

SCOTTSBURG BOOMED, FLOURISHED AND THEN QUIETLY PASSED AWAY

That Once Seemed to Be Commercial Center of Southern Oregon Ruined by Later Developments That Put Roseburg Upon Map

The following article written by F. L. in The Portland Journal, will be especially interesting to Coos Bay people as the Mrs. Rose Blanchard, who tells the story will be well remembered here. Mrs. Rose Arrington and was married to Mr. Geo. Blanchard, well known as the manager of the local light company.

You will get out your old geography—the one you studied in the school before the Civil War—you will find that Umpqua county, Oregon, one of the important geographical divisions of western Oregon, is but a memory. In vain will you search a modern geography for Umpqua county.

Your old geography you will see Scottsburg marked as the commercial center of Southern Oregon, and a center of navigation on the Umpqua river. Today a hotel, store and post-office is all that is left of what once was a great city.

Recently, while at Newport, I met the afternoon with Mrs. George Blanchard, a native daughter of Scottsburg.

My father, D. J. Lyons, was born in Ireland, said Mrs. Blanchard. "In 1854, when he was 12 years old, he came to America. He was raised in Louisville, Kentucky.

While a boy at school, one of his classmates threw a piece of a broken bottle at him and put out one of his eyes. Through sympathy, the other became affected and he became blind. He took up music and became proficient upon the violin and piano.

He was married in 1849, and in 1852 came to Oregon. My mother's father, Chas. Putnam, had come to Oregon and had settled near Drain. My father, the oldest daughter, Jesse Applegate. My father took a donation land claim near Drain. Next year he traded his 640 acre tract to Levi Scott, the founder of Scottsburg, for a hotel in that city. The hotel had been originally built as a fort, but in 1850 Levi Scott sold it and converted it into a hotel.

In those days the county seat of Umpqua county was at Underwood, which in Green Valley, near the present town of Winchester, but Scottsburg had aspirations of becoming the county seat.

Scottsburg was the head of Navigation on the Umpqua, and was the starting point for all southern Oregon and northern California. Scores of pack trains plied between Scottsburg and the mines of southern Oregon. Sometimes several hundred mules would arrive during the day. Times were lively.

The year after my father moved here David Linn, one of the enterprising citizens of Jacksonville, bought a sawmill around the Horn in San Francisco, and from there it was reshipped to Scottsburg. From Scottsburg it was taken by ox teams to Jacksonville, 150 miles away.

Here are a number of copies of the Umpqua Weekly Gazette. Notice the date line: "Scottsburg, O. T., May 16, 1854. Office, corner Main and Yoncalla streets." The subscription price was \$5 a year, and the advertising rates were \$2 an inch. My father was editor and a William Lyons was publisher.

Here is the card of Addison C. Gibbs, attorney at law and commissioner for New York. His office was in Gardiner, Umpqua county, O. T. You will see in the foot note to his card he announces that the partnership heretofore existing between Addison C. Gibbs and Stratton has been dissolved by mutual consent.

Here is the ad. of Samuel S. Mann, Lower Scottsburg. My mother has told me about standing by our window and watching the water flood that occurred during the winter of 1861 creeping higher and higher over Lower Scottsburg till it took the store after the other and carried them away. When the flood had subsided there was no longer any Lower Scottsburg.

Here is the announcement of Hinsdale & Co. to packers and traders, and here is the ad of George Hayes & Co., offering Chill flour, Java coffee, China sugar, linen coverings and other wares. The stores in the lower town were Allen, Kinley & Co., George Hinsdale, and Hillman, Flanagan Bros., and at Marshfield, and Cameron while in upper Scottsburg were Lord & Peters, R. J. Ladd, Penhelfer & Co., McTavish and P. Sheridan, usually called "Tin Sheridan," on account of his tin-ware store.

"It is interesting to read in the files of the Umpqua Gazette of places that are no longer in existence and of people who afterwards became distinguished.

"The agents for the Gazette were Burns & Wood at Randolph City, James Rogers for Coos Bay, Colonel W. Chapman at Elkton, Jessie Applegate at Yoncalla, C. S. Drew at Jacksonville, Joseph Reynolds at Mayonville and Joseph A. Graham at Fort Vancouver, Washington Territory.

Here is the notice of a marriage between Reverend Royal, and here is the notice of the marriage at the residence of V. K. Pringle, of Elisha Strong to Phoebe Bain, both of Marshfield county, by Reverend A. F. Walden.

Here is a notice signed Thompson Ladd, asking the citizens to subscribe toward building a wagon road to Scottsburg. Here is a letter from General Lane, dated at Washington, D. C.,

April 19, 1854. He says a commissioner is to be appointed to examine titles to town property and confirm the same, thus settling the long and bitter contest as to the rightful claimants of the Portland claim. He also says, "Yesterday I introduced a bill to enable the people of Oregon to form a constitution, state government, etc. Our interests cannot be as successfully represented and promoted in our territorial state as they would be if we were in the Union on an equal footing with our sister states."

"S. F. Chadwick, Addison C. Gibbs, Judd Stratton, David Logan, D. P. Thompson, John Kelly and John Kelsey and many others were in those days residents of Scottsburg. Men who later became governors, judges of the Supreme Court and United States Senators and capitalists, made their start in that historic city.

"I was born in the 'Scottsburg house,' as the hotel was called. The first court held in Southern Oregon was held in our hotel, and was presided over by Judge Deady. A man was tried for murder—a man by the way, who has since become prominent in Portland. He was let off on the plea of the unwritten law.

General Lane's Ambition.
"To read the old registers of the Scottsburg house would be like rereading the roll of all the important men of Oregon's early days. I remember Governor Lane came to Scottsburg campaigning. Breckenridge and Lane were running for President and Vice-president of the United States. Governor Lane handed my sister a quarter and said, 'Keep that, little girl, and some day you can hand it down to your children and tell them it was given to you by the President of the United States, for that is what I intend to be some day.'

"In 1852 Douglas County was created and part of Umpqua County was given to Douglas County, and in 1862 the Legislature gave the west of Umpqua County to Douglas, wiping the county entirely off the map.

"The flood of '61-'62 made the bar at the mouth of the river very shoal. That hurt us as a seaport. A road was opened from Jacksonville to Crescent City, Cal., in '53, which also hurt Scottsburg. The stage coach line established between Portland and Red Bluff was the final blow. Scottsburg ceased to exist and a town grew up on Aaron and Sarah Rose's place which became Roseburg. The paper failed and the type and press was taken to Jacksonville. My father got a boy to lead him, and he used to walk out to Roseburg and Empire City to give concerts, and also to give music lessons.

"Finally, in 1881, we moved to Marshfield. In 1903 our old hotel was burned and so passed into history one of the historic places of early Oregon."—Journal.

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HUERTA MAY RESIGN MEXICAN PRESIDENCY

AFFAIRS OF STATE SET HEAVILY ON MEXICAN'S PRESENT RULER—HE WANTS TO BE IN THE FIELD FIGHTING.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)
MEXICO CITY, May 24.—General Huerta is chafing under the restraint imposed by the duties and ceremonies attending his office as President, and some of his old friends in the army will not be surprised if one day he throws off the tri-colored band and again dons the military uniform. It is said that the President, not fully satisfied with the progress which is being made against the revolution, is seriously considering the resignation of his office in order to personally direct the campaign.

That the army has not made any great advancement in restoring peace is evident, and Huerta, who planned and carried out the campaign against Orozco a year ago, is pardoned by his intimates for believing that he could do the job more expeditiously. "I am not a man of governmental affairs," said Huerta recently in the course of an impromptu after-dinner speech. "I am a soldier, and every time that I see a body of men in training I long to go with them into the field."

Who would take Huerta's place as Provisional President is a matter of much speculation. His inability to find a man who would satisfy the people and display the requisite executive ability is what may prevent Mexico's soldier-President from abandoning the place. To place Felix Diaz in the presidency would not improve the situation greatly, and certainly it would not please Diaz, since his occupancy of the provisional post would greatly lessen his chances of holding it as an elected incumbent. The selection of Francisco de la Barra would please many of his intimate friends, but the Catholic party has its eye on de la Barra as a candidate for the presidency at some future time when elections can be held. Once it was suggested that General Genaro Trevino take the provisional presidency. But the General is getting on in years, and in addition he does not want the place.

Whether Huerta would do any better, however, in the field than his officers now are doing is regarded as by no means certain. He probably has an influence over the army greater than that of any other general; but the army today is a poor thing compared with that left by Porfirio Diaz, notwithstanding that Diaz' army was far less efficient than he considered it. It has been demonstrated that the army is not a unit of loyalty, and the introduction into its ranks of thousands of ex-rebels appears not to have greatly strengthened its loyalty, and to have lowered discipline and efficiency. As Minister of War Huerta might direct all phases of the campaign, but as simple general in the field he could direct only a small part, and what he might accomplish in one region might easily be offset by what transpired in other parts of the Republic.

Huerta and Diaz believed in February they had restored Mexico to a peaceful condition, and they probably did not dream that the counter-revolution ever would assume the proportions it has today. There is no doubt now, however, that the number of rebels is greater than the number of government troops, and it has become practically a matter of money which side will win. May begin with the government still on the defensive, but making promises of the early inauguration of a terrible campaign against the rebels. It was believed in the capital that by that time the rebels would have exhausted their supplies of ammunition and would be unable to buy more, or to get it across the American boundary line even if they possessed the necessary means to purchase it. Money is not plentiful in the rebel treasury; but neither is it in that of the national government. So far as getting guns and ammunition across the line is concerned, the rebels appear to be having less trouble than did either Madero or Orozco and Mexicans in the capital are open in their denunciation of the Washington government for not maintaining a stricter patrol.

Were it not for the fact that the Mexican soldier generally provides his own rations, he would today be the highest paid fighting man in the world. Madero raised his wages to a peso, 50 cents gold, a day, and Huerta has further increased it to a peso and a half or 75 cents gold. The maintenance of the army in the past three years has been Mexico's greatest item of expense, but notwithstanding that the government is hard up and has had difficulty in securing the loan for which it has been striving, Huerta considered the increase a necessity. With this lure he hoped to gain recruits. Conscription, however, has been the method adopted.

HELD FOR MURDER.
Leo M. Frank, Atlanta Factory Superintendent, Indicted.
(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)
ATLANTA, Ga., May 24.—Leo M. Frank was indicted today by the grand jury for the murder of 14-year-old Mary Phagan, whose body was found in the factory building of which Frank was superintendent a month ago. No action was taken by the grand jury in the case of Newt. Lee, a negro night watchman at the factory.

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