

Rev. Alpheus F. W. Wooldridge

Pioneer of 1852/53

compiled by Stephenie Flora  
oregonpioneers.com

Alpheus F. W. Wooldridge

b. 09 Aug 1819 Montgomery County, Tennessee

d. 10 Sep 1890 Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

buried [Missouri Flat Cemetery](#), Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

s/o John Wooldridge and Temperance Vaughn(?)

m. 1849

Marynette Connor

b. c1828 Missouri

d. c1850 Missouri

m2. 18 Apr 1852 Missouri

Emily Jane "Ellen" Hunter

b. 1837 Missouri

d. c1905 Josephine County, Oregon

buried [Missouri Flat Cemetery](#), Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

1850: District 17, Cedar County, Missouri, September 27, 1850, Rasmus Wooldridge, 27, farmer, KY; Tempy, 46, NC; Alpheus, 27, farmer, TN; John, 23, KY; Elmira, 17, KY; Sarah, 15, KY; Drucilla, 3, MO; Drewery, 1, MO

1852: emigrated in 1852 with the Smith Train, wintered over in Salt Lake Valley, Utah and continued on to Oregon in 1853, arriving in June.

1853: Alpheus and his blended family arrived in Oregon 29 June 1853, traveling with a section of the Smith Wagon Train. He was a Baptist Circuit Rider. He first settled in the Willamette Valley, but moved to the Rogue Valley in 1859.

1860: Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon, August 14, 1860; A Wooldridge, 41, farmer, \$1500 \$500, KY; Emily, 23, MO; Druzilla, 13, MO; Mary A., 6, OR; Jas L., 4, OR; M.E., 2, OR; Sarah E., 2/12, OR

1870: Rock Point PO, Jackson County, Oregon, August 17, 1870; Alpheus Wooldrich, 50, farmer, MO; Ellen J., 33, keeping house, MO; Meryette, 16, at home, OR; James L., 14, OR; Minte J., 7, OR; George L., 5, OR; Charity A., 2, OR

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1900: Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon, June 22, 1900; Emily J. Woolridge, head, Sep 1834, 65, wid, 10-7, MO TN TN; George, son, Dec 1866, 33, s, OR TN MO, blacksmith

Children of Alpheus Wooldridge and Marynette Connor:

1. Drusilla Wooldridge

b. 16 Jan 1847 Cedar County, Missouri

d. 17 Jan 1921 Central Point, Jackson County, Oregon  
buried [Grants Pass Masonic Pioneer Cemetery](#), Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon

m. 29 Sep 1861 Jackson County, Oregon

Thomas Mee

b. 22 May 1830 Leicestershire, England

d. 23 Feb 1893 Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon

buried Grants Pass Masonic Pioneer Cemetery, Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon

s/o Richard Mee and Ann Taylor



[The Morning Oregonian, Friday, January 21, 1921 p. 20]

“DEATH OF THOMAS MEE--We are sorry to chronicle this sad death of one of the oldest and most respected pioneers of Jackson County [Oregon], Thomas Mee, who was killed by a runaway team, five miles below Grants Pass on Feb. 20th.

His son Warren was hauling some fire wood when the steam at the saw mill escaped and frightened the horses and they started to run just as Mr. Mee came out of the barn. He ran in front of them and caught hold of the neck yoke, when the horses dragged him about forty or fifty yards. He fell under their feet and the wheels ran over his breast. He received several severe wounds from the horses hoofs, and was so badly bruised that his recovery was very doubtful from the first.

He lived three days and died Feb. 23rd, during which time he never lost consciousness although his suffering was terrible. He told his wife and children that they had always been good to him, and the knowledge that he must soon leave his pleasant home and loved ones made his affliction doubly hard to bear.

The two absent members of the family, Miss Mary, a druggist of Central Point, and Mrs. D.W. Kuntzen [Knutzen] of Applegate, were sent for and arrived on the evening of the accident.

The deceased was born in Loughborough, Leicestershire, England May 22, 1830. He leaves a wife, three daughters and two sons. The funeral was conducted by the Masonic Lodge of Grants Pass, of which the deceased was an honored member.” [findagrave.com]

Children:

i. Mary Ann Mee

b. 1862

d. 1938

**MARY A. MEE.** It is not often that the name of a woman appears in the pages of a history of the commercial and agricultural development of a state, but as the proprietor and manager of one of the thriving business enterprises of Jackson county, as well as an extensive property holder, Miss Mary A. Mee is entitled to such mention. She is a native of this county, her birth occurring on the 11th of July, 1862, and a daughter of Thomas and Drusilla (Wood-ridge) Mee, the father a native of England and the mother of Missouri. Thomas Mee came to the United States in 1843 and for nine years thereafter lived in Chicago. In 1852 he and a friend drove across the plains to Oregon, and settled in the vicinity of Portland. The next year he came to Jackson county, but very soon after that he resumed his journey, going to California. In 1852 he again took up his residence in Jackson county and for a time thereafter engaged in teaching school. Mr. Mee was an able man and always manifested keen discernment and excellent judgment in the direction of his business activities. After his marriage to Miss Woodridge on the 29th of September, 1861, he turned his attention

to ranching and also engaged in the lumber business. He prospered in both and became one of the foremost men of the county by reason of the resourcefulness and general versatility he evidenced in whatever capacity his energies were directed. During the latter years of his life he was associated in business with his sons and they had extensive lumber interests and large mills at Grants Pass, where Mr. Mee was killed in a runaway on the 23d of February, 1893. The mother is still living and continues to make her home on the old ranch in Apple-gate valley. Of the five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Mee four are still living. Fraternally the father was affiliated with the Masonic order.

Miss Mee was reared at home and educated in the public schools. She subsequently qualified herself as a pharmacist with the expectation of pursuing a business career and as she is a woman of clear judgment, practical ideas and the determination of purpose which invariably wins recognition in any field of activity, she has made a success of her undertakings. She is the owner of a fine drug store in Central Point which she is profitably conducting and in addition to this she has acquired several pieces of city property and owns nine thousand shares in a gold mine in California. Miss Mee is held in high regard in both the business and social circles of her community and has hosts of friends, whose loyalty has been won through her many excellent personal qualities.

[The Centennial History of Oregon by Joseph Gaston Vol 2 p. 442-3]

b. 1863

d. 1937

iii. James Franklin Mee

b. 1865

d. 1909

iv. Warren Douglas Mee

b. 1868

d. 1939

**WARREN D. MEE** is the fortunate owner of a most attractive and valuable ranch property, containing two hundred and forty acres, located on Thompson creek in Jackson county, this state. His birth occurred June 15, 1868, and he is a native son of Oregon, his parents being Thomas and Drusilla (Woodriddle) Mee, both of whom were early pioneers to this state. The father emigrated to Oregon in 1852 and the mother crossed the plains with her parents in 1853. After their marriage they settled on Thompson creek in Jackson county, where Thomas Mee engaged in farming, being one of the first settlers in that part of the county. Here he established his home and spent the remaining years of his life. He was very successful in business and highly esteemed by all who knew him as a man of upright character, generous impulses and fidelity to the highest ideals of moral life. He has long since passed to his reward but is survived by his wife, who still resides in their old home.

Warren D. Mee was reared in his father's home and obtained his early education in the public schools. At the age of twenty he left the parental roof and accepted a position as superintendent of a sawmill, which he operated for a box factory during several years. Later he removed to California, in that state becoming the owner and proprietor of a box factory, which he operated very successfully for a number of years. After selling this property he returned to his boyhood home for the purpose of looking after his father's estate, which consisted of two hundred and forty acres on Thompson creek. This he operated

for a number of years and later, by purchase, came into possession of the property, which he still owns.

In 1896 Mr. Mee was united in marriage to Miss Effie B. Hesslegrave, a native of Iowa, by whom he has six children, namely: Charlie, Helen, Thomas, Gertrude, Eugene and Ruth. All are living and reside at home with their parents. Mr. Mee is a republican in politics and a member of the Knights and Ladies of Security. He is a worthy successor of his honored father. By inheritance he bears a name that stands for the highest ideals in business and social life and his influence is always to be counted upon in the promotion of any issue looking to the improvement of the community in which he lives.

[The Centennial History of Oregon by Joseph Gaston Vol 4 p. 429-30]

- v. Emma Amy Mee
- b. 1872
- d. 1950

- 2. Drewery Wooldridge
- b. c1849 Missouri
- d. 1853 Snake River on Oregon Trail

Children of Alpheus Wooldridge and Emily Hunter:

- 1. Marynetta Ann Wooldridge
- b. Jan 1854 Oregon
- d. 1902 Josephine County, Oregon
- buried [Missouri Flatt Cemetery](#), Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

- m. 12 Jan 1871 Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon
- August Rehkopf
- b. Aug 1827 Hamburg, Germany
- d. 02 Oct 1913 Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon
- buried [Missouri Flatt Cemetery](#), Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

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## A STURDY PIONEER OF APPLGATE VALLEY

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**Mr. Rehkopf Hale and Active at  
78 Years—Planting More Hops  
—Exterminate Plum Trees.**

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Andrew Rehkopf is a striking example of the youthful vigor that many of the Oregon pioneers possess. He is 78 years old yet as active as the average man of 40 or 50. Mr. Rehkopf resides on his fine farm on the Applegate between Provolt and Applegate postoffice, and Thursday desiring to come to Grants Pass to attend to some business matters, and his horses all being needed in the farm work, he started to walk to town. He had made 14 of the 17 miles from his place to Grants Pass before 10 o'clock, when a neighbor with a team, caught up with him and gave him a ride on to town, he arriving here as fresh and vigorous as though out only for a short morning jaunt. Friday morning Mr. Rehkopf started afoot on his trip home, he expecting to make the 17 miles in five hours.

Mr. Rehkopf came to Memphis, Tenn., when he was a young man, from Germany, and in 1853 he went to California, coming to Applegate valley in 1856, where he has since lived. He first settled on Williams creek, buying of Ben Smith the farm now owned by J. M. Johns and on which the village of Williams now stands. He afterwards sold the Williams creek ranch and went in partnership with William Pernoll, now deceased, and bought the farm now owned by Mrs. Pernoll and her sons near Applegate postoffice, and they carried on for several years extensive farm and stock business. In 1870 he sold his interest to Mr. Pernoll and took up his present farm as a homestead. In 1870 he was married to Miss Mary Wooldridge, a daughter of Aphius Wooldridge, an Applegate pioneer. Mrs. Rehkopf died three years ago, and since then Mr. Rehkopf has made his home with his son, Henry, who

is married and resides on the home place and assists in carrying on the farm work. Mr. Rehkopf and his son have 27 acres to hops and had a fine crop this year which they are yet holding for a raise in price. Mr. Rehkopf is not discouraged at all over the hop outlook and will have 15 acres more set to hops next spring. This yard will be put out by John McCallister and son, William. They do all the work and deliver the hops in Grants Pass and get half of the crop for a term of years, Mr. Rehkopf furnishes the land, the wire for one way and the timber for the poles. Mr. McCallister has completed a dwelling house adjoining the hop yard land and he and his son are now erect-

ing a barn. He has rented his farm at New Hope and will shortly move his family to the hop yard. The yard is located on Applegate bottom land, the soil of which is a deep, rich loam and it will produce an extra fine quality of hops. Mr. Rehkopf proposes to profit by the advice given by Prof. Cordley at the farmers institute last September, and cut down all the plum trees on his place. Prof. Cordley stated that it had been clearly proven that the plum and prune trees were the feeding places for the hop louse. The wild plums being their favorite haunt. Were these trees all removed a big work would be accomplished in eradicating the pest that causes such big losses in hop yards, for they will not breed on any other kind of a tree. On Mr. Rehkopf's place there are many wild plums and he will have them all grubbed out as also all on the adjoining land.

[Rogue River Courier, Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon, November 24, 1905 p. 4]

2. James "Logan" Wooldridge

b. 12 Apr 1866 Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

d. 25 Sep 1938 Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

buried [Missouri Flatt Cemetery](#), Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

m. 1885 Jackson County, Oregon

Rhoda Shattuck

b. Nov 1866 Missouri

d. 08 Jun 1952 Jackson County, Oregon

buried [Missouri Flatt Cemetery](#), Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

d/o Thomas Shattuck and Millie Ann Nored

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3. M. E. Wooldridge

b. 1858 Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

d. bef 1870 Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

4. Sarah E. Wooldridge

b. 1860 Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

d. bef 1870 Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

5. Breckenridge Wooldridge

b. 1862 Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

d. 1864 Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

buried [Missouri Flatt Cemetery](#), Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

6. Minte J. Wooldridge

b. 1863 Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

d.

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7. George Lee Wooldridge

b. 1866 Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

d. 06 Jun 1936 Jackson County, Oregon

buried [Missouri Flat Cemetery](#), Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

m.

Laura B.

b. 1877

d. 24 Aug 1931 Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

buried [Missouri Flat Cemetery](#), Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

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1900: Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon, June 22, 1900; Emily J. Woolridge, head, Sep 1834, 65, wid, 10-7, MO TN TN; George, son, Dec 1866, 33, s, OR TN MO, blacksmith

8. Charity A. Wooldridge

b. 1868

d.

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9. Roxy Belle Wooldridge

b. 1872 Oregon

d.

1880: Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon, June 18 & 19, 1880; Alfeus Wooldridge, 61, farmer, KY VA VA; Emily J., 40, wife, keeps house, MO TN TN; James L., 24, son, farming, OR KY MO; Menty J., 16, dau, at home, OR KY MO; George L., 14, son, at home, OR KY MO; Charity, 12, dau, at home, OR KY MO; Rocksy Belle, 8, dau, at home, OR KY MO; Ida May, 6, at home, OR KY MO

10. Ida Mae Wooldridge

b. 24 May 1874 Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

d. 11 Feb 1933 Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

buried [Missouri Flat Cemetery](#), Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

m. 15 Oct 1902 Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon

Dorrance E. Dotson

b. 22 Oct 1871

d. 31 Dec 1922

buried [Missouri Flat Cemetery](#), Applegate, Jackson County, Oregon

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