

Abner Allen

Pioneer of 1852

compiled by Stephenie Flora
oregonpioneers.com

Abner Allen

b. 06 Jun 1799 Franklin Co, NC
d. 20 Feb 1888 Silverton, Marion Co, OR
buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

m1. 1826 TN

Susan Akin
b. c1800
d. 15 Jun 1852 on upper crossing of Sweetwater of mountain fever

m2. Sep 1855 Marion Co, OR

Julia Ann (Crawford) Watson (Mrs. Ralph Watson)
b. 1815
d. bef 1870??

1850: Town 3s3w, Pike Co, IL; Abner Allen, 57, farmer, \$1000, NC; Susanna, 44, IA; Sarah F., 16, IL; Ira, 14, IL; Hannah A., 12, IL; Mary, 9, IL; Phelar McLee(?), 16, laborer, ?; Henry Allen, 22, farmer, IA

ODLC: #3077 Marion; Abner Allen; b. 1799 Franklin Co, NC; arr 19 Aug 1852; sc 01 Jan 1854; m'd Julia A. 1856 Marion Co, OR; doc states (1st) wife died at the upper crossing of the Sweetwater River 15 Jun 1852 but does not give her name

1852: Abner Allen's wife of Pike Co, IL died on plains on way to Pacific Coast [Oregon Statesman: Dec 18, 1852 p.1:5]

1853: Marion Co, Census, Abner Allen, Provisional and Territorial Record #5287

1854: Marion Co, Tax Roll, Abner Allen, Provisional and Territorial Record #12277A

1855: Sep--Abner Allen m'd to Mrs. Watson at Salem; all of Marion Co [Oregon Statesman: Sep 8, 1855 p.3:1]

1854: Marion Co, Tax Roll, Abner Allen, Provisional and Territorial Record #12277C

1857: (adv) admin of estate of R. Watson [Oregon Statesman: April 21-May 12, 1857]

1854: Marion Co, Tax Roll, Abner Allen, Provisional and Territorial Record #12277D

1860: South Salem, Marion Co, OR; J.A. Allen, 43, \$1500 \$4000, VA; A.S. Watson, 9, f, MO; A. Allen, 58, farmer, \$1000 \$10,000, Unk; J.J. Beebe, 32, printer, \$0 \$2000, NY; A.B. Beebe, 21, f, KY [interesting to note that Julia is listed first, followed by her daughter by her first marriage and then Abner Allen]

1865: Marion Co, Census, Abner Allen, Marion County p002

1870: Silverton, Marion Co, OR; Ai Coolidge, 47, trader, \$7000 \$15,000, OH; Sarah F., 36, IL; Eva, 13, OR; Alfred, 11, OR; Ai, 10, OR; May, 6, OR; Abner, 69, farmer, \$0 \$8000, NC; Arnold Myers, 29, carpenter, \$2800 \$3822, Eng

1880: Marion Co Census; Ai Coolidge, 57, retired merchant, OH Mass VT; Sarah F., 46, wife, IL; Alfred, 21, son, attending school, OR; Eva, 23, at home, OR; Ai, 19, son, at home, OR; May, 15, at home, OR; Abner Allen, 81, father in law, age 81; at home, OR (sic NC)

Desc: Lee Paterson at lpaterso@rosenet.net; wagon train departed from MO on 11 Apr 1852 and arrived in OR 11 Aug 1852; Susan Aiken died enroute at the crossing of the Sweetwater where she is buried

Abner Allen, b. NC; m'd 1826 Susan Akin, wife died of spotted mountain fever on trail; traveled Barlow Road and arrived at Silverton Aug 27, 1852; children: Henry + wife, Caroline + husband, Ira, Frances, Mary, and Hannah [Reflections of Oregon Pioneer Families, published by Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers 1994; p.2.]

PBio: p.551-52 bio of son, Henry Allen states Abner Allen was born c1802 NC and died 1891. He married Susan Aiken (Susan died on trail) and was the father of 2 sons and 4 daus.

“Allen—At Silverton, Monday, February 20, 1888, of general paralysis, Abner Allen, aged nearly 90 years. The funeral exercises were conducted from the residence of Ai Coolidge, son-in-law of the deceased, by Rev. T.H. Small, and Rev. R.C. Ramsby, and the remains were followed to the Silverton cemetery by a large concourse of friends.

The deceased came to Oregon about thirty-eight years ago, and was widely known and respected. Two sons and two daughters survive him. They are Henry Allen, Mrs. Ai Coolidge, and Mrs. T.R. Blackerby, of Silverton and Ira Allen, of Linn county.” [Daily Oregon Statesman Feb 23, 1888 3:3]

“Abner Allen died at his home Monday, Feb. 20, 1888, at the age of 88. Interment was at Silverton cemetery. Abner Allen was born in North Carolina, June 6, 1799 and when quite young moved to Tennessee. In 1830 he became a resident of Illinois, locating at Perry, where he carried on general farming on 240 acres of government land he had purchased. In 1852, he made his way with his family across the plains to Oregon. he located three miles south of Silverton, securing a donation land claim of 80 acres and engaged in stock business. he also had money which he loaned at interest.

Throughout his life he was energetic and untiring in his labor and was a success.

In early manhood he married Susan Aiken, who was born in North Carolina and died of mountain fever while they were crossing the plains in 1852. Six children were born to this couple, two sons and four daughters.” [Silverton Appeal Feb 23, 1888]

Children of Abner Allen and Susan Akin:

1. Henry Allen (Pioneer of 1849 and 1852)

b. 06 Jun 1828 TN [Silverton Appeal, August 14, 1908 1:1-2]

b. 21 Jul 1828 [Centennial History of Oregon Vol iii p.167]

b. Dec 1827 TN [Portrait and Biographical Record of the Willamette Valley p.872-875]

b. 01 Jun 1825 [Portrait and Biographical Record of the Willamette Valley p.551-552]

d. 07 Aug 1908 Silverton, Marion Co, OR

m. 14 Feb 1852 Pike Co, IL

Frances Elmira Rockwood (Pioneer of 1852)

b. 21 Feb 1834 Pike Co, IL

d. 14 Jul 1916 Silverton, Marion Co, OR

d/o Roderick Rockwood

1850: Town 3s3w, Pike Co, IL; Abner Allen, 57, farmer, \$1000, NC; Susanna, 44, IA; Sarah F., 16, IL; Ira, 14, IL; Hannah A., 12, IL; Mary, 9, IL; Phelar McLee(?), 16, laborer, ?; Henry Allen, 22, farmer, IA

File: Allen; "Crossed Plains Twice and Settled on Farm in Marion County in Fall of 1852

Reflections of Oregon Pioneer Families, published by Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers 1994; p.2. Abner Allen, b. NC; m'd 1826 Susan Akin, wife died of spotted mountain fever on trail; traveled Barlow Road and arrived at Silverton Aug 27, 1852; children (Henry+wife Caroline, Ira, Frances, Mary, Hannah)

Centennial History of Oregon Vol III p167; bio of Roderick D. Allen, s/o Henry and Frances (Rockwood) Allen; Harvey L., deceased; Henry b. 21 Jul 1828 and d. 1908; 1849 to CA and 1852 to OR

PBio: p.872-875 Henry Allen b. Dec 1827 TN; m'd Frances Rockwood; father of Timothy Darius Allen, b. 21 Feb 1854 (Geneva Wolford): R.D., H.L., Allie (L.F. Mascher) and Adelle



HENRY ALLEN. No state can boast of a more heroic band of pioneers than Oregon. They were not adventurers and mere fortune seekers who came to the northwest, but men and women who desired to establish homes here and to provide for their families by taking advantage of the natural conditions of the country, and while promoting their individual success also do the best they could for the communities in which they resided and for the commonwealth. Mr. Allen became one of the early settlers of Oregon and is now living retired in Silverton amid a host of warm friends gained through a genial manner and social disposition. His residence in the state covers more than a half century, for he arrived in Oregon in 1852.

A native of Tennessee, Mr. Allen was born June 1, 1825. His father, Abner Allen, was born in North Carolina and when quite young removed to Tennessee, and in 1830 became a resident of Illinois, locating at Perry, Pike county, where he purchased two hundred and forty acres of land from the government. There he carried on general farming until 1852, when he made his way across the plains with ox-teams to California, spending four months on the long journey. He located three miles south of what is now Silverton, Ore., securing a donation claim of eighty acres, and engaged in the stock business. He also had money which he loaned and thus he added to his income. During the latter part of his life he engaged in travel to a large extent, spending about half of his time in California, as he believed the climate of that state was more beneficial to his health. He died, however, at his home in Silverton in 1891, at the advanced age of eighty-nine years. Well and worthily did he win the proud American title of a self-made man. Throughout his entire life he was energetic and untiring in his labors and thus won success. Without any extraordinary family or pecuniary advantages to aid him at the outset of his career, he started out to make his own way in the world and his capable control of his business opportunities enabled him to gradually advance until he was the possessor of a handsome competence. In early manhood he wedded Susan Aiken, who was born in North Carolina and died of mountain fever on the Sweetwater river while they were crossing the plains in 1852.

Henry Allen is the eldest of the six children, two sons and four daughters, of this worthy couple. His educational privileges were extremely limited. He attended school for only about three months in his life, for, as he lived in pioneer districts, school privileges were not easily obtained. He was twenty-one years of age when, in 1849, he left the Mississippi valley and with an ox team started for the Pacific coast. By that slow method of travel he proceeded by way of the Platte river and the Oregon route, crossing long stretches of land where nothing but sage brush grew and at other times forcing his way over the mountains where there was almost no trail. At length, however, he reached the mining districts of California, and for two years was engaged in searching for the precious metal, being moderately successful in his work. He then invested his money in a pack train, which he purchased for \$4,000, and started from Trinity county to Shasta county, Cal, carrying with him all kinds of provisions and tools. On the Trinity river, however, Indians came upon the camp at supper time and took from him nearly everything that he possessed, and then killed his mules. After he had recovered somewhat from his losses he returned to Illinois in 1851. The following year, accompanied by his father and his family, he once more made the long and difficult journey overland to the Pacific coast. While in Illinois he had married and was accompanied by his bride on the second journey, which was terminated on the 2d of September. They located near Silverton, where Mr. Allen purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land; and as the years have passed he has added to this until he now owns a valuable farm of five hundred acres all under cultivation. This property is now rented and he is living retired in Silverton, where he has purchased a cottage on Water street. For three years, from 1895 to 1898, he was engaged in the cattle business in the Des Chutes valley, in Crook county, where he owned one hundred and sixty acres.

In Pike county, Ill., February 14, 1852, Mr. Allen was married to Miss Frances Rockwood, who was born in that state, a daughter of Roderick Rockwood, who was born in Paris, France, and was brought to New York state by his parents at the age of three years. At an early day Mr. Rockwood went to Illinois, settling first in Brown county and afterward in Pike county. Throughout his entire life he followed blacksmithing. In 1866 he removed to Kansas, where he died when about eighty years of age. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Allen have been born three sons and two daughters, namely: Timothy D., who is engaged in the operation of his father's farm; Roderick D., who is a clerk in the insane asylum at Salem, Ore.; Harvey L., who is now an undertaker at Lewiston, Idaho; Alwilda Josephine, the wife of L. F. Mascher, a farmer and hop producer of Marion county; and Adell Gertrude, at home.

Mr. Allen votes with the Republican party, and has served as road supervisor for four terms, while for ten years he has been a school director. That he has lived peaceably with all men is shown by the fact that he has never been engaged in a law-suit. He has never had a fight nor a fire, has paid his debts promptly, has fulfilled other obligations and has been true to every trust reposed in him. Such a life record is well worthy of emulation, and with pleasure we present his history to the readers of this volume. . [Portrait and Biographical Record of the Willamette Valley p.551-552]

“Silverton Pioneer—Henry Allen, A Pioneer Citizen, Passes Away After Illness of Long Duration—Crossed the Plains For California In 1849 and Settled Near Silverton in 1853—Funeral Held Sunday—After an illness of several months Henry Allen departed from this earth Friday evening at 4:00 o’clock. During his long illness he had been patient and of little care to his relatives and friends who have tenderly watched over him. Twenty-eight days prior to his death he lived without a particle of nourishment and during this time his death was looked for almost momentarily. he was conscious, however, until a few hours before the end came.

Mr. Allen was well known at Silverton and vicinity and held in high esteem by all.

Henry Allen was born in Tennessee June 6, 1828, and moved with his parents to Pike county, Illinois in 1830, where his father, Abner Allen, engaged in farming. During the gold excitement of 1849 at the age of 21 years, he joined with a party of young men and crossed the plains to California where for some time he engaged in searching for the precious metal. Being moderately successful in this work he invested his money in a pack train, which he purchased for \$4000.00, and started from what was then known as the Trinity district to Shasta county, carrying with him all kinds of provisions and tools. On

the Trinity river Indians surprised his camp at supper time and took from him his entire possessions, killing all his mules. He then went into the rich placer mines now known as French Gulch, where he soon regained his losses and returned to his home in Illinois late in 1851 by way of Lake Nicaragua and New Orleans.

On February 14, 1852, he was married to Miss Frances Elmira Rockwood, daughter of Roderick Rockwood, also a pioneer settler of Pike county, Illinois. Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Allen joined with his father's family and crossed the plains with ox teams, arriving at Salem, Oregon, late in October, 1852, where they lived until early in 1853, when they moved on a farm in the Waldo Hills near Silverton. In 1866 Mr. Allen purchased and moved onto the Pitman Donation Land Claim three miles south of Silverton, where he resided with his family and engaged in farming until 1902, when he rented his farm and purchased a home in Silverton where he resided with his wife and daughter, Della, until his death.

Mr. Allen is survived by his widow, Mrs. Frances E. Allen, three sons and two daughters, viz: Timothy D. Allen of Silverton, Ore.; Roderick D. Allen, present county clerk, Salem, Oregon and Harvey L. Allen of Missoula, Mont.; Mrs. L.F. Mascher and Della Allen of Silverton, Oregon.

In religious matters Mr. Allen was a Free Thinker—never dogmatic but zealous in advocating the principles of tolerance and respect for the view of others. He believed that deed and not creeds were the standards by which all should be measured. In politics Mr. Allen has always been an ardent republican.

Mr. Allen is survived by only two members of his father's family, viz: His sister Mrs. Frances Coolidge of Silverton, Ore., and his sister, Mrs. Mary Blackerby, widow of T.R. Blackerby, deceased, of Silverton, who died some months ago.

His mother died in the Rocky Mountains while enroute to Oregon in 1852. His father, Abner Allen, died in 1891, at the advanced age of eighty-nine years.

The funeral, held in the M.E. church Sunday afternoon, was largely attended. Rev. Paul Bandy, pastor of the Salem Unitarian church, delivered the address and Rev. R.C. Ramsby, a pioneer minister of Oregon and for years a friend of deceased, made a few well chosen remarks at the close of the address. There was a beautiful floral display at the church and at the grave, given as tokens of esteem by the many friends of the deceased. Interment was made in the Silverton cemetery and a long procession of relatives and friends followed the remains of the pioneer citizen to his last resting place." [Silverton Appeal, August 14, 1908 1:1-2]

Children of Henry Allen and Frances Rockwood:

i. Timothy Darius Allen

b. 21 Feb 1854 Silverton, Marion Co, OR

d. 22 Apr 1932 Marion Co, OR

buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

m. 04 Jan 1881 at Chemeketa Hotel, Salem, Marion Co, OR

[Marion County Marriage Records Vol iv by Wade and Custer, p.14]

Geneva A. Wolford

b. 1857

d. 20 Jan 1919 Marion Co, OR

buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

Children of Timothy Allen and Geneva Wolford:

i-1. Reber Glenn Allen (1882-1964)

i-2. Lowell Clay Allen (1884-1963)

i-3. Floyd W. Allen (1889-1940)

i-4. Wynola Allen (1891-1961)

i-5. Dewey R. Allen (1897-1990)

i-6. Faye A. Allen (1901-)

ii. Roderick Dana Allen
b. 25 Mar 1855 Silverton, Marion Co, OR
d. 02 Jan 1913 Silverton, Marion Co, OR
buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

m. 04 Jan 1881 at Chemeketa Hotel, Salem, Marion Co, OR
[Marion County Marriage Records Vol iv by Wade and Custer, p.14]

Harriet Naomi Knight
b. 21 Jun 1865 Michigan
d. 13 May 1924 Marion Co, OR
buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR
d/o Daniel Knight and Elmira Weed

Children of Roderick Allen and Harriet Knight:

ii-1. Virgil Roderick Allen (1883-1924)
ii-2. Dana H. Allen (1885-1947)
ii-3. Bertha Louise Allen (1888-)

iii. Alwilda "Allie" Josephine Allen
b. 1858 Silverton, Marion Co, OR
d. 1923
buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

m. 07 Jun 1875 at Chemeketa Hotel, Salem, Marion Co, OR
[Marion County Marriage Records Vol III by Wade and Custer, p.7]

Lawrence Frederick Mascher
b. Dec 1850 Marion Co, OR
d. 12 Sep 1934 Marion Co, OR
s/o Christ Frederick Mascher and Sarah Eisenhart
buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

Children of Lawrence Mascher and Alwilda Allen:

iv-1. Lillian Mae Mascher (1879-1967)
iv-2. Minnie Mascher (1887-1972)

iv. Adella Gertrude Allen
b. Jun 1859 Marion Co, OR
d.

m.
Thomas W. McGrath
b.
d. 26 Mar 1922 Marion Co, OR [Marion Co DC #260]

1913: Salem City Directory, Thomas W. and Adell G. McGrath

1915: Salem City Directory, Thomas W. and Adell G. McGrath

1930: Silverton, Marion Co, OR, April 8, 1930; Adell G. McGrath, head, 70, wd, m-52yrs, OR
TN IL

1932: Salem City Directory, Adell G. McGrath

1934: Salem City Directory, Adell G. McGrath

v. Harvey L. Allen
b. May 1865 Silverton, Marion Co, OR
d. c1911WA
buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

m.
Mary C. []
b. 1872
d. 1948
buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

2. Caroline Allen

b. 1830 IL
d. 12 Dec 1868
buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

m. 26/27 Aug 1846 IL

Spencer Dudley (Pioneer of 1852)
b. 1823 TN
d. 05 Feb 1900 Marion Co, OR
buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

1850: Pike Co, IL, Sep 19, 1850; Spencer Dudley, 27, farmer, \$1500, TN; Caroline, 20, IL; Marshall, 2,
IL; Melissa, 1, IL

1860: Silverton, Marion Co, OR, July 1, 1860; S. Dudley, 36, farmer, \$1500 \$1200, TN; C., 30, TN; M.,
13, IL; Melissa, 11, IL; H., 9, f, IL; S., 6, f, OR; E., 3, m, OR; Olives, 9/12, f, OR

1870: Silverton, Marion Co, OR, August 4, 1870; Spencer Dudley, 46, cooper, \$800 \$150, TN; Susan,
17, OR; Eugene, 14, at school, OR

Children of Spencer Dudley and Caroline Allen:

i. Marshall Dudley
b. 1848 IL
d.

ii. Melissa Dudley
b. 1849 IL
d.

m. 13 Oct 1867 at house of A.B. Florence
[Marion County Marriage Records Vol I by Wade and Custer, p.65]

J. L. Rodgers

b.

d.

iii. Harriet Dudley

b. 28 Jan 1851 IL

d. 19 Jan 1871 or 13 Jan 1871 age 19y11m22d

buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

m. 03 Jul 1870 at house of & by T.H. Small

[Marion County Marriage Records Vol I by Wade and Custer, p.83]

James Madison Brown

b. 1844

d. 1922

buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

s/o James Brown and Lucinda Davis

m2. Edna Jane Eastham

iv. Susan Dudley

b. 1854 OR

d.

m. 09 Jul 1879 at house of L.J. Whitcomb

[Marion County Marriage Records Vol III by Wade and Custer, p.50]

William R. Dunbar

b.

d.

v. Eugene Dudley

b. 1857 OR

d.

vi. Olive Dudley

b. 1859

d. 18 Dec 1864

buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

3. Sarah Frances Allen

b. 20 Sep 1833 Pike Co, IL

d. 01/30 Apr 1910 Silverton, Marion Co, OR

buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

m. 13 Apr 1854 Silverton, Marion Co, OR

[Marion County Marriage Records Vol I by Wade and Custer, p.6]

Ai Coolidge

b. 15 Feb 1823 Union Co, OH

d. 13 Jul 1908 Silverton, Marion Co, OR

buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

Covered Wagon Women Vol 3: p.111 Susan Amelia Cranston Diary: Thursday, June 19th Came to Independence rock where we all encamped but the Drs folks (Benjamin Davenport family) and Coolages (Ai Coolidge family), who thought they would be independent and drive by themselves.

History of the Silverton Country: p.94-95; Sarah Allen m1. Ai Coolidge;"m2. Fielding McClaine (error)"

1850: Town 3s3w, Pike Co, IL; Abner Allen, 57, farmer, \$1000, NC; Susanna, 44, IA; Sarah F., 16, IL; Ira, 14, IL; Hannah A., 12, IL; Mary, 9, IL; Phelar McLee(?), 16, laborer, ?; Henry Allen, 22, farmer, IA

1860: Silverton, Marion Co, OR; A.J. Coolidge, 37, merchant, \$2100 \$10,000, OH; Frances, 23, IL; F.E., 3, OR; A., 1, OR; M.E. Allen, 16, IL

1870: Silverton, Marion Co, OR; Ai Coolidge, 47, trader, \$7000 \$15,000, OH; Sarah F., 36, IL; Eva, 13, OR; Alfred, 11, OR; Ai, 10, OR; May, 6, OR; Abner, 69, farmer, \$0 \$8000, NC; Arnold Myers, 29, carpenter, \$2800 \$3822, Eng

1880: Marion Co Census; Ai Coolidge, 57, retired merchant, OH Mass VT; Sarah F., 46, wife, IL; Alfred, 21, son, attending school, OR; Eva, 23, at home, OR; Ai, 19, son, at home, OR; May, 15, at home, OR; Abner Allen, 81, father in law, age 81; at home, OR (sic NC)

1910: Marion Co Census; Francis Coolidge, age 76; b. IL; Silverton Pct; dau Eva listed as living with her

DEATH CLAIMS ONE OF SILVERTON'S GRAND OLD LADIES.

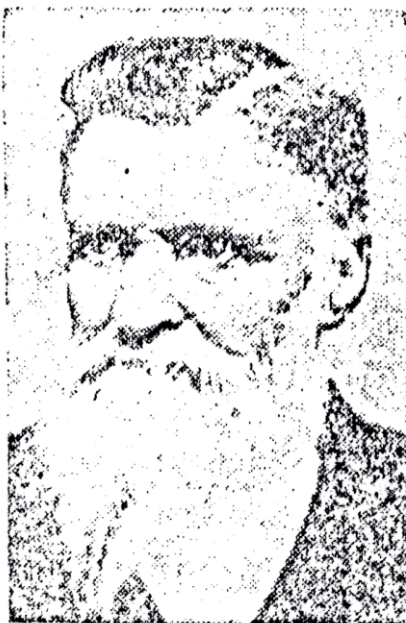
Mrs. Al Coolidge died at her home in this city Saturday morning, April 30, after an illness of several weeks duration. During the entire time of her affliction she bore her suffering with the same calm, sweet spirit which had distinguished her as a desirable companion—one whose wise counsel and comforting words were a welcome solace in times of deepest sorrow and adversity.

For a great many years Mrs. Coolidge has made her home in Silverton and was always a leading spirit in charitable undertakings, though never actuated by selfish motives. Patient, kind, and generous to a fault, to know her was but to love her. Her circle of friends was limited only by her acquaintances.

Sarah Frances Allen was born in Illinois September 20, 1833. In 1853 she crossed the plains with her parents and located near Silverton. On April 13, 1854 she was married to Al Coolidge. To this union were born six children, two of whom are still living, Miss Eva Coolidge of this city and Alfred Coolidge of Spokane.

Her early womanhood was spent in doing good for others and in caring for her family. How well she succeeded in her mission can best be told by those who knew her best. Truly many deeds of charity will be found to her credit at the great and final reckoning.

OREGON PIONEER AND SILVERTON BANKER.



The Late Al Coolidge.

SILVERTON, Or., July 14.—(Special.)—Al Coolidge, a pioneer of Oregon and president of the Coolidge & McCallum bank in this city, died at his home here last evening.

More than half a century has passed since Mr. Coolidge arrived in Silverton, and until a few weeks prior to his death he had been very active in the business development of this community. He owned large tracts of valuable farming land in this vicinity and possessed large holdings in city property.

Mr. Coolidge was born in Union County, Ohio, February 15, 1823. In 1844 he started the manufacture of brick in his native state. He moved to Wisconsin the following year, where he remained until 1846, when he returned to Ohio, and continued to reside there until 1851, when the opportunities of the Northwest became known to him and he came to Oregon, locating near where Silverton now is. Subsequently he took up a donation land claim of 160 acres and erected a house. Some of this land he owned at the time of his death.

Later he embarked in the general merchandising business at a place then known as Milford, which in 1855 was superseded by Silverton, and Mr. Coolidge moved his buildings and store to Silverton, a distance of nearly two miles, where he had since resided.

He married Sarah S. Allen, a native of Illinois, who came here with her parents in 1852, a short time after his arrival in Oregon, and she, with two children, Miss Eva and Alfred, survive him.

Desc: Lee Paterson at lpaterso@rosenet.net; Sarah Allen Coolidge d. 01 Apr 1910

Reflections of Oregon Pioneer Families, published by Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers 1994; p.2. Abner Allen, b. NC; m'd 1826 Susan Akin, wife died of spotted mountain fever on trail; traveled Barlow Road and arrived at Silverton Aug 27, 1852; children (Henry+wife Caroline, Ira, Frances, Mary, Hannah, Caroline)

Children of Ai Coolidge and Sarah Allen:

i. Dollie Coolidge

b. 16 Jan 1855 Silverton, Marion Co, OR

d. 08 Oct 1855 Silverton, Marion Co, OR

buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

ii. Eva Coolidge

b. 22 Aug 1856 Silverton, Marion Co, OR

d. 28 Feb 1919 OR

buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

m. Never married

Death Due to Hemorrhage of the Brain While Attending Show.

July 23 1919

Miss Eva Coolidge, one of Silverton's early pioneer women, died suddenly at her home on West Main street, at five o'clock Friday morning, after an illness lasting only a few hours. The evening before, Miss Coolidge was a guest at the home of her life long friend, Mrs. F. E. Wray, and seemed to be in the highest of spirits. About nine o'clock the party decided to attend the Gem theatre for the second show. In company with Mrs. Wray and Mr. Shay, Miss Coolidge left for the show house. When the party entered the lobby of the theatre and while Mr. Shay was purchasing the tickets, Miss Coolidge was stricken with hemorrhage of the brain. Before it was possible to get her to her home she became unconscious and never regained her mind until death came. It is said of the deceased that during her entire life until her last and fatal illness she had never required the services of a physician.

Miss Coolidge was born in this city August 22, 1876, and aside from the time she was away at school and minor trips always made her home here.

She enjoyed the distinction of being the only woman president of a bank in the state of Oregon, a position she held with the Coolidge and McClaine bank with credit to herself and the institution. Miss Coolidge was a quiet, unassuming woman, never making any display of her charitable acts with the money at her command, although she was an active worker with the Misspah Circle here, a body of ladies who have been instrumental in caring for needy people as they appeared. Her presence from our midst will be missed greatly.

Funeral services were held from her beautiful home on Main street Sunday afternoon, attended by a large number of friends and relatives. Rev. J. A. Bennett was the officiating minister. A mixed quartet composed of Mesdames S. E. Richardson and Gordon McCall, Messrs. C. R. Slade and R. A. Booth sang three beautiful selections. Mr. Slade also sang a solo, accompanied by Mrs. Gertrude Smith on the piano and Mrs. Swanson on the violin.

The pall-bearers were J. H. Riches, G. D. Bowen, A. F. Blackerby, E. S. Porter, Ed. R. Adams and F. E. Wray.

The flowers were many and beautiful. The remains were laid to rest in the Silverton cemetery in the family plot.

- iii. Alfred Coolidge
- b. 1857 Silverton, Marion Co, OR
- d. 27 Jul 1930 Liberty Lake, WA

m. 28 May 1883 at house of C.W. Scriber
[Marion County Marriage Records Vol IV by Wade and Custer, p.41]

- Emma Scribner
- b.
- d.

PROMINENT FORMER SILVERTONIAN IS CALLED BEYOND

Alfred Coolidge, aged 73 years, died last Sunday afternoon following a paralytic stroke. It is understood that he had not been ill, and his passing, which, as is indicated, came suddenly and unexpectedly, was a great shock to relatives and friends. His death occurred at Liberty lake, near Spokane.

Mr. Coolidge, was born in Silverton, a son of Al. Coolidge, one of the pioneers of Silverton, and who with Fielding McClaine, founded the Coolidge-McClaine bank nearly 50 years ago.

Alfred Coolidge and Dolph McClaine, succeeded their fathers in the banking business. Mr. Coolidge left here about 35 years ago for Colfax, where he made his home and, became president of the Colfax National bank, and vice-president of the First Savings & Trust bank of Colfax. He was also first vice president of the Coolidge-McClaine bank.

He was first married to Miss Scriber, who died several years ago. He afterward was married to Mrs. Edith Clark.

Funeral services were held at Colfax Tuesday afternoon and interment was made in the cemetery of that city.

Mr. Coolidge is survived by his wife and two children, Dolph of Colfax, and Mrs. Emma Giesey of Seattle.

iv. Ai "Curly" Coolidge Jr.
b. 20 Jul 1860 Marion Co, OR
d. 11 Nov 1897 Curry Co, OR
buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

m. Never married

Young Coolidge Murdered.

On Thursday Curly Coolidge, son of the Silverton banker, was shot at Chetco, in this state. He was looking after some farm property there, when the distardly deed was committed. A telegram was received by his parents yesterday, but no particulars were given. His funeral will be held at Silverton Monday at 2 o'clock p. m.

B. Smith, who was with young Coolidge, was also wounded in the fray, but not badly.

[Daily Capital Journal, Salem, OR Nov 3, 1897 p4]

Curly Coolidge was shot and killed at Chetco Thursday. The killing was the result of a feud between the Van Pelts and Coolidges in Curry county. Coolidge was shot from ambush.

[The Plaindealer, Roseburg, OR, Nov 18 1897 p3]

Y, NOVEMBER 22, 1897.

CHETCO KILLING.

The Coolidge-Smith Murder.

Further Details From Saturday's
Silverton Appeal.

Ever since the news reached this city of the foul and cowardly murder of Curly Coolidge at Chetco, the people have been anxious to learn the particulars.

The Chetco Harbor, Townsite & Land Co., of which Coolidge & McClaine are the principal members, several years ago purchased from a family by the name of Vanpelt, a large tract of land, including Chetco harbor, a saw mill and fishing interests.

VanPelt, whose wife is an Indian, woman, has a large family. The old man with his seven halfbreed sons and four sons-in-law have been a source of trouble ever since the land was purchased. The VanFelts are a lot of outlaws. Their numerous depredations have terrorized the thinly settled country in which they reside. After selling the land the lawless gang made frequent threats that they would not let any body occupy their old premises.

About five years ago, Al Coolidge, Jr., (better known as 'Curly') went to Chetco to look after the interests of the company. In a short time he opened a store and has had a thriving business.

About three years ago, the company sold to the senior Vanpelt and his two sons, a sawmill, taking their note which became due last spring. As it was not paid, action was brought for the recovery of the money. The mill was sold at sheriff's sale and 'Curly' bought the mill, and was placed in possession of it by the sheriff. The Vanpelt's took the law in their own hands, and by force of

their own hands, and by force of arms compelled Mr. Coolidge to vacate. Mr. Coolidge then sought aid from the sheriff, who ejected the Vanpelts. As soon as the sheriff departed, the Vanpelts again drove Mr. Coolidge off. The aid of the sheriff was again sought, the Vanpelts ejected, and the same was repeated for the third time. Whereupon the sheriff informed Mr. Coolidge that the law allowed him to protect his property even if he had to do so by force of arms.

The Vaupelts also usurped the fishing interests which belonged to Mr. Coolidge, and when a protest was entered, they were up in arms, making it dangerous to eject them.

Some time ago W. R. Smith and his son B. Smith leased all the lands of the company including the fishing interests.

When these parties arrived the Vanpelt gang was very much irritated and more troublesome than ever.

About two or three weeks ago Mr. Coolidge, in order to get any kind of a peaceful settlement of affairs agreed to compromise matters, and all of the citizens were called in to arbitrate the matter.

Everything went on nicely, until the treacherous nature of the Indian could hold no longer. The murderous intentions of the gang of outlaw half-breeds were soon brought into effect.

On Wednesday afternoon of last week, W. R. Smith and "Curly" Coolidge took a team and wagon and drove up the river about a mile to a neighbor's, on some business. They started back about 4 o'clock. About half way back there is a short turn in the road, and on either side is a dense wood. Mr. Smith was driving the team and they were both sitting on a seat in the wagon. Just as the team was making the sharp turn in the road, three shots from Winchester rifles rang out almost simultaneously from the woods. The shooting was done at close range, probably not more than fifty feet, and the aim was sure.

At the report of the guns "Curly"

Coolidge fell forward in the wagon a dead man, one ball piercing his heart and another tearing through his leg.

As Mr. Smith sat directly opposite from Mr. Coolidge, he was more protected. A shot pierced his thigh, but only making a flesh wound.

Mr. Smith leaped from the wagon, got into the brush making his escape.

In his flight Mr. Smith saw the men who did the shooting, and in the warrant the names of Bob. Vanpelt, Cuas Vanpelt and E. E Hughes appear.

After the shooting Mr. Smith ran up the river to a neighbor's.

A party soon arrived at the scene of the shooting and found the team which had gone a short distance and stopped.

The coroner was sent for and the jury was out all night.

The substance of the verdict rendered that "Curly" Coolidge was murdered by Charley Vanpelt, Bob. Vanpelt, and Ed. Hughes, a son-in-law of the senior Vanpelt.

Alfred Coolidge who went from this place arrived at Chetco only about half an hour after the murder of his brother.

The purpose of Alfred Coolidge's visit was to try and persuade "Curly" to leave Chetco, but he got there too late.

The law abiding citizens of the Chetco neighborhood are now thoroughly aroused and the murderous Vanpelt gang will be brought to justice if possible.

[Daily Capital Journal November 22, 1897 p1]

[additional info in Ai Coolidge family 1851]

v. May Barbara Coolidge
b. 05 Feb 1864 Silverton, Marion Co, OR
d. 29 Mar 1899 Silverton, Marion Co, OR
buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

m. 05 Sep 1888 Silverton, Marion Co, OR
Louis .J. Adams
b. 30 Jan 1862 Scioto Co, OH
d. 12 May 1931 Silverton, Marion Co, OR
buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

Children of Louis Adams and Mary Coolidge:

v-1. Edward Coolidge Adams (1889-1889)
v-2. Mabel Barbara Adams (1890-1951)
v-3. Francis Adams (1891-1973)
v-4. Louise Adams (1894-1988)
v-5. Alfred L. Adams (1897-1962)

vi. Lena Coolidge
b. 12 Apr 1876 Silverton, Marion Co, OR
d. 11 Jul 1884 Silverton, Marion Co, OR
buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

m. Never married

4. Ira Allen

b, 1836 IL
d.

m. 29 Jun 1864 at house of Ai Coolidge
[Marion County Marriage Records Vol I by Wade and Custer, p.44]

Amanda Kays

b.
d.

1850: Town 3s3w, Pike Co, IL; Abner Allen, 57, farmer, \$1000, NC; Susanna, 44, IA; Sarah F., 16, IL; Ira, 14, IL; Hannah A., 12, IL; Mary, 9, IL; Phelar McLee(?), 16, laborer, ?; Henry Allen, 22, farmer, IA

1860: Slate Creek, Josephine Co, OR; Elisha Stone, 27, farmer, \$1500 \$2000, MO; Eli McKoin, 26, farmer, \$1500 \$2000, KY; William Cheshire, 22, farm laborer, \$0 \$100 Unk; Ira Allen, 26, farm laborer, \$0 \$0, IL

Oregon Statesman: Dec 25, 1855 p.2:6 Co F Mounted Volunteers, Ira Allen reported severely wounded during Yakima Indian War.

Oregon Statesman: Jan 1, 1856 p. 2:6 Capt. Bennett's company reported wounded in Yakima Indian War

Oregon Statesman: Mar 16, 1863 p. 3:1 Ira Allen of Marion county, member of coroner's jury regarding death of George Myers

Reflections of Oregon Pioneer Families, published by Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers 1994; p.2. Abner Allen, b. NC; m'd 1826 Susan Akin, wife died of spotted mountain fever on trail; traveled Barlow Road and arrived at Silverton Aug 27, 1852; children (Henry+wife Caroline, Ira, Frances, Mary, Hannah)

5. Hannah Allen

b. 1838 IL

d. 19 Mar 1884 Salem, Marion Co, OR

buried Salem Pioneer Cemetery, Salem, Marion Co, OR

m. 29 Apr 1858 Marion Co, OR

[Marion County Marriage Records Vol I by Wade and Custer, p.20]

John Donaldson (Pioneer of 1850)

b. Oct 1823 PA

d. 22 Dec 1904 Salem, Marion Co, OR

buried Salem Pioneer Cemetery, Salem, Marion Co, OR

m2. 16 Dec 1891 Marion Co, OR to Mrs. Eveline (Allen) Smith

1850: Town 3s3w, Pike Co, IL; Abner Allen, 57, farmer, \$1000, NC; Susanna, 44, IA; Sarah F., 16, IL; Ira, 14, IL; Hannah A., 12, IL; Mary, 9, IL; Phelar McLee(?), 16, laborer, ?; Henry Allen, 22, farmer, IA

1860: Salem, Marion Co, OR; J. Donaldson, 35, carpenter, \$4500 \$2200, PA; H., 22, IL; V., 1, m, OR

1880: East Salem, Marion Co, OR; A.J. Donaldson, 52, carpenter, PA PA NY; H.A., 41, wife, dressmaker, IL NC TN; Edith Wren, 18, servant, housework, OR IA _

Note: by 1900 Marion County Census John Donaldson had been married for 9 years to a woman only enumerated as Mrs. John Donaldson

Reflections of Oregon Pioneer Families, published by Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers 1994; p.2. Abner Allen, b. NC; m'd 1826 Susan Akin, wife died of spotted mountain fever on trail; traveled Barlow Road and arrived at Silverton Aug 27, 1852; children (Henry+wife Caroline, Ira, Frances, Mary, Hannah)

At his home on Cottage street, at 4 o'clock, December 22, 1904, of senile decay, John Donaldson, aged about 83 years. Mr. Donaldson was an old pioneer of this state, having come here in 1850 from Pennsylvania, where he was born in 1823.

He was a carpenter and contractor by trade, and built the old frame building which stood just next north of the Statesman building, and which was for many years known as "The House that Jack Built."

Mr. Donaldson leaves a son in California, V. M. Donaldson, at Oakland, and a daughter in Asheville, N.C., Mrs. Edith Brownberger. He married Miss Hannah Allen in 1858, and three children were the result of this marriage. In 1891 he was married to Mrs. Evelyn Smith, who died at the home on Cottage street in this city but a short time ago. The funeral will take place today at 1 o'clock p.m., from the residence, Rev. P. S. Knight conducting the services." [Oregon Statesman December 23, 1904 4:5]

Children of John Donaldson and Hannah Allen:

i. V. M. Donaldson

b.

d.

1904 living in Oakland, CA

ii. Edith Donaldson

b.

d.

m. Mr. Brownberger
1904 living in Asheville, NC

iii. Mabel Donaldson

b. 19 Feb 1874 Marion Co, OR

d. 26 Jun 1877 Marion Co, OR

buried Salem Pioneer Cemetery, Salem, Marion Co, OR

6. Mary Elizabeth Allen

b. 10 Oct 1842/3 Pike Co, IL

d. 27 Oct 1918 Marion Co, OR

buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

m. 04 Mar 1866 Marion Co, OR [Oregon Statesman Mar 12, 1866 p. 3:4]

Thomas Richard Blackerby (Pioneer of 1848)

b. 20 Aug 1836 Pittsfield, IL

d. 25 Feb 1906 Silverton, Marion Co, OR

buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR

s/o Joseph Blackerby and Cassandra Coffey

1850: Town 3s3w, Pike Co, IL; Abner Allen, 57, farmer, \$1000, NC; Susanna, 44, IA; Sarah F., 16, IL; Ira, 14, IL; Hannah A., 12, IL; Mary, 9, IL; Phelar McLee(?), 16, laborer, ?; Henry Allen, 22, farmer, IA

1860: Silverton, Marion Co, OR; A.J. Coolidge, 37, merchant, \$2100 \$10,000, OH; Frances, 23, IL; F.E., 3, OR; A., 1, OR; M.E. Allen, 16, IL

1870: Silverton, Marion Co, OR; T.R. Blackerby, 33, Smithee, \$200 \$2000, IL; Mary E., 25, IL; Grace, 2, OR; Paul, 1, OR

1880: Silverton, Marion Co, OR; T.R. Blackerby, 43, tinsmith, IL; Mary E., 37, wife, IL; Gracie, 11, dau, OR; Paul L., 10, son, OR

1900: Silverton, Marion Co, OR; Thomas R. Blackerby, Aug 1836, 63, m-34, tinsmith, IL VA KY; Mary E., wife, Oct 1842, 57 m-34, 2-2, IL NC TN; Paul L., son, Feb 1869, 31, s, OR, tinsmith; Stella E. Fisher, boarder, May 1875, 25, s, IN PA PA, teacher

1910: Silverton, Marion Co, OR; Mary E. Blackerby, 67, wid, 2-2, IL KY KY

Hubbard Scrapbook: p.15 Mary Blackerby

Book of Remembrance by Steeves: p.175

Reflections of Oregon Pioneer Families, published by Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers 1994; p.2. Abner Allen, b. NC; m'd 1826 Susan Akin, wife died of spotted mountain fever on trail; traveled Barlow Road and arrived at Silverton Aug 27, 1852; children (Henry+wife Caroline, Ira, Frances, Mary, Hannah)

Children of Thomas Blackerby and Mary Allen:

i. Grace Blackerby

b. 1868 Marion Co, OR

d.

m.

W. L. Jones

b.

d.

“Mrs. W. L. Jones is here from Hoquiam, Wash., visiting her mother, Mrs. Mary Blackerby.”
[Daily Capital Journal March 15, 1915]

ii. Paul L. Blackerby

b. Feb 1869 Marion Co, OR

d. 02 Nov 1949 Marion Co, OR

buried Silverton Cemetery, Silverton, Marion Co, OR