

Historical Notes On Curry County

By MAX BRAINARD

NOTES ON THE MORRISON FAMILY

In the Gold Beach Justice court jury list of Oct. 18, 1858, appears the name of Israel S. Morrison and, by inference, his wife seems to have been Mary, as there is a record of her death, on Feb. 19, 1908, at the home of her son, Henry, at Smith River, and reference made to a daughter, Mrs. Unican.

Isaac N. Morrison is also upon the jury lists, at Gold Beach, in January of 1858, but no relationship has yet been turned of between Israel and Isaac. Isaac had a ranch near Gold Beach, according to data dated in July of that year and in '64 he bought mining property on the south bank of the Rogue about three miles below Illahe.

The children of Israel so far noted by the writer are:

Lucinda Rebecca who first married William Norburg, Feb. 19, 1866, by Aaron Dyer, J.P., with A. Nasburg and R. W. Dunbar as witnesses. There was no notation on the wedding record to show

where it took place but it probably was at Ellensburg (Gold Beach).

It is of especial note that this William Nordburg was a native of Russia who fled the Nihilists, on July 5, 1860, was a party to the first land transaction recorded in Curry County outside of Port Orford, and possibly, according to law, was the first, anyway, in which both parties were free from duress. William bought, for \$1,178.21 a tract in what is now "South Harbor", being the NW 1/4, Sec. 15, Twp. 41, R. 13, from R. S. Johnson.

Lucinda Rebecca and William didn't get along so good and she divorced him July 16, 1886, being awarded custody of Belle, 9. The court ruled that their daughter Nancy, 17, and son, Franz, 14, could elect which parent they chose to live with.

Poor William choked to death, July 4, 1912, at a doin's at Indian Creek and his heirs then listed as: Nancy (Mordicaia) Wright, 43, of Port Orford; (Nancy had previously married Charles Post, in '87, and he deceased in 1890.) Belle (John R.) Miller, 35, of Port Orford; Franz, 40, of Port Orford; Sylvia Clarno, granddaughter, 21, of Port Orford, and Walter Clarno, 22, of Gold Beach, children of deceased daughter, Alice.

Lucinda Rebecca and John Unican were married Jan. 5, 1887, by William Tichenor, at her home (probably in Port Orford), with O. Leneve and James Mars as witnesses. They had sons, Herbert and John H. Lucinda died at North Bend, Nov. 16, 1925, over four years after her husband.

Sarah Charlotte, another daughter of Israel, was born Dec. 18, 1844, at Knox County, Illinois and she was married to Asher (son of John) Moore, April 5, 1860, by Simon 'Lundry, county judge, with S. J. Keen and Almira Fleming as witnesses. Their home was on the site of the present home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Doyle, on the Lobster Creek road, beyond Wedderburn.

Before continuing with the Morrisons it will interest many that this John Moore was the father of Asher H., David L., Ra-

chel, Mary, Melissa Ann, and William, as shown by his estate probate papers. He died on June 18, 1876, in his 75th year.

Asher and Sarah Charlotte had son of beloved memory, Fred Silas, born March 14, 1861, and probably the first white boy born in Curry County. He held many county offices and was widely known. Daughter, Dora Ellen, was born April 20, of '63; and was last heard from in Chicago, many years ago. Asher was born March 12, 1836, in Highland County, Ohio, came to Oregon in 1850, to Curry County in '57, and died at Gold Beach Oct. 1, 1907. His wife, Sarah, passed on Aug. 9, 1913, and both lay in the old Gold Beach cemetery.

Susannah Morrison, sister to the above, married Robert McIndoe and her story has appeared previously.

There is a record of Allan Morrison of Smith River visiting his sister, Mrs. Sarah Moore, at Gold Beach, in October of '89.

There is a W. H. Morrison buried at Smith River, who died Nov. 20, 1893, at the age of 84.

James M. Morrison appears to have been born in Green County, Mo., Sept. 5, 1840, and settled on Pistol river in 1891. He married Martha F., daughter of Miller Cooley, March 5, 1895, the knot tied by Rev. J. W. Pendleton before Raleigh and Nettie Scott. It is interesting to note that the Cooley family records show Martha to have been born Nov. 27, 1857 (in Jackson County) which would have made her past the usually accepted marriageable age at that time—around 38. They were married at Miller Cooley's house (in Harbor). They later lived, for many years, on the

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The staff of the Post Office and their families surprised the Swearingens last week with a house warming.

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presented Mrs. Swearingen with a beautiful house plant for her new home.

south bank of the Chetco, where Doyle Garvin made his family's home for many years. He was born in Green County, Mo., Sept. 5, 1840 and when he died, the latter part of October, 1921, he is recorded to have left no estate.

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