Lot Livermore, 86 Year Old Pendleton Pioneer, Was With Party Making Great Journey Out From Ohio in 1851.

towns and cities is not the West of pendence, was one of the most note- a part of the way. Andrew Henry years ago when ploneers first heard worthy features along the trail. It whose name was given to a beautif-

A Pendleton pioneer who well remembers the journey from Ohio to the Wilamette Valley is Lot Liver-more, aged 56, the oldest resident of the alty. Mr. Livermore, with his parents, left the old home in Marietta in April, 1851. The start was made with four ox warrons, two horses and 46 cumstances. It is a start was made with four ox warrons, two horses and 46 cumstances. It is a start was made with four ox warrons, two horses and 46 cumstances. It is a start was made with four ox warrons, two horses and 46 cumstances. It is a start was made with four ox warrons, two horses and 46 cumstances. It is a start was made with four ox warrons, two horses and 46 cumstances. It is a start was made with four ox warrons, two horses and 46 cumstances.

Bluffs Are Reached. Council Bluffs were reached and the Missouri river crossed May 11, "From Missouri river, this point we never saw the habitation of a white man until we reached the

chooner" type, with wooden axle, ne-A swayback bed was provided. Inschooner" was an appropriate word, for often it was necessary to ford streams with all the household

bore the simple words, "Road to Ore-

Branch Trails Also.

There were branch trails that came into the road from Leavenworth and t. Joseph, striking it about the point departure from the Santa Fe trail. but the Oregon Trail proper swung off from this fork, running steadily to the Northwest, part of the time along the Little Blue river until at last it struck the valley of the Platte. The distance from Independence to the Platte was 316 miles, the trail reaching Platte miles below the head Grand Island. The course thence lay up the Platte Valley to the two fords. neaf the Platte Forks. Here was a point of departure

the olden days. If one chose to follow the South Forks, he would reach the Bayou Salade, within reach of Spanish settlements and the head of the Arkansas, or he might take the other arm and come out on the edge of the Continental Divide, much higher to the north.

Followed Fork. The Oregon Trail followed the South Fork for a time, then swung to the North Fork at Ash Creek. It was 667 miles to Fort Laramie, the last post on the eastern side of the Rockies. Thence the trail struggled on up the Platte, keeping close to the stream. until it reached the ford, well up toward the mountains and over 700 miles

The West of today, with its rail- of the Sweetwater. The famous Inde- Wyoming, followed in the wake o automobile highways, farms, pendence Rock, \$28 miles from Inde- Lewis and Clark, in 1807, and blaced

four ox wagons, two horses and 40 cumstances, taking water from the ir. his overland Astorians, seeking a way rigation elitches on the east side of from the mid-Missouri to the Columbia river. Later, Robert Stuart and west side. This is \$47 miles from the the returning Astorians were to mark

Goes Pacific Way.

tays Mr. Livermore.

The warons used by the pioneers bidding country, crossing the Green and two years later, in 1832; and two years later, in 1834, Campbell and Sublette built old Fort Laramie on the Schooner type, with wooden axie, ne-like first resting place west of the Laramie creek, a branch of the Place. the first resting place west of the Rockles, 1,070 miles from the Mis-sourt. This was a delightful spot in every way, and always welcomed by the Oregon trailers.

The Bear river was 1,136 miles

river. Practically, St. Louis was the Bear and Fort Neuf rivers, the latter eastern terminus, men and goods go-eing up the Missouri river to independence, and there taking wagons and dence, and there taking wagons and dence, and there taking wagons and ence, reached the very important setting out for the West. The two point of Fort Hall, the post establish-

way to the weary travelers.

Umatilla Reached.

t was 1,934 miles to The Dailes, 1,-977 to the Cascades, 2,028 to Port and a hundred wide in many places Vancouver, and 2,134 to the mouth of be Columbia.

Such was the Oregon Trail traverslowed this historic highway, destined into almost incredible widths and to be marked to posterity 50 years depths—fifteen feet deep and two after its zenith? The Frenchman, De hundred feet wide in one place ena Verendrye was perhaps the first to countered. read a portion of the trail as it is 'tnown he forsook the Missouri river and started overland, possibly up the Platte, crossing some of the country from Independence.

A little farther on the trail forsook the Platte, 807 miles out from Missouri, and swung across to the valley fo cross the borders of what is now

of a wagon road to the Pacific and the entrance into the Sweet-lake of the Rockies; Etleme Provost, the eager throngs were the old Oregon Trail deeper and deeper each jear.

A Pendleton pioneer who well re-tures. By the Sweetwater the Orestandard Company of the hardy Western adventage.

out, east of the Continental Divide, the route of the trail for much of its of a white man until we reached the Starting now down the Pacific side length. Then came scores of trappers will amount of the United Starting now down the Pacific side and traders; then Bonneville and his Laramie creek, a branch of the Platte. Eight years later Fort Bridger was built by Jim Bridger, on a branch of

the Green river. In 1836 two women moved out into ford streams with all the nousehold belongings in the wagon bed.

The Oregon Trail began, says Mr. Springs, on the big bend of the Bear. Livermore, as did the Santa Fe trail, was 1,206 miles. Thence one crossed at Independence, on the Missouri over the height of land between the river. Practically, St. Louis was the Bear and Port Neuf rivers, the latter the West along the Oregon Trail. They years later Fremont, as far, at least, as the South Pass.

Mormons Appear.

In 1846-47, appeared the Mormons trails were the same for 41 miles, ed by Nathaniel Wyeth. This was the with their ox wagons and carts, their when a signboard was seen which first point at which the trail struck hand carts and wheelbarrows, to the Snake river, that great lower arm deepen the Trail and line it with their of the Columbia which came dropping dead. Then followed the California from its source opposite the headwa-ters of the Missouri to point out the sand miles or more to stir the soil that way to the weary travelers.

The Raft river was another point of treat interest; for here turned aside

the wind might carry it away, leaving the sunken pathway a little deeper treat interest; for here turned aside he arm of the transcontinental trail throng—another high tide, to the Orethat led to California. This fork of gon country, when another ten years he road was 1,334 miles from Mis-souri. Working from the Raft river, the plains—gold seekers, home builtlown the Great Snake Vailey, touching and crossing and paralleling severy kind. Later the Trail filled with stall different streams, the Oregon Frail proper ran until it reached the Trail proper ran until it reached the throng, and two trails appeared of long stretches. The graves were oday crosses the Blue Mountains at common; five thousand died in the oday crosses the Blue Mountains at common; five thousand died in the and dying, the panic that ensued, the intolerable dust, the purched lips and

The the route struck the Umatilla weakened frames, we may well won-ind shortly thereafter the Columbia. der that the casualties were not greater. The Trail was then ten feet deep but yet destined to be worn deoper and deeper by the return tide of stock in the fullness of time, a million a d by hundreds and thousands of har-ly adventurers. Who blazed and foi- graves into dust and wearing the Trail

It is a wonderful story, that of the growth of the Oregon Trail. Why so lies plunged into the then unknown what was known as the 'Great Amercan Desert," no man can tell. Certain it is that no such record in the world's history can be found of so many people going so long a distance to found an empire, as they did, over the two thousand miles stretch of the Oregon Trail. So long as this mystery or lomance remains there will con-ticle an abiding interest in this unsolved problem. Lovers hastened their union that they might share the dan-ger and privation together across the unknown stretch; sedate heads of families as mysteriously were moved to risk all, that they might see the farther West; young men boldly moved out on the plains as if it were only great "playground" where the sport the chase would continue forever It would seem that manifest destiny compted the multitude, whatever may have ultimately governed their action. Three hundred thousand people traversed the Oregon Trail to beyond the summit of the Rocky Mountains and passed through that great rift in the mountains, the South Pass. Nature had provided and pointed the way and in time was unfolded the final climax when the great wagon trains began to roll through that won. derful break in the mountains, the South Pass of the Rocky Mountains. Mystery Shrouds Pass.

Mystery surrounds the real discovery of the "Pass." In prehistoric times the buffalo were trails over the We know as little as to when the Indians followed. As al-ready said, Nature had pointed the way. The melting snows of mid-win-ter storms descending from the higher levels formed the little river, Sweetwater, which in turn emptied into the North Platte, and this in formed its junction with the South Branch and thence rolled placidly as a mighty river to the greater Missouri. To follow the Oregon Trail to within two miles of the summit of the South Pass is to follow up the current of the waters described; the route of the least resistance destined again to become the Nation's high-way, to the higher altitudes above the clouds and almost up to the perpetu-al snow line, 7,450 feet above sea

Now we are over the summit and ook out westward over a vast plateau of high altitude a hundred miles or more before we begin to descend into the Bear river valley, and down Bear river a short way and we are near the Snake, which we follow, and finally to the Columbia and the tide waters of

the Pacific. Lewis and Clark, in 1805, finally reached and descended the Snake and Columbia, and that far were on the then came Hunt with his Astor party to traverse a part in 1911-12, but the key, the South Pass, has not been dis-covered yet, and not until ten years later a party of trappers found and crossed over through the Pass. This was in 1822 or 1823. Yet another 10 years elapsed before any one person passed over the whole of the Oregon Trail. The glory of that achievement belongs to N. J. Wyeth, an intrepld Bostonian, who crossed with his wagons, following the wagon track already dimly worn a hundred miles west of the summit by other trappers SAWTELLE'S

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In 1842 nearly a thousand men. women and children crossed the Missouri river, traversed the Platte val-

ever reached the Pacific coast and the question was not settled and hung in out of season. first real migration of builders to the the balance. The Lynn bill granting organizing an expedition under the Pacific Slope. These people had come | 640 acres of land to each family, had from widely scattered districts of the passed the senate. Whitman, the mismany home builders with their fami-less plunged into the then unknown South Pass, thence to the Snake and wilderness across so wide a stretch of Columbia; the first wagon train that border of civilization. The Oregon and preached Oregon in season and

known.

Continued on page 4.)

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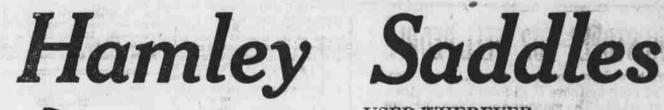
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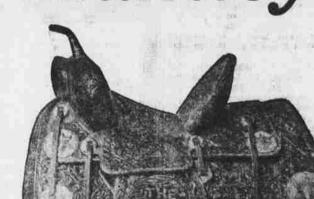
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