

Daniel Chapman

Pioneer of 1853

compiled by Stephenie Flora
oregonpioneers.com

Daniel Chapman

b. 06 Apr 1831 Island of Skepway, England

d. 13 Sep 1917 Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon

buried Ashland Cemetery, Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon

s/o Samuel Chapman and Sarah Smead

m. 09 Mar 1865

Sarah Ann Neil [Pioneer of 1854]

b. 25 Apr 1847

d. 25 Jun 1911 Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon

buried Ashland Cemetery, Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon

1850: Farmington, Van Buren County, Iowa, September 19, 1850; Samuel Chapman, 52, farmer, \$2000, Eng; Sarah, 52, Eng; Samuel Jr., 21, farmer, Scot; Daniel, 19, farmer, Eng; Henry, 17, farmer, NY; ?, 15, m, KY; Amy, 13, KY; Josephine, 11, KY; Victoria, 9, KY; Julia, 6, IA

1860: Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon, Danl Chapman, 28, farmer, \$800 \$1500, KY; Henry, 25, farmer, \$800 \$1500, KY; Wm Condrey, 14, IA; Geo Gould, 35, common laborer, \$0 \$75, unk

1870: Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon, July 20, 1870; Daniel Chapman, 40, farmer, KY; Sarah A., 23, keeping house, TN; Burton, 5, OR; Lulu, 3, OR; Minnie E., 1, OR

1880: Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon, June 8, 1880; Daniel Chapman, head, 41, stock raiser, Eng Eng Eng; Sarah, 34, wife, at home, TN OH TN; Alvin, 14, at school, OR Eng TN; Lulu, 13, dau, at school, OR Eng TN; Edith, 11, dau, at school, OR Eng TN; Thomas, 9, son, at school, OR Eng TN; Eva, 7, dau, at school, OR Eng TN; Elsie, 4, dau, at home, OR Eng TN; Homer, 2, son at home, OR Eng TN; Luella Sherman, 18, niece, at home, IA OH OH

1900: Barron Pct, Jackson County, Oregon, June 2, 1900; Daniel Chapman, head, May 1833, 67, m-35yrs, Eng Eng Eng, farmer, to US 1835, naturalized 65yrs; Sarah A., Apr 1847, 53, m-35yrs, 11-7, TN TN VA; Alvin B., son, Mar 1866, 34, s, OR Eng TN, farmer; Edith M., dau, Apr 1869,

31, s, OR Eng TN; Elsie V., dau, Mar 1876, 24, s, OR Eng TN; Homer R., son, Aug 1878, 21, s, OR Eng TN, farm laborer;



"During the formative period in the history of Oregon, only a few years after it was organized as a territory and prior to its admission into the Union, Daniel Chapman took up his residence within its borders, and for almost sixty years he has made his home in this district, watching its growth and development from a wilderness into a splendid commonwealth which occupies a foremost position in the galaxy of states. His life record covers a period of more than four score years, his birth having occurred on the island of Skepway, England, on the 6th of April, 1831. He comes from a family notable for its longevity, his grandfather, Daniel Chapman, for whom he was named, having attained the remarkable old age of one hundred and one years, his death occurring in England. The parents of our subject, Samuel and Sarah (Smead) Chapman, were also natives of the mother country and came to America in 1833, locating first in Mason county, Kentucky. In 1844 they removed to Des Moines county, Iowa, and subsequently took up their abode in Van Buren county, that state where they spent their remaining years, the father passing away at the venerable age of ninety-seven years and his wife's death occurring when she was ninety-three years of age.

Daniel Chapman was but an infant of two years when the family home was established in America, and thus practically his entire life has been spent in this country. He grew to manhood under the parental roof, acquiring his education in the public schools of the various localities in

which the period of his boyhood and youth was spent, remaining with his parents until he had attained his majority. In the meantime glowing accounts were being circulated concerning the splendid natural resources of the country which was being opened up in the northwest and the opportunities which it offered ambitious and enterprising men; accounts which proved attractive to the young man who stood at the threshold of his business career, undecided as yet in which direction to make his initial step. Possessing a fearless nature, he decided to seek his fortune in that wonderful new country, and on the 18th of March, 1853, he left home for the west, crossing the plains with ox teams with Oregon as his objective point. He was six months on the way, arriving at the end of his journey in September of that year, and a few days later he went to the Yreka district in California, where he worked for a time in the mines. In the fall of 1854 he returned to Oregon and homesteaded a tract of one hundred and sixty acres on Emigrant creek adjoining the homestead claim of one hundred sixty acres belonging to his brother Henry, who had accompanied him on his trip to the west. To the development and improvement of that farm he gave his attention until the year 1874, when he removed to the town of Ashland and there established a livery stable and butcher shop. He was identified with the business life of Ashland in connection with those activities for twenty years, and then, in 1894, returned to rural life, purchasing his present farm which is located seven miles south of Ashland, in Jackson county. Here he is actively engaged in carrying on agricultural pursuits in spite of his advanced age, and his property is a well improved and valuable one. The same dauntless spirit of determination which prompted him to seek his fortune in a new country continued a salient feature throughout his subsequent career. He has ever recognized the fact that prosperity comes only as the result of earnest endeavor and persistent effort and sound business judgment has proved a potent force in the successful management of the various interests which have occupied his time and attention.

It was in 1865 that Mr. Chapman was united in marriage to Miss Sarah A. Neil, a daughter of Clayborn Neil, who came to Oregon from Tennessee in 1854, locating on Neil creek which was named in his honor. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Chapman were born nine children, of whom seven survive, namely: Alvin B., residing at home; Minnie Edith, who also lives with her father; Thomas D., a farmer of Jackson county; Cora A., the wife of H. V. Mitchell, of Ashland; Elsie B., who married Oscar Law, a farmer of Jackson county; Homer R., a carpenter by occupation, residing in San Francisco, California; and Virgil H., engaged in the stock-raising business in this county. Mr. Chapman has recently mourned the loss of his wife, who passed away on the 25th of June, 1911, at the age of sixty-four years. She was a woman of excellent traits of character, who was greatly esteemed by her friends and neighbors, and her loss was deeply felt in the community.

The political faith of Mr. Chapman has ever been that of the democratic party but he has never been an office seeker nor has he desired to figure prominently in public life. Rather have his interests centered in his home and his business and the gratifying degree of success which is today his justifies his decision in early life to seek his fortune in this district of great opportunity. Casting in his lot among the early pioneers of Oregon, his life forms a connecting link between the primitive past and progressive present and his mind is a storehouse of reminiscences out of

which he calls forth interesting incidents and experiences. He came to the northwest when this section of the country was little more than a vast wilderness out of which he has seen evolve a great and flourishing commonwealth, rich in natural resources, and in the work of development and improvement which has wrought this great transformation he has taken a part. He experienced all of the hardships and dangers of the early pioneer, participated in the Indian engagement on Keen creek in 1858, and with others made several trips out across the plains to guard against attack from the red men, emigrants who were coming to Oregon. A residence in this state of almost sixty years has made him widely acquainted and he is numbered among the best known and most prominent pioneers of Jackson county. Although he has passed the eighty-first milestone on life's journey he is still active in the world's work, being sound in body and mind, and today enjoys those "blest accompaniments of old age, honor, riches and troops of friends." [Centennial History of Oregon by Joseph Gaston Vol 2 p. 368-71, photo p. 369]

Children of Daniel Chapman and Sarah Neil:

Alvin Burton Chapman

b. Mar 1866 Oregon

d. 1939 Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon

buried Ashland Cemetery, Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon

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Lulu Chapman

b. 1867 Oregon

d.

1870: Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon, July 20, 1870; Daniel Chapman, 40, farmer, KY; Sarah A., 23, keeping house, TN; Burton, 5, OR; Lulu, 3, OR; Minnie E., 1, OR

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Minnie Edith Chapman

b. Apr 1869 Oregon

d. 27 Oct 1957 Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon

buried Ashland Cemetery, Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon

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Thomas D. Chapman

b. Apr 1871 Jackson County, Oregon

d. 13 Sep 1937 Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon

buried Ashland Cemetery, Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon

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1900: Barron Pct, Jackson County, Oregon, June 2, 1900 [married with children]

Cora Amelia Chapman

b. 13 May 1873 Oregon

d. 10 Dec 1927 Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon

buried Ashland Cemetery, Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon

m.

Horace W. Mitchell

b. 06 Nov 1872 Polk County, Missouri

d. 21 Jul 1941 Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon

buried Ashland Cemetery, Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon

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Elsie V. Chapman

b. 09 Mar 1876 Oregon

d. 07 Nov 1952 Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon

buried Ashland Cemetery, Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon

m.

Oscar D. Low

b. 26 Jul 1870

d. 22 Apr 1966 Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon

buried Ashland Cemetery, Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon

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Homer R. Chapman

b. Aug 1878 Oregon

d.

1880: Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon, June 8, 1880; Daniel Chapman, head, 41, stock raiser, Eng Eng Eng; Sarah, 34, wife, at home, TN OH TN; Alvin, 14, at school, OR Eng TN; Lulu, 13, dau, at school, OR Eng TN; Edith, 11, dau, at school, OR Eng TN; Thomas, 9, son, at school, OR Eng TN; Eva, 7, dau, at school, OR Eng TN; Elsie, 4, dau, at home, OR Eng TN; Homer, 2, son at home, OR Eng TN; Luella Sherman, 18, niece, at home, IA OH OH

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Virgil H. Chapman

b. 1881

d. 21 Sep 1956 Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon

buried Mountain View Cemetery, Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon