



STORY OF NATHANIEL AND MARY COE

(By Mrs. T. R. Coon.)

In compiling this sketch I am indebted for information to the writings of H. C. Coe, Laurence Coe, Mrs. Elizabeth Lord, Mrs. Camilla Donnell and Mrs. E. S. Joslyn, also to the kindness of Mrs. Kittle Coe.

Nathaniel Coe, a native of Morris county, New Jersey, was born September 12, 1788. His father, Joel Coe, was a native of England, his mother, Hulda Horton, was a native of New York city and traced her ancestry in America back five generations. Barnabas Horton built the first frame building erected on the east end of Long Island. It was built in 1660 and in June, 1873, was still in a good state of preservation. It has always been owned and occupied by a descendant of Barnabas Horton, of the Horton name.

In 1795, when Nathaniel was seven years old, his parents moved to Scipio, New York, going by sloop to Albany in four days; from there they went with an ox team, by way of Cayuga, Wood Creek and Auburn to their destination. The entire trip required one month. We find no record of how his youthful days were passed, but we learn that early in life he was an accomplished penman and traveled through the southern states teaching penmanship, and studying the resources and conditions of the south. Later he studied law. In the war of 1812 he was captain of a company of soldiers from New York.

He was married in Auburn, N. Y., October 5, 1827, to Mary Taylor White, daughter of Laurence Emory White and Cyria Charge. Mary White was born on Pearl street, near Broadway, New York, March 11, 1807. Of her early life we know little, but, as the wife of Nathaniel Coe we find her an educated, refined, Christian woman, an able writer of both prose and poetry, and a fitting companion to her husband. A lover's poem by Nathaniel Coe to "Miss Mary White," is still in existence; the sentiments are of the loftiest, while the penmanship, of Spencerian style, is as perfect as though made by a modern printing press.

In 1829 they moved to Nunda, N. Y., remaining there until they came west. There their children were born and spent their childhood; there their two little girls were both laid to rest; Cornelia in infancy. For the death of Cornelia the mother never ceased to grieve. Of Susan Amelia she wrote: "To whom, like a dewdrop kissed off by the sun's morning beam, A beautiful existence was given, Whose soul seemed to come down to earth in a dream, Only to wake up when it ascended to Heaven."

Nathaniel Coe possessed a thorough education and a vigorous mind. Besides his law practice he engaged in the mercantile business and in horticulture; of the latter he was passionately fond.

A writer in "Horton's Genealogy," says, "He was an honest lawyer and an upright politician and always commanded the respect and esteem of his fellow men. He was long a magistrate and for four years his successor represented Livingston and Allegheny counties in the legislature of New York. He was often an arbitrator, both in the church and out of it. In religion he was, when young, called by way of reproach, a Radical. He was a thoroughly anti-slavery man, and while the Liberty party was in existence, he was its firm and warm supporter."

In his autograph album are found these names: Silas Wright, Martin Van Buren, Hamilton Fish, J. C. Calhoun, Samuel Tilden, Horatio Seymour, speaker of Assembly, Millard Fillmore, Levi Chase and Horace Greely.

In 1851, when he was 63 years of age, he received the appointment of postal agent for Oregon from President Fillmore. To accept this trust was to plunge into the wilderness where the rights of the savage were questioned and civilization a dream of the future. Most people of that age would shrink from such an undertaking, but Nathaniel Coe did not hesitate. Accompanied by his son, Eugene, he came by the way of the isthmus to Portland, Ore., where he established his headquarters. From there postal routes were laid from British Columbia to California, from the Pacific ocean to the Rocky mountains. Wherever the pioneer had blazed the way the postman was made to follow with his letters and papers from home.

Postal Agent Coe traveled many long miles in canoe, on horseback or on foot, enduring hardships and fatigues that would have disheartened the majority of younger men. After two years of this work he was so well pleased with the country that he sent for his family to join him. On December 12, 1853, Mrs. Coe and their two sons, Laurence, Charles and Henry, embarked on the side wheel steamer, Georgia. Eight days later they reached the city of Astoria, now known as the city of Colton. The town then consisted of a few small houses, with a sea beach in front and a tropical forest behind.

In crossing the isthmus they had several very thrilling experiences. Mrs. Coe rode a mule and Henry, nine years of age, was carried on the back of the native guide, Laurence and Charles walked. Five days were consumed in going from Astoria to Panama, where Mrs. Coe and Henry took passage on the steamer California for San Francisco. Laurence and Charles were detained to look after the baggage until next steamer day. Henry was very ill with Panama fever on the trip up the coast and Mrs. Coe waited in San Francisco with him, until the arrival of the other sons, when they all took passage on the steamer Fremont for Portland, which they reached after a tempestuous voyage. Mr. Coe and Eugene were there to welcome them to the "Land of Promise." They were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Thos. J. Dryer, at their residence in Portland. Mr. Dryer was founder and editor of the Oregonian. The reunited family remained in Portland some months looking for a location.

At one time they decided to secure land on the east side of the Willamette river, just across from the village of Portland, and an option was taken on a large number of acres. Then the grandeur and wild beauty of eastern Oregon, the glorious climate, the advantages of a location in the gorge of the great river of the west was considered, and the option was given up in favor of eastern Oregon. A bill of lumber was ordered from Bradford mill at the Cascades, the lumber to be shipped to The Dalles for the purpose of erecting a store building in that little hamlet. Mr. Coe had heard of the disastrous venture of W. C. Laughlin and Dr. Farnsworth on Dog river in the winter of 1852 and '53, but was nevertheless interested in that locality and foresaw future possibilities. In the spring of 1854 Mr. and Mrs. Coe and Henry made an excursion to The Dalles. They left Portland in the morning on the side wheel steamer Fashion, Van Bergan, master, and

reached the Lower Cascades at night, where they were entertained at the home of B. B. Bishop, a brother-in-law of the Bradfords.

The portage was six miles in length. At the Upper Cascades the Bradfords had just completed a schooner of 40 tons burden which made trips to The Dalles when the wind was favorable. On this schooner they took passage and being favored with a good breeze reached the Dalles at night. They landed for a dinner survey and were delighted with what they saw. Reembarking they reached The Dalles that night. They remained over one day, returning on the little propeller Allen, Tom Gladwell captain. This was the only steamer on the river at that time.

(To be continued)

TASMANIAN VISITORS ARE PLEASSED

Attracted by the community's orchards, and because they have seen the exhibit at the Panama-Pacific International exposition, people not only from the four corners of the United States but from every section of the globe have visited the Hood River valley this summer. But the Apple Valley has entertained no more enthusiastic tourists than Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Shoobridge, of Hobart, Tasmania, who made a week's visit to Van Horn's Butte this point from which the great colored panorama of the orchard district, hung in the Oregon building, was taken.

Mr. Shoobridge owns one of Tasmania's largest orchards. The addition of Hobart, in which is located his home, is called Newtown. "I find," he said after seeing the local orchards, "that your methods of culture do not differ radically from ours. You prune somewhat differently. One of our chief varieties of apples, one that I have not found in America, is the Sterner Pippin. It has many of the qualities of the Newtown. We have Spitzburgs in Australia."

Mr. Shoobridge says that the European war will cripple his industry badly for the time being. "And, too," he says, "we had a severe drought last year from which we have not yet recovered. Our fruit for the most part is shipped to England. However, we send some to the Orient and to India."

Mr. Shoobridge has spent more than three months in seeing the United States. He went as far east as Boston and New York. "Oregon appears to us more than any state we have seen," declares the Tasmanian apple man. "I took a motor trip up from Portland over the Columbia river highway. We vainly searched in vain for scenery. I only wish we had something like that in our country."

The visitors were taken to Van Horn Butte Friday morning by Kenneth McKay.

PROMINENT PHILANTHROPIST IS VISITOR

Edward Lee McClain, Sr., accompanied by his wife and daughter, Miss Helen McClain, of Greenfield, Ohio, was in the valley last week visiting his son, Edward Lee McClain, Jr. Mr. McClain is prominent in Ohio financial circles. He was nominated for the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of his district, but on account of active business relations which made heavy demands on his time he declined the responsibility.

Mr. McClain, who is a heavy investor in this community, his local affairs being in charge of his son whom he is visiting, has won renown throughout the Ohio and Mississippi valleys for his philanthropy. His latest gift to the public is presented in a \$300,000 high school building, which bears the donor's name, at Greenfield, his native city. The structure, which has been referred to as the most modern in architecture and equipment to be found in the United States, was dedicated September 2, 3 and 4, celebrities in the educational world being present from all parts of the United States.

The McClain party spent the latter part of last week at the Pendleton Round Up. They will motor over the Columbia river highway and visit the California expositions.

Boy Scouts Elect Officers

Troop 1 of the Boy Scouts of America, of Hood River, held their semi-annual election of officers last Friday night at the residence of C. K. Marshall. The following officers of the Troop were elected for the ensuing six months: Selman Gassaway, patrol leader; Wilbur Hoyt, secretary; and Myron Hoyt, treasurer. For the sports they intend to indulge in, Lloyd Blowers was elected football captain; Lane Ford, baseball captain; Selman Gassaway, track captain; and Arnold Mitchell, tennis captain.

This meeting was held at the Marshall residence because Rev. A. S. Donat, scoutmaster, was not in town so that it could not be held at the Congregational church. Mr. Donat is expected to return Monday. It is generally known that the local scouts at present have not a very large organization; this is partly the boys' fault, and partly the hand of fate. Scoutmasters Donat and Brunquist at present have not the right amount of time to give to the boys, which is essential to a good organization.

However, the troop will be given a great push toward that blissful condition called success, this winter. Mark Moe, ex-scout, one who has been through the mill, is going to devote his extra time for the benefit of the troop. They will be given instruction in regular scout work, together with having their games, and probably by next spring there will be a number of second class scouts in the troop, whereas there are none now.

To join the organization a boy must be at least 12 years of age and then pass the tenderfoot test. The dues for the first month are 25 cents, for each following month, 10 cents. So let us each hope for a greater membership, and ultimately a greater Troop.

Huxley Inspecting for Exchange

H. M. Huxley is now busy in the valley acting as chief inspector for the Fruit Grower's Exchange. His daughter, Miss Mildred Huxley, is in the office of the shipping agency. Manager McKay states that apples were received at the new warehouse, now in course of completion, yesterday. The office of the new structure will not be finished for a week or two yet.

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"I have tried most all of the cough cures and find that there is none that equal Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It has never failed to give me prompt relief," writes W. V. Harner, Montpelier, Ind. "When you have a cold, give this remedy a trial and see for yourself what a splendid medicine it is. Obtainable everywhere."

AT NEW ELECTRIC

Today

Blanche Sweet, starring in the "Warrens of Virginia." Agatha Warren, daughter of the aristocratic southern General Warren, has, before the civil war, fallen in love with Ned Burton, of New York. With the beginning of hostilities, Gen. Warren takes command of many of the southern troops and Burton, enlisting in the Union army, becomes a lieutenant, the lovers being separated by their different sympathies.

Most of the action of the drama, which is beyond question the most superb battle spectacle ever produced, takes place during the closing days of the war, when Gen. Warren's soldiers are suffering from the lack of supplies. Burton is forced by his superior officers to use his intimacy with the Warren family in carrying a ruse which leads to the defeat of the supply trains coming to the relief of the Confederate army. When he is captured, Agatha, still loving him in spite of herself, offers him the means of escape, which he is too proud to accept. The timely surrender of Lee at Appomattox is all that saves him from being shot.

The sequel to these stirring events is the ultimate reunion of the lovers. The Warrens of Virginia ran for more than a year at the Belasco theatre in New York city and is acknowledged to be the one great classic of the American Civil war, showing the true motives of both sides, and the sorrows of fratricidal warfare.

Friday and Saturday

"The Ebb Tide." A three act Selig drama featuring the beautiful Kathlyn Williams. Wheeler Oakman and Harry Lonsdale also appear in this interesting feature.

"Cutty Fortune Hunting." A Vitagraph comedy with Wally Van and Nita Frazer. A comedy with a punch.

Sunday

"The Country Boy." Paramount special feature. Edgar Selwyn's famous Broadway success, with Marshal Neilan in the title role. A heart interest drama of rich humor and rare pathos showing how the country boy is saved from the temptations of the city.

Monday

Monday, October 4, one day only. "Who Pays?" "Toil and Tyranny." Last in a series of 12 dramas featuring Ruth Roland and Henry King. Of undiluted realism. The program will also contain a one reel comedy and the Pathe news.

Tuesday

"The Mystery of Mary." Vitagraph three reeler featuring Betty Gray and Lionel Adams.

"Snakeville's Twins." An Essanay comedy with Victor Fotel, Harry Todd, Margaret Joslin and Ben Turpin.

Wednesday and Thursday

Wednesday and Tuesday, October 6 and 7. "David Harum." A five reel version of the famous story produced by the Famous Players Film Co., starring Wm. H. Crane. A play that you cannot afford to miss.

Mothers—Watch Irritable Children!

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Frederick Invents Ladder

H. J. Frederick, of the contracting firm of Frederick & Arnold, has invented a new orchard ladder. The new device is so braced as to be perfectly rigid, after having been opened and placed in the branches of a tree. Mr. Frederick has applied for a patent on his invention.

OLDER BUT STRONGER

To be healthy at seventy, prepare at forty, is sound advice, because in the strength of middle life we too often forget that neglected colds, or careless treatment of slight aches and pains, simply undermine strength and bring chronic weakness for later years.

To be stronger when older, keep your blood pure and rich and active with the strength-building and blood-nourishing properties of Scott's Emulsion which is a food, a tonic and a medicine to keep your blood rich, alleviate rheumatism and avoid sickness. No alcohol in Scott's. Scott & Bowne, Bloomfield, N. J.

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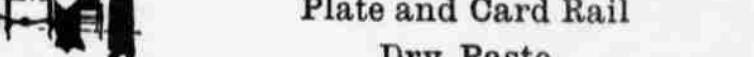
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