

King Folk Newsletter

No. 17



Jan. 1, 1999

What's New?

Several of you have mailed dues in. Thank you. Please check at the address label on this newsletter. If you have a red check beside your name, you are paid for issues #'s 17, 18, 19, & 20. No red check means send in a check, \$6.00 for the newsletter or \$10.00 for the newsletter and contribution to other projects. Please make checks payable to Charlotte Wirfs and mail to the return address of this newsletter.

Please make a correction to the last newsletter, King Folk, No. 16 on page 5. The article on that page was written by Charlotte Ewing Murphy and not Charlotte Ewing Young

We were all saddened to hear of the death of Jesse O. Bush of Kings Valley this fall. Jesse had spent hours of research on the community and families of Kings Valley and had compiled an extensive historic photograph collection. She attended our reunions, received and contributed to the newsletter, and would graciously share her projects with all of us. Our regrets are extended to her family.

Annie Laurie Bayless mailed us a copy of Fred Lockley's article dated June 20, 1920, an interview with Ashnah Norton Plunkett, who at that time was living with her son, Wylie Plunkett, at 650 N. 29th St. in Corvallis. If anyone would like a copy, please send a SASE to Charlotte with your request. On Dec. 13 Annie Laurie and her husband, Chas. R. "Bud" Bayless Jr. (son of Alice Bottger Bayless and grandson of Sarah Plunkett Bottger) celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary. Annie Laurie stated, "Some years ago some of the Bottger family were going to do a pedigree chart and I never heard if it was finished." How about it? Does anyone know?

June Baldwin Bork, author of James Kimsey and Mary Croley, would like to make a few corrections to the booklet. "On page 2, paragraph 4, starting with 'At the time...Elizabeth Strong Crowley, daughter of William Strong and Frances Johnson,...' please delete Frances

Johnson. The mother of Elizabeth Crowley is unknown. The records of New Kent and Hanover County, VA were burned, so therefore little is known about the early Strongs. I also overlooked the Jackson County, GA record that David Kimsey was administrator of James Kimsey, deceased. I ordered the Jackson Co. Probate films to verify and found the records. We now know that James Kimsey (I) did not die in the War of 1812 in 1814, but died in Jackson County, GA, between the 2nd of Aug. 1799, when he sued Laurence Briers, and 28 Sept. 1801, when David Kimsey filed for Letters of Administration of estate of James Kimsey, deceased. It is not fair to let those who are researching the Kimseys think James Kimsey died in 1814 or 1817 as previous records have said. As we find new records, everyone should know about them." We thank June for sending us that information, so that all of us can change our records if needed. June regrets making errors, but that is the worry of everyone who publishes.

Louis E. Zumwalt of Lakewood, CA sent his pedigree chart. Louis connects to the King family through his grandmother, Eleanor/Elinor King, daughter of Isaac and Almeda Vanbebber King. Eleanor married Louis Sande Zumwalt. Louis's chart spans 8 generations beginning with Andrew Zumwalt, who married Ann Regina. He states that "Andrew and his brother, Balser, came from Germany in 1737 on the ship, Virtuous Grace, which sailed to Baltimore, MD." Louis also sent photocopies from his photograph collection which included his parents, Grant and Elva Maude (McKee) Zumwalt. Others featured are Ervin & Myrtle Hayes, Essie Rhodes, Lewis Sandy and Eleanor (King) Zumwalt, and Isaac N. and Sarah "Sally" (Crow) Zumwalt.. That information will go into our files for the Isaac King connection.

Annie Trussell and Jackie Savage Marshall mailed an obituary of Lenora (Norton) Savage and her three children. She was the daughter of Nahum "Bub" and Margaret Jane (Mulkey) Norton and the second wife of

What's New? Cont.

Thomas J. Savage. It tells of a tragic fire that killed the four of them. It reminds us of how quickly tragedy could strike in rural regions of Oregon and of how everyday routines could turn to danger. The other significance of this obituary is that it tells us that the four were buried in a single grave at Kings Valley Cemetery. There is no marker so it was never recorded in any of the cemetery surveys done. It provides documentation for at least one of the many unmarked graves found there. It will be published in the next newsletter, however, if anyone wishes to have a copy mailed to them, please send a SASE to Charlotte with your request.

Patricia (Plunkett) Bearden is compiling an index of all the King Folk newsletters, No. 1-17. Once that is completed, it will be available for publishing and mailing. That will be a most helpful reference tool and we thank Pat for taking on such an important project.

Earle Greig writes that Norm Chambers recently gave him copies of the Kings Valley Evangelical Church meetings for many Sundays in 1900, 1901, 1902, and 1903, as well as a list of the ministers for most of the years from 1900 to closing in 1960. Earle continues to work on collecting and identifying family photos. He hopes to have a display ready for the June 26, 1999 reunion to be held at Kings Valley School.

Marie Sorenson from Reno, NV included in her last letter photographs of the wonderful quilts she has made. She spoke of the quilts she remembers her grandmother, Edna (Price) Oren, making and a collection of early quilting patterns Edna clipped from an Oregon newspaper, one pattern each week. Edna kept these within the pages of a 1932 railroad magazine. One pattern was for a fruit basket and in the 1930's a person could purchase all the fabric needed for each block for \$1.00. Marie used that fruit basket pattern to make her first quilt. She made copies of that old pattern and has carefully preserved the original. She also remembers her Aunt Rovia (Rumbaugh) Price, wife of "Jim" Price, making scores of quilts and even has a clipping from a Kings Valley newspaper featuring Rovia and her quilting projects. Marie's pedigree chart is on file and will be published in a future newsletter.

Norman Chambers reports that he and his wife are "full-time mainlanders" now in Corvallis. His new address is 5651 SW Avena Place, 97333. Among some of

the Kings Valley "junk", as he refers to it, is a rare 8# cannon ball from Fort Hoskins. It was found years ago in the field between his parents', Chester & Rita Chambers, home and the Kings Valley Cemetery. In 1980 I interviewed Chester and Rita in their home and held the cannon ball while my sister, Carla Perkins, snapped a picture.

Daniel David Lewis Frommherz has been very active researching his family which includes Sol and Anna Mari'a (Allen) King. Recently he sent a 25-page ahnentafel chart for Annie Mari'a (Allen) King. She was born 26 March 1822 at Enfield Hampshire Co., MA. This extensive file contains 25 generations of her ancestors and includes dates back to 1052. This has been sent to our family historian, David Trask. There is more about it in an article by Daniel found on another page of this issue.

Audrey Theurer, author of Kings Valley, the Middle Years, writes that her "mother's family are connected with what I have always called 'the Waldo Hills Simpsons,' and my dad's family included 'Pedee Simpsons'. Kimsey/Simpson/Wisdom are all connected with my mother's family (Mills/Crystal). I had a great time at the Mills/Brown reunion in Centralia. It has been going on since time began and I had never been there. It was a Mills connection that was the wife of Duff Kimsey, thus melting me into one more pot." Audrey is on a committee for the new Benton Co. Park at Fort Hoskins and will keep us updated on that development.

Nadine Long wrote to let us know that in Aug. she and her daughter and grandson attended the Oregon California Trail Association Convention in Pendleton. She wrote "I and another woman spent two days from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. as guides on the tour buses. I really know lots about the Oregon Trail from the Blue Mt. Crossing to Well Springs and can point out ruts and talk people through historic places." One day they had some men on the tour who had written trail history books and trail guides. She also was going to try and find some taped conversations that she made with her aunts and uncles, now deceased, to see if there was any family info of interest to us.

Jim King of Cottage Grove has set up a family genealogy program on his computer since we last heard from him. He is one of the Isaac King connection.

New subscribers to King Folk are Del and Cindy Brown of NE Portland. Welcome. We all look forward to getting acquainted.

Charlotte L. Wirfs, Jan. 1, 1999





The Sellers Connection

by Mimi Stang

August 21, 1998

On Jan. 1, 1997, our first grandchild was born in Portland, a boy, Tyler James Stang. His parents were our son, Toby Brail Stang, and his wife, Cindy Sellers Stang. I have been a genealogist for 25 years, but the birth of Tyler James sent me into new territory, the Oregon Territory to be exact.

What a wonderful journey it has been these past 20 months as I have worked to follow his Oregon Trail roots. I have met so many wonderful people along the way, have been warmly accepted by the King family when I invited myself to the reunion last June, and met others through the Internet Rick & Anne Trussell, of Sacramento. Anne is also a Hallock descendant.

I have tromped through the Kings Valley Cemetery and the Hilltop Cemetery twice, viewed the Charles King house in that beautiful setting on Mary's River, visited the interpretative centers at Baker City and Oregon City, the Benton and Polk County museums, the High Desert Museum, and become a very familiar face at both the Oregon State Archives and the Oregon State Library. All have added tremendously to my research and given me a great perspective on this wonderful King family.

Nahum & Sarepta King's daughter, Lucretia, married Heman S. Hallock on the 15th of Oct. 1827, in Madison Co., Ohio. As noted in the letter from Stephen & Maria Allen King, Heman & Lucretia did not make the journey with the rest of the family over the Oregon Trail in 1845. Why, I have not discovered, however, their son, Amos Nahum King Hallock, was born in Feb. 1845 in Carroll County, MO. Perhaps that is why. They had three more children by 1850 and didn't make their trek to Oregon until 1853. In the 1850 census, Heman & Lucretia were living in Ray County, MO, with their seven children.

Their date of arrival of 1853 is noted in The Terrible Trail: The Meek Cutoff, 1845 and in a listing of immigrants taken at the Uvilla Agency. This source notes that the Uvilla Agency was at the Umatilla Agency, about 150 miles east of The Dalles. Listed are H.S. Hallock, wife, 1 son, and 5 daughters. Once in Oregon, Heman and Lucretia took up a Donation Land Claim #2376 in Benton

County, in the Kings Valley area. Lucretia died on the 14th of May, 1860 and is buried in the Kings Valley Cemetery. Heman's death is reported to be 27 Nov. 1877. This date does not seem to be documented and his grave has yet to be located.

Heman and Lucretia's son, Amos Nahum King Hallock, is my grandson's third great grandfather. Amos married Emma Jane Miller, daughter of Isaac and Mary Elizabeth Gingles Miller, two more Oregon pioneer families. Their daughter, Lavina Ellen Hallock, born 11 Jan. 1866 in Monmouth, Polk County. William Thomas and Lavina Ellen Hallock Sellers had seven children. The family lived for a short time in Pleasant Hill, Lane County, where the Sellers families were located and then relocated to Ukiah, Umatilla County. Their son, Bernard Lee Sellers, was born there in Nov. 1899. He is the father of Larry James Sellers, my daughter-in-law's father.

The William Thomas Sellers family eventually settled in Washington County. Both William Thomas and his wife, Lavina Ellen Hallock Sellers, are buried in the Banks Cemetery. Lavina's obituary in the *Hillsboro Argus* of Jan. 17, 1929, notes that she was born in Kings Valley and that her maiden name is Halleck (Hallock).

I am a descendant of Nahum King (1783-1856)
And Sarepta Norton (1791-1863)

Their daughter is
Lucretia King Hallock (1809-1860)

who is the mother of
Amos Nahum King Hallock (1845-1920)

who is the father of
Lavina Ellen Hallock Sellers (1866-1929)

who is the mother of
Bernard Lee Sellers (1899-1977)

who is the father of
Larry James Sellers (born 1936)

who is the father of
Cindy Sellers Stang (born 1966)

who is the mother of me,
Tyler James Stang (Jan. 1, 1997)
7th generation



**Back When in Benton County
The Kings of Kings Valley
Part 12: Isaac King's Family**
Charlotte L. Wirfs



For Isaac King, 25, and his younger brothers, Amos and Solomon, the trip to Oregon must have been one of adventure. Hunting game along the trail was one form of recreation for these young men and although the emigrants did not rely on the meats that these jaunts provided, it was nice to have an occasional rabbit stew if time could be found to cook it properly.

Isaac was born November 23, 1819, in Madison County, Ohio. He was married at Kings Valley by Isaac Wesley Staats of Polk County to Almeda Jane Vanbebber on March 22, 1847, and they settled on a claim in August of that year. Located in Kings Valley, their claim bordered that of Almeda's parents, Lazarus and Martha Vanbebber. The Vanbebbers were born in Tennessee and traveled from Illinois, where Almeda was born about 1831, to Oregon in 1846.

Nothing remains of the Isaac King Donation Land Claim except an old orchard and a few footings where the barn once stood. A small graveyard located on an oak knoll overlooks the farmstead and Isaac rests there with his two-and-a-half-year-old daughter, Ellen, and an infant named, Lillie Zumwalt.

The death of Isaac King remains a mystery. *The Daily Herald*, of Portland, reported that Isaac became "...tired of life and blew his brains out with a pistol..." *The Corvallis Gazette*, Dec. 8, 1866, disclaimed the report and stated that neighbors and friends believed Isaac "...came to his death by an accidental discharge of a pistol in his own hands..." Another report survives today in the oral history of Kings Valley. Residents there give varying accounts of the murder of Isaac King, by members of his immediate family.

Through it all these facts remain. Following a hunting trip with his sons, his wife found Isaac shot to death in his barn. The ball had entered under the chin and came out at the top of his head, leaving his thick beard without powder burns. Three loads remained in his pistol, but all the caps had been snapped. He died on his 47th birthday leaving a wife and eight children: Alfred, Samuel, Stephen, Eleanor, Olive, Hollis, U.S. Grant, and Melvina.

His widow, Almeda, married Andrew Jackson Zumwalt in Corvallis on April 30, 1868 and had four more children: Sarah Jane, Lilly May, George Henry, and Addie. She died about April 1890 and is buried beside her parents in Kings Valley Pioneer Cemetery. A lilac bush and a metal marker labeled Almeda King are her only memorials.

Next week: Melinda Fuller and Amos King



More Information on Isaac King and Almeda Vanbebber King Zumwalt
Charlotte L. Wirfs

At the time the above article was written, Oct. 1980, I thought that an old house and barn located just below the Isaac King Cemetery was the original Isaac King farmstead and that it had been leveled. In fact the Isaac King home and barn, built in the 1850's, was still standing. Retha Allen Greig wrote a delightful sketch about growing up there (see *King Folk*, #3, April 20, 1993). Many family members also visited the site during the 1993 King Family Reunion (see *Benton Bulletin*, Philomath, OR, July 1, 1993, p. 1) Retha told me after I wrote the above article that there had been another home located on the property that her family referred to as "the old Woods' place".

To this date, how Isaac King died is still a mystery. *The Oregon Statesman*, Salem, OR, Mon. Dec. 3, 1866 reports that concerned neighbors, family, and friends of the Isaac King family conducted "a thorough investigation of the facts connected with his death." It was decided that he came to his death by the accidental discharge of a pistol in his own hands. Jonathan L. Williams of Salem, brother-in-law of Isaac King, organized the investigation. On Feb. 13, 1867, the Benton County courts appointed Isaac's brother, Solomon King, to administer Isaac's estate. The probate record lists the death date of Isaac as Nov. 20, 1866, however his tombstone states the date of his death as Nov. 23, 1866.

A letter written Aug. 17, 1940 by Mrs. Sievert A. Ramsdell, who had the Isaac King Bible in her possession, states that two of Almeda and A. J. Zumwalt's children are buried beside Isaac King on the old King Place. One is the grave of Lilla May Zumwalt, born July 2, 1870 and died Sept. 30, 1870. The other

grave is that of George Henry Zumwalt, born Oct. 15, 1871 and died Jan. 29, 1873. The letter explains how George died, "Mother Ramsdell (who was Melvina King, a half sister of George) told me that George fell in to a tub or boiler of hot water and was scalded." Such a tub would be placed in a farmyard on wash day or on a day that pigs were butchered. It is also probable that young George was buried without a marker, as no evidence of his marker was found in the Isaac King Cemetery. This same letter states that Almeda and Andrew Jackson Zumwalt "are both buried in the Kings Valley Cemetery in the same lot." Apparently neither of them had a grave marker other than some existing lilac bushes and a metal marker for Almeda. A death notice for Almeda was published in *The Corvallis Gazette*, Fri., April 25, 1890, p. 1. "Died near Wren Station, this county, on Tues., April 22, 1890, of paralysis, Mrs. A. J. Zumwalt." She was 59 years old. Her will was dated July 17, 1871, Benton County, Oregon. Andrew Jackson Zumwalt was born Feb. 14, 1845 in St. Charles Co., MO and died Jan. 1, 1912 at age. 68.

Children of Isaac and Almeda are:

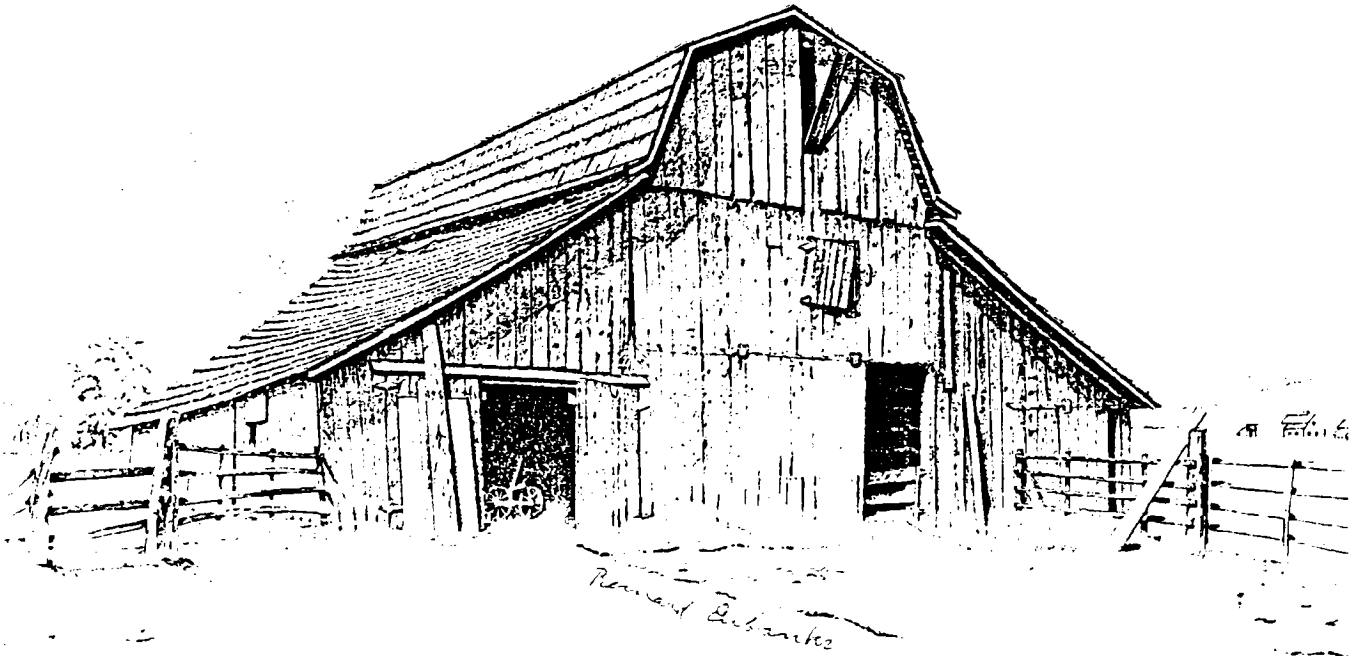
1. Alfred King, (1848-1908) married Mary Elizabeth Fowler in 1866
2. Samuel King (ca 1850-1929) married Lilli J. Ramsdell
3. Stephen King (1853-1882) married Pamela or Permelia Fuller
4. Ellen King (1855-1857) died as a toddler
5. Eleanor King, (1857-1930) married Lewis Sande Zumwalt, brother of Andrew Jackson Zumwalt
6. Olive King (1859-1934) married William L. Read
7. Hollis King (1861-1935) married Louisa Gross
8. U. S. Grant King, (1864-1951) married Maude Radar in 1897
9. Melvina King (1865-1937) married Oscar Calvin Ramsdell

Almeda's children by Andrew Jackson Zumwalt are:

1. Sarah Jane Zumwalt, (1868-?) married Charles C. Dickens in 1886
2. Lilla May Zumwalt, (July 2, 1870—Sept. 30, 1870) died as an infant
3. George Henry Zumwalt, (1871-1873) died as a toddler
4. Ada Line Zumwalt, (1874-1954) married Lucius Plunkett in 1890 and Ralph Hussey

No photographs exist of Isaac King, but there is a photograph reported to be of Almeda. Photos also exist for Stephen King, Eleanor King Zumwalt, Olive King Read, U. S. Grant King, and Melvina King Ramsdell. Photographs exist of brothers Andrew Jackson Zumwalt and Lewis Sande Zumwalt, as well as their father, Isaac Zumwalt.

If anyone has information to add to the family of Isaac King and Almeda Jane Vanbebber King Zumwalt and her second family with Andrew Jackson Zumwalt, please let us know.



This drawing of a "Kings Valley Barn" by Bernard M. Eubanks was published in a June 1979 calendar. Can anyone provide more information about this barn?

More About the Allen/Frommherz/King Connection

By Daniel David Lewis Frommherz



I have traced the Allen family from a possible starting place in Norfolk County, England to the towns and villages of Medfield, Dedham, Sturbridge, Sherburne, and on to Endfield, MA. This last town is where my second great grandmother Annie Mariah Allen was born in 1822. Many of these towns were founded by the Allen family and other families they married into or moved around with. They frequently moved back and forth between these towns and had extended family members living in them. Many of the cousins had children in one, two, or three of the towns. It was Aunt Margaret Frommherz of Yakima, Washington who got me interested in knowing more about this branch. Seems that she has been there making the area come alive for me.

Annie Mari'e Allen, married brothers, (1) Stephen (2) Solomon King. So it is she who, descends from this family. Her father is the product of a first cousin once removed marriage in the Allen family. She is the oldest living child of John Allen Junior and Anna Bangs Allen. Watch for further stories on the Bangs family in later issues. Solomon called her "Miss Annie", but always entered her name as Annie Mari'e with the emphasis on the "I" with the "E" silent. Annie signed her name several ways including Annie Mariah. This is seen in the famous letter to her mother and brothers in the east written before the birth of her son Charles Allen King on February 2, 1848 and the later death of Stephen on November 26, 1852. We, her direct descendants, and many of you, who are cousins, only know of this letter as a newspaper article, which was found in the shirt pocket of her widower husband, Solomon, on the day of his death March 13, 1913 from apoplexy. He was first stricken in town about noon with an almost immediate coma. He was then brought to the home of his son Abraham Lincoln and Clara Elisabeth Pribbernow (Busse) King in Corvallis. He died at 9 PM.

His death was cause enough that the Corvallis Gazette stopped the presses for the next day issue, March 14, 1913 to print his obituary on the front page. My grandmother Lucy Adelia King and her new husband, Adolph Joseph Frommherz, were traveling in Kansas at the time. They returned immediately to Oregon.

The first Allen directly connected to the descendants of the Solomon and Annie Mari'e (Allen) King to come to America was James Allin. The Reverend John Allin refers him to as "cousin". In those times, cousin meant nephew too. He was probably 14 years of age on arrival. We do not know, as yet, who James's father is. For many years it was suspected that John was the son of Reginald Allyn of Colby, Norfolk County, England. This is why the discovery of James parents has been so difficult as there is no son of Reginald who had a son named James. This has been proven false by the education and parishes in which John ministered for several years prior to coming to America. When he came with a congregation, he brought with him the young James. The reason for the discrepancy was that in this period there were no less than four men with the name John Allen. They were all ministers in or near Norfolk, including one John Allin who actually has been proven to be the son of Reginald. However, he attended a different school in England. I will give you more details on this particular subject in later issues.

Annie Mari'e Allen married Stephen King on Christmas Day of 1843 in Carroll County, MO and not in Madison Co., Ohio as reported on p. 2, **King Folk**, No. 16. She followed the King family from Madison County, Ohio by herself or with the help of the King family. Apparently, her own family could not or did not leave Ohio. There are charts floating around that give the place of marriage as Madison County, Ohio. However, due to the flooding

and such, I believe the actual place is in Missouri with the King family. Annie's father died about one year prior to her marriage in October 1842.

I have compiled a 25-page ahnentafel chart on Annie Mari'e Allen King which is on file with our historian, David Trask. Unfortunately, due the cost for printing, and postage the chart is \$3.00. You can order this chart from David Trask, Charlotte Wirfs, or me. I can also send it as an e-mail attachment. Just recently, I have completed a 25-page ahnentafel of the Frommherz family back into the "Sudenwald" of Germany. This chart also has my mother's Lounsbury/Pennoyer, Wood/Lewis, and Smith/Young heritage back to the founding of Harvard College in the early 1600's. This is strictly a straight list of the Frommherz with the 43 families of the women who married them. It too can be ordered from David or Charlotte or I can send it as an E-mail attachment. It can also be ordered in disk from me. I am working on getting this

into a format known as GEDCOM, which lists the source material

I would like to add in closing my thoughts on the grand history of this truly fine family. If it were not for the efforts of the ancestors who did keep the records, make the wills and write in the Bibles, we would not be where we are today. Because their descendants carefully collected, compiled, and recorded the data on genealogical forms gives us a reference springboard to build upon. Right or wrong, they gave us a place to start.

Editor's note: a photograph does exist of Annie and Sol King, however the copy in the file is too dim to reproduce here. Perhaps a copy with more contrast can be located that would be suitable for reproducing in this newsletter.

Daniel David Lewis Frommherz,
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My e-mail is danielddf@hotmail.com and
mckenziemarket@continet.com .



This lithograph was reproduced from David D. Fagan's book, *History of Benton County, Oregon*, Portland, Oregon, A. G. Walling, 1885. It is the home of Solomon and Annie Allen King and was located west of Corvallis on what is now known as Kings Blvd. Kenneth Munford reported in his *Gazette-Times* columns for Sept. 5, 12, and 19 of 1988, that the artist who did the lithographs for Fagan's book was James Tilton Pickett, son of the famous Civil War general, George E. Pickett. James was born in 1857 when his father was commander of Fort Bellingham on the Puget Sound. His mother was the second wife of Capt. Pickett and reported to be the daughter of a Haida Indian chieftain. After his birth, his father left the area and his mother died so friends of the family in Olympia, WA raised James. He was educated in western art schools and had a career as an illustrator for Seattle and Portland newspapers as well as illustrating several books. He died at the age of 32 in 1889.

Life at the Sol King Place

Taken from the Autobiography of Arthur Bouquet

Editor's note: Arthur Bouquet was a professor of horticulture at OSU and he wrote of his life in Corvallis. He was born in Sutton, England and came to Corvallis in 1902. He tells here of his first day in Corvallis and his summer of work on the farm of Solomon King.

After supper at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herzig on King's road, I was taken by a Mr. Jim Brodie out to the Sol King farm at the north part of King's road which place was to be my first home in Benton County, Oregon, U. S. A. from June to September.

The King house was quite large, very plain both inside and outside. There were little, if any, garden plantings and I don't remember any vegetable garden. In my room there was a bed, a table and a chair. I had been used to something better but this was no time to make comparisons or complaints.

Sol King was a white-haired, white-bearded tall man, an ex-sheriff of the county, who came from pioneer stock. His father, also named Sol (Nahum) settled on a claim of 640 acres of land near Wren Station, west of Corvallis, and he died in 1857. Sol, Jr. (not Jr.) was elected sheriff of Benton County in 1876 and was re-elected five times. He was a Republican in politics. In business other than farming, he ran a livery stable in Corvallis. He was a kind but firm employer of me and he expected that any help he had around the place would give him a full dollar's worth of work for a dollar paid. And, I might add, a dollar in those days was really worth something. I worked hard and long on this farm and at the expiration of my stay in September was given \$25.00 in cash. The remainder of my worth, I suppose, was paid for by the food I ate and the roof over my head.

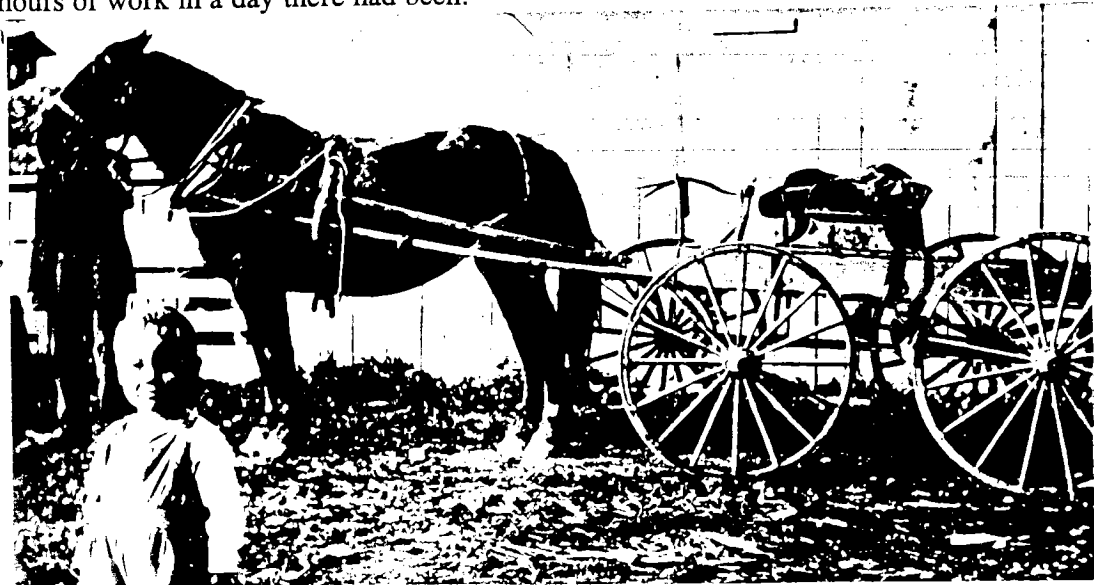
My job on the King farm consisted of rising early, helping to milk the cows twice a day, looking after about 28 calves, haying and doing general field work, not to mention the chores, morning and evening, of "separating", for Sol took the cream to town and fed the skimmed milk. So the hours were typical, 5:15 a.m. to about 8:15 p.m.

Of the food, I could not brag. Just let it be said, it was different. I had never tasted buttermilk before and when I did, I soon determined to leave it out of my menu. On Sundays, I would ride the pony with which I used to get the calves up and go over to the Abe King farm where I was always assured of a good Sunday dinner. Abe was one of Sol's sons and he and Mrs. King were most kind to me.

Riding up to the King place every once in a while was a dark complexioned woman whom I took to be an Indian. I had seen some in Canada as I was riding the train out. I was a little puzzled about this one who came to the farm. Later I was to work with the son of this woman and his name was George Newberry. He was a right decent fellow and I was sorry to hear that he went totally blind later on in his life.

When I left Sol, he told me I had been a very good young helper, which made me feel pretty good about my first job in the western country. I could have used some more dough, tho', considering how many hours of work in a day there had been.

Sol King is holding the horse in this picture and the child is Bill King, son of Abe King of Corvallis. Bill said, "Sol drove over to my house on Island Way and come for Sunday dinner. He died at this place." Photo is from Bill King Collection. Neg. from Price/Wirfs collection, Pack U, Neg. 1.



Next Issue: The Story of George Newberry



Books! Books! Books!

A Book Review by Wirfs

A Memory of Wren, Oregon, by The Wren Historical Society, Wren, OR, Nov 1998 is compiled by Nellie Stark, Karen Kennedy, Pat Brown, Elmer Taylor, Dean Sartain, and Jim Hoyt. This recent 200-page, spiral bound publication contains 150 photos and 13 maps of the Benton County community of Wren. There is a well-written table of contents for the book, which is divided into four parts. Part I, Physical History—a Long Pageant, contains information on the geology, soils, climate, and forests of the area. Part II, The Mary's River and Mary's Peak, discusses the myths of Mary's Peak, name origin, and an historical description of the river. Part III, The Human Story—Settlement of the Area, is the meat of the book and contains information on the settlement of the area, a directory of people, places, schools, businesses, and organizations including the village of Harris. There is a description of Wren Cemetery and the Charles King House. Part IV, the Character of Wren, 1998, reports of the community plan for Wren and describes the community as it exists today.

All of this is nicely presented in easy-to-read script and reflects many hours of research. I found this local history to be informative and interesting. An index is not provided and, in this case, is not essential as readers can easily locate themselves by referring to the extensive Table of Contents. This is a book that the King Family may want to include in their reference library that is maintained by the family historian, David Trask.

The book sells for \$22.00, which includes postage and handling and can be ordered from Nellie Stark. Payment should be made to the Wren Historical Society and mailed to Nellie Stark, 36053 Blakesley Creek Rd., Philomath, OR, 97370. If you want to save postage, you may pick up the book directly from Nellie for \$20.00. Please telephone Nellie, (503) 929-3082, to arrange to pick up your copy.

New Cemetery Book to be Published

The Oregon Historic Cemeteries Assn. is currently compiling Visitor's Guide to Oregon Historic Cemeteries. It will be available at a reduced price for those attending the AGS Conference to be held at Reed College in Portland on Aug. 5-8, 1999.

One of the cemeteries featured in the publication is Kings Valley Cemetery. This guide is designed for those of us wanting to know about cemeteries and other historic information about communities such as Kings Valley. It will include pictures, directions, maps, and a list of nearby places to visit to search for family information, places like museums, libraries, and local historical or genealogical societies. The information provided can be used as self-guided tours.

Other activities of interest that OHCA is doing are hosting the 1999 AGS Conference mentioned above. AGS was founded about 30 years ago in New England by persons interested in genealogy and old gravestones. It is now an international organization with several thousand members and serves as both a clearinghouse and publisher of materials about gravestones. There will be a gravestone conservation workshop, tours of three cemeteries listed in Visitors Guide... and half-hour to hour participation sessions on a variety of gravestone and cemetery subjects.

Recently, the announcement by Metro Parks and Greenspaces in Portland of their intention to sell the 14 pioneer cemeteries in their care sparked an immediate public reaction. Consequently, a video is being produced that focuses on the value of heritage preservation in graveyards.

Oregon Historic Cemeteries Assoc. also publishes a newsletter issued tri-annually. For more information about OHCA, write to Jeanne Gentry, P.O. Box 802, Boring, OR 97009-0802, (503) 658-4255, ohca@integrityonline.com also visit www.ancestry.com/societyhall/pages/sochall-448.

King Folk is a quarterly newsletter published by Charlotte Wirfs. Subscriptions are \$6.00 annually. A contribution of \$4.00 can be made at the same time, to be used to repair tombstones and for costs related to the annual reunion. Please mail your payment to:

Charlotte L. Wirfs
442 N E Bridgeton Rd.
Portland, OR 97211-1051



Subscriptions are due Jan. 1, 1999
Make checks payable to Charlotte L. Wirfs.

All information published in **King Folk** is printed as it is written or presented for publication. For that reason, the information published may not be completely accurate. Corrections and updates are published whenever they are known. Please submit materials for publication to Charlotte Wirfs.

The **King Reunion** is held on the first Saturday following Father's Day in June at the Kings Valley School from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. It is made up of the descendants of Nahum and Sarepta (Norton) King, Oregon pioneers of 1845, who settled Kings Valley in the spring of 1846. Current officers are:

President, Charlotte L. Wirfs, (503) 283-8036
Charw@teleport.com
Vice Pres. Jim King, (541) 942-5494
Secretary, Patricia Bearden, (541)265-7117
pbearden@actionnet.net
Historian, David Trask, (541) 734-3250
DLTRASK@aol.com

Please send queries to David Trask, 691 Murphy Rd. Suite 115, Medford, OR 97504

Note that David collects obituaries of the descendants of Nahum King. He can look one up for you. Please mail copies of family obituaries to him.

King Folk Publications

Naughton-Norton Family of Bristol, CT and Canaan, NY, a twenty-two page manuscript compiled by Carole (Norton) Putman, 1998. \$6.00
Kings Valley Cemetery, compiled by Patricia Bearden, Carole Norton, and Charlotte Wirfs, 1998. \$15.00 (available March 1, 1999—make reservations now).
Kings Valley, The Middle Years, by Audrey Theurer, 47 pages with pictures, 1995. \$10.00.
Back issues of **King Folk** newsletter can be ordered for \$1.25 each There are 16 issues printed including this one.

All prices include postage and handling. Please make checks payable to Charlotte L. Wirfs.
Mail orders to Charlotte Wirfs, 442 NE Bridgeton Rd., Portland, OR 97211-1051.

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