

2006

STORIES FROM MEET THE PIONEERS

Living History Tours presented in Jacksonville, Oregon's Pioneer Cemetery.

2006 – Our First Year

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Julia Hoffman Beekman

Julia came overland with her family when she was fourteen years old. Why it has been said that her father brought something more valuable than gold to the mining town of Jacksonville; he in fact brought six daughters! The Hoffman family arrived in Southern Oregon on October 31, 1852 after a long and difficult journey. Julia's mother Caroline B. Shaffer Hoffman was not in good health in Indiana and her father William decided the family should make their way west. The family settled in an area that later would be known as Phoenix and Talent where they farmed.

A young Julia would tell the story that while living near Phoenix it was then that she first laid eyes on the man who would become her husband. She would admit that it was his beautiful horse that first caught her eye, it was a beauty! But very soon she was taken by the owner of that horse, Cornelius Beekman. He worked as an Express Agent taking gold dust and mail over the Siskiyou Mountains on horseback between Jacksonville and Yreka for the Cram Rodgers Company. After that company closed Cornelius opened up his own Express Company known as Beekman Express. He carried mail and gold by stagecoach between Jacksonville and Crescent City as well as Jacksonville and Yreka. Cornelius became an Express Agent for the Wells Fargo Company and soon opened the very first bank in all of Southern Oregon called the Beekman Bank.

Soon after opening his bank Cornelius decided that he could properly provide for a wife and family and asked Julia for her hand in marriage. Julia happily obliged and they were married in 1861, settling into married life in a small white house on the corner of today's California and Sixth Street. All three of their children were born in this house. The first born, Ben graduated from local schools and then went to the University of Oregon. Upon graduating from there, he attended Yale where he earned a degree in law. He became a prominent lawyer in Portland, Oregon. Daughter Caroline, or as she was called Carrie, was born next and was such a wonderful joy and help to her parents throughout their lives. The youngest daughter Lydia, who was born in 1867, died from complications of measles just before her sixth birthday. Julia never got over this tragedy and loss.

In 1876, the Beekman family moved into a beautiful home built for them on what is now the corner of California and Laurelwood Streets.

Julia would say that her husband had been trying to retire for quite some time but the town would have none of that. They only wanted Cornelius in charge of their money. On the day of Cornelius's funeral, every business in Jacksonville and Medford closed and special trains brought people from Medford to attend his funeral. Julia and Carrie then spent most of their time in Portland with Ben. Julia who was 92 years of age when she died saw some amazing changes during her lifetime. She experienced all sorts of travel, covered wagon, stagecoach, trains and even rode in one of those automobiles!

Caroline (Carrie) Beekman

Carrie, as she was known, was born in Jacksonville to the town banker, Cornelius Beekman and his wife Julia. She attended local schools and then went to Mills Seminary, now known as Mills College near Berkeley, California. At the time it was an all girls school and Carrie recalled it as having had a marvelous time! She studied literature, French, history of the English language, music and history. The Beekmans would take Carrie by stagecoach at the beginning of each term and would be there at the end of each term to accompany her back to Jacksonville.

At home in Jacksonville Carrie stayed busy by teaching piano to young students and teaching Sunday school at the Presbyterian Church. Her Uncle, David Linn built the church where the Beekman family attended.

Carrie lived a privileged life and traveled a great deal with her family. She and her mother would travel with her father on his frequent business trips to San Francisco. Carrie remembers that when the railroad came through the Rogue Valley it allowed them to travel from Medford to San Francisco in twenty-four hours and putting an end to those long and bumpy rides by stagecoach! She traveled to Yellowstone National Park in 1902 and again in 1906. Frequent trips were made to Portland to visit her brother Ben, a prominent lawyer. Sometimes from Portland she would sail from there to San Francisco. The family also traveled by train to visit her father's relatives in New York. Carrie fondly recalled her grandest trip was when she went to Europe! She travelled to New York by train where she met her relatives and sailed to Ireland. From there she visited London, Germany, Brussels, Italy, Switzerland, Budapest, and into Scandinavia. Carrie's European trip took a year-and-a-half!

Once back in Jacksonville she looked after her parents and stayed active in the community. After her father died in 1915, she and her mother began to spend extended periods of time in Portland. Following her mother's passing in 1931, Carrie resided in Portland close to her brother Ben.

Carrie died in 1959, at the age of 93 having outlived the rest of the family. She left money to the University of Oregon to establish a professorship in her father's name that continues today. Her biggest gift was leaving the Beekman home and all of the furnishings to the University as well. Today the Beekman Bank and the family home, with all its original possessions, serve to educate us and future generations about this early pioneer family to Jacksonville.

Julia Hoffman Beekman was born in Covington, Indiana on October 1, 1839 and died in Jacksonville, Oregon on July 27, 1931 at the age of 92.

Caroline (Carrie) Beekman was born in Jacksonville, Oregon on December 11, 1865 and died on July 16, 1959 at the age of 93.

Both are buried in the Beekman Family Block 444 located in the Masonic Section of the Jacksonville Cemetery, Julia in Plot 4 and Carrie in Plot 3.

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Peter Britt and daughter Amalia (Mollie) Britt

Peter was born on March 12, 1819, in Obstalden, canton of Glarus, located in east-central Switzerland. While his family farmed in that area for many years Peter's talents and interest were in painting. After painting landscapes and portraits in Europe he joined his father Jacob, his brother Kaspar and Kaspar's family and came to the United States in 1845. They all settled in Highland, Illinois. It was while living in Illinois that Britt's interest in the new art of photography was acquired.

Peter, like so many others at the time, hearing stories of the west and gold strikes, headed west in the spring of 1852. After a five-month journey across the Oregon Trail he arrived in a small northern village that would one day become Portland, Oregon. It was here that he learned of a gold strike in Southern Oregon's Table Rock City (today's Jacksonville). Peter was on the move again walking from Portland to Table Rock City and arriving on November 8, 1852. He had only five dollars in his pocket and his photographic equipment that he managed to bring from Illinois. Britt acquired land in Jacksonville, most likely through a donation land claim, and built a log cabin on what is now known as "Britt Hill" and home to the Britt Music Festivals.

After trying his hand at mining Peter quickly realized that it was not for him and that there were better ways of making a living and also much more profitable. He went into business and ran pack trains hauling supplies of food and mining equipment between Northern California and Crescent City and Jacksonville.

On a trip to San Francisco In 1856, Britt was able to purchase the latest and most modern camera available at the time. Upon his return to Jacksonville his Britt Photography Studio became a full-fledged enterprise. Soon he was the best known and most popular photographer in southwestern Oregon and northern California. Peter took portraits of prominent citizens as well as local farmers, miners, the Chinese and Native Americans. His early photographs helped to preserve the history of Jacksonville and its residents.

In addition to being a successful photographer Peter was also a businessman and had a strong interest in horticulture. He established a gold mining claim on the south fork of Jackson Creek that paid him well for a number of years and he also made both personal and mortgage loans to others, typically at a rate of ten percent. In 1854, he secured some grape vines from California and soon had a sizeable vineyard. His horticulture interest also included exotic plants and in 1857, he started the Britt Gardens. Another interest of Peter's was the weather which, beginning in 1859, he recorded daily in his diary. In 1870, when an official weather service was established, Peter volunteered as a civilian observer and kept a diary for thirty-five years.

Despite Britt's many interests and businesses he managed to keep in contact with his family and friends back in Illinois. It was through one of these letters that he learned that a very early love interest Amalia, was living in Wisconsin with her 6-year-old son Jacob. Peter also learned that Amalia was considering returning to Switzerland as her husband had died and she had no money. Peter had met Amalia while both were residents of Switzerland and wanted to marry her however her father would have no part of his daughter marrying a painter.

Peter quickly wrote Amalia and offered her two choices: he would pay her and her son's passage back to their homeland, or she could come to Oregon and marry him. Happily, she chose the latter and Peter and Amalia Grob were married at the home of Kasper Kubli on August 11, 1861. Peter raised Amalia's son Jacob as his own and soon they would have three children of their own. Son Emil was born in 1862 and another son Arnold was born in 1864 but sadly died prior to his second birthday. Their daughter Amalia was born the following year in 1865. Soon the one-story house that Britt built was too small for his growing family so he added a second story for his studio. Later he would add a two-story wing to the house. The home and his gardens became quite a showplace.

Peter's wife Amalia, the love of his life and the woman he waited for, died in 1871, just ten years after they married. Peter did not remarry and raised the three children on his own.

Peter Britt died in Jacksonville, Oregon on October 3, 1905.

Amalia (Mollie) Britt

Mollie was born in Jacksonville, Oregon to Peter and Amalia Britt on August 1, 1865. She was only six years old with her mother died. As a young girl she attended St. Mary's Academy. She would become the lady of the house and cared for her father and brothers and ran the household. Mollie, coming from a prominent and well-to-do Jacksonville family was very involved in the social life of the time. Mollie was very close to her father and brothers, and they were a very close-knit family who took care of one another. She, and for that matter neither of her brothers, ever married. Mollie died on October 13, 1954, the last member of the Jacksonville Britt family.

Peter Britt and his daughter Amalia (Mollie) Britt are buried in the Britt Family Block 129 located in the City Section of the Jacksonville Cemetery. Peter in Plot 3 and Mollie in Plot 9.

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William and Elizabeth Ann Walker Bybee

William was born on April 20, 1830, in Winchester, Clark County in Kentucky. He grew up on his father's farm and spent most of his time as a drover for his father, who was one of the largest livestock dealers in Kentucky. Young Bybee herded bands of hogs, cattle and sheep to markets in Virginia and South Carolina. He had a very meager education.

In 1850, he set out to seek his fortune first working for the government transferring freight from Missouri to Mexico, and then he accompanied a train of government supplies to Larimer, Kansas. William had a strong desire to go further west and try making his fortune on the Pacific coast. Bybee and eight others put together an outfit of several wagons, drawn by mule teams and started out for the far west in the spring of 1852. They arrived in Diamond Springs, California and decided to spend the winter there. They tried their hand at mining but not finding the vast amounts that they had heard about, they headed north to Portland, Oregon. Bybee came to Jackson County in the spring of 1854, where he tried mining again and later, purchased a donation land claim near Jacksonville. During the summer of 1854, William joined Captain Jesse Walker's company of volunteers and spent three months in Klamath Lake County chasing the Indians

Elizabeth Ann Walker was born on January 7, 1838, in Adair County, Missouri. Her family came overland in 1847, long before there was a California Gold Rush, the Oregon Gold Rush or even the Donation Land Claim that brought so many others in later years. The Walker family settled on property about a mile from Jacksonville.

It was through William's association with Captain Walker and his volunteers that he met Walker's daughter Elizabeth Ann. It appears that they fell in love rather quickly as they were married before the end of the year on November 16, 1854. Following the marriage, William purchased some land from Captain Walker and built a house on it for his bride. The following year Captain Walker died, and William and Elizabeth Ann Bybee inherited the rest of Walker's property. He began to clear the land and started farming. As he began to prosper and realize a profit on his investment, he added more land to his original holding. During the ensuing years William followed the same process by investing his savings in additional land and stock, until he eventually owned 2,000 acres on his home farm, 2,900 acres in the Rogue River region, 1,560 acres along Antelope Creek and another 500 acres along Evans Creek. On his land, in addition to farming, he raised cattle, horses and sheep. On each of these properties Bybee built a ranch home which was left in care of a couple who supervised the operations on that ranch.

While William stayed busy tending to his business interests, Elizabeth oversaw the running of the gracious Bybee home on Old Stage Road, nursing and raising the children and overseeing the farm. The Bybee's had eleven children, five of whom survived to adulthood. Their first son Ryland died at the age of fourteen when his horse fell on him. Lily Mae and Florence died in a diphtheria epidemic when they were just four and six years of age. Little Jefferson died when he was only five and Alexander, age 15, and Maud Minerva, age five, both died of scarlet fever.

At the time, William was considered a Land Baron with all of the property he owned. In addition, his business interests had been extensive: he owned a fording and ferry service across the Rogue River; he operated a resort at Evans Creek; he operated a placer mine in Josephine County and built one of the longest mining ditches in Southern Oregon; he grew mission grapes in Jacksonville. Bybee was also active in the Democratic Party and in 1878, was elected sheriff of Jackson County and served two terms.

In 1886, William found himself on the other side of the law when he was arrested for the murder of his cousin Thomas Bybee. During a dispute over ownership of a section of land, young Thomas shot William in the leg. Thomas was indicted but, while awaiting trial, he was released from jail. Then, two months later, Thomas was found dead not far from his home in the town of Waldo. He had been shot in the back of the head. Witnesses testified that both Thomas and William had been seen in Waldo that day, and that William was carrying a gun when he rode out of town. A half hour later, Thomas left Waldo headed for his home in Sauvie Point. Shortly thereafter, a crew of men staying at William Bybee's place, one of his ranch houses located near Waldo, heard gun shots. They also stated that, in less than a half hour after hearing the shots, William arrived at the ranch carrying his gun. The next morning Thomas' body was found lying dead in the road with a fully loaded revolver in his hand.

The local newspaper, The Courier, asked how could a county sheriff, or an ex-county sheriff shoot a man in the back? They seemed to announce William Bybee's innocence before his trial and declared: "His many friends cannot believe that he would be guilty of shooting even his worst enemy from ambush." On April 17, 1886, the grand jury of Josephine County returned a "not a true bill" on the charge of murder, and William was released. William however lived under a cloud of suspicion for the rest of his life.

The Bybees were known for entertaining and, when a party was held at their home, people from all over would be sure to show up. William even built a mile long racetrack on his property and near his home. The grandstand reportedly could seat 600 people. He donated this park for county fairs, Fourth of July celebrations, ice cream socials and other community events.

Elizabeth Ann Walker Bybee died on October 1, 1899 at the age of 61. William Bybee died on November 11, 1908, at the age of 78.

They are buried in the Bybee Family Block 184 in the City Section of the Jacksonville Cemetery, Elizabeth in Plot 10 and William in Plot 11.

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Judge William Mason and Adelaide (Addie) Birdseye Colvig

William was born in Ray County, Missouri on September 2, 1845, to William Lyngae and Helen Mar Woodford Colvig. William was six years old when the Colvigs, along with twenty-six other families, formed a wagon train and headed west. William's mother taught him to read while they sat in the seat of the wagon as they crossed the plains. His textbooks consisted of a few cherished family volumes: the Bible, *Pilgrim's Progress*, *Plutarch's Lives* and Shakespeare's plays. From these books William acquired a life-long interest in reading and learning. The family arrived in Portland in 1851 and spent the winter there. In the spring they headed to California but ended up taking out a 640-acre donation land claim on the Umpqua River in Canyonville.

While living in Canyonville, William learned the Indian language as a small Indian village of about twenty-five people was located on his father's land. The Colvig children having no other nearby neighbors, became playmates of the Indian children of the village. Later on in life William would say that he could speak Indian better than English. He also said that the Indians had helped him to understand the many beauties of the Oregon country which were not always appreciated by other settlers.

William was only seventeen years of age when the Civil War began, and he felt it was his patriotic duty to help preserve the Union. So, on April 5, 1863, William enlisted at Fort Baker in Company C of the volunteer First Oregon Cavalry. While William never fought in the War Between the States, he and Company C remained in the West building Fort Klamath and mapping routes east of the Cascades. While locating a military road between Jackson and Klamath counties, some of the troops came across Crater Lake, which they named Lake Mystic on their maps. As the Company Clerk, William drew a crude map of the area which is now Klamath, Lake, and Malheur counties. Reportedly it was the first ever made of this territory, and the map was sent to Washington, D.C. for copying.

After serving three years in the army, he was mustered out at Fort Vancouver. Still eager to see other parts of the country, he left Portland by boat to San Francisco then on to New York. He would spend the next nine years on the east coast and in the mid-west performing an assortment of unrelated jobs. While there seemed to be no rhyme nor reason for his choice of jobs, he seemed to want to try his hand at everything and had great enthusiasm for all that he did. While in Illinois he studied law under Judge Rodecker and reportedly took an independent course at Tremont Collegiate Institute and received a certificate to teach. In 1875, he was working for the Lakeside Publishing Company of Chicago who sent him to California to be the General Manager of the Pacific History Company. Unfortunately, he arrived to find that the company had gone bankrupt.

He returned home for a long overdue visit with his parents who were now living on a farm at Rock Point. It was during this visit that William would meet the woman who would one day become his wife, Adelaide (Addie) Birdseye. The Birdseyes settled on a donation land claim in 1852, just three miles from where William's parents now lived. Addie was born on the Birdseye homestead on January 29, 1856. It was said at the time that Addie's mother, Clarissa Birdseye, did not look too favorably on William. Her husband David took a liking to young

William. In the meantime, William returned to California where he continued to write histories for a San Francisco Publishing Company. He remained there for a couple of years before returning to Oregon for good.

William proposed to Addie, and they were married in the Birdseye home on June 8, 1879. The groom was 34 and his bride was 23. They honeymooned in Prospect which was a three-day trip up the river travelling by a light wagon. William took over his father-in-law's ranch and ran it for several years. He and Addie's first two children were born at the Birdseye ranch.

William began practicing law soon after his return to Oregon. In 1882 he was elected Jackson County School Superintendent serving as such for two terms. He then served three terms as district attorney for the First Judicial District which was comprised of Jackson, Josephine, Klamath and Lake Counties. The Colvigs moved to Jacksonville after William became a county official. Addie and William would have another three children who were all born in Jacksonville. All of their children would become prominent citizens of Oregon. However, their youngest, Vance Debar, would become world famous as he created the character Bozo the Clown.

It was while living in Jacksonville that William Colvig had taken on the title of "Judge." One local story was that he acquired this title after serving as arbiter during a turkey raffle in town. A son-in-law of William's, W.J. Warner, recalled that William used to say in fun that the only thing he was a judge of was good whiskey. While he never served on the bench, he became a very successful civil and criminal lawyer in Southern Oregon.

Sadly, Addie died in 1912 after fighting a losing battle with cancer. William moved to Medford where, in addition to continuing his law practice, he was very active in civic affairs and became President of the Commercial Club, predecessor of the Chamber of Commerce.

Judge Colvig retired from his law practice in 1922. He remained active for the rest of his life and was a speaker in great demand and spoke on a number of subjects such as: the Indian Wars, early Oregon history and Shakespeare.

William died on January 19, 1936, at the age of 91.

Judge William Mason and Adelaide (Addie) Birdseye Colvig are buried in the City Section of the Jacksonville Cemetery in Block 255, Plots 1 and 2.

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Zany (Mary) Ross Ganung

Zany was born in Madison County, Ohio on February 15, 1818. Her twin brother was John England Ross, a well-known soldier and pioneer in Southern Oregon. Her family moved to Fountain County, Indiana in 1828 and then to Cook County, Illinois in 1833. She met and married Dr. Lewis Ganung in Geneva, Illinois in 1840. They made their way west coming across the plains and after arriving in Oregon, spent that first winter in Salem. In the spring of 1854, they continued their journey and arrived and settled in Jacksonville.

Dr. Ganung setup a practice in Jacksonville with Zany acting as a nurse when necessary or requested. It was said that even a sturdy pioneer lady, when she was ailing, liked to have another female hovering around, and Zany was just the one to hover. Zany quickly became affectionately known as “Auntie Ganung” as she was respected for her kindness and caring for those in need. She was described as “a large, dignified woman, unusually good looking and always wearing a crisp cap with perky lavender ribbons.”

As the story goes, late in the afternoon on June 11, 1861, Dr. Ganung and Zany were returning home, tired and exhausted after spending the night and most of the day, with a very sick patient. As their buggy approached their home, Zany spotted something new that had been erected across from their home. It was a flagpole that was flying the Confederate “palmetto and rattlesnake flag” directly across from her front door. No one knew who raised it, and if they did, they weren’t telling. Apparently, no one ventured to remove it for fear of starting a local civil war. Well, that didn’t stop Zany who leaped from the buggy, went into her home only to return in moments with an axe. Looking neither to the right or left she crossed the street and began to chop the pole down. Most people watched Zany chopping at the pole but no one spoke. As the pole began to sway Mr. Love stepped forward to hold the pole and prevent it from falling on Zany. Once the pole was down, Zany untied the flag, crossed the street, entered her house closing the door and burnt the flag in the stove.

Reportedly, the “rattlesnake flag” never again flew over Jacksonville.

Zany died at her residence in Jacksonville, Oregon on July 14, 1888, at the age of 70. She is buried next to her husband Dr. Lewis Ganung, who died on December 16, 1872. They are buried in Block 92, Plots 1 and 2 in the City Section of the Jacksonville Cemetery.

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Jacob and Sarah Elizabeth Jones Ish

Jacob was born on June 5, 1823, in Hillsborough, Loudoun County, Virginia to William King Ish Sr. and his wife Sopenia Rust Ish. Jacob had one sister, Martha, and three brothers, William King Ish, Matthew Rust Ish and Richard L. Ish. Reportedly Jacob and his three brothers all came west to avoid the havoc threatened by the approaching Civil War. Sarah Elizabeth Jones Ish was born in 1830 in Loudoun County, Virginia and was the sister of Jacob's first wife Eleanor.

In 1860, Jacob sold his estate and his slaves and traveled west with his first wife Eleanor (Ellen) Jones Ish. He purchased 320 acres of land about three miles from Jacksonville and started a ranch on what was formerly the donation land claim of Abel George. Later he purchased an additional 320 acres of the Overbeck donation land claim which gave him 640 acres in the heart of the Rogue River Valley. In 1864, Jacob and Eleanor's only child, Sopenia was born on the Ish Ranch.

When the opportunity presented itself, Ish added to his land holdings. He eventually became one of the largest landowners in Jackson County, with over 5,000 acres. With his wealth he was able to make his fields the most productive in the Rogue River Valley. The Ish Ranch soon became known far and wide for its broad fertile acres, sturdy stock and immaculately maintained buildings. Jacob also found it extremely profitable to furnish supplies for government troops stationed at Fort Klamath and to the stage stations along the road from Grants Pass to San Francisco. He invested in mining and in swamp land, which he purchased through his brother William.

When Jacob's brother William's wife Ann died of cancer in 1872, their daughter, who was also named Sopenia Ish, came to live on the Ish Ranch with her uncle, aunt and her cousin. To avoid confusion, Jacob and Ellen called their daughter Sophie and their niece, William and Ann's daughter, was called Phenie.

Sadly, on July 29, 1877, Eleanor died of cancer. Her sister, Sarah Elizabeth Jones, arrived on August 14, 1877. Sarah had travelled from Virginia to Jacksonville, sailing around the Horn with the intent of caring for Eleanor. Since Jacob, now without a wife, was left with a young daughter and niece to raise, Sarah agreed to stay on and help out. Jacob Ish and his former sister-in-law were married on October 7, 1878.

Jacob Ish died on March 4, 1881, from bronchitis at his beloved ranch. His death left Sarah one of the wealthiest women in the county. She was said to be a "woman of strong character and rare business ability," and she continued to manage the Ish Ranch very successfully until her own death on September 2, 1906.

Eleanor (Ellen) Jones Ish, Jacob Ish and Sarah Elizabeth Jones Ish are all buried in the Ish Family Block 391 in the Odd Fellows (IOOF) Section of the Jacksonville Cemetery. Plots 1, 2 and 3.

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Paine Page Prim and Theresa Stearns Prim

P.P.P. was born in Tennessee on May 2, 1822. His father, a farmer, owned a couple hundred acres of land near Lebanon and not far from The Hermitage, Andrew Jackson's splendid plantation. When Paine was fourteen years old his father died leaving him, as the oldest, to help care for his mother and three siblings. His father had drawn up a will leaving the property to his wife Polly, who was to give the children a good education and to have use of the farm as long she remained a widow. Should she choose to remarry, all the property, with the exception of the slaves, would then be sold at auction and divided among the children and their mother. Polly saw that the children attended school when it was in session. Paine did so well and had such high marks in his final term that he was considered capable of being a teacher. He found a teaching position in a one room schoolhouse where he taught for several years and took classes at Lebanon Academy when he could.

In 1846, Polly remarried and, following the provisions of his father's will being carried out, Paine found himself with a substantial sum of money and a female slave. While nothing further was recorded with regard to what happened to the slave that Paine inherited from his father's estate, we know that he entered the new law school at Cumberland University. In 1848 he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree. The following year Paine was admitted to the Bar and opened an office in Lebanon and began his legal practice at the age of twenty-seven. After about six months his enthusiasm began to fade and when a group of well-established lawyers in Sparta, Tennessee offered him a position as an associate, he happily accepted.

Paine became fascinated with the tales and stories of the western frontier and in 1851, resigned his position and headed westward. After taking on a donation land claim in the Willamette Valley a few miles from Albany, he quickly realized that following a plow on his own land was not much different than it was following a plow on his father's farm.

Hearing about the gold strikes in Southern Oregon Paine abandoned his land claim and headed to Jackson County. He quickly became aware of the extent of petty quarreling and resentment among the miners. Wanting no part of these squabbles, Paine remained silent about his legal background. However, a short time later word got out, and a particular case of a disputed claim had him returning to his law profession. His handling of this case revealed that he was an honest, well trained, ingenious lawyer who also used a good deal of common sense. Paine then realized that the law was the profession for him and opened a law office in Jacksonville. As word spread, he soon had a very successful law practice. In 1854, he was elected District Attorney for the First Judicial District of Jackson and Douglas counties. In 1856, Josephine County was added to the District Court with the town of Waldo being added to Paine's itinerary. His position called for him to travel by buckboard or stagecoach and attend court sessions from one county seat to the other.

In April of 1857, Paine Page Prim married Theresa M. Stearns, the groom was 35 years old, and his bride was just 18. Theresa was born in Vermont on January 29, 1839, and crossed the plains with her parents in 1853. Once they arrived in Oregon, they settled on a farm just south of Ashland. Her father, a Baptist minister taught school and worked on his farm when not out and

about preaching the faith. Theresa was described as a most attractive young lady who according to a Memorial prepared by the Southern Oregon Pioneer Association following Theresa's death, "She had a remarkably strong character and one that in another age might have left impresses on the world's affairs. She combined the masculine qualities of force and ambition with all the traits of pure womanhood." Obviously, Theresa was not what one would expect of the typical lady of the day.

The newlyweds were a good-looking couple with an elevated position in Jacksonville's social circle given Paine's profession. Their first child Ella was born in February of 1858. Son Charles was born the following year. In 1860, Paine contracted with David Linn to build a home for the family in the area of Blackstone Alley. All seemed to be going well for the couple with the exception of Paine's many long absences from home.

Over the next eight years things only got worse between the couple and on August 26, 1865, a divorce complaint was filed on behalf of Paine Page Prim. Theresa most likely moved back in with her parents. Paine was in no hurry to pursue the divorce proceedings, actually postponing hearings twice and then having the divorce stricken from the docket. Happily, and for various reasons, Paine and Theresa managed to reunite as a husband and wife and even managed to take a second honeymoon following their one-and-a-half-year separation. In May of 1868, their third child, Ida, was born. Paine continued to serve on the Oregon Supreme Court until 1880, then a four-year term in the State Senate and returning to private practice at the conclusion of each. Theresa, finally accepting the fact that she could do nothing but accept Paine's extended absences, opened a millinery shop in 1879, with her daughter Ella.

Paine continued his private practice until failing health forced him into retirement. He and Theresa moved to San Francisco to live with their daughter Ida. On August 7, 1899, Paine died. Theresa and Ida accompanied his remains back to Jacksonville for burial. Theresa returned to California with Ida and eventually moved to Chicago with Ida and her new husband Dr. J. P. Heinz. Theresa outlived Paine by another fourteen years and, when she died, she was buried in Chicago.

Paine Page Prim is buried in the Masonic Section of the Jacksonville Cemetery in Block 274 in Plot 4. The stone at the foot of his grave site is simply marked with the initials P.P.P.

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Regina Dorland Robinson

Dorland was born on November 5, 1891, in Jacksonville, Oregon to Dr. James William and Sarah Matilda (Tillie) Miller Robinson. She was the third child born to the Robinsons following the deaths of her brother Willie Cecil and sister Mary Leah. Tragically Willie and Leah died six days apart from diphtheria in an epidemic that struck Jacksonville in 1890.

Dorland's parents never got over the loss of their first two children and following Dorland's birth made her the focus of their lives. For twenty-five years she was cherished, protected, indulged and grew up as a pampered only child.

At the very early age of five she demonstrated an unusual interest and skill in drawing and painting, and her talent had begun to reveal itself. Her father, an amateur oil painter assisted his daughter with putting paint on canvas. Dorland did not attend the public schools in Jacksonville rather she was enrolled at St. Mary's Academy which was then located in Jacksonville. It was there that she began her training in art with the sisters as well as learning to play the piano.

Dr. Robinson would walk his daughter to school every morning and would then meet her each afternoon following school and walk her home. Fear of the disease that took his first two children helped to isolate Dorland from children her age and she spent many hours alone, reading, practicing on her piano and sketching. Her friends were carefully selected, and she did not participate in group activities. She was sometimes allowed to ask those special friends to go sketching with her.

In the summer of 1904, Dorland took lessons from Jacksonville's pioneer artist-turned-photographer Peter Britt. While working in Britt's studio or near the pond on his property, she tried oil painting. Her paintings from this time period gave promise of what was still to come. At age 14, Dorland entered some of her nature sketches at the fair in Grants Pass and received first prize. She also made a sketch of Ex-President Taft and sent it to him. Reportedly he was so delighted with his likeness that he sent Dorland a letter of endorsement. She also attracted critical admiration for a portrait of a six-year-old child. It was considered remarkable not only for its excellence but also because it had been painted by a comparatively untrained girl.

Encouraged by his daughter's public recognition Dr. Robinson sought advanced instruction for Dorland. As most of the art schools in San Francisco were either damaged or destroyed by the 1906, earthquake, he focused his search on art teachers in Berkeley, just across the Bay from San Francisco. So, on what was Dorland's fifteenth birthday, the Robinsons boarded a train headed for Berkeley, California where Dorland would spend the winter learning the use of watercolor and opaque paint.

In 1910, the family traveled to Philadelphia, where Dr. Robinson volunteered his services in the city's clinics and took medical classes while Dorland studied at the Academy of Fine Arts. The Robinsons returned to Jacksonville in the summer of 1911.

In 1912, Dr. Robinson moved Dorland and her mother and six cats into a small house in Oakland, California in order that Dorland could continue her study of watercolor and landscapes. They returned to Jacksonville the following year due to Dr. Robinson's poor health. In 1915, Dorland and her parents traveled to San Francisco and attended the Panama-Pacific Exposition and enjoyed the fine art display. Dorland joined the Sketch Club, a San Francisco organization of women artists. She met many new people in San Francisco's art circles and made plans to exhibit her work in San Francisco and Portland in the fall of 1916.

In October Dorland traveled to Portland, most likely to work on details of her planned exhibit. There on October 25, she married Charles Henry Pearson. Not much is known of Mr. Pearson or when and how he and Dorland met. Some stories say he was a commercial traveler, others that he was a salesman with the Yale Lock Company. They may have met at an art exhibition in San Francisco where Mr. Pearson resided or perhaps on the train ride to Portland. Her parents and friends were very surprised by the marriage. Five days later on October 30, the newlyweds left by train for New York where Dorland would celebrate her twenty-fifth birthday on November 5. By the fifteenth of November Dorland was back in Jacksonville visiting with her parents and finishing some commissioned portraits. Sometime later she traveled with her mother to the San Francisco Bay area. A short time later Dr. Robinson received word that Dorland had suffered a nervous breakdown and caught a train to San Francisco. He returned to Jacksonville on January 9, 1917, where rumors abounded about the cause of Dorland's illness.

Following Dorland's recovery, she and her mother took rooms at a boarding house in San Mateo, California. She resumed painting and the local newspaper, the San Mateo County News reported on March 8, 1917, that Dorland had a self-portrait on display at an Art Shop in nearby Burlingame. Then on the morning of April 7, Tillie discovered her daughter's body on the bed with a revolver clutched in her hand. A coroner's report found "that the deceased met death from a gunshot wound in the head committed by her own hand while temporarily deranged, suicidal." Sadly, like in most cases when a person ends their own life, those left behind can only speculate as to the reasons why. Was it her rumored divorce from Charles Pearson, an unwanted pregnancy or perhaps bigamy. Whatever the reason or reasons, Dorland was unable and unprepared to deal with them. A beautiful young woman and a great talent were lost.

In 1922, Dr. and Mrs. Robinson donated twenty-five of Dorland's paintings to the University of Oregon in Eugene for display in the new Women's Building that was under construction. They attended the dedication of the new building in June 1923. The paintings were later transferred to the Southern Oregon Historical Society.

Regina Dorland Robinson is buried in the Robinson Family Block 267, in the Masonic Section of the Jacksonville Cemetery. She rests near her brother and sister who also died tragically some 27 years earlier.

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Alice Catherine Applegate Sargent

Alice was born on April 28, 1852, in the Yoncalla Valley, Douglas County to Lindsay and Elizabeth Miller Applegate. Her parents came to Oregon in 1843, along with six children. Alice and five other siblings, all born in Oregon, would join the family, making it an even dozen.

In 1859, her father purchased a toll road that ran across the Siskiyou and built a new and much larger toll house. This is where Alice spent much of her childhood. In a 1927 interview, Alice said that keeping the toll road was much more than collecting a toll from those who crossed over it, but also keeping the road clear of trees that fell across it, clearing the snow with several yoke of oxen and a big bobsled, removing slides in the spring and, in fact, keeping busy constantly improving the road. The family operated the toll road and maintained it for nine years. Alice's first teacher was her older brother Jesse and later she attended the Ashland Public School.

Alice's brother, Oliver was an assistant Indian Agent on the Klamath Reservation, and it may have been on one of her visits that she met her future husband. Alice and Lieutenant Herbert Howland Sargent were married in Klamath Falls in 1886. Lt. Sargent had recently graduated from West Point and was on his first assignment at Fort Klamath.

Alice, who as a child claimed she would never leave Oregon, was about to depart on an adventure that would keep her away for many years. Shortly after their marriage they moved to Illinois where Lt. Sargent was detailed as an instructor in Military Science at the University of Illinois, at Urbana. Their next assignment was to Fort Bidwell in California. This was to be followed by a 500 mile and twenty-one-day horseback ride to Walla Walla in Washington State. They came across a foot and a half of snow in the Blue Mountains. In the same interview as mentioned above, Alice said she couldn't help but think of her mother as she passed through the snow. In 1843, her mother walked over the Blue Mountains in a heavy snowstorm carrying a baby and leading her little three-year-old son. She explained that as she got to the foot of the mountains her skirts were torn off to the knees from catching on the underbrush and fall timber.

From Walla Walla the Sargents were next assigned to Fort Huachuca, Arizona then to Fort Logan near Denver and on to Fort Wingate in New Mexico. Cuba, the Philippines and assignments on the east coast followed.

In Cuba Alice slept in a tent just as her husband and all the other soldiers did. The heat, soaking rains, and insects along with all the tropical diseases – malaria, typhoid and yellow fever, made for a very difficult assignment. Alice came down with yellow fever, suffering from it for weeks. She recovered just in time to nurse Herbert who came down with yellow fever and lingered for weeks near death.

Colonel Sargent and Alice finally retired from the Army in 1911. They retired to Medford where they became involved in civic affairs. In 1915 they purchased the Nunan House in Jacksonville. Then in the following year, 1916, Herbert was recalled to active duty for World War I. Alice tried to enlist as a nurse but was told she was too old.

After the end of the war, they finally returned to Jacksonville for good. Both became very involved in community affairs. Colonel Sargent died in 1921 and was buried in the Jacksonville Cemetery with full military honors. Following his death, Alice had the stone wall, which lines the Cemetery Road leading up the hill and into the cemetery grounds, constructed in his honor.

Alice wrote "Following the Flag" a diary of a soldier's wife and describing cavalry life. She also wrote poetry and articles for local newspapers. She remained very involved in Jacksonville activities. She was active with the Native Daughters of Oregon and a founder of their Museum in Jacksonville.

Alice died in 1934, and her years of service were recognized by the Army. The Spanish American and "Great War" veterans gave her a full military funeral.

Alice Applegate Sargent is buried next to her husband, Colonel Herbert Sargent, in the Jacksonville Cemetery in Block 231 of the City Section, Herbert in Plot 6 and Alice in Plot 7.

Life's Problem

While the wind howls through the
Treetops,
And the robins cry for rain,
When winter sleeps in the lap of
Spring,
And the raindrops splash the pane;
'Tis a comfort to sit by the fireside,
Where the flames leap high and
Clear;
Down deep in your heart you are
Thankful,
And life seems full of cheer
But life is filled with problems,
A mixture of joy and pain,
While the wind, still howls through
The treetops,
And the robins cry for rain.
- Alice Applegate Sargent

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