvey Clark and family, Mrs. Charles McKay.

Married by J. S. Griffin at the house of Benjamin Kelsey, before witnesses on December 12, 1843, Mr. William Fowler to Miss Rebecca Kelsey, both of Missouri.

Married by J. S. Griffin at the house of Benjamin Kelsey, before witnesses May 10th, 1844, Mr. Willard Russell, late of California, to Miss Frances Kelsey, of Missouri.

Married by J. S. Griffin at the house of — Mills, before witnesses, Mr. Richard Arthur of Missouri to Miss L. Jane Mills of Arkansas, May 23, 1844.

Married by J. S. Griffin at the house of Richard Williams, September 5th, 1844, before neighboring families, Mr. Jacob T. Reed to Miss Patsy Williams, both formerly from Missouri. Recorded by J. S. Griffin.

Married March 29th, 1846, at the house of James Gerrish, Esq., in Tualatin Plains by J. S. Griffin, Mr. Henry Sewell of Oregon City to Miss Mary Ann Jones Gerrish of Tualatin Plains.

Married, in Tualatin Plains on the morning of the 10th of May, 1846, Mr. Henry Martin to Mrs. Emily Hipes, both late of Iowa.

Married by J. S. Griffin in Tualatin Plains, at 4 o'clock P.M. on the 4th of June 1846, David Hill, Esq. of Columbia, to Mrs. Lucinda Wilson late of Missouri.

Married by Rev. J. S. Griffin on the 17th of June 1846, Mr. Alanson Hinman, formerly of the State of New York and now a teacher in the Oregon Institute, to Miss Martha Elizabeth Jones Gerrish at her fathers residence in Tualatin Plains.

Married by Rev. J. S. Griffin in Tualatin Plains at her father's residence, September 26th, 1846, Mr. Henry Buxton to Miss Rosannah Woolly, formerly of Pennsylvania.

Married by Rev. J. S. Griffin in North Tualatin, March 28th, 1851, Mr. Caleb Wilkins to Mrs. Mirriam Enyart, all of Washington county.

Married by Rev. J. S. Griffin at the residence of her father in

Tualatin Plains, September 11th 1848, Mr. Reuben W. Ford to Miss Mary Ann Lenox, both of Tualatin Co., Oregon Territory.

Married by the Rev. J. S. Griffin at the residence of her sons in Tualatin Plains, February 9th, 1849, Mr. Thomas Cowhick to Mrs. Mary Pugh, both of Tualatin County.

Married by the Rev. J. S. Griffin at the residence of Thomas Atchin in Tualatin Plains, October 3rd, 1849, Mr. John Pother to Miss Hulda Miller both of Washington County, Oregon.

December 13th, 1849, married by the Rev. J. S. Griffin in Tualatin Plains at the house of her father, Mr. Solomon Williamson to Miss Adaline Reed, both of Washington Co.

Married by Rev. J. S. Griffin at the home of her father in Tualatin Plains, February 14th, 1850, Mr. Thomas R. Cornelius to Miss Florentine Wilks, both of Washington County.

Married by the Rev. J. S. Griffin at his home in the presence of Jacob Hover and wife and my own family as witnesses, Tuesday the 18th of June, 1850, Mr. Reuben Cave to Miss Rachel Cooper both of Yamhill County.

Married by Rev. J. S. Griffin at his own house September 16th, 1850, Mr. Charles McKay, Jr. to Miss Mary Spence, both of Washington County.

Married by Rev. J. S. Griffin at the house of Charles McKay, October 26th 1850, Mr. John Spence to Miss Margaret Flett, both of Washington County, O. T.

Married by Rev. J. S. Griffin at the house of her father in Tualatin Plains, March 30th, 1851, Mr. Charles J. Mirrell to Miss Sarah H. Scholl both of Washington County, O. T.

Married by Rev. J. S. Griffin near Butte Prairie, April 17th, 1851, Mr. Augustus Fanno to Miss Rebecca Jane Denney both of Washington County.

Married by Rev. J. S. Griffin at the house of Elam Young in Tualatin Plains, March 27th, Mr. Joseph Nichols, late of Illinois and Mrs. Ann Hoglan, late of Iowa.

↑ ↑ ↑

Married by Rev. J. S. Griffin at a house near his brother's in South Tualatin Mr. Alfred Stewart and Miss Cordelia Linn, both of Washington County. Note—This is recorded from a minute made at the time of the marriage, but which was mislaid and forgotten till found years after and the date is not attached to the minute. J. S. Griffin. (inserted)

↑ ↑ ↑

Married by Rev. J. S. Griffin at his own house, June 8th, 1854, before witnesses, Mr. George Birchard to Mrs. Elisa Jane Sadler, both of Washington County.

↑ ↑ ↑

April 18th, 1858, married before me, Mr. William James **Johnson** and Mrs. Fidelia Hough.

APPENDIX C

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO "THE AMERICAN AND
UNIONIST"*In Account With the Reverend J. S. Griffin, June, 1848*

(After the Whitman massacre, the first printing press of the West, known as the Mission Press and used at Lapwai, was, in 1848, transferred to the Reverend J. S. Griffin, pastor of the church at Tualatin Plains. By its aid he edited and published for a short time *The Oregon American and Evangelical Unionist*. This was approximately the fourth publication in Oregon, being preceded by *The Spectator*, an almanac and a book. The number in a sparsely settled country who took this paper, indicates he had energy and ability at least on the circulation side of his publishing enterprise. The list, which is given as he left it, with its quaint orthography and its crossed-out names of dissatisfied or non-paying subscribers, is among the Griffin records at Pacific University.)

Daniel Clark
 ——— Anthony
 James Chambers
 Franklin Wilcox
 D. T. Lenox
 Orin Brown
 Alanson Hinman
 David Hill
 John Kitchen
 ——— Pomeroy
 **Miss Isabelle
 Mrs. Tabitha Brown (gratuity in
 school)
 Mahlon Brock
 Rev. J. E. Brally
 B. Q. Tucker
 A. T. Smith
 J. T. Read
 William Cetching
 Benjamin H. Cetching
 Rev. Lewis Thompson
 Isaac Quinnealt
 William Higgins
 Jacob Hover
 Allen W. Hall

P. D. Walter
 John Harrison
 G. W. Coffenbury
 J. B. Robison
 W. H. Bennett
 Elam Young
 J. M. White
 Rev. H. Clark
 William Geiger
 T. G. Naylor
 G. C. Preston
 Michael More
 R. W. Ford
 Edward H. Lenox
 N. and M. Johnson
 Henry Sewell
 ——— Stoughton
 H. H. Buckenham
 Joseph Gale
 ——— Mills
 John Ritchey
 William Chapman
 Denford Balch
 William Mansey
 Thomas Stewart

MEN OF CHAMPOEG

PORTLAND MAIL

Care of N. Crosby

Capt. N. Crosby
 Janes Terwilliger
 Thomas Caster
 **Dr. Wilcox
 Johnathan Truesdell
 P. W. Crawford
 **F. Caruthers
 L. B. Hastings
 D. H. Lounsdaie
 John E. Fenimore
 Philester Lee
 Elijah Hill
 Israel Mitchell
 M. M. Apperson, Tanner's Creek
 Capt. Weinton, Cowlitz Bark
 Daniel McKinney
 Capt. Goodwin
 Reasin Reed
 Edward Long
 **Capt. Newill
 **Capt. DeWitt
 I. H. Gradue

CHAMPORAE COUNTY

Robert Newel
 Dr. Bailly
 J. H. Bratteia

SALEM PACAGE

Care of Rev. C. Bells

T. D. Keisur
 John Pugh
 ——— Shaw
 **Merchant Cox
 Dr. W. H. Willson
 I. W. Gilbert
 ** ——— Stanton

TO BE PAID FOR IN WHEAT
AT SALEM MILL

Luther White
 Walter Monteith
 W. P. Breeding
 Thos. Powell
 S. C. Parker
 William Cox
 Phillip Snook
 J. M. Garrison—paid to Beers
 William Gilliam—paid to Beers
 W. H. Reeter
 N. L. English
 S. H. Goodhue
 Alanson Beers
 T. M. Ward
 Leonard White

POLK COUNTY

Rickreal Pacage

A. B. Harden
 John Nichols
 Rev. Glen O. Burnett

APPLEGATES OFFICE

Jesse Applegate
 William Doak

WEYMIRES OFFICE

(O'neils Mill)

John Waymire
 Benj. Nichols
 John Bowman
 T. J. Lovelady
 C. D. Embree
 Sam Birch
 J. M. Allen
 Amos Harvey
 Isaac King
 Henry Omen
 Frederick Waymire
 W. H. Evans
 A. B. Harden
 John Nichols
 A. C. R. Shaw
 Judge Russell

CLACKAMAS COUNTY

Oregon City Pacage

John Bosworth
 S. M. Moss
 Joel Palmer
 W. G. T. Vault
 A. L. Lovejoy
 G. W. Bell
 Judge White
 M. M. McCarver
 Rev. D. Leslie
 Rev. M. Johnson
 Dr. McLaughlin
 H. Clark Esq.
 J. K. Robb
 ——— Tompkins (Green Point)
 G. L. Curry Esq.
 A. E. Wait Esq.
 C. W. Shane
 Peter Hatch
 Governor Abernathy
 Jacob Vandorn
 Rev. G. H. Atkinson
 Doct. Carpenter
 James M. More
 Richard Lane
 H. B. Co, care of A. McKing
 Joseph Church
 Phillip Foster
 G. L. Curry
 A. J. Vickers
 Dr. McLaughlin
 S. H. L. Meek
 Lucius Marsh

YAMHILL COUNTY FALLS

Rev. J. O. Rayner
 Robert C. Kinney
 ——— Stewart
 Dr. Wilcox
 A. L. Rice
 Rev. J. O. Rayner
 Dr. Danforth

MIDDLE YAM HILL

Rev. J. A. Cornwall
 G. W. McGary
 Nathan Hitton

LINN CITY MAIL

Judge C. Lancaster
 P. B. Anthony
 S. R. Thurston
 James M. More
 ——— Hedges
 Edward A. Wilson
 A. H. Frier
 Hugh Burns
 Peter H. Burnett
 Dr. Lacy

W. J. MARTIN'S OFFICE Yam Hill County

Nathan Sutton
 W. J. Martin
 D. S. Holman
 Jacob Hampton
 James Toney
 Benj. Williams
 Reuben Gant
 A. C. W. Shaw
 Rev. Glen O. Burnett
 John East

A. T. SMITH'S MAIL Tualatin County

A. T. Smith's office
 Henry Black
 Rev. A. Evans
 William Beagle
 T. G. Naylor
 Joseph Gale
 H. H. Buckenham
 William Geiger
 Rev. H. Clark
 Rev. Lewis Thompson
 William Catching
 Ben. H. Catching
 A. T. Smith
 B. Q. Tucker
 Rev. J. E. Brally
 Mrs. Tabitha Brown (given)
 Orus Brown
 Rev. H. Spalding
 Franklin Pomeroy
 John Catching
 Alenson Hinman
 ——— Jones
 Ben. Stewart
 James Gerrish
 Mahlon Brock
 Wm. Stokes
 John Butt
 David Allen
 J. H. Whitcomb
 W. D. Welch

A. J. HEMBREE'S OFFICE

Dr. James McBride
 Andrew Hembree, paid to J. J.
 Hembree
 A. J. Hembree
 Russel Walch
 Robert C. Kinney
 Jordan Hembree
 Mr. James Ramage

William Savage
 Mr. Welch
 A. L. Rice
 Rev. J. O. Raynes
 W. D. Welch

DOTY'S OFFICE

J. W. Smith
 James Gerrish
 Benj. Stewart
 Almaran Hill
 John Marble
 Robert C. Kinney
 ——— Rogers
 William Doty

HOVERS MAIL 5,6,7

Jacob Hover, paid to Harrison (as
 part back)
 Isaac Lumwalt
 William Higgins
 Allen W. Hall, paid to Harrison (as
 part back)
 P. D. Walter, paid one dollar
 Rev. Wm. Jolly, paid 1 dollar
 **J. B. Jackson
 **Peter M. Burnette
 Wm. M. Kinney
 Charles McKay
 Thomas R. Cornelius
 Lewis Lineberger
 Mr. Northrop
 John P. Rogers

COFFENBURYS MAIL 5,6,7

G. W. Coffenbury
 David Hill (paid 197 lbs. beef—
 what I paid to Coffenbury)
 Thomas Stewart
 Michael More
 George Sigler
 Charles Smith

VANCOUVER MAIL

**James Douglas Esq.
 **Peter S. Ogden
 **Richard Lane
 **H. B. Co. care A. McKinley

J. T. READ'S MAIL

J. M. White
 Mahlon Brock

CLATSOP MAIL

William H. Gray 2 copies
 N. S. Peck
 John Jewet
 Alva Condit
 John Hobson
 J. Lamson
 Col. J. Taylor

YAMHILL FALLS MAIL

Dr. Wilcox

CHEHALIM PACAGE

To Robert C. Kinney
 Robert C. Kinney
 Mr. Rogers
 John Marble
 Joshua Welch or W. D. Welch

** Names crossed out in the list.

AMERICAN OFFICE

Ted. Kelsey
J. B. Robison
Henry Sewell
—— Stoughton
William Baldra
Richard Booth
Rev. C. O. Hosford
Rev. N. Evans
E. D. Wilcox

SCHOOLHOUSE PACAGE

T. W. Gotes
Franklin Wilcox
James Chambers
D. T. Lenox
W. H. Bennett
Elam Young
G. C. Preston
Daniel Clark
R. W. Ford
N. and M. Johnson
John Ritchey
Danford Balch
Wm. Mansey
Wm. Baldra
Edward H. Lenox
George Van Dorn
Eli Davis
J. B. Jackson
A. Tackary
Henry Buxton
William Chapman

FOREIGN MAIL

Joseph Putnam, Madison, Indiana,
care of John Hull
John Griffin, Warren, Litchfield
County, Conn.

SANTYAM PACAGE

Josiah Osborn
—— Barnes

CALIPOIA CROSSING

Elisha Griffith
Mr. Templeton
John Harrison

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Mission House, Pemberton
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burg, Steuben County, N. Y.
Dudley Allen, M.D., Kimmas,
Trumble County, Ohio
Mr. Seth Paine, Troy, Bradford
County, Pa.
Miss Lorena Hart, Holland Patent,
Oneida County, N. Y.
Four copies without names directed
to E. O. Hall, Honolulu, Oahu
Rev. Stephen, Hubbel, Avon, Hart-
ford County, Conn.

EXCHANGE PAPERS

The North American, Philadelphia,
Pa.
Christian Observer, Philadelphia,
Sect. of the Foreign Evangelical
Soc., N. Y.
Sect. of the American Protestant
Soc., N. Y.
Editor of Friend, Honolulu, Oahu
Polynesian, Honolulu, Aohu
Lorens County Association
Rev. David Trumbull, Valporiso
Rev. Mr. Hunt, San Francisco
Rev. J. S. Green, care of S. C.
Damon
California
M. M. McCarver, Sutor's Fort
Dr. Locey, Sutor's Fort, C. H.
Hatch will pay.
Feb. 5th 1850
Mailed seven no's to Adolphus
Hallock, N. Milford, Litchfield
County
Augustus Colman and Gustavus
Rouse, Warren
John Griffin, Warren, seven no's
Gerrit Smith, Peterboro, N. Y.
Rev. E. O. Eastman, Cor. Sec. N.Y.
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ton, D. C.
~~Rev.~~ Stephen Hubbell, Avon, Hart-
ford Co. Conn.
Silas Hawkins, Casleton, Vt.
Rev. J. C. Brigham, Cor. Sec. N. B.
Society
By hand of A. Sulger, 7 no's to N.
American Phil. asking exchange.
The above mailed generally O. City,
about 20th Feb. they go.
I will soon send to New-City Times
(and ask for exchange. New Man-
ufacturing City Comm., Ireland
Depot is the hailing place of the
paper)
Also to Tribune Weekly for ex-
change.
The Samoan Reporter (½ yearly
at Navigators Islands) c/o S. C.
Damon
The Pacific News, San Francisco
The Neighbor, Valparaiso, Chili, by
David Trumbull.
Seaman's Reading Room, Apia,
Upolu, Samoan Islands, care of
Rev. S. C. Damon, Honolulu.
To the Weslean Missionaries of
Tongatabao, Friendly Islands,
care of Sam'l C. Damon.
These last two pacages (and a let-
ter to the missionaries) I put into
the hands of Capt. Wood on his
steamer, the Carolina, June 24th
under his promise to forward.
D. L. Lowry, Prairie Du Chain,
Wisconsin (I will send the paper
to him Oct. 5th)

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C.—MANUSCRIPTS

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D.—INTERVIEWS

Many of the descendants of the founders of the Oregon government, and other pioneers, were interviewed, particularly in the preparation of the biographical sketches of some of the Men of Champoeg about whom little has been written.

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BY BEATRICE YOUNG

THE AUTHOR of this book, Caroline C. Dobbs, is an enthusiastic Oregonian by adoption. New Jersey is her native state; she was educated there, and there engaged in educational work during her girlhood, until she married John F. Dobbs, later described in *Who's Who in America* as clergyman, author, educator and at present giving his talents to Oregon through his office of President of Pacific University at Forest Grove.

The family lived, until coming west, in New York City, in Syracuse and in Malden, near Boston. Trained there in reverence for historic shrines, Mrs. Dobbs could comprehend the value of the treasures in Oregon history.

Mrs. Dobbs has long been an active and efficient club woman. Beside being a member of Forest Grove clubs, she is a director of the Federated Clubs of Washington county. In Portland she is known as a valued member of the Multnomah Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the League of Women Voters, the Portland Colony of the National Society of New England Women, and the Pacific University Guild, of which she is director.

She has brought to the task of writing of this book, not only painstaking effort and skill, but also the charm of a fine and richly cultivated mind, together with enthusiastic interest in her subject and a rare gusto in its treatment. As we read, we live again in the heroic days when Oregon's destiny hung in the balance.

