

Charles Adams

Pioneer of 1852

compiled by Stephenie Flora
oregonpioneers.com

In the spring of 1852 there was organized among the citizens of Cedar township, Van Buren county, Iowa, an emigrant train of about twenty-five wagons. Each wagon was drawn by from three to five yoke of oxen. In the company were, Paul Brattain and family of seven adult persons; William Newman; Lafayette Spencer; Charles Spencer and wife and two children; Henry Newman; George Gimple; Michael Smith and his wife, two sons and a daughter; George Hammonds; Henry Hammonds; Jacob Whetstone and family; George Taylor and family; Robert Carter and family; Adam Barnes and family; Oliver Mitchell and family; John Hilary and family; Napoleon Baker; William Howard and family; Charles Adams and family; Thomas Clark and family; Thomas Whetstone and family; Nicholas Boley and family; John Boley and family; James Watson and family; Hill Watson and family; Iradel Anderson; Mathies Anderson; George, James and William Ebert; Henry and Sloan Keck.

[Lafayette Spencer Day Book; published in Annals of Iowa Vol 8]

Charles Adams

b. 18 Jan 1818 KY

d. 18 Jul 1891 The Dalles, Wasco County, OR

buried [IOOF Cemetery](#), The Dalles, Wasco County, OR

s/o Abraham and Emilia Elizabeth (Stringer) Adams

m1. 13 Sep 1838 Greencastle, Putnam County, IN

Mary Vowell

b. 1815 TN

d. 11 Nov 1852 Portland, Multnomah County, OR

buried [Carus Cemetery](#), Clackamas County, OR

d/o Mann Page Vowell and Nancy Parrott

m2. 10 Jan 1853 Clackamas County, Oregon

Mrs. Eleanor (Howard) Carter

b. 21 Aug 1820 Pikerton, OH

d. 13 Mar 1893 The Dalles, Wasco County, Oregon

m1. 1841 VanBuren Co, IA to Robert Carter

m2. 10 Jan 1853 Clackamas County, Oregon to Charles Adams

1850: Cedar, VanBuren Co, IA, Aug 29, 1850; Charles Adams, 33, farmer, \$500, KY; Mary, 35, TN; John, 11, IN; Miley, 10, IN; Margaret, 8, IN; Mary, 6, IN; Perlina, 4, IA

ODLC: #5065 Clackamas; Charles Adams, b. 1818 KY; arr OR 01 Nov 1852; sc 11 Feb 1853; m'd Eleanor (Mrs. Eleanor Howard Carter) 10 Jan 1853 at Clackamas Co. Aff: Robert N. Worsham, James McNamara, Wm. Arm Priest, Harvey B. May, Thomas W. May

This Side of Oregon p.248-249 wife, Mary died 11 Nov 1852 after reaching OR; father of 5 children (Millie, Margaret, Mamie, Pauline, _)

1860: Soap Creek Pct, Benton County, Oregon, July 2, 1860; Charles Adams, 42, mechant, \$2200 \$1986, KY; Eleanor, 40, OH; John H. Adams, 20, farm hand, IN; Margaret J. Adams, 17, IN; Mary E. Adams, 15, IN; Amos H. Carter, 15, IA; William Carter, 14, IA; Perlina Adams, 13, IA; Samantha A Adams., 9, IA, Miranda J. Adams, 9, IA (twins); Charles A. Adams, 8, on the plains; Sarah C. Adams, 4, OR; Irene E. Adams, 1, OR

1870: East Salem, Marion County, Oregon; June 9, 1870; C. Adams, 52, grocer, \$4000, KY; [blank], 50, housekeeping, OH; M.J., 19, f, at school, IA; S.A., 19, f, at school, IA; C., 17, m, NE (on plains); S., 14, f, OR; Jennie, 11, OR

1880: Antelope, Wasco County, Oregon, 1 & 2 June, 1880; Chas. Adams, 62, farmer, KY KY KY; Elinor, 59, keeping house, OH Eng Ger

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Children of Charles Adams and Mary Vowel:

1. John Henry Adams

b. 09 Feb 1840 IN

d. 25 Jan 1915 Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

buried [Rose City Cemetery](#), Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

m. 25 Aug 1862 Marion County, Oregon

Amanda S. Force

b. 19 Jun 1844 Oregon City, Clackamas County, Oregon

d. 07 Dec 1929 Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

1850: Cedar, VanBuren Co, IA, Aug 29, 1850; Charles Adams, 33, farmer, \$500, KY; Mary, 35, TN; John, 11, IN; Miley, 10, IN; Margaret, 8, IN; Mary, 6, IN; Perlina, 4, IA

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1870: Springfield, Lane County, Oregon, July 6, 1870; John Adams, 30, preacher, \$0 \$600, IN; Amanda, 26, keeping house, OR; Mary L., 7, at home, OR; Ida A., 5, at home, OR

1880: The Dalles, Wasco County, Oregon, June 3, 1880; J.H. Adams, head, 39, farmer, IN Unk Unk; Armanda (sic), 35, wife, keeps house, OR KY KY; Mary E., 16, dau, at home, OR; Ida, 15, dau, at home, OR; Maggie, 8, dau, at home, WT

1900: Portland Ward 9, Multnomah County, Oregon, June 14, 1900; John H. Adams, head, Feb 1860 (sic), 40 (sic), m-38yrs, IN KY PA, merchant-produce; Amanda, wife, Jun 1846, 53, m-38yrs, 3-3, OR NY NY; Ida A., dau, Jan 1866, 34, s, OR IN OR, saleswoman

1910: Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon, April 15 & 16, 1910; John H. Adams, 70, m1-47yrs, IN KY TN, gate keeper-bridge works; Amanda S., wife, 66, m1-47yrs, 3-3, OR NY NY; Ida A., dau, 45, s, OR IN OR

Children of John Adams and Amanda Force:

- i. Mary L. Adams (1863-)
- ii. Ida Amanda Adams (1865-1951)
- iii. Margaret Adams (1872-1939)

2. Millie Ann Adams

b. 02 Jul 1841

d. 24 May 1917 Salem, Marion County, Oregon

m. 16 Oct 1860 Benton County, Oregon

buried [Salem Pioneer Cemetery](#), Salem, Marion County, Oregon

m. 16 Oct 1860

John Wesley Meredith

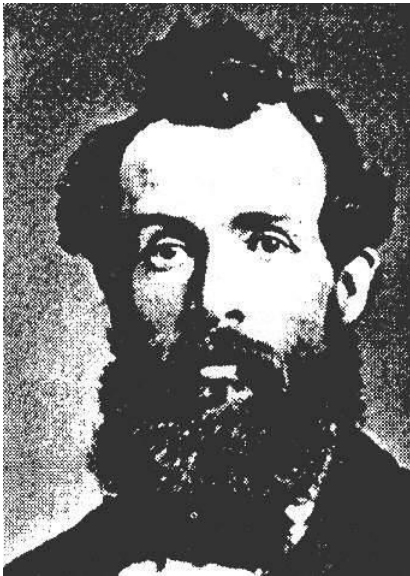
b. 27 Jul 1832 Oneida Co, NY

d. 09 Jan 1918 Salem, Marion County, Oregon

1850: Cedar, VanBuren Co, IA, Aug 29, 1850; Charles Adams, 33, farmer, \$500, KY; Mary, 35, TN; John, 11, IN; Miley, 10, IN; Margaret, 8, IN; Mary, 6, IN; Perlina, 4, IA

Children of John Meredith and Millie Adams:

- i. Charles N. Meredith (1862-1864)
- ii. Susan E. Meredith (1865-1866)
- iii. Frank Meredith (1867-1934)
- iv. Janette Meredith (1869-)



[Salem Public Library Photo Archives
John Wesley Meredith

“John Wesley Meredith emigrated to the State of Oregon in 1853, and occupies a place among her foremost citizens, he is a native of New York, born July 27, 1831, a son of Hugh Meredith, also a native of New York, whose ancestors crossed the sea to the New World before the war of the Revolution. He

married Miss Elizabeth Lewis of the State of New York, and to them were born nine children, eight of whom survive. John W. received his elementary education in the common schools and later was sent to Floyd Academy. His first business experience was in the capacity of clerk in a general store, but as he grew older he determined upon a professional life, and chose that of medicine; he read under the direction of Dr. Gellet, but before he had made great attainment in the science, he shipped for the Pacific coast, coming via the Isthmus, July 28, 1853 he landed in Portland, a stranger without means. It was such situations that tested the metal of the pioneers and brought into play all their faculties and quickened their wits. He was obliged to accept any work that came to his hand, and for a time was engaged in rolling logs and clearing land. He then mined for a year, meeting with fair success. He invested the means thus accumulated in land in Benton county, Oregon, where he followed farming for two years; at the expiration of that period he disposed of the property and went to California, where he was in the employ of the Government for a time. He next went on a prospecting trip to Inyo county, which proved a "fool's errand."

In 1864 he came to Salem and began a teaming and draying business, which soon assumed an importance in the commercial circles of the place; he formed a partnership with O. Adams and they conducted a successful business for three years. Again his old desire for a professional life arose and he entered the office of a dentist, and for three years worked and studied under the directions of a skilled operator. He then opened an office which he has occupied for twenty-three years; he has met with gratifying success and if he has not fully realized the dream of his youth; he has proved a useful citizen and an honor to his profession.

Mr. Meredith was married in 1850, to Miss Millie Adams, a native of Indiana and a daughter of C. Adams, who emigrated to Oregon in 1852; he died in July 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Meredith are the parents of two children, Frank and Jennette; the son is a bookkeeper in the bank of Williams & England and the daughter is a stenographer in the State Insurance office. Mr. Meredith is a Past Master of the A.O.U.W., and is a Master Mason. He was the first assessor of Josephine county in 1856, and has represented a Republican constituency in the City Council of Salem. He is a strong advocate of temperance and casts his suffrage with the Prohibition party. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and is a citizen strictly reliable and honorable in all his dealings." [An Illustrated History of Oregon by Hines p.866-7]

"MEREDITH, J. W.--Born in Oneida County, New York, July 27, 1831. Occupation, dentist; residence, Salem. Married in 1859 to Miss Millie Adams. Children Frank and Nettie." [History of the Willamette Valley by Lang p.813]

3. Margaret Jane Adams

b. 1843 Indiana

d. 21 Jan 1891 Salem, Marion County, Oregon

buried [Salem Pioneer Cemetery](#), Salem, Marion County, Oregon

m. 08 Dec 1864 Marion County, Oregon

Harrison Smith

b. 1835 NY

d. 04 Mar 1893 Salem, Marion County, Oregon

buried [Salem Pioneer Cemetery](#), Salem, Marion County, Oregon

1850: Cedar, VanBuren Co, IA, Aug 29, 1850; Charles Adams, 33, farmer, \$500, KY; Mary, 35, TN; John, 11, IN; Miley, 10, IN; Margaret, 8, IN; Mary, 6, IN; Perlina, 4, IA

1860: Soap Creek Pct, Benton County, Oregon, July 2, 1860; Charles Adams, 42, merchant, \$2200 \$1986, KY; Eleanor, 40, OH; John H. Adams, 20, farm hand, IN; Margaret J. Adams, 17, IN; Mary E. Adams, 15, IN; Amos H. Carter, 15, IA; William Carter, 14, IA; Perlina Adams, 13, IA; Samantha A Adams., 9, IA, Miranda J. Adams, 9, IA (twins); Charles A. Adams, 8, on the plains; Sarah C. Adams, 4, OR; Irene E. Adams, 1, OR

Children of Harrison Smith and Margaret Adams:

i. Luella Smith

b. 1865 OR

d. 26 Nov 1944

buried [Salem Pioneer Cemetery](#), Salem, Marion County, Oregon

ii. Mabel Claire Smith

b. 1877 OR

d. Oct 1898 Salem, Marion County, Oregon

buried [Salem Pioneer Cemetery](#), Salem, Marion County, Oregon



[Salem Public Library Photo Archives]

Dr. Harrison Smith, Salem dentist operating a pedal operated drill

4. Mary Elizabeth Adams

b. 16 Jul 1844 IN

d. 17 Jul 1926 Salem, Marion County, Oregon

buried [Salem Pioneer Cemetery](#), Salem, Marion County, Oregon

1850: Cedar, VanBuren Co, IA, Aug 29, 1850; Charles Adams, 33, farmer, \$500, KY; Mary, 35, TN; John, 11, IN; Miley, 10, IN; Margaret, 8, IN; Mary, 6, IN; Perlina, 4, IA

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5. Pauline Adams

b. 09 Sep 1849/47

d. 09 Feb 1919 Salem, Marion County, Oregon

buried Salem Pioneer Cemetery, Salem, Marion County, Oregon

1850: Cedar, VanBuren Co, IA, Aug 29, 1850; Charles Adams, 33, farmer, \$500, KY; Mary, 35, TN; John, 11, IN; Miley, 10, IN; Margaret, 8, IN; Mary, 6, IN; Perlina, 4, IA

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6. Charles A. Adams

b. 19 Jul 1852 Clearwater, NE on plains

d. 08 Feb 1911 The Dalles, Wasco County, Oregon

buried IOOF Cemetery, The Dalles, Wasco County, Oregon

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1870: East Salem, Marion County, Oregon; June 9, 1870; C. Adams, 52, grocer, \$4000, KY; [blank], 50, housekeeping, OH; M.J., 19, f, at school, IA; S.A., 19, f, at school, IA; C., 17, m, NE (on plains); S., 14, f, OR; Jennie, 11, OR

1880: Antelope, Wasco County, Oregon, June 1 & 2, 1880; Chas Adams, 62, head, farmer, KY KY KY; Elinor, 59, wife, OH Eng Ger; Charles, 27, son, farm hand, sick w/cold, NE KY OH; Irene E., 21, dau, OR KY OH

Children of Charles Adams and Eleanor Howard:

Sarah Catherine Adams

b. 26 Aug 1856

d. 08 Sep 1903/1905 The Dalles, Wasco County, Oregon

buried Odd Fellows Cemetery, The Dalles, Wasco County, Oregon

m. 02 Mar 1876

Benjamin Franklin Laughlin

b. 04 Jan 1849 MO

d. 29 Mar 1929 Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

1860: Soap Creek Pct, Benton County, Oregon, July 2, 1860; Charles Adams, 42, mechant, \$2200 \$1986, KY; Eleanor, 40, OH; John H. Adams, 20, farm hand, IN; Margaret J. Adams, 17, IN; Mary E. Adams, 15, IN; Amos H. Carter, 15, IA; William Carter, 14, IA; Perlina Adams, 13, IA; Samantha A Adams., 9, IA, Miranda J. Adams, 9, IA (twins); Charles A. Adams, 8, on the plains; Sarah C. Adams, 4, OR; Irene E. Adams, 1, OR

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Children of Benjamin Laughlin and Sarah Adams:

i. William Guy Laughlin (1878-1892)

ii. Lloyd B. Laughlin (1888-1946)

iii. Lynn Franklin Laughlin (1895-)

ii. Irene E. "Jennie" Adams

b. 24 Mar 1859 Albany, Linn County, Oregon

d. 21 Sep 1946 Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

died in Columbia Sanitarium

buried [Greenwood Hills Cemetery](#), Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

1860: Soap Creek Pct, Benton County, Oregon, July 2, 1860; Charles Adams, 42, merchant, \$2200 \$1986, KY; Eleanor, 40, OH; John H. Adams, 20, farm hand, IN; Margaret J. Adams, 17, IN; Mary E. Adams, 15, IN; Amos H. Carter, 15, IA; William Carter, 14, IA; Perlina Adams, 13, IA; Samantha A Adams., 9, IA, Miranda J. Adams, 9, IA (twins); Charles A. Adams, 8, on the plains; Sarah C. Adams, 4, OR; Irene E. Adams, 1, OR

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