

(Concluded from fourth page.)

Calvin Cooke, one of nature's noblemen, whom I met at "Barlow's Gate" returning from the campaign against *Telamite, Cokama, Tamahas, Kiamasumpkin, Inish-shalackas*, and their Cayuse confederates, who murdered Dr. Whitman the year before. (The five Indians named were afterwards delivered up, upon demand of Gen. Jo. Lane, tried before Judge Pratt, and hung together on one gallows in Oregon City.) I will add *en passant* that, at "Barlow's Gate" I met with an old acquaintance—Carey Chambers, formerly from Galeburg, Illinois, who, with the rest of the volunteers, was returning from a campaign against the Cayuses, that had told fearfully on their wardrobe, though made in the main of buckskin. Chambers, true to the noble heart that thumped beneath his buckskin shirt, tendered me a yoke of fat cattle belonging to the army, to assist me through the Cascades. Upon declining to accept them, and designating a man who stood more in need of them than I, he told me they had a band of wild Spanish cows, which the boys would catch with a *larra* if I thought I could yoke and work them in my team. I told him I could yoke and work a pair of the bulls of Fasnian if the boys would lead them up.

That yoke of wild cows proved to be just what we wanted. They pulled up hill, and pulled just as hard down hill. They never failed to pull, though their necks soon became terribly galled, and swelled. We were out fourteen camps from the Gate to Yamhill, and every night I chained those cows in the yoke to a tree, and fed them on bushes. With this usage they worked hard, and gave milk enough to keep our babies fat, and enable me to get a valuable young skeleton horse through, which took kindly to bread and milk while in the mountains.

The "men folks" in Yamhill had nearly all gone to the newly discovered gold mines in California. A few that were left, at the urgent solicitations of the women, put up a small log cabin, chinked and daubed the cracks, and put a mud chimney in it, "warranted to draw" by the architect, who left the prints of hands in the "cats" made of mud and grass, as he laid the long rolls over the sticks and patted them down with his hands. A lawyer (of St. Helens, now grown up and married, said to me last week, that though "I was then only two years old, I remember just how the prints of that man's hands looked to me in the mud on that chimney, and how the infernal thing smoked." The chimney did "draw" very well, but drew down most of the time.

The winter of '48-9 was very cold, and we had a good deal of snow. The girls of the neighborhood, dressed in common sheeting colored with tea grounds—many going to school through the snow barefoot. The boys wore buckskin, and some of them had moccasins. I was fortunate enough to own one boot; full of holes though it was, and the leg and heel of another. A rawhide foot was stretched to this fraction every night, with buckskin "whangs." One of my boy scholars assisted me every night in mending it, or as he called it—"poulicking" it.

Of my boy scholars, one of them afterwards went to Congress from Oregon, and was afterwards appointed by Lincoln, Chief Justice of Idaho. One of them became the editor of a medical journal, and is now a successful practicing physician in Salem. One is a promising young lawyer at St. Helens. Another became president of a College at Monmouth, and is now the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for Oregon. Another, afterwards became the Governor of Oregon, then Governor of Utah, and is considered in New England to-day as one of the best stump orators on the Continent. In those days we ate on tin dishes, made our coffee of peas, and drank it out of tin cups, without sugar or milk. We had little else to eat but beef, bread, and boiled peas; and many had not even beef or vegetables. The streams were not bridged. So in going to mill in the winter, we carried grain, wagons and yokes over streams on foot-logs, loaded up, yoked up, after swimming over the cattle, and drove on till we came to another stream. Sometimes the bottoms were so inundated we had to raft for half a mile. Our nearest post office was Oregon City—thirty-five miles distant. Here, also, we generally went to mill. Some of the best

flour I ever had was made by R. R. Thompson, who tended mill in Oregon City. Thompson could run a grist mill, build a steamboat, or build a cradle, and, like Billy Gray of Boston, do it well. This is probably the reason why he is now one of the wealthiest men in the State. Ex-Gov. G. L. Curry now has a son twenty-six years old, who was first rocked to sleep in a cradle made by Capt. Thompson.

These were the days, it is often said, that "tried men's souls." Not a bit of it. We were happy and contented. We had good health, and had no burthens laid upon us that we were not able and willing to bear. Immigrants of to-day, as a general rule, make ten times more fuss about the "great-reat undertaking" of coming to Oregon in ten days in palace cars, and by steamer, than immigrants did then. If the new-comers would bear in mind what the early settlers experienced, instead of growling about "privations" now, they would be glad that somebody came before and prepared for them a home.



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