



The Bunchgrass Historian

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The Settlers Move In



—Photo courtesy Grace Starkie collection

Many settlers came to the Palouse up the Columbia and the Snake rivers in boats such as this. Taken at Wawawai about 1902 at the time of much immigration to Whitman County.

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In This Issue

We have presented some of the types of printed matter circulated by the railroads and others to induce immigrants to settle in the Northwest; the story of one early settler and another's reactions to his having settled here, expressed poetically by the latter.

Also, we were most fortunate in obtaining copies of pages from the daily log of one immigrant from the day he bought his family's train tickets in the Mid-West until he was settled and building a home near Palouse. It is a rare record, unlike any other seen by us in its completeness of detail, even to the amount paid to borrow four spoons to stir their coffee with while in transit! Detailed instructions from a newcomer on how to reach the Palouse country are contained in a letter sent to his family in Oregon.

Most of our lives we have heard and read stories of the hardships suffered by the early pioneers while in transit across the plains or getting settled in a strange land. The anxieties, fears and sense of loss of those who were left behind are to us practically unknown or unthought of experiences. We were fortunate to obtain the loan of a large number of letters, dating to as early as the 1850's, written by the families at home in the Mid-West to their children and brothers and sisters who had emigrated. Many express their concern and pain at the prospects of never seeing each other again in this life, with nothing left but to meet in that land where there is no parting or sorrow throughout eternity. There are heart-rending appeals to return home and a father's tearful letter of thanks for his children's safe arrival in this promised land, the great Northwest.

Mrs. Olive Davis, now past 80 years of age, has preserved a large number of letters from her grandparents in both sides of her family. These letters were trustingly loaned to us for use in this issue of the **Historian**. The letter by A. Edwards to his son John has been reprinted on Pages 21 through 23. The writer was Anderson Edwards, Mrs. Davis' maternal grandfather, who built the first flour mill at Pine City. Burrs (stones) from this mill now rest at the Perkin's House in Colfax. John became the first school teacher in Pine City. Selected portions from Mrs. Davis' family heirloom letters appear on Page 19.

As usual, we have tried to obtain photographs which will enhance the value of our stories, increase their enjoyment for you and to help to perpetuate the historic record of the Palouse through these pages.—R.M.C.

Daniel Wright Boone—Settler

Daniel Wright Boone was born July 19, 1855, at St. Louis, Indiana, a small village, not there now, near Greensburg, Indiana. His parents were Thomas and Frances Thomas Boone. He was the fourth child in a family of nine children, seven boys and two girls. His family lived at St. Louis a short time, then moved to the Rock Creek place when Daniel was a baby. Thomas Boone heard of good land for sale in Southern Illinois from a friend, Abdulla Sharp, who lived south of Clay City. He had lived in Indiana before moving to Clay City. Thomas went to look at the land and was satisfied with it. So in 1865 when Daniel was 10 years old the family moved to Illinois. They started from North Vernon, Indiana, on the train. His family and their goods were in one car; he was on another. The train stalled and the cars were separated. Frances and the children went ahead arriving at Clay City, Illinois, a day ahead of Thomas. Frances and the children walked and caught a few rides out to Abdulla Sharp's south of Clay City. Thomas arrived a day later. They moved to Melvin Corner shortly, and a few years later Thomas bought the Humes place. Mary Frances Boone (Boicourt) the ninth child, was born at the Melvin Corner place, May 10, 1869, Daniel attended Love School house N.E., toward Clay City. Isum Green (crippled) was his first school teacher in Illinois, Court. Slow was one of his teachers also. Later he went to Bothel School, Ziff School, then Wells School and attended school till he was about fiteeen. He worked for Dr. Bowman, George Sharp, and Sam Hossleton, on their farms.

Old Uncle Dan Boone from Oregon came to Illinois to visit. Ruben T. Boone, Daniel's older brother, went home with him and stayed five years; he returned and married Jane Williams, older sister of Amelia Williams, who married Daniel later. Daniel and Amelia were both at the wedding December 24, 1876. Daniel was 21 and Amelia 6 at that time.

Ruben and Jane left for Oregon in January, 1877, and Daniel went with them. He was 22 years old at that time. It took them about 15 days on an immigrant train to make the trip. They cooked and slept in the same coach. They landed at Sacramento, California, and Daniel saw his first big sturgeons there. Two burly Irishmen were unloading them. The Boone party took a river boat at Sacramento for San Francisco. They missed the steamer at San Francisco to Portland by two hours and had to wait in San Francisco a week for the next boat. Dan traveled steerage passage on an ocean boat and Jane and Ruben took a room. All three were seasick and Jane was in bed all the way. They took three days and three nights to get to Astoria, Oregon. They arrived too late, at low tide, to cross the sandbar and the boat anchored till morning. The passengers were allowed off the boat and had to learn to walk. They went on the same boat to Portland, then took a river boat to Independence, Oregon. They went in wagons to Monmouth, Oregon. Jane and Ruben stayed at Old Uncle Boone's and Daniel stayed at Alonzo Keith's for a while. Daniel stayed nine months in the Willamette Valley before going to Washington Territory. Jane and Ruben's little girl (Celia) was born a few days before he left. As he was going to Independence to get a doctor his buggy ran over a skunk.

Footnote: We are indebted to Bertha Hood, Jane Marshall and Celia Marshall for the material used in this story of the D. W. Boone family.



**Daniel Wright Boone-Amelia Fernanders Williams wedding picture.
Married January 27, 1889.**

Daniel's oldest sister, Jane, married Volney Farnsworth and they lived in Illinois for a time. He received a leg injury in the Civil War and the doctor told him rest and a warm climate was the best cure for his injury. They went to California, then migrated north to Washington Territory where they homesteaded and settled in the Palouse country. Their nearest post office and store was at Almota about 15 miles away. They had four children, two boys and two girls.

Alonzo Keith homesteaded land near the Farnsworths in Washington in 1876. In September, 1877, Daniel left Oregon with the Keiths; they arrived in Washington October 17, 1877. They made the trip in a covered wagon with four horses. Daniel rode a horse and led two to Portland. They took seven mares, all shod. They took a river boat up the Columbia River to the Dalles, Oregon, then unloaded and went in wagons across country to Walla Walla, a burg then. They camped out all the way and heard lots of coyotes. They landed at the Val Farnsworth's home, near the Baxter place. Daniel assisted the Keiths in building a house, also the Val Farnsworths.

Dan was soon introduced to a pick and shovel, making the Wawawai road; E. J. Northcutt was the boss. There was a great pow-wow held when the first wagon could get through. They hauled wheat to Wawawai and it took a good wagon to haul 20 sacks. They had to line the wagon with straw. Farmers from the Moscow country hauled there, too. Boats on the Snake River had a loading dock at Wawawai and took care of the whole country. Often 50 or 60 wagons camped at the Old Lewis place on Union Flat and all the way down the canyon. They used the creek bed for a road at the lower end of the canyon.

Dan's sister, Jane Farnsworth, soon persuaded him to file for a claim. He took up land where the school house stood—Bearidell No. 23, preempted 160 acres, and homesteaded 80 plus a timber culture of 160. He paid for preemption first when he settled up, the timber culture second, and the homestead last.

Dan worked for Neil Stewart three years, then started farming for himself. Dan swapped meat at Colfax at 14¢ a pound for a wagon and a load of barbed wire to fence his place. He cut posts in the mountains. George Barkoff had paid Dan in meat for feeding the separator and thresher men who harvested 42½ days and received \$2.50 a day.

Dan worked in the Moscow Mountains in winter. He cut posts and sold them, and bought groceries at Colfax. The mail came to Leitchville, near the sister's place. Leitch carried the mail from Colfax to Lewiston and his wife was Postmistress. Later the mail came to Staley. He helped Neil Stewart and other neighbors while proving up on his homestead. While improving his farm by fencing, and setting out an orchard; he also built a barn and roofed it with hand made cedar shakes. The hay mow was made with poles he hauled from the mountains. He made enough palings by hand to fence a big yard around his house, several hundred yards. He bought horses, cows and chickens. He made his own butter and once when he was churning he put soda in the cream, thinking it would make the butter come quicker. He had cream all over the floor!

At harvest time the neighbors helped each other. Miss (Lizzie) Elizabeth Maynard (later Mrs. Price Black) helped the homesteaders cook in the harvest. She and her helper moved Dan's stove out in the wood shed and cooked the meals out there. They served the meals in the house. They brought dishes along to help serve the meals, then took them along to the next harvest job.

In the early fall of 1888, after batching nine years, he went to Illinois to visit his parents and family. He began courting his brother's wife's sister, Amelia Williams,

and they were married the 27th of January, 1889. They came west by immigrant train and arrived in Pullman, Washington, March 8, 1889. His brother, George and his bride, Georgia Brummet, whom he married February 13, 1889, and a neighbor Ed Hough, came west with them. They all lived together in the homestead house for some time. His brother, being an excellent carpenter, soon began building barns, and dwellings for the pioneers. His wife went along to help cook and sew.

He made many trips to the mountains in Idaho for wood and timber for posts. He always brought back fir trees and planted them around his house on the farm. He loved trees and had a barrel of acorns shipped from his home in Illinois. He planted them and when they grew into small trees, he reset them in rows and they grew into the Oak grove which still stands.

After returning with his bride he put the homestead house on skids and moved it with a horse down the hill so he could pipe running water into the house. This was a convenience few of the pioneers had at that time. His orchard was bearing fruit and he always had a good garden and berries. He raised broom corn and acquired a broom machine and made brooms which he sold to neighbors. He also had a blacksmith shop, well equipped, and he did all the blacksmith work for friends and neighbors and sharpened plow shares for many years for them. He would write their names on the shares with chalk, so the owners would be able to find their shares, if he was out working.

They began raising a family and had three little girls when they took their first trip back to Illinois, to visit their family, also to show off their children. He always brought small hardwood trees home with him and had nearly every kind of eastern hard wood growing around his house and in the grove of oaks. They were black walnut, maple, elm, mulberry, linden, red haw, all varieties of oaks, burr oak, white oak, butternut, pecan, chestnut, and cherry trees and flowering shrubs, such as snow ball, flowering almond, roses, and red peonies. Later many neighbors came to enjoy the fresh fruit and berries from his orchard. The evergreen trees he had set out in the yard were large enough to make lots of shade, and the family began having birthday picnics on the 19th of July in honor of his birthday.

Soon the gathering became so large they held the picnics in the oak grove, the first one being held in 1921. Every year the crowds became larger and larger. He built tables and moved in a stove for coffee. He built a platform for speakers and would have a program after a big dinner. He often told a good story to start off the program. The largest crowd was over 1,000.

There were several schools in the community, but they were all quite a distance from his farm, so he gave some land for a school to be built. It was the Beuridell School, built in 1902. The carpenter who built the school pitched a tent on Dan's land and lived there while he was building the school. He hired an extra man or two part of the time. The carpenter's wife bought eggs, butter, fruit and vegetables from Daniel's farm while they were there. There was a spring near by where they got water.

There was a storm, before the new school was built, that broke out the windows in the old school house building and his home, too. They nearly always boarded school teachers, and often two at one time. In the depression year of 1893 it was their only income for survival. It was a wet, rainy year and they lost their crops. Even the rain-soaked grain that was threshed, wouldn't make feed for stock. Many of the farmers took bankruptcy to save their farms, but he managed to save his without going through bankruptcy.

He was always a good provider of food and wood. He made many trips to the Moscow Mountains with a team and wagon and would spend several days cutting logs for posts and wood. He would always bring back some trees to set out on his farm. On one trip a colt crowded its mother, and caused the wagon to go over the grade and upset. On this occasion he received a knee injury from which he never entirely recovered.

In the community he took an active and leading part. He was school clerk of their district, school director and road overseer. He had influence in the location of the country roads.

The family outgrew the homestead cabin and a room was built on for a kitchen. Later a large cellar with a rock wall was dug in the bank near the house and a room built above it for a bedroom. In later years an attic above it was finished for sleeping rooms and it was nicknamed "China Town." A screened-in porch was built between the house and cellar which was a real convenience. A big room was built near the house for a woodshed but it was plastered and used for a bedroom and never used as a woodshed.

On November 6th, 1933, Daniel Wright's youngest son, John, was killed in a hunting accident in the Blue Mountains. A hunter by the name of Ingram saw the bushes move and thinking it was an elk, fired a shot from a powerful rifle at close range. The bullet struck John near the heart, then traveled upward through his body and lodged in his shoulder, killing him instantly. His body wasn't found till the next day and had to be packed out on horseback. The hunting party consisted of John's wife Georgia, his sister, Frances Brewer, and his husband, Harold.

Daniel later bought a home in Pullman, and they would move the family to town in the winter so the older children could attend high school. The younger ones would go to the country school. They always took a cow to town and would sell the extra milk.

They had a store at Staley but some of the pioneers got mail at Almota and bought flour and food there that had been shipped by boat. When Daniel first came, the town of Pullman was called Three Forks. When the first trains came in, around 1887, the town was renamed Pullman for George Pullman of the Pullman Car Company, who contributed \$50.00 toward the celebration of the first store and post office the 4th of July, 1881. There was constant progress in the Pullman schools and the first brick structure was built and dedicated Columbus Day, 1892.

After many discussions, the Washington State College was started in Pullman in 1892. The first building was called the "Crib." They had five instructors and 60 students attended classes. The college grew very rapidly from that time on.

About 1900 Daniel bought 340 acres of land which joined him from Mrs. Seats. Ed Hough who had lived with them since Daniel and Amelia were married went to live on it and farm it. In later years when Daniel grew too old to farm he rented the land to some of the neighbors; a son-in-law farmed it a while before Daniel's sons took over.

He suffered many heart attacks when he was out alone cutting weeds. He didn't realize what they were and never told the family about them until they grew very severe. His eyesight failed from hardening of the arteries and he passed away April 5, 1936, from a heart attack at home at the age of 81 years, 9 months, and 17 days, and was buried in the Pullman City Cemetery. Daniel's wife, Amelia, passed away July 12, 1963 at the age of 92 years, 8 months, and 14 days, and was buried by his side. □



Garfield early settler David B. Ross (1845-1921) wasn't sure he wanted to stay. His wife agreed to leave after one year if he was still dissatisfied. He never left.

We Have Left Dakota

David B. Ross

While up in Dakota I took my old basket,
The chills creeping o'er me again and again,
I took a bee line for my neighbor's old pasture
To gather up cowchips that grew on the plain.

The wind was blowing a fearful nor'wester,
The rags whipping round me till I ached with the pain;
The children were home a freezing and waiting
The basket of cowchips that grew on the plain.

The good wife at home with shawl on her shoulders
Was shivering and shaking and racking her brain,
To know how to manage to bake us some pancakes
With the basket of cowchips that grew on the plain.

The old stove was broken, the draft was a terror,
The ashes were falling around us like rain,
The batter was standing close by on the table,
Well-seasoned with cowchips that grew on the plain.

The pigs ran a squealing way down to the stable,
They circled around it and then back again,
Vainly looking for something to satisfy hunger—
Pitched into the cowchips that grew on the plain.

The farmers all hitch their teams to their wagons
And start off for town like a funeral train,
They are loaded with barrels which they fill full of water,
Then homeward go splashing it over the plain.

Come out of Dakota you seedy old farmers,
Let the coyote and Indian the bleak prairie reign,
Or the cyclone and blizzard will blow out your gizzard
And will send it a rolling way over the plain.

Come down to Missouri the land of red apples,
Where fuel is plenty and no lack of rain,
Bid adieu to Dakota, drouth-stricken Dakota,
And the bad smelling cowchips that grow on the plain.

Footnote: This article and the poems were contributed by Fannie Ross of Farmington. Her brother, Tracy, farms south of Farmington. Miss Ross says that she doesn't know why her grandfather spoke of Missouri in his poem as he never went there.

We'll Be Back Again

David B. Ross

A year has gone by and I have not made a dollar;
I've fought with the chiggers and worked in the rain;
"Most wish I had staid where I was in the Dakota
And wrestled with cowchips that grew on the plain.

The children have only one garment among them,
Which was made from a sack that was once used for grain;
Their mother is wearing the last dress that is left her—
She bought with butter while up on the plain.

The apples and peaches and fuel and water
Are all very good, but they bring us no gain;
I believe I will write to our friends in Dakota
For money to take us back on the plain.

Dear friends we acknowledge the receipt of your letter;
We received today on the four o'clock train,
We'll start in the morning at half past seven
And soon we will be with you again on the plain.

David B. Ross Passes Away

Mr. Ross was born in Granville Center, Pa., in 1845 in which community his early life was spent.

During the Civil War his father and two older brothers enlisted in the Union army. Although young, it was the desire of Mr. Ross to enter the service but some one must remain at home and care for the family. This lot fell to Mr. Ross which he gladly accepted.

In 1868 he was married to Miss Fannie J. Perry. For over 51 years they enjoyed the fellowship one with the other celebrating their Golden Wedding on June 4th, 1918.

To this union were born six children, five of whom survive him. S. A. Ross of Farmington; Glenn Ross, deceased; Mrs. P. S. Weitenhiller, Crane, Oregon; Rev. Floyd A. Ross, Milton, Oregon; Mrs. George A. Page, Spokane, and Elton E. Ross, Garfield.

Soon after their marriage they moved to South Dakota being pioneers in the settlement of that country. Mr. Ross was always interested in the welfare of the community where he lived and every good enterprise was given his hearty support. He was interested in the public schools and church life of his community.

In January of 1901 he came to Garfield, Washington, where he resided until his death in January, 1920. □

(Excerpt from **Garfield Enterprise**, January 16, 1920.)

COLONIST RATES

to Washington and the Great Northwest

The management of the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Co. takes great pleasure in announcing that the low rates from Eastern cities, which have done so much in the past seasons to stimulate travel to and settlement in Washington will prevail again this Spring DAILY from March 1 to April 15, inclusive.

PEOPLE OF WASHINGTON

The railroads have done their part; now it's up to you. The colonist rate is the greatest of all home-builders. Do all you can to let Eastern people know about it, and encourage them to come here, where land is cheap and home building easy and attractive.

Fares can be prepaid at home if desired. Any agent of the road named is authorized to receive the required deposit and telegraph ticket to any point in the East.

Remember the rates—From Chicago, \$33; from St Louis, \$32; Kansas City, \$25. This reduction is proportionate from other cities

WM McMURRAY
General Passenger Agent
Portland, Oregon.

T. B. MOORE
Agent
La Crosse, Wa h.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE LA CROSSE CLIPPER, FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 1910.



—Photo courtesy Mrs. Victor Uptmor

John Abbl (1857-1923) and wife Anna (1855-1929) married February 26, 1878 at Aurora, Missouri.

Through the generosity of the author of this article, we are able to reproduce a portion of her grandfather's ledger from the time he bought train tickets for himself and family in Minnesota until they arrived in Palouse City and, afterward, when he bought land west of Palouse City and set up housekeeping. It is a rare pioneer document with some words in German, others in phonetic English with a German accent (Pgs. 14-16). It is a priceless treasure—R.M.C.

John Abbl (1857-1923)

by

Mrs. Victor (Abbl) Uptmor

My Grandfather came to Palouse, Washington, in July 1902 with his wife and seven children. He was a farmer and acquired land, namely the McCormack and Flint ranches one mile west of Palouse on the Colfax road. A short time later he acquired, in addition, an 80 acre Turnbow farm.

John Abbl was born Johannes Appel. He came to America from Tattenitz, Austria, as a small boy with his parents, Johannes and Theresie Appel. It is believed he had one brother. He married Johanna Marschaleck in Mt. Vernon, Missouri, in 1878. When their oldest child, Mary, was one year old, they migrated to Minnesota with other family members by covered wagon. They suffered many hardships, Indian raids and sickness. His father died of pneumonia and was buried in New Haven, Iowa. Most of the family settled near Gibbon and Buffalo Lake, Minnesota.

Grandfather's farm was on a lake near Gibbon and New Ulm. Here my father, Louis, was born followed by Joseph, Katherine, Edward, Minnie and Caroline. Four other children died in infancy. Grandfather was interested in education and was Clerk of the School Board. He learned to speak English well and changed the spelling of his name. He raised livestock and grain. Indian raids were still to be feared and he found a way to hide his grain in the attic. The family lived here 18 years then decided to come to Washington to look for better land. In making final plans Grandfather wanted the two oldest children to stay in Minnesota and keep their jobs, however, when the other children heard of this they pleaded and begged that they not leave Mary and Louis. Grandfather changed his mind and bought nine tickets so they could all come west by train.

After the family got settled at Palouse, Mary went to work in Spokane and Louis worked for the Benedictine Sisters at Colton, prior to purchasing a farm at Cottonwood, Idaho. The younger children attended the Turnbow School.

Some of Grandfather's pleasures were playing the piano and gathering the family around to sing with him in the evenings. On Sundays he delighted in taking them on picnics when they were all dressed up, sometimes to the Palouse River or to a distant orchard to pick fruit. Roads could be very dusty so the girls would wear dust coats. Grandmother seldom went along; she preferred staying home and getting her work done. Grandfather was a devout Catholic and there were times set aside for family prayer. He liked working in his shop, repairing machinery and doing carpenter work. He taught his boys what he knew and together they built several homes and barns for neighbors.

Grandfather disliked wearing overalls and always wore trousers and a white shirt. In wintertime he could be seen wearing his long dark muskrat coat that he brought along from Minnesota. Father told of the time he and Grandfather went to town in the buggy on a cold, blustery day. They had lunch at a saloon and upon leaving, his coat had been stolen from the coat rack. Grandfather became so infuriated that he had to go right out and buy another fur coat.

After Grandfather died, Grandmother moved to Portland to be with her daughters. She died in 1929 and was laid to rest with Grandfather in the Buhl Cemetery. □

Footnote: Mrs. Uptmor now lives in Vancouver, Washington. She visited Palouse several times last summer bringing photos and family history accounts with her.

1902. Remarks of the Daily Events 1902.

Revenue. Expense

Page Fourteen

Bunchgrass Historian

1902x	6	28	Johnson & Johnson fr 45 Bu Oats			
"	+	"	" " Solt 6/14-02. to Jarley Johnson.	15	00	
"	+	29	Kohesh John fr Lewis 2 Months & 11 Days			
"	+	"	" " Work at 15 Doll per Month	44	40	
"	+	"	Amarsal fr 3 bu Sun 30 @		90	
"	+	30	Beecher fr Schlaf ticket from St Paul to Spokane			12 00
"	+	"	Erone Settled in full of Book acc to date			11 35
"	+	"	fr 25 ⁰⁸ Bu Oats at 45 cks in trade <small>for Oats at 45 @ 25⁰⁸ 31</small>	11	35	
"	+	"	fr 29 ²⁴ Bu Oats 40 @ in cash	09	40	
"	+	"	J D Neuman, fr 10 1/2 lbs Butter 189.			
"	+	"	" fr 12 1/2 Duz Eggs 162.	3	71	
"	+	"	" fr Groceries by Mary			3 71
"	+	"	" Dr Mary + Frau hite by Erne Erlman tickets auf u	2	50	
"	+	"	Corbl fr 1 Drink 5. Brods Fleisch + Mursch 10 <small>Chaker</small>			20
"	+	7	1 Lerer in St George & Josy fr 1 Lebed buch. <small>1.000 1/10</small>			

6	+	1	2	Beecher ticket agt. for 5 whole + 2 halves		
"	+	"	"	" tickets to Palouse Wash. 35 ⁰⁰ @ 2.10	2.10	00
"	+	"	"	" Deposits received back from 6/30 - or		
"	+	"	"	" as good fall to secure ³ Beechrs	12.00	
"	+	"	"	J. O. Neuman, 1, Sagel 75. Groceries ⁴⁰		
"	+	"	"	" for 8 th Butter 1.45, Eggs 3 doz 35.	1.90	1.90
"	+	"	"	" for dry goods + Groceries		
"	+	"	"	J. Beecher for No 23493 Certificate of deposit	2.25	
"	+	"	"	" No 23493 Deposits taken out to pay fair	1.50	
"	x	"	5	Neuman for Sagel Straps trunk		40
"	+	"	"	" for 1 trunk		2.50
"	+	"	"	Suffart for Bleish		15
"	+	"	"	Dr Strickler for Receipt		1.00
"	+	"	"	Drugstor Madegim		50
"	+	"	"	J. O. Neuman for 4 doz Egg ¹³⁰ + 5 Butter ¹⁸	1.45	1.45
"	+	7.	6	Peter Pololy for Grose Wand Uhr	3.50	
"	+	7	7	Samson for 1 st Payment on Land	34.00	00
				Per L. P. H. 1		

902	+	7	New Ulm Dip ⁺ Bickle Checked	2 55
	+	"	Samson & Co for \$3400 ⁰⁰ Exchange	2 50
	+	"	Schuyler for Lunch, Pitison Boy for tri ¹⁰ .	45
	+	8	St Paul. 30 ¹⁰ pl. for to sleep on Car ⁴ 12.00	12 10
	+	7	New Ulm for Stamps for 7 Letters	15
	+	7	on the Road, 2 Cop ²⁵ Coffe. & 6 ⁰⁰ cop coffe 85	1 10
	+	"	Belfield. for 2 Lemmon	15
	+	7	Springdale for 9 Cop Coffee for Breakfast	90
	+	"	" for Carrying ⁴ Spoons 10.	10
	+	"	Townsend for 2 Oranges 15.	15
	+	"	Helena P D for Fair. 6 ¹⁰ .	6 10
	+	7	10 Spokane for 9 Cops of Coffee, 75. & 1/2 Gall ⁵⁰ Caf.	1 25
	+	"	" for Cherries & Prunes 15.	15
	+	"	Palouse at Elmo Hotel for 9 Meals 25@	2 00
	+	"	" Hauling Package to house, 1 qt jelly ²⁵ , 1 ³⁰ Butter ⁵	80
	+	7	11 Palouse. Fryday. 1 qt milk, 1 Gall ²⁵ Coffee, 1 ²⁵ Coffe Can	35
	+	"	" Pen & Penholder 10, 1 qt ²⁵ milk, Paper ⁰⁰ Pail, 1 qt ⁵ Milk	90
	+	"	" for ¹⁰ esser	10



John Abbl farm approximately two miles west of Palouse on the Palouse-Colfax road. The small barn to the left of the “privy” and the small ice house to its right still stand.

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE PALOUSE COUNTRY



EASTERN WASHINGTON
AND NORTHERN IDAHO

—Photo courtesy Joe Ashlock

40,000 copies of this 40-page booklet, along with many others like it, were prepared by the railroads and distributed by the small town businessmen around 1910. The purpose was to attract settlers. There were thousands of letters of response, of which your editor has many originals. This booklet (10" x 7") has been recently photo copied and reprinted by the Rosalia *Citizen-Journal*.

Poignant Letters From Home

Bluffdale Green Co Ills 1861 Febr the 18th

“ . . . I hope this will find you all injoying good health & sperrits & great prosperity & getting reddy to come back to the states again—Mother ses that she (n) ever expects to lay eyes on any of you again she thinks it is verry bad that you all are alive & are placed so fare aparte that we cant never see each other it is know 10 years already past since we last saw each other Dear sister Brother it is a grate triel for me to rite I cant keep from shedding tears when I have to rite to a fare distant Land to my Dear relatives in stide of having them near by I hope by kind mercies of our Heavenly Father that we may be spaired to meet on earth & that before long may meet again . . .

I remain your sister untill Death E A Mays for us all

(To William R. Davis)”

Millville, Ray Co. Mo.

January 22th 1854

“My deare children Willem & Mary Jane Davis

I received yours of November and with what teares of joy you can only amagon we had not heard a word from you since you wrote on the plaines the first of June your last address and we did not know what to think we rote to Salem and so did (illegible) according to youre Request and giting no answser I had concluded something disasterous had Befalan yo But Mary while I Right & while I Rede the tears of joy and sorrow are Mixt and with the profoundst thanks to our devine father I can lift my heart in thanks for youre escape of death and May his almighty love and sperit abide yo evermore I am so gratified to heare from yo I doo not know how to Right the Expressions of my hart to god . . .

As ever your father and mother
Richard S. Humphrey & Jane”

Bluffdale Green Co Ills 1860 Aug the 5th

“Dear friend’s I hope this finds you all well, we rec letter some 3 weaks ago from you which gave us good satisfaction to hear from you & was very sorry to hear your sisters Death I thought you all went to that helthy county for healthe but I think it is as bad thaire as heare I hope william will come back wher you all can see Mother as she ses she has Lived Long without all & she thinks it is your duty to come so know pleas make no delay if you can come you can Make a living as well here as any wher & perhaps sisters health will improve.

to Wm & Mary Davis from Eley Ann Mays”

Alton (Ill.) June 14th 1851

“ . . . Dear Brother and sister

I once more am spared to lift my pen & I hope it wont be the last time. I am so closely confined with my baby that it is impossible for me to rite. she is one of the worrisomest babys you ever saw that is the reason I have not sent this sooner—her name is Mary—after the only sister I have living I often kiss her & think of you & think how hard it is to call the names so often & never can it be my lot to see you again & sister let us live in life that we may be able to meet where parting is no more . . .

Yours untill Death E A Mays”

(to William R. Davis)

Pine City W. T.

th
Aug 27. 1880

John W. Edwards

Deare sire your Recievd
y. estrida was glad to here from
home and to here that you was
giting along so well with the har
vest I think you had beter sell
all the wheat and oats if you cant
git more than 75 cts for wheat and
35 for oats rather than leave it un
sold as far the Binder I dont wa
that I want any Binder for a few
years and maby never so try to sell
or traid the old one and if you can
doe eather try and git shelter for
it till another year but if you can
git 50 dollars for the binder cash
down or a 2 year old filley warth
60 or 70 dollars take it and try
and make some turn withe the

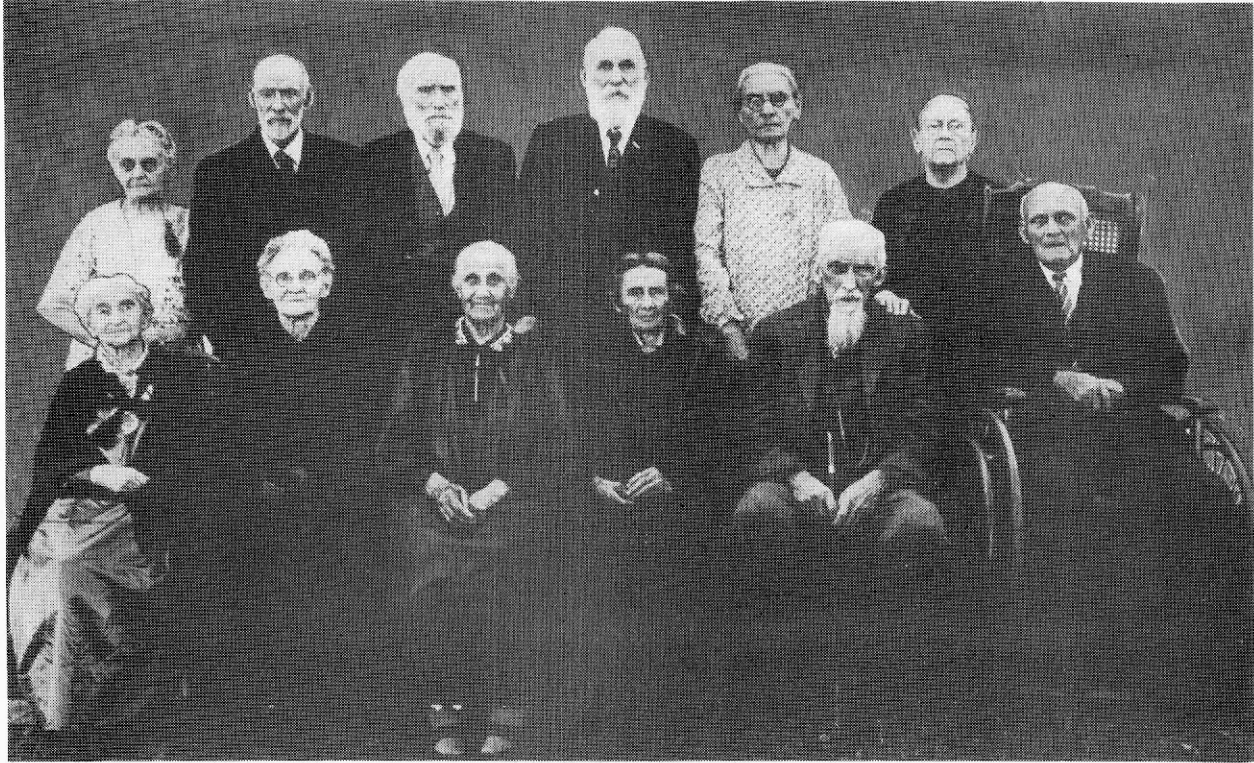
Wagon rather trade for a liter
wagon that aint run two
long rather give 50 dollars to boot
and get a good medium sized wagon
but if you do sell or trade it for a
horse best then go to portland or
wait till you are ready to start
and buy a new wagon most of peop
le use the wide track her but the narrow
will doe dont try to bring any fur
niture it will cost more then it is
worth sell it trade it or leave it
what you doe bring Box it up close
dont get a box so large you cant fill
it chuckfull 100 pounds in a trunk
dont cost any more than if it was
empty Each passenger is aloud 50
pounds of baggage and I wood make
it to the pound you can take the
sowing machine a part and pack
it in a Box of bedding and it wont
make much bulk that way also
many other things too tedious to
mention

doe what you please withe the
stove it wout pay to bring it
Bring my halchet Brand ax and trowel
2 Iron wedges and wall Kings if you
hav them also Branding Iron
it woud bea well if you can git a cup
ful of shugar cags full of dried apples
prest in tite and headd a cag of shugar
wout bea amiss hav every thing mar
ket distinctly let each one that has a
trunk put all thear close in it then
tack a card on it then the main out that
when you git to the Dalls take the
main Road to willow Creek then take
the left hand Road to Pendalton
leav hepuer to the Rite then from Pendal
ton to Walla Walla then Waits burg
then Texas ferry on Snake River then
Pine City on the Spokane Road.
it woud bea beter if your mother and
the girls woud wait 2 weeks after you
start withe the team and come up on
the boat to Texas ferry then you.

wood git there a day or 2 a
head of them and you boys
could hav your horses on this
side of Snake River on grass and
lay by till they come up on the
Bart if they wish to come that
way they can doe on 2 meals a day
and hav some pies or cakes for a lunch
and hire one room to sleep in the
hole thing wood cost them a little ova
20 dollars a piece

now the main thing is to
keep your eyes open and go slow
bea careful in making changes
and dont Rush in to dainger you
could far hav every thing to its propa
place and keep them so

if you could sell one of the hors
es and traide the other for a good
gentled mare to work withe white
stocking it wood bea betw and
one hide old well and watch the
colts this from A. Edwards To
family



—Photo courtesy Fannie Ross

These pioneers helped to settle the Palouse. Standing (l. to r.) Mrs. Mary Smith (82), H. C. Jordan (86), H. C. Harlow (91), R. A. Truax (91), Mrs. Susan Laws (80), Mrs. Sarah Fish (82). Seated: (l. to r.) Sophia McNair (90), Mrs. H. C. Jordan (82), Mrs. Catherine Lewis (81), Mrs. Rebecca Martin (84), Moses R. Fish (82), Charles M. Pears (86), Total ages, 1017 years. Picture taken at Farmington June 22, 1930.