

LANE COUNTY HISTORIAN



FRANCES BERRIAN DUNN

--In this issue--

The Frances Berrian Dunn Story

The Millicans of Walterville

Richard Moore, Oregon pioneer, came via Cape Horn
(including Lynn Snodgrass and Anderson Deckard)

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Cecilia Christian Dunn (Mrs. Francis Berrian), daughter of Daniel and Catherine married in Eugene city, December 27, 1865, crossed the plains in 1852, came to Eugene 1853. The D. Christian home was near 13th and Pearl Streets—later F.B. Dunn built home nearby, near present site of First Christian church. Na. 12-F.

THE COVER PICTURE: Francis Berrian Dunn, clerk (1854) in Eugene City's first general merchandise store, that of Jae Brumley at S. W. carner Braadway and Willamette Streets. Later was a praminent pioneer merchant in Springfield and in Eugene. Dunn store "black" contains the present Del Rey restaurant, 845 Willamette St. Dunn pictures courtesy of Margery Williams Hall, granddaughter Na. 11-F.

CORRECTION: Vol. VIII, No. 1, March 1963 — The cover picture of The Eugene Woolen Mill crew was taken about 1911 (not in 1927).

THE LANE COUNTY HISTORIAN assumes no responsibility for statements of contributors, but will welcome any corrections of historical facts.

THE FRANCIS BERRIAN DUNN STORY

by Marjory Williams Hall (grand-daughter)

My grandfather, Francis Berrian Dunn or Berrian as he was always called, crossed the plains in 1853 when he was twenty years old, came the following year to Eugene City as it was then known, and lived here the rest of his life.

He was descended from Scotch-Irish Protestants who came to Nova Scotia in 1735 from County Donegal, Ireland, to escape religious persecution. Politically, they were Tories and had been supporters of Bonnie Prince Charlie. That the Tory cause at the time was on the wane and they had risked their lives and property for the Stuarts probably had much to do with their leaving Ireland. The four Dunn brothers and their families came over, together and settled where Halifax would later become a fine city. Jonathan, the youngest brother, was the progenitor of our branch of the Dunn clan.

Nova Scotia remained the Dunn home until just after the outbreak of the American Revolution. Then, because they refused to serve the Crown under George III, they migrated once more, this time to New Jersey. It is certain that they settled in Somerset County, as it was from here that Jonathan Dunn enlisted in the Continental Army.¹ Forty years old at the time, Jonathan had a wife and four children—three girls and a boy, three years old, whose name was Beracha and who would one day be the grandfather of Berrian Dunn.

When Beracha was only sixteen, he left home because his stepmother mistreated him and became a shoemaker in Bridgeton, New Jersey; and since this was a very lucrative trade in those days, he soon prospered. At this time, the Ohio Valley was opened for settlement. (1796-97). Beracha's two sisters and their families went

there, and he followed two or three years later. He bought ten acres of land near Fort Washington, now in the center of Cincinnati. Later, he became the owner of 160 acres of land near Lockland. He operated these as a farm, and in conjunction with that, he also had a grist mill and saw mill. In 1801, he married Mary German, who traced her ancestry to Lord St. Germaine. A family tradition has come down that she was in some way related to Ethan Allen of Green Mountain fame. Beracha and Mary became the parents of twelve children, not an unusually large family in those days. The eldest child, a son whom they named Jonathan II for Beracha's father became the father of Francis Berrian.

Jonathan II lived with his parents until he was twenty-three. A master wheel- or mill-wright, having learned his craft from his father, Jonathan set out for Illinois with only a few clothes and his wheel-wright books which he carried in a knap sack on his back. He walked most of the way and found employment building a mill in Old Sagamon Town, no longer in existence. There, too, he met Irena Clark, whom he married on June 30, 1825, in Richland, Sagamon County, Illinois. Although they had both been born in Ohio, their ancestors came from parts far distant from one another, for the Clarks came originally from Maryland. Jonathan and Irena had the distinction of being married by the celebrated "fighting preacher" and Methodist circuit rider, Peter Cartwright.

Their first home was a little cabin in Sagamon Town. Here, a daughter whom they named Louisa was born. Two years later, they moved to New Salem when Jonathan went there to build a mill.² The Dunns always remembered New Salem particularly as the place where an intimate

friendship sprang up between Jonathan and young Abe Lincoln. Many were the stories of this friendship that he told to his younger children in later years. His wife, too, had a part in this friendship, for Irena, a great lover of books, loaned many of hers to Lincoln. One of the stories concerned the honor they had of having both Lincoln and Governor Edwards of Illinois to dinner during one of Lincoln's campaign trips.

About 1830, Jonathan moved his family to Athens, Illinois, and Berrian was born there in 1833. Galena became their home later, and the two younger boys—Berrian and Beracha III, then twelve and seventeen years of age—became fascinated with the big river boats on the Mississippi River. The owners of the steamboat line happened to be friends of Jonathan's and not only took the boys on as cabin boys but saw that they were always treated kindly and with consideration. In Galena, Jonathan became well acquainted with another future President, U. S. Grant, whose tannery he often visited.

Berrian's sister, Marilda, writes of her brother as follows: "Due to the depression during President Jackson's term of office, Father lost his merchandise store and Berrian grew up realizing the stern necessity of making ends meet. This had a lasting effect upon his character. All his life he lent a helping hand to those who were needy or unfortunate. He was a devoted son and brother and was dearly loved by his whole family. The affection between him and his Mother was a beautiful thing all their lives. It was a great grief to her that he must be so far from her so much of their lives." ³

When Berrian's sister, Louisa, and her husband, Edward Schwatka, were leaving for the Oregon country by wagon train, he accompanied them for part of a day's journey. When it

came time for him to turn back for home, his sister's grief at parting was so great and he was so concerned for her, having to face all the trials and dangers of this hazardous journey and leaving the home and those she loved behind, that he returned home, hurriedly packed a few belongings, bade the family farewell, and rode back to overtake the wagon train the next day. He drove an ox team and walked 2,000 miles over the Oregon Trail, sharing the dangers of Indians and cholera, which was very severe that year. They passed many hastily made graves and saw some which had been torn up by wolves. "After six months of toilsome travel, over treacherous quicksands, deserts, and flooded streams, dangerous, precipitous mountains and unheard difficulties, they at last reached the promised land; coming on barges from The Dalles to Portland and then up the valley to Albany. On the night of her arrival in Albany, she gave birth to a son, she cradled him in the convex lid of an old battered trunk. They spent the winter there and in the spring proceeded to the gold mines in Yreka, California, there they lived continuously the rest of their lives..."

Berrian found work in Albany as a clerk in the store of "Smith and Brassfield." When Louisa and her husband moved on to California, he accepted a position with Joe Brumley, who owned the first General Dry Goods store in Eugene, Ankeny and Huddleston had had a trading post at First and Ferry Street earlier, but it was not in any sense a general merchandise store.

A year earlier, the Daniel Christian family had come to Eugene from Illinois*. The two families had not known each other in Illinois; but

* See Daniel Christian story, Historian, March 1962.

after coming across the plains, the eldest daughter of the Christians, Christiann Cecilia, and Berrian met at a party at Charnel Milligan's (for whom Charnelton Street is named) house, fell in love, and sometime later were married.

The wedding took place on Saint John's Day, December 27, 1855. "The groom was now twenty-three years old and the bride but fifteen and a half, an age not uncommon for a bride in those days. There were a number of circumstances connected with the wedding, which from this respectable distance in time seem highly amusing, but were most distressing in their immediate connection.

.....
"The Reverend Robe, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, who had been asked to officiate, later promised to marry another couple, Mr. Charles C. Croner and Miss Evelyn Blair, on the same day and hour, planning to go from this latterly arranged wedding to that of Berrian and Christiann, and thus fulfill both engagements. But he evidently neglected to speak of his plans, or was prevented from doing so, at any rate the awaiting guests and the puzzled bride and groom could not account for his prolonged absence. It had been freezing weather for a week and the mercury was below zero, an exceedingly rare circumstance for Oregon...The bride was secluded in a little room without a fire and nearly froze, though tucked about with comforters. Finally toward 10:00 overtures were made to the Methodist pastor, Rev. Roberts, the latter who already felt affronted by affiliates of his flock [who] had preferred the pastor of another denomination to marry them...:

"Now the Blair home where Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Croner were married was distant from the Christian home about two and one-half miles ..Rev.

Robe, in tramping through the snow on that bitterly cold night, to fulfill his engagement had both ears frozen. To his dismay and after all his woes he found the Methodist pastor on the field, prepared to proceed with the ceremony. It was an embarrassing situation, but happily resulted in a compromise in which both devines made an appropriate division of the duties and emoluments. Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Dunn always felt their wedding had received double the usual sanction."

The newly wedded couple first lived in a small apartment in the back part of Mr. Brumley's store. Here on December 13, 1856, their first child, a daughter whom they named Katherine Irena for both her grandmothers, was born. A few years later, they built a new home on the site of the present Medical Center Building on Broadway between Pearl and Oak Streets. In those days there were no buildings between their home and the store where Berrian worked, and Christiann would often signal to her husband at mealtime by waving her apron to him from the doorway.

About 1858, Berrian moved his family to Springfield. Here he had charge of a branch store for his employer, Mr. Brumley. Later, he bought out the stock and began business on his own. In Springfield, he built his second home, and three of his children were born there—Charles Wiley, who died in infancy, Luella (Mrs. George A. Dorris) and Anna Laura (Mrs. George O. Yoran).

While living in Springfield, Berrian was elected Justice of the Peace, and records show he married Judge and Mrs. Rodney Scott during his term of office.

My mother, Irena Dunn Williams, has written of this five year sojourn in Springfield; "While in Springfield father bought a fine Concord carriage upholstered in oyster grey broadcloth.

Our horses "Ned" and "Dandy" and the carriage gave us many hours of pleasure, driving through the countryside, often for picnics, on Sundays. Of course these trips seem trifling compared with the marvelous distances we now travel by automobile, but to us at that time they seemed heavenly."

In 1863, the Dunns moved back to Eugene where Berrian prospered as a merchant. He built a brick building for his store on the east side of Willamette Street between Eighth and Ninth (now Broadway). The property extended from the alley between Willamette and West Park Street (now a landscaped Walkway) to the present site of the U. S. National Bank building on the North. The original bank building and the Dunn building had a common wall. The building was always known as the Dunn Building until fairly recent years. It was the home of the Dunn mercantile business until a few years before Berrian's son, Frank E. Dunn, who had inherited the business from his father, died in 1923.

The store which Berrian founded was a growing concern from the beginning. Like most early day stores it carried almost everything from silk dresses, laces, velvets, and French bonnets to hardware, groceries, shoes, boots, saddles, Studebaker wagons, St. John's and Baker sewing machines, and Prince and Son's organs. Berrian dealt also in wool, hops, wheat, oats, chetum bark, and meats. To purchase his goods, he had to make trips each year to San Francisco. This was a very long, tiresome, and hazardous trip by stage overland, or to Portland by stage and from there by boat to San Francisco.

Berrian was obliged on these dangerous overland trips to carry thousands of dollars in gold in a chamois belt around his waist because there were as yet no banks in Eugene. Stage holdups were not uncommon, and the

family was always anxious when he was on an overland trip. Still, although he made his trip many times, he never carried fire arms and never came to harm.

Gradually, civilization brought the railroads (1872) and the line finally reached Harrisburg, about twenty miles north of Eugene. Here, it halted until a bridge was built across the Willamette River. When the first train ran from Harrisburg to Portland, Berrian and Christiann were aboard. From Portland, they took the steamer "John F. Stevens" for San Francisco. On their return, their two eldest daughters, Irena and Luella, and Christiann's two young brothers, Sam and John, met them at the train in Harrisburg with a hack! Berrian always brought them something especially nice when he returned from these trips. This time it was fresh strawberries—a real treat.

The third home of Berrian and Christiann was located on three acres which she had received as a dowry from her father, Daniel Christian III. It was a portion of his donation land claim, the northwest corner of which was located at the alley east of Willamette and Eleventh Streets. It extended east to the alley between Pearl and High Streets and south to the Amazon creek. The house was a neat little white cottage which was moved from Eleventh and Alder Street to their property at what later became the corner of Twelfth and Oak Streets. They moved the house by placing it on large logs and then pulling and rolling it with six yolk of oxen. The gable end of the house had a porch across it, supported by large colonial pillars. It faced east on the lane that went through the orchard and vegetable garden to the Christian homestead one block away. Berrian and Christiann began at once to beautify their property, setting out many trees, principally locusts and firs, some of

which are still standing.

"As far back as I can remember," writes Irena Dunn Williams, "there was in this home fine mahogany furniture, which had been shipped around 'the horn' to San Francisco from the East, thence by steamer to Portland and to Eugene by freight wagons, usually drawn by four to six teams of mules, and taking four or five days, as the railroad did not reach Eugene until 1872."

In 1867, a son, Frank E., was born in this home to the Dunns. He it was who, after Berrian's death, became the "Merchant Dunn."

The Dunns built a larger home on the same site in 1867. It had two stories and faced north toward Eleventh Street. A Danish landscape gardener developed landscape gardens for them and made a lovely setting for this handsome white frame house. From their front porch, they had a clear view of Skinner's Butte, and the family often enjoyed watching people out walking there.

Eight years after the birth of Frank E. Dunn, another boy was born, Frederick Stanley, who later occupied the post of Professor of Latin and Greek at the University of Oregon for thirty years. A classical scholar of international note, he was revered by all who knew him; and recently one of the new dormitories on the University of Oregon campus was named in honor of him.

Two more girls were born in this home—Edna Cecilia in 1874 and Amy Louisa in 1879.

The house was remodeled several times and was finally sold and moved to Thirteenth Street between Oak and Pearl Streets directly across from the Episcopal Church, but it is much altered and unrecognizable now from the lovely home I remember in my childhood.

The former site was used to build a more modern house in 1908,

and here Grandmother and Aunt Amy lived serenely until Grandmother's death in 1919 just before her eightieth birthday. Amy then sold it to R. A. Booth who lived there a good many years; he later sold it to the Christian Church which, I believe, still owns it. Not long after this home was built, the Christian Church bought the property to the north of it, and here they built their new church.

Berrian died sixteen years before this last home was built, his death occurring in July, 1892, when he was fifty-eight years old. His death was very sudden—a heart attack brought on by exertion when he tried to control a balky cow he was bringing in from pasture. He dropped dead at Grandmother's feet. It was a devastating shock from which she was many years recovering.

Mother has written the following description of him. "Father was somewhat above medium height. He had dark brown hair and blue eyes and a broad straight brow. In my youth he was clean shaven, later he wore side burns and finally a full long beard. He always wore a long coat—semi-fitted at the waist and when they were in style, a Prince Albert double breasted coat for dress. His clothes were always of black broad cloth. He never wore tweeds or pin stripes or a short coat.

"He loved children and was a kind indulgent father but careful in the training of them to keep them from evil influences. He loved music and had a sweet voice. The Choral Society used to meet at our house in the early sixties and enjoyed to sing the old songs or to practice anthems from the old 'Carmina Sacra' or 'Lute of Zion' anthem books. Father used to take his little melodian to church, in his carriage, and played hymns to lead the congregation before the church owned an organ.

"I loved to hear Papa sing or

whistle while he was around the house—'Flow Gently Sweet Afton'; 'Drink to Me Only with Thine Eyes'; 'Ye Banks and Braes of Bonnie Doon'; 'I Dreamt I Dwelt in Marble Halls'; 'Loch Lomand'; 'Annie Laurie'; and 'Last Rose of Summer.' These songs are still sung and never grow old—which proves their worth."

Grandfather had held many positions of trust during his lifetime. The following are excerpts taken from obituaries.

"He was one of the group of men who were appointed as trustees of Eugene before there was any organized town and was reappointed several times to this position. He was the second mayor of Eugene and was elected for another term later on. He served as a school director for twenty years, was a prominent Mason, and a Knight Templar; had been Master of the Eugene A.F. and A.M. several times and occupied many prominent positions in the grand Lodge of the order, and was Treasurer of the Blue Lodge for many years."

"He was a man who, in all the relationships of public and private life, gained the esteem and confidence of his fellow workers. A long and eventful career left no stain on his record for unswerving integrity. He helped build up the city of Eugene, in which nearly all his years of manhood were spent, aiding liberally every public enterprise and contributed generously to those less fortunate citizens. His death is sincerely mourned by the people of

Eugene and a large circle of friends and acquaintances all over the State.

"The funeral cortege was the largest that ever wended its way to the cemetery from this city. Public offices of the county and city and every business house in Eugene were closed during the funeral, attesting the esteem in which he was held. The Knights Templar acted as escort and Knights came from Portland, Salem, and Albany to honor his memory. The funeral was the most universally attended that has ever occurred in this county....The procession which followed the remains to the cemetery consisted of over one hundred teams, every available vehicle being in use. This was the most impressive testimonial of the esteem of his fellow men which he enjoyed..."

NOTES

¹ It is recorded in the Record and Pension Office of the Department of War, Washington, D. C., that Jonathan Dunn was a member of Captain Ten Eyke's Company of New Jersey militia.

² In Nochol and Hays, *Life of Lincoln*, published first in *Century Magazine* (1886 or 1887) a picture of this mill appears and is identified as having been built by Jonathan Dunn.

³ The material quoted throughout the rest of the work is drawn largely from unpublished family documents in my possession.

ROBERT AND GEORGE MILLICAN OF WALTERVILLE

Robert Millican
written by him, dated Walterville, Ore.
May 19, 1917

"To gratify some of my family I will try and jot down some of the happenings of my life.

"I was born in Otsega County, New York south of Utica June 18, 1837. My parents came from the border of Scotland. My father was killed before I was born. A brother of my father came to our place in 1843. In 1844 we all moved to Jefferson County Indiana



The Francis Berrian Dunn family, Seated, from left: Mr. Dunn (pioneer merchant), Edna, Amy, Mrs. Cecilia Christian Dunn; Standing: Fredrick S. (Univ. of Ore. faculty), Luella Dunn Dorris, (Mrs. George A.), Frank E. (Eugene merchant), Irene Dunn Williams (Mrs. Charles S.), Laura Dunn Yorán (Mrs. Col. Goerge O.--Spanish American War.) No. 15-F.



The Francis Berrian Dunn home, near the present intersection of 12th and Oak Streets. Taken in the 1880's when relatives from Kansas came to Eugene for a family reunion. This house was one of the few in Eugene, before the advent of "city water" in 1886, that had a wind mill for piping water into the house and lawn.

and located near Hanover.

"In April 1854 I went to Cincinnati to learn the carpenter trade. In the fall of 1856 I went to McDonough Co. Ill. Worked on some frame houses (all brick work in Cincinnati). Went back to Ill. the next spring, didn't like the climate. Worked in Indiana until the fall of 1859. Started for Oregon the 12 of November. Spent a few days in Otsego Co. Sailed on steamer Atlantic the 21 of November. In about six days we landed at Colon. Spent one day on getting the passengers and freight to Panama. Boarded the steamer Golden Age for Frisco. Coaled at Acapulco, Mexico. Spent the day ashore sight seeing. Had to wait in Frisco for the Portland boat. The ice in the Columbia was running so the boat could not get to sea. Came to Albany on the river boat. Then walked Eugene.

"I stayed most of the winter with John Latta. The 11 of May 1860 I joined a prospecting party bound for Eastern Oregon. Crossed the mountains near Diamond Peak, the 20 of May. The party consisted of 53 men and 107 head of horses and mules. The country was full of hostile Indians. On the head waters of the Malheur they stampeded 67 head of our stock. The 40 saved were across the creek hid by the willows. All we could do was to burn what we did not need and started for home. A short distance from the camp the Indians ambushed us. We were among them before we knew it. They put up a good fight but their aim was not as good as ours. We got an Indian every time. They shot one of our men through the leg.

"The trip to the valley was a hard one. Our boots soon wore out. The men's feet got sore. A number of them gave out. I was one of the guards detailed to see that they all got into camp. We were a hard looking lot when we reached the settlements.

"There was nothing to do here, so we walked to the mines in southern Oregon. Bought a claim in Douglas County near the Jackson County line. I made some money. I left there in January 1862. On my way to Idaho I located in Florence on the waters of Salmon River. The mines were very rich. I worked my claim out then left for Auburn Baker Co. Oregon. There was four of us in company. The second night south of Lewiston an Indian stole my saddle. I tracked him home. Well I didn't get my saddle but they gave me the worst scare I ever had. I spent all night trying to get even on them. Went back to Lewiston, bought a new saddle and started for Walla Walla.

"Got there a few days too late to join a prospecting party bound for Boise country. I got a fresh horse and crossed the mountains. It was not safe to go farther than Auburn alone, not catching the party, I canvased Auburn. I got twenty five men together bound for Boise. The Indians fled when they saw us. I mined in Boise nearly two years. In 1864 I went to Canyon City, Grant County Oregon. Three of us went over on the middle fork of John Day to prospect. We began where Susanville was afterwards located. The Indians scared us away. It was dangerous outside of Canyon City. Susanville was a very rich camp afterwards. In the fall I came here. I bought the ranch we live on. I worked for George three years.

"Then married Mary A. Beale August 13, 1867. We have lived on the farm ever since."

Father Robert Millican died in Eugene, Oregon in Ina's house on February 28, 1918 at 7:20 P.M. on Thursday. Buried on Saturday March 2 at 2:00 P.M. I.O.O.F. cemetery, Eugene.

Copy of above, property of Ada Millican Brewbaker.

GEORGE MILLICAN

Clippings concerning George Millican, who settled at Walterville, Lane County on the old John Latta place previous to the coming of Robert (as described above) reveal the following: Born near Olsega, N.Y., Merch 22, 1834, he went to California during the gold rush as a cattle driver --had a shepard dog named "Nellie". He went to the mines at Yreka in 1854, also at Trinity and Happy Camp --all in California. In 1861 we find him in Nez Perce County, Idaho. By 1862 he had returned to San Francisco with \$15,000 in gold, then to Eugene City, Oregon, where he married Sarah Ritchey in 1863. In that year he made his initial trip to Central Oregon in the Ochoco valley, making trail and



Mary Abigail Millican (second wife of Robert Millican) with daughter Belle. She came to Oregon with parents in the "Last Wagon Train of 1853". Lived at Walterville 15 mi. east of Eugene in the McKenzie Valley. Millican pictures courtesy of Mrs. Ada Millican Brewbaker, daughter. Na. 176-F.

accompanying Capt. Crouch of Douglas County, who was going across the Cascades on a military expedition to Boise Idaho.

In 1868 he moved to McKay Creek, near the present town of Prineville, to raise cattle--the "Heart" brand. His son Walter (now of Sacramento) was the first white child born at Prineville, in 1870, and for whom the Walterville postoffice was named. George Millican was the first P.M. at Walterville when the postoffice was established in 1875. He helped promote and assisted in the building of the McKenzie Pass road. After the death of his first wife (1875) he married Ada Bradley in 1881. Both are buried in the Eugene pioneer I.O.O.F. cemetery.



Robert Millican with son Oscar, pioneer of Walterville, Lane County, 1860. Backed John Templeton Craig in building McKenzie Pass road in 1860's. His brother George was first Postmaster of Walterville, 1875, after whose son Walter the Postoffice was named. Na. 177-F.

THE MOORE'S AND SNODGRASS' OF 1852, THE DECKARD'S OF 1853

by Willetta Moore Smith and Merle S. Moore

The incentive to migrate to the Pacific coast during the mid 1800's was varied although the chief attraction was the availability of free land on which to live and to raise a family while farming the fertile acres. The discovery of gold in California was another drawing card, as was the growing unrest between the states over the slavery problem. Others came as missionaries to the Indians, ministers, teachers, industrialists, politicians, etc. Of course many settlers in the new country became involved in other activities as the opportunities arose. Two of our maternal great-grand-parents (Snodgrass & Deckard) made their way over the Oregon Trail to become farmers while the Moores came around Cape Horn with machinery for a sawmill. A favorite nephew who accompanied the latter, after a career in the lumber business, served as Governor of California (1875 - 1880). Many young men joined the California, made a stake and returned for their families.

RICHARD MOORE

February 19, 1852 found Richard M. Moore and family aboard the steamship Pioneer leaving New York bound for Oregon around Cape Horn. The party included his wife Permelia Killcrease Moore and their children, Esther Alice (11 years.) Richard M. Jr. (9), Joseph Howard (6), Zachary Taylor (4), Charles W. had died in infancy (1851). Joining them from Ohio was Mr. Moore's favorite nephew William Henry Irwin (25 years) who was governor of California.

Tradition says they brought one or two colored women with them, which was very possible as Mrs. Moore had been raised in Mississippi.

Richard M. Moore was born and raised in Butler Co.. Ohio and went

to Port Gibson, Mississippi where he operated a saw mill. He married Permelia Killcrease in 1839 or 1840.

From Mississippi they went to take passage for Oregon. "The long journey nearly ended in disaster when the ship ran aground at San Simeon, California.

...The Moore party unharmed continued on to Oregon where sawmill machinery, which had been shipped ahead, was waiting." The family took up residence at Astoria, where William Waldon was born in 1855. Mr. Moore operated his sawmill at South Bend, Washington, and also at Greehorn, California. The family moved to Eugene in 1858 to 1859. They owned a farm west of Eugene and later a home on Willamette Street where the First Methodist Church now stands.

Lane County records show that Mrs. R. M. Moore purchased a farm west of Eugene (1862) south of the present Big Y Market and near the Conger place, and that a son, Richard Jr. owned a farm at Oak Hill.

The father apparently was in California at times (after affiliating with the Eugene Masonic Lodge in 1859) where he engaged in sawmilling. The youngest son, William W. (our father) attended the old log-cabin Bethel school, possibly in the late 1860's or early 1870's—later learning the printer's trade at Monmouth College, Monmouth, Oregon.

LYNN SNODGRASS

Lynn Snodgrass was born in Jefferson County, Tennessee, September 17, 1806, and his wife Elizabeth Ann Wilson Snodgrass was born near Greenville, Tennessee March 20, 1827.

They moved to Missouri before 1845 and left for Oregon in 1852.

During 1850 J. C. Snodgrass (son of Lynn), Sam D., James E., and Benjamin R. Holt had come to California to work in the gold mines, "arriving at Hanttown, California in August working on Mad Canyon, American River for five or six months. Also running a mule pack train to pack in from Sacramento."

"Winter setting in, we went to San Francisco and taking a steamer for home via Acapulco, had to walk across the isthmus for twenty-six miles to Panama and carry blankets and grub. Taking another steamer at Panama for New Orleans, paying \$300.00 in gold dust for tickets from San Francisco to New Orleans.

"Taking a steamer at New Orleans for St. Louis we then bought horses and came overland arriving at Savannah, Missouri."

The wagon train started from Filmore, Andrew County, Missouri for Oregon on April 21, 1852, crossing the Missouri River on April 30, 1852 at Omaha, Nebraska, then a hamlet. The train consisted of Mr. Lynn Snodgrass, his wife, two sons John Columbus and Spencer Lafayette, two unmarried daughters, Mary Ann and Catherine Jane and a married daughter Savannah S. and her husband Benjamin Rice Holt and their baby, David Carson about three months old, two unmarried brothers of Benjamin R. Holt, James E. and Samuel D. Holt. They also had a few cows; which were sometimes used to relieve the ox-teams, several riding horses, mules, and other stock--also several men who came along as "helpers". They had four or five teams and one mule team for the family wagon. At Omaha they were joined by Mr. Jacob Modie and family with two ox-teams from Savannah, Missouri. Mrs. Jane Modie being a sister of the Holt brothers.

At Omaha there were over 500 campers waiting to be ferried across.

As the Holt brothers were acquainted with the ferry-men, he told them if they could get their teams down near the ferry, they could have the ferry after sundown to be used by themselves. The other men were angry and ready to fight, but the Holts did not say a word until sundown when the ferry-man always quit work. They took the ferry-boat and got along fine, until almost the last load, a great storm came up when Sam Holt lost his hat and one oxen, so they did not try to finish ferrying until the next morning. They got the last load over and turned the boat over to the ferry-man and were thus able to get the start of the crowd for better feed, etc.

When they got to Green River, a deep, swift stream, they had to ford, so they made a boat by calking a wagon bed and using it for a boat for the families, and forced the mules to swim the deep channel--also the oxen and other stock.

One hot day the train had been traveling a long way without water for the stock, and when they came toward a river the stock seemed to scent the water several miles away and began to run to get to the water. Several times the stock stampeded, sometimes in the night, maybe frightened by Indians. Sometimes it would take a day or two to find them all and get started again. One old "Dutchman" when on guard would wake the men up in the morning by calling "Stand up 'Poys', 'tis taylight". August first, just 3 months after leaving Omaha they arrived at the "Cascade Mountains", Barlow's gate, where they rested until August fifth. They went on, having light loads and good mules and oxen, crossed the mountains easily reaching Fosters on the ninth and a day later Barlows, a station between Portland and Oregon City. "We came up the valley and camped on Mill Creek, eight miles east of Salem for two weeks while the men came over

the valley hunting homes and seeing the valley; they were well pleased with Linn County."

"We all moved our camp and and camped near Luther Whites and Mr. Lynn Snodgrass bought a claim over on Muddy, near West Point, five miles north of Coburg from Mr. Shelton (or Wash Nelson), Mr. White's brother-in-law. B. R. Holt took up a claim near West Point (from Mr. Cody in Lane County) and made a home. J. E. and S. D. Holt took up claims in the southeast of West Point butte with an eye to stock raising.

The Lynn Snodgrass family "hastily built a small log cabin to live in the first winter and the boys slept in a covered wagon under some large oak trees nearby". Lynn Snodgrass lived on his claim until his death May 28, 1864, and was buried in the West Point Cemetery. His wife died May 21, 1869, in Harrisburg and was buried beside her husband. (In 1963 a fourth-generation member of the family was laid to rest in West Point Cemetery).

Catherine Jane Snodgrass was married at the farm home April 11, 1854 to Philip Ritz who had been with her brother John C. Snodgrass in California in 1850. Philip Ritz was one of those hardy pioneers who was lured to the California gold rush of 1849, and later came to Oregon. He was a very early day nursery-man conducting his business for 12 years at the present site of Corvallis. In 1862 he moved to the Walla Walla Valley in Washington Territory, where his was the first nursery in the Inland Empire and foundation of the great fruit industry of Central and Eastern Washington. He was instrumental in getting the Northern Pacific Railroad to extend its lines to the state having made many, many trips to the East to secure the rail line. He was one of the founders of the Episcoapl schools in Walla Walla and Tacoma.

Mary Ann Snodgrass was married at the farm home January 7, 1856 to Charles LaFollette. Charles La Follette, California pioneer of 1849 and of Oregon 1852 became an Oregon Captain of cavalry during the Civil War, Indian agent at Grand Ronde, prominent lawyer and legislator from Polk and later from Yamhill County.

John Columbus Snodgrass attended Columbia College in Eugene, Oregon and taught school at Diamond Hill, Linn County, and later at Harrisburg. He was married to Elizabeth Esther Deckard October 23, 1862 at the home of the bride's parents, Anderson and Lydia Deckard at their donation land claim home near Oakville about ten miles south of Albany in Linn County.

THE ANDERSON DECKARD TRAIN, 1853

It was the morning of March 13, 1853 that the emigrant train started on its long and adventurous trip from Liberty, Mo. to the far away "Oregon Country". In this train were Anderson Deckard, his wife Lydia Corum Deckard, their four children, James aged 9 years, Elizabeth Esther aged 6, Nancy Jane aged 4 and Ruth Ellen aged 1 year, and Amanda Gardiner aged 19, their faithful colored girl. There were Jim and John Mahoney, Mr. Reed and Mr. St. Clair. One other man just came along, although they did not exactly need or want him, but he being a good worker was allowed to come.

They were joined by Mrs. Deckard's sister's family, the Littlebury Estes. The Estes family left the Deckard train at Bear River, Idaho and went to California where they only stayed one year before returning to Missouri.

Anderson Deckard was born near Rock Castle, Kentucky, May 21, 1814. His parents were John Washington Deckard and Elizabeth Zick Deckard. When about 17 years of age he went to Cooper County, Missouri to join his brother James. He was married Jan-

uary 11, 1842 to Lydia Corum at the home of her mother, Nancy Estes Corum (Wilhoit), near Liberty, Missouri. They lived on a farm four miles north of Liberty until they sold it in 1852 to move to Oregon. Here were born their four oldest children. (listed above).

Anderson Deckard had been to California in 1849-1850 with some of the Estes and other men when they mined at "Sutters Fork, California." They returned to Missouri, planning to bring their families to California, but the Oregon Country had just been surveyed and thrown open to settlement so it was decided to go to Oregon for their new home.

He at once began preparations to move, sold his land, and as it was quite a usual custom to stay with relatives for a time they took up their residence with his wife's mother during the time of preparation. Looking back over the years to those pioneer times we can easily imagine the welcome given and earnest visit relatives enjoyed together before the long journey and perhaps final leave taking and separation of loved ones.

There were two wagons made, one larger old Virginia style provision wagon, with high bed sloping upward, and one for family use, with a high bed built with tight seams and calked water tight, so it could be used as a boat in fording streams. "We did not deem to use it that way, being fortunate enough to arrive at rivers just before or just after high water.

They had guns and pistols made for all the men, and had two or three yoke of oxen for each wagon, also 30 head of cows, six mares, one riding pony and one mule. They did not carry feed for the stock but depended on grazing and bought needed provisions at trading posts on the way, at Fort Kearney, Fort Laramie and Fort Leavenworth.

Their food supply was supplemented by the "men hunting antelope,

mountain sheep, sage chickens, rabbits, buffalo and fish caught in the streams." "There were wild black berries, salmon, salal and both red and black huckleberries in abundance.

The trip was made in just six months, arriving at Jesse Hoffman's near Aurora, Oregon on Sept. 18, 1853. Mrs. Mourning Estes Hoffman was a cousin of Mrs. Deckard and the family stayed with them while Anderson Deckard rode horse back up the Willamette to select a location. At Sand Ridge he met John Edmonson and after inquiring about land, Edmonson told him he would show him land adjoining his, that he "looked like a long, lean Kentuckian who would make him a good neighbor." So he took up land near Edmonson's about ten miles southwest of Albany near Oakville.

"It was a beautiful fall," and with help a log cabin was built and the family occupied it in October, 1853. About 1856 or 1857 "a commodious farm house was erected" remembered by friends in later years as having two stairways. (This house remodeled still stands.)

Here were born twin boys (who died early) and Stephen Anderson whose four sons, Everett, Fred, George and Leonard attended the family centennial, at Oakville in 1953, coming from California and Texas.

Anderson Deckard sold his Donation Land Claim in July, 1869 after the death of his wife (see Snodgrass family tragedy) and moved to a farm near Albany and later lived in Albany.

PIONEER WEDDING

The Snodgrass and Deckard families were united when on October 23, 1862 John Columbus Snodgrass and Elizabeth Esther Deckard were married at her father's home, near Oakville, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, by Rev. S. G. Irvine, a neighbor and pastor of the Presbyterian church in Al-

bany, officiating. Angeline Hamilton Riddle was the bridesmaid and Cincinnati Hiner Miller best man. The latter had been a roommate of the groom at Columbia College in Eugene, he later was known as "Joaquin Miller, the poet of the Sierras." The wedding guests included the bride's parents, brothers and sisters, the groom's brother Spencer L., his sister, Mrs. Charles (Mary) Lafollette and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Phillip (Catherine) Ritz and family. The latter having sold their farm and nursery near Corvallis on Mary's River and were on their way moving to their new home near Walla Walla, Washington, when with friends the wedding was witnessed by about 60 or 70 people.

A sumptuous wedding dinner followed, there being two seatings at the long tables, where were served turkey, chicken with dressing, boiled ham, potatoes, beets, preserves, jellies, home baked bread, salt and yeast rising, made by "Auntie Johnson" as was most of the meal. Many kinds of fruit and pies, pound, fruit and a bride's cake a foot high baked in graduated tins and frosted. We can imagine the work involved by those pioneer people who raised their own fruits, vegetables and meats and even flour, then the pride and skill of the women to prepare for such a large number of guests.

At 8 o'clock the next morning the bridal party started for the home of the groom at West Point a distance of about 40 miles. On arriving at the Snodgrass home, they were given an "infare" (reception) by Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Snodgrass assisted by the B. R. Holts, who had not gone to the wedding but stayed to prepare for their homecoming. They were joined by neighborhood friends.

John Columbus helped his father on the farm and became heir to the improved part at his father's death two years later. While on the farm

two daughters were born Cleo Esther and Ada Jane (Mrs. W. A. Lane). In 1865 the farm was sold and they moved to Harrisburg where Pliny Edward and Nellie Susan (Mrs. W. W. Moore) were born.

Elizabeth's early death (1869) broke the family up Aunt Mary Lafollette took the baby (Nellie, 1 year) home with her, Ada lived with "Aunt Holt (Savannah) and Pliny stayed with his father.

In about 1879 John Columbus got his family together and they lived in Harrisburg until October 13, 1881 when they moved to Eugene.

MOVE TO EUGENE FOR EDUCATION by Nellie Snodgrass Moore

The three children on J. Columbus and Elizabeth Snodgrass, Ada Jane, Pliny Edward and Nellie Susan moved to Eugene October 13, 1881, from their childhood home in Harrisburg. It was a cold, frosty, foggy day and they made an early start, Pliny driving the team of horses, to a wagon with side boards with all sitting in the driver's high seat. Their father helped them pack and saw them off but did not go with them. They took the River Road, stopping about noon just north of Coburg to eat their lunch, feed and rest the horses. They crossed the McKenzie River on the Spores bridge, arriving in Eugene about 3:00 P.M. They had housekeeping rooms between 8th and 9th on Pearl street across the street from the Christian Church.

After unloading and feeding the team, Pliny left quickly, going back through Junction City to the ferry at Harrisburg where their father was waiting with a lantern and the ferry to take him across. Father came back with the second wagon load of apples, potatoes and other supplies, and left Pliny in Eugene.

We attended Central School, at 11th and Olive streets, a very new

building with six rooms and a large chapel, where short exercises were held most every day. Prof. Ovion Lee was the principal and the grade was about equal to a Junior high, although not well graded. We all attended the University of Oregon for several terms but did not graduate.

Ada, who had attended Albany College (1878-1879) and the University of Oregon (1883-1884) was married to William Alvin Lane on September 25, 1886, at a home wedding at the corner of 13th and Willamette streets by Rev. Thomas Condon. They made their home at Rowland, Linn County, on Mr. Lane's father's donation land claim, which is still held by their daughters, Mabel (Mrs. E. M. Reagan) and Vivian (Mrs. Fred H. Foster).

Pliny attended the University of Oregon about 1884-1886 and was the first clerk in the First National Bank established by Hendricks and Eakin. Pliny and Mary V. Clever were married at her mother's home in Eugene, and

went at once to their new "cottage" on Willamette Street between 11th and 12th streets. They had two daughters, Etha (Mrs. Sidney Cook, 1891-1949) and Virginia (died 1898) who preceded her mother's death by a few months. Pliny married Amy A. Dougherty on October 12, 1902.

Pliny was with the First National Bank of Eugene for 41 years, serving the last 12 years as its second president (1917-1929).

Nellie began teaching in April 1883 (15 years old) at "Lynx Hollow" near Cottage Grove. She taught at Oak Hill (1884), Pleasant Hill (1885), Jasper (1886-1887) and in Eugene (1888-1890). On November 14, 1890, she was married to William W. Moore in Portland by Rev. W. R. Bishop, who had taught school with her father in Harrisburg. They made their home in Eugene where Mr. Moore worked at his trade as typesetter on the Eugene Guard and the Eugene Register.



Pliny E. and wife Mary C. Snodgrass and family, about 1897. He was with First National Bank of Eugene 41 years. 1886-1929. Served as its second president. No. 332-F.



John Columbus and Elizabeth Esther Deekard Snodgrass, 1852 & 1853 via Oregon Trail. Married at Oakville in 1862. Lived on DLC about 5 miles north of Coburg. He attended Columbia College in Eugene City in late 1850's, taught school at Diamond Hill, Harrisburg and taught penmanship (Spencerian) in other schools. No. 289-F.

MOORE GENEALOGY (Oregon pioneer of 1852)

Richard M. Moore, b. Ohio, 1802; mar. Permelia Killcrease, Port Gibson, Miss. 1839-40
d. Eugene, 1878

Permelia Killcrease Moore, b. Mississippi, 1816; d. Eugene 1889

Children of Richard and Permelia K. Moore—first 4 b. in Port Gibson, Miss., Wm. M.
in . storia

1. Esther Alice, b. 1841, d. Astoria, 1879; mar. Col Joseph H. Stewart, 1839-40
2. Richard M. Jr., b. 1843; d. Spokane, 1919; mar. Addie Gleason Eugene
3. Joseph Howard b. 1845; d. Portland 1891; mar. Emma Harrington
4. Zachary Taylor b. 1848; d. Eugene 1906;
5. William Walden b. 1855; d. Eugene 1912; mar. Nellie Susan Snodgrass, Eugene, 1890
Nellie S. Moore b. 1868, Harrisburg; d. Eugene, 1945

Children of W. W. and Nellie S. Moore; born in Eugene, Oregon

1. Merle Snodgrass b. 1892; mar. Nelle Bruce Heizer, Portland, 1936
2. Willetta b. 1894; mar. John E. Smith, Eugene, 1932
3. Mary Elizabeth b. 1895; mar. Aron M. Hansen, Eugene, 1926
4. Ada Josephine b. 1898; mar. Arthur Lewis Keeney, Eugene, 1920
5. Kenneth William b. 1900; mar. Mildred LeCompte, Portland, 1925
6. Nellie Virginia b. 1903; mar. Roeloff Osburn McWilliams, Eugene, 1950

SNODGRASS GENEALOGY (Oregon pioneer of 1852)

Lynn Snodgrass, b. Jeff. Co. Tenn. 1806; mar. Elizabeth Ann Wilson, Tenn. 1827; d. Oregon 1864
Elizabeth Ann Wilson Snodgrass, b. Tenn. 1809; d. Harrisburg, 1869

Children of Lynn and Elizabeth Ann Wilson Snodgrass; first 4 b. Tenn.; S.F. in Mo.

1. Savannah Selissa b. 1830; d. Portland, 1917; mar. Benj Rice Holt, Mo. 1850
2. John Columbus b. 1831; d. Eugene, 1906; mar. Eliz. Esther Deckard, Oakville, Ore, 1862
3. Catherine Jane b. 1835; d. Walla Walla, 1927; mar. Philip Ritz, West Point, Ore., 1854
4. Mary Ann b. 1837; d. Sheridan, Ore., 1898; mar. Chas. LaFollette, West Point, 1856
5. Spencer Lafayette b. 1845; d. West Point 1869; (attended Corvallis College in 1860's)

Children of John Columbus and Elizabeth E. Deckard Snodgrass; b. Harrisburg, Ore.

1. Cleo Esther b. 1863; d. Harrisburg, 1868
2. Ada Jane b. 1864; d. Portland 1921; mar. William Alvin Lane, Eugene, 1886
3. Pliny Edward b. 1866; d. Eugene 1947; mar. Mary Vir. Cleaver 1890, Amy D. 1902
4. Nellie Susan b. 1868; d. Eugene 1945; mar. Wm. W. Moore, Portland 1890

DECKARD GENEALOGY (Oregon pioneer of 1853)

Anderson Deckard, b. Ky, 1814; mar. Lydia Corum, Liberty Mo., 1842, d. Albany, Ore. 1886
Lydia Corum Deckard b. Old Franklin, Mo. 1819; d. Oakville, Ore. 1869

Children of Anderson and Lydia Corum Deckard; first 3 born Mo. and second 3 Oakville

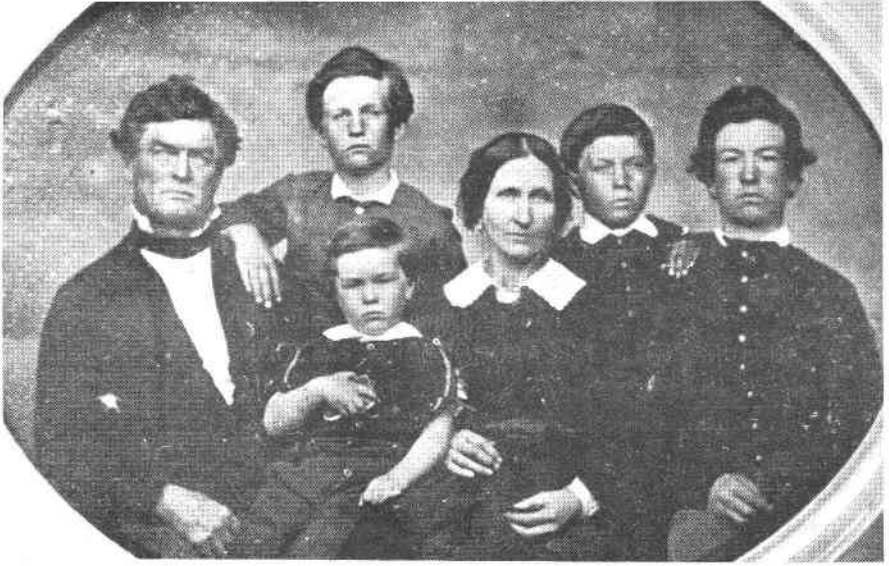
1. James William b. 1844; d. Placerville, Idaho, 1863
2. Elizabeth Esther b. 1846; d. Harrisburg, 1869; mar. John Columbus Snodgrass, Oakville,
3. Nancy Jane b. 1849; d. Albany, Ore. 1869; mar. Wm. B. Henderson, Oakville, 1867
4. Ruth Ellen b. 1851; d. Oakville 1869;
5. Susan Frances b. 1854; d. Angola, Wn. 1928; mar. Jos. G. Evans, 1877
6. Thomas Edward b. 1857; d. Oakville, 1857
7. Robinson Smith b. 1857; d. Oakville, 1861
8. Stephen Anderson b. 1860, d. Oakland Cal. 1943; mar. Minnie M. Blackett, 1884, Vict. B.C.
Leona Z. Chalmers, 1900, Oakland, Cal.

Children of Stephen Anderson Deckard

1. Walter St. Clair b. 1886; Victoria B.C.; d. Pittsburg, Cal. 1889
2. Eliz. Susan "Tess" b. 1887; mar. Edwin M. Farrell, Oakland, 1905
3. Everett Blackett b. 1889; (blind since 13 years of age)
4. Lydia Corum b. 1891; d. 1904—Pittsburg, Cal.
5. Frederick Douglass b. 1893; mar. May Catherine Wells, N.Y. 1921
6. George Chalmers b. 1901; mar. Clarisse Broich, Berkeley, Cal. 1922
7. Leonard Francis b. 1911; mar. Norma Ellis, Berkeley, Cal. 1933

Compiled by Willetta Moore Smith, Great-Granddaughter of Lynn Snodgrass and Anderson
Deckard and Granddaughter of Richard M. Moore Sr. Copied by her brother, Merle S. Moore,
June 1, 1963.

*At the request of the Society's Research Committee, which is interested in family records, etc., the above genealogy is given. (or included in this issue of the HISTORIAN)



The Richard M. Moore family in about 1858-59, upon moving to Eugene. Had come to Astoria, Oregon in 1852 via steamship around Cape Horn with machinery to build his sawmill—from former home in Port Gibson. Miss. Children were born there except William who was born in Astoria, 1855. Owned farm 1½ miles west of Eugene and later lived at present site of First Methodist Church, 12th and Willamette Street. From left: Richard M. Moore, Joseph, William (in front), Permelia Kilcrease Moore, Zachary Taylor and Richard M. Jr. The married daughter, Esther (Stewart) not in picture. See accompanying story. No. 204—F.



Home of W. W. Moore, S.W. corner 5th and Madison. Children all born in Eugene, from left: Josephine (Mrs. A.L. Keeney) W. W. (father), Kenneth, Nellie (Mrs. R. O. McWilliams), Mrs. Nellie S. Moore (mother), Mary (Mrs. A. M. Hanson), Merle S., Willetta (Mrs. J. E. Smith). Taken about 1909—family home, 1897-1923 No. 117—H.



Anderson and Lydia Corum Deckard, pioneers of 1853, via Oregon Trail. Their DLC at Oakville, Linn County. They freed their slaves before leaving for Oregon, however a 19-year old girl begged to come along. See accompanying story. No. 286-F. and 287-F.



Ben and Amanda Gardner Johnson, former slaves. She is the girl of 19 who accompanied the Anderson Deckard train across the plains in 1883 to care for her former mistress and her children until her marriage in about 1870. "Auntie Johnson" was loved by the relationship for many, many years. She died at Albany at the age of 93. No. 333-F.

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