

Joel D. Chrisman

Pioneer of 1844

compiled by Stephenie Flora
oregonpioneers.com

Joel D. Chrisman

b. 07 Nov 1795 VA

d. 16 Aug 1875 Yamhill Co, OR

buried Brookside Cemetery, Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR

s/o Gabriel E. Chrisman and Jane Cox

[brother, Walker Chrisman emigrated to OR in 1850]

m1. 22 Jul 1817 Lee Co, VA

Polly Sprowls

b. 17 Feb 1798

d. 27 Mar 1852 Yamhill Co, OR

buried Brookside Cemetery, Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR

m2. 17 Jun 1857 Yamhill Co, OR (divorced 1858)

Lavina Davis

b.

d.

1820: Lee Co, VA; Joel Chrisman, 1 male (16-25); 1 female-Unknown (under 10); 1 female (16-25)

1830: Lee Co, VA; Joel Chrisman; 1 male-Gabriel (5-9), 1 male-Joel (30-39); 2 females-Eleanor & Unknown (under 5); 2 females- Elizabeth & Chelessa (5-9); 1 female-Polly (30-39)

1840: Jackson Co, MO; Joel Crisman, 2 males-William & Campbell (5-9); 1 male-Gabriel (15-19); 1 male-Joel (40-49); 1 female-Rebecca (under 5); 1 female-Izza (10-14); 2 females-Chelessa & Eleanor (15-19); 1 female-Elizabeth (20-29); 1 female-Polly (40-49)

1844: emigration to Oregon. Joel Chrisman was head of one of the parties that included James Clyman, the old time mountain man, who documented the journey in his journal.

1847: December 3, Land Claim, Yamhill Co, Joel Chrisman, Provisional and Territorial Record #Vol 7 p.007

1849: Yamhill Co, Census, Joel Chrisman, Provisional and Territorial Record #1081

ODLC#1938 Yamhill Co, OR: Joel Chrisman, b. 1795 Lee Co, VA; sc 06 Feb 1845; m'd Polly 22 Jul 1817 Lee Co, VA. She died on claim 26 Mar 1852 leaving 7 children. Absent from claim 01 Oct 1848 to 10 Apr 1849, July 1849 to April 1852 and July 1852 to 22 Oct 1852. Aff: Louis Labonte, Elias Jones Crandall, Alvis Kimsey, John Carey

1850: May-- Joel D. Chrisman of Yamhill County signs resolution defending J. Lane [Oregon Spectator, May 16, 1850 p.2:4]

1850: Yamhill Co, OR, November 5, 1850; Joel Crissman, 55, farmer, VA; Mary 52, VA, William, 20, VA; Campbell, 16, MO; Rebecca A., 13, MO

1853: Yamhill Co, Tax Roll, Joel Chrisman, Provisional and Territorial Record #12276A

1854: Yamhill Co, Tax Roll, Joel Chrisman, Provisional and Territorial Record #12276B

1855: Yamhill Co, Tax Roll, Joel Chrisman, Provisional and Territorial Record #12276C

1857: Yamhill Co, Tax Roll, Joel Chrisman, Provisional and Territorial Record #12276D

1857: Yamhill Co, Joel D. Chrisman administers estate of L.S. Morris [Oregon Statesman adv Mar 17 to Apr 7]

1858: Yamhill Co, Tax Roll, Joel Chrisman, Provisional and Territorial Record #12276E

1858: OR; divorce of Joel Chrisman and Lavina Davis, Provisional and Territorial Record #8651, #8652, #8820, #9102, #10889

The bill to divorce Joel and Lavina Chrisman passed; ayes 5, nays 3.
[Weekly Oregonian, Portland, OR, January 30, 1858 p.1:5]

1860: Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR, July 31, 1860; Joel Crisman, 64, farmer, \$2240 \$300, VA

1870: Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR, July 31, 1860; Joel Chrisman, 74, farmer, \$3000, VA [enumerated in Peter Lewis household]

CWPW: p.176-182; OJ Feb 21-22, 1922 Interview with Mary Robinson Gilkey

WT44: Joel Crisman

TOPA: 1876 p.41, emigrant of 1844, Joel Crisman

NGSQ: Some Emigrants To Oregon in 1844; Joel Chrisman + wife + 8 children

“ ‘Uncle’ Joel Chrisman died at the residence of his daughter, in Yamhill county, on the 16th instant. The deceased was born in Virginia, but moved to this State in 1844, where he has since resided. Had he lived to the 7th of next October, he would have been 80 years old. The remains

were interred in the Dayton burial ground.” [Sacramento Daily Union, Sacramento, Sacramento Co, CA, August 28, 1875]

“CHRISMAN, JOEL D.--Born in Virginia in 1795; moved to Illinois in 1833, and eleven years later to Oregon. Settled in Yamhill County, and died there in 1875. He was a farmer. Married Polly Sprowl, in Virginia, in 1817, and they had a large family, of whom the following are the survivors Elizabeth (Mrs. B. Robinson), Gabriel, Eleander (Mrs.Darr), William M. C., and Campbell E.” [History of the Willamette Valley by Herbert Lang p.894]

Children of Joel Chrisman and Polly:

1. Female Chrisman
b. c1818 Lee Co, VA
d. bef 1830 census

1820: Lee Co, VA; Joel Chrisman, 1 male (16-25); 1 female (under 10); 1 female (16-25)

2. Elizabeth Jane Chrisman
b. 1820 Lee Co, VA
d. 22 Feb 1891 Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR
buried Brookside Cemetery, Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR

m. 03/14 Apr 1845 Yamhill Co, OR
Benjamin Robinson
b. 08 Jan 1814 Cayuga Co, NY
d. 12 Apr 1902 Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR
buried Brookside Cemetery, Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR
hired to drive wagon for Joel Chrisman

1830: Lee Co, VA; Joel Chrisman; 1 male-Gabriel (5-9), 1 male-Joel (30-39); 2 females-Eleanor & Unknown (under 5); 2 females- Elizabeth & Chelessa (5-9); 1 female-Polly (30-39)

1840: Jackson Co, MO; Joel Crisman, 2 males-William & Campbell (5-9); 1 male-Gabriel (15-19); 1 male-Joel (40-49); 1 female-Rebecca (under 5); 1 female-Izza (10-14); 2 females-Chelessa & Eleanor (15-19); 1 female-Elizabeth (20-29); 1 female-Polly (40-49)

1850: Yamhill Co, OR, November 6, 1850; B.M. Robinson, 35, farmer, NY; Elizth J., 30, VA; Mary A., 4, OT; John W., 2, OT; Eliza A., 1/12, OT

ODLC: #1588 Yamhill Co, OR; Benjamin M. Robinson, b. 1815/17 NY; arr OR 31 Nov 1844; sc 15 Apr 1845; m'd Elizabeth Jane 03 Apr 1845 Yamhill Co, OR. Aff. Laban

Morin, Wm. Logan, Elias J. Crandal, Joel Chrisman, Clayton Richardson, Charles M. Johnson

“ROBINSON, BENJAMIN MORGAN. Born in Onondaga County, New York, in 1815. Came to Oregon in 1844, settling in Yarnhill County, where he still resides, Is a farmer. Married Miss Elizabeth J. Chrisman in 1845. Children-Mary A., John M., Eliza, Araminta and Ruth.” [History of the Willamette Valley by Herbert Lang p.896]

“Benjamin Morgan Robinson, one of those adventurous spirits who followed the Star of Empire across the dreary waste of intervening plains to Oregon in 1844, is a native of New York, born in Cayuga county, January 18, 1813. He is of English ancestry, who cast their lot with the struggling colonies at an early day. His grandfather, John Robinson, was a captain in the Revolutionary war, and distinguished himself in that memorable struggle for independence.

The subject of our sketch was reared and educated in his native Slate, and afterward moved to Chicago, Illinois, where he resided until 1844, when he crossed the plains to Oregon. He was unaccompanied by relatives or friends, but found both in the family of Mr. Joel Chrisman, who formed a part of the company with which the long overland journey was made. They traveled with the customary ox teams, and had an enjoyable trip, devoid of all sickness or trouble with the Indians. Although this might seem too laborious a mode of transportation for such an ethereal and pleasure loving individual as Cupid, yet, strange to say, he followed those emigrants with indefatigable zeal, lent, as ever, on his mischievous machinations. However oblivious others might have been to his presence, two of this party were deeply conscious of it. Mr. Robinson and Mr. Chrisman’s charming young daughter Elizabeth, to whose infatuated eyes, this dreary waste became a beautiful vista which led to paradise. Thus journeying they came to the Dalles, whence they descended the Columbia river and ascended the Willamette, finally arriving at Oregon City, which was then a little station of the Hudson’s Bay Company. Here Mr. Robinson remained during the winter, and in the early spring came to Yam Hill county, where he took up a donation claim, the same on which he now resides.

His home making was not for himself alone, for on April 22, 1845, he was married to Miss Elizabeth J. Chrisman, and he and his young bride commenced frontier life together. She was a native of Virginia, and their marriage was the first of white persons that had occurred in Yam Hill county.

The little log cabin continued to be their home for many years, where the resided in contentment, until the rumors of gold discoveries in California reached the ears of the young husband. He finally concluded to seek his fortune in that golden land, and accordingly left his wife and two babies with a relative, while he worked in the placer mines on the Yuba river. He continued there for about a year, meeting with fair success, when he was taken ill, and returned to his home in Oregon. He had entirely recovered from the gold fever, and ever afterward was contented to remain in his Oregon home, where he has always lived an industrious, honest life, and thus gained the esteem of his community.

On February 23, 1891, his wife, the faithful companion of forty six years of his life, expired in the midst of her family and friends. She was a lady of unusual intelligence, and possessed many charms of person and manner. She was a member of the Methodist

Episcopal Church, and a practical observer of the Christian virtues which she lent the enthusiasm of a naturally loving heart, and she was greatly lamented by all who knew her.

They had five children, two of whom are now living, both residing on the home farm, Mrs. Gilkey and Mrs. Stilwell. To each of these daughters he gave 100 acres of the original donation claim, and he is now spending his declining years with his eldest daughter, Mrs. Mary A. Gilkey.

This daughter is one of the two ladies who had the honor of first climbing to the top of Mount Hood. She is a graduate of the Willamette University, class of 1866, and was for fifteen years an efficient teacher in the public schools, and was also, for some time the preceptress of the academy, which was connected with the Pacific University. She was married January 16, 1880 to Mr. William F. Gilkey, a native of New Hampshire, a millwright by trade, now a highly respected citizen of Oregon, and they now reside on the farm on which his wife was born. She is an active and valued member of the Methodist Church, and when the church edifice was burned, she came to their aid, and was a prominent helped in its rebuilding. She raised the money by subscription, and it was not long before a substantial new church building stood upon the ashes of the former house of worship.

In 1876 Mrs. Gilkey took an extended trip East, visiting the Centennial Exposition, and seeing something of the vastness of her native country; also in 1887, in company with her husband, visited his native home.

The second daughter, Eliza, also graduated from the Willamette University, in the class of 1871, and afterward became a successful teacher, in which vocation she continued for two years. She then, in 1873, married to Mr. John B. Stilwell, a native of Litchfield, Michigan, now a well-known and esteemed citizen of Dayton, Oregon. They also reside on the original claim, which their parents rescued from the wild prairie in 1845. Mr. Stilwell has made teaching his profession for years, and has the rare ability of conveying his knowledge in such a manner as to enlist the enthusiasm of his pupils. He is quite prominent in church affairs, and for five years has been Superintendent of the Sunday school.

Mr. and Mrs. Stilwell have five children, three daughters and two sons, all of whom are intelligent, and give fair promise of reflecting honor on the state of their nativity: Lena, the oldest is now at college; Clare C., Ina, John B. and Mary are still at home.

Mr. Robinson whose wanderings and vicissitudes we have followed for so many years and which have been compressed into so small a space, is now in his seventy-ninth year, during all of which time he has never varied from his customary upright and industrious career. He has affiliated in politics with the Democratic party, the principles of which appeared to him the most commendable. It is through the influence of such sons as he that Oregon has taken her proud stand among the sister States, and planted her banner on the ramparts of the nation." [An Illustrated History of the State of Oregon by H.K. Hines p. 879-881]

Children of Benjamin Robinson and Elizabeth Chrisman:

i. Mary Anne Robinson

b. 07 May 1846 Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR

d. 21 Feb 1931 Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR

buried Brookside Cemetery, Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR

m.

William Freeman Gilkey

b. 19 Nov 1834 NH

d. 17 Nov 1918 Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR

buried Brookside Cemetery, Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR

ii. John Robinson

b. 1848 Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR

d. 1868 Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR

buried Brookside Cemetery, Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR

iii. Eliza Jane Robinson

b. 1850 Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR

d. 02 Mar 1912 Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR

buried IOOF Cemetery, Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR

m.

John Burchard Stillwell

b. 23 Jun 1843 Hillsdale Co, MI

d. 06 Sep 1927 Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR

buried IOOF Cemetery, Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR

iv. Araminta Robinson

b.

d.

v. Ruth Robinson

b.

d.

3. Gabriel Sprouls Chrisman

b. 1822 Lee Co, VA

d. 14 Dec 1901 Ventura Co, CA

buried Cemetery Park, Ventura, Ventura Co, CA

m. 19 Jan 1847 Washington Co, OR

Mary Jane Adams

b. 1829

d. 27 Aug 1913 Ventura Co, CA

buried Cemetery Park, Ventura, Ventura Co, CA

1830: Lee Co, VA; Joel Chrisman; 1 male-Gabriel (5-9), 1 male-Joel (30-39); 2 females-Eleanor & Unknown (under 5); 2 females- Elizabeth & Chelessa (5-9); 1 female-Polly (30-39)

1840: Jackson Co, MO; Joel Crisman, 2 males-William & Campbell (5-9); 1 male-Gabriel (15-19); 1 male-Joel (40-49); 1 female-Rebecca (under 5); 1 female-Izza (10-14); 2 females-Chelessa & Eleanor (15-19); 1 female-Elizabeth (20-29); 1 female-Polly (40-49)

ODLC: #2114 Yamhill Co; Gabriel S. Chrisman, b. 1822 Lee Co, VA; sc 11 Nov 1850; m'd Mary Jane 19 Jan 1847 Washington Co, OT. Aff: Joel Chrisman, Carmy Goodrich, John Carey, John H. Forrest

TOPA: 1876 p.41, emigrant of 1844, Gabriel Crisman

1860: Clear Lake, Napa Co, CA, June 22, 1860; G.S. Chrisman, 38, farmer, \$500 \$3650, VA; Mary, 30, MO; Ella, 6, OR; Thos, 4, CA; George Edinburg, 21, laborer, NJ

1866: Napa Co, CA; Voters Register, Gabriel Sprowls Chrisman

1870: Hot Springs, Napa Co, CA, August 30, 1870; G. Christman, 47, farmer, \$3000 \$1500, VA; Mary J., 41, keeping house, MO; Ellen, 16, at home, OR; Thomas, 14, at home, CA; Maria, 9, at home, CA; Wm. Bradberry, 27, laborer, \$0 \$100, IL

1880: Saticoy, Ventura Co, CA, June 7 & 8, 1880; Gabriel Chrisman, 57, farmer, VA VA VA; Mary, 50, wife, keeping house, MO KY KY

1900: Ventura, Ventura Co, CA, June 9, 1900; Gabriel S. Chrisman, head, Oct 1822, 77, m53yrs, VA VA VA, retired; Mary J., wife, Aug 1829, 70, m-53yrs, 5-5, MO KY KY

Children of Gabriel Chrisman and Mary Adams:

i.

ii.

iii. Mary Ellen "Ella" Chrisman

b. 1854

d. 11 Jan 1903 Ventura Co, CA

buried Cemetery Park, Ventura, Ventura Co, CA
m. Joseph M. Kaiser

iv. Thomas Chrisman
b. 1856 CA
d.

v. Maria Chrisman
b. 1861 CA
d.

4. Chelessa Chrisman
b. 1825 VA
d.

m. 25 Jan 1846 (Oregon Spectator)
Samuel Campbell
b. 1806 NY
d.

1830: Lee Co, VA; Joel Chrisman; 1 male-Gabriel (5-9), 1 male-Joel (30-39); 2 females-Eleanor & Unknown (under 5); 2 females- Elizabeth & Chelessa (5-9); 1 female-Polly (30-39)

1840: Jackson Co, MO; Joel Crisman, 2 males-William & Campbell (5-9); 1 male-Gabriel (15-19); 1 male-Joel (40-49); 1 female-Rebecca (under 5); 1 female-Izza (10-14); 2 females-Chelessa & Eleanor (15-19); 1 female-Elizabeth (20-29); 1 female-Polly (40-49)

CWPW: p.176-182; OJ Feb 21-22, 1922; Samuel Campbell (of Yamhill Co), emigrant of 1844; m'd Joel Chrisman's daughter

1845: Yamhill Co, OR, Samuel Campbell

1849: Yamhill Co, OR Samuel Campbell

1849: Yamhill Co, OR Samuel Campbell

1850: Yamhill Co, OR, November 5, 1850; Samuel Campbell, 44, farmer, NY; Clarissa, 25, VA; Wm, 2, OT [living next door to Joel Chrisman]

5. Eleanor "Ella" C. Chrisman
b. Nov 1826 Lee Co, VA

d. 1908 Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR
buried Brookside Cemetery, Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR

m1. 12 Apr 1849 Yamhill Co, OR

Laban Shipp Morin

b. 1818 KY

d. 26 Mar 1855 Yamhill Co, OR

s/o Josiah Morin and Mary Shipp

m2. c1856

Addison Darr

b. 1822

d. 1889 Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR

buried Brookside Cemetery, Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR

1830: Lee Co, VA; Joel Chrisman; 1 male-Gabriel (5-9), 1 male-Joel (30-39); 2 females-Eleanor & Unknown (under 5); 2 females- Elizabeth & Chelessa (5-9); 1 female-Polly (30-39)

1840: Jackson Co, MO; Joel Crisman, 2 males-William & Campbell (5-9); 1 male-Gabriel (15-19); 1 male-Joel (40-49); 1 female-Rebecca (under 5); 1 female-Izza (10-14); 2 females-Chelessa & Eleanor (15-19); 1 female-Elizabeth (20-29); 1 female-Polly (40-49)

1850: Yamhill Co, OR, November 5, 1850; Lavin Morrin, 30, farmer, KY; Ellener, 24, VA, Josiah, 1, OT

ODLC: #2124 Yamhill Co; Labon S. Morin, b. 1818 Bourbon Co, KY; d. 20 or 26 Mar 1855; sc 01 Jun 1851; m'd Eleanor (Ellen C.) 12 Apr 1849 Yamhill Co, OR. Aff: Jason Peters, Wm. Logan, Joel Chrisman, James M. Belcher, Wm. M. Chrisman

1860: Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR, July 31, 1860; Addison Darr, 30, farmer, OH; Eleanor, 35, VA; Mary, 5/12, OR; John Morin, 8, OR; Laban Morin, 6, OR

1870: Willamette Pct, Wheatland PO, Yamhill Co, OR, August 5, 1870; Adison Dam (sic), 40, farmer, \$3000 \$1575, OH; Eleanor, 44, keeping house, VA; Mary, 10, at home, OR; Adison, 8, at home, OR; Josiah Morin, 19, farm laborer, OR; John, 18, farm laborer, OR; Laban, 16, farm laborer, OR

1880: Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR, June 10, 1880; Addison Darr, 54, farmer, OH; Ella, 54, keeping house, VA VA unk; Ella, 20, dau, at home, OR OH VA; Addison, 18, son, at home, OR OH VA; Labe Morin, 20, boarder, laborer, OR KY VA; Josiah Morin, 20, boarder, laborer, OR KY VA

1900: Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR, June 15, 1900; John C. Morin, head, Oct 1852, 47, s, farmer, OR MO MO; Ellinor C. Darr, mother, Nov 1826, 73, wid, 5-5 VA VA VA [living next door is Joseph Morin, head, Oct 1850, 49, s, farmer, OR MO MO]

Children of Laban Morin and Eleanor Chrisman:

i. Josiah S. Morin

b. Oct 1850 Yamhill Co, OR

d. 1940 Yamhill Co, OR

ii. John C. Morin

b. Oct 1852 Yamhill Co, OR

d.

iii. Laban S. Morin

b. Feb 1854 Yamhill Co, OR

d. 17 Mar 1936 Yamhill Co, OR

Children of Addison Darr and Eleanor Chrisman:

i. Mary Darr

b. 1860 Yamhill Co, OR

d.

ii. Addison C. Darr Jr.

b. 1862 Yamhill Co, OR

d. 06 Mar 1957 Yamhill Co, OR

buried Brookside Cemetery, Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR

DEAD OF THE NORTHWEST

Mrs. Eleanor Darr, Who Told Incidents of Pioneer Hardships.

MINNIVILLE, Or., April 18.—(Special.)—Mrs. Eleanor Darr, a Yamhill County pioneer of 1844, died at her home two miles southeast of Dayton. Mrs. Darr was born in Lee County, Va., November 4, 1826, being the youngest daughter of the late Joel Chrisman and wife, and accompanying the family across the plains from their Virginia home. She was married to Laban S. Morin in 1848. Her husband died in 1855, and three years later she was married to Addison Darr, who died about 14 years ago. Mrs. Darr is survived by three children of her first marriage and two of the second.

She is said to have the distinction of being the last one of the pioneers of 1844 to have lived to this date on the family donation land claim, to which she gained title. She loved the old farm and took great pleasure in relating the incidents of the family's first year in Yamhill County. There were seven children in the family, and after building a cabin, they all joined in putting in 10 acres of wheat. With an extemporized scythe blade and their fingers they harvested the first grain,

which was afterward laid on the ground and threshed out by allowing the oxen to tramp over it. In this tedious fashion they threshed 40 bushels to the acre, the portion used for family sustenance being first parched and then ground in a coffee mill.

[Oregonian, April 19, 1908 Sec 1 p.8]

"L. S. MORIN. At the base of the mountains, in the vicinity of Dayton, is the farm occupied for two years more than half a century by Mrs. Addison Darr, one of the best known women in Yamhill county. This property, well tilled, productive, and finely equipped, is necessarily associated with its original owner, L. S. Morin, than whom 110 more honored early settler braved the dangers of the plains in '44.

Mr. Morin, the first husband of Mrs. Darr, was born in the state of Kentucky in 1819, his father being a very prominent politician of the Blue Grass region. The latter, who died in California at the age of ninety-five years, was the father of four children, none of whom is living at the present time. The son, L. S., remained in the home in Kentucky until 1844, and that year joined a train consisting of sixty or seventy wagons, under command of Captain Ford. Mr. Morin was accompanied by his step-brother, and was equipped with provisions and ox-teams, and on the journey encountered many experiences of a decidedly unpleasant nature. However, the party arrived in safety at the end of their long trip, Mr. Morin going direct to Yamhill county, where he took up a donation claim consisting of a section of land, on what is now known as the Salem and LaFayette road, five miles north of Hopewell. Here he erected a small log cabin, and during 1847-8 was absent in the mining regions of California, returning to his claim in '49. His marriage at that time with Eleanor Chrisman was the outgrowth of a romantic attachment begun on the plains, Joel and Mary Chrisman, the parents of Mrs. Morin, being members of that band of home seekers. Mrs. Morin was born in Virginia, November 4, 1826.

Having become firmly established on the donation claim, Mr. Morin took another trip down into California, but not experiencing success, soon afterward came back and resumed general farming operations on his farm. He was not destined to long enjoy the advantages by which he was surrounded, for his death occurred in 1856, while still in the prime of his manhood and greatest usefulness. Three children were born to himself and wife, of whom Josiah and John are still living with their mother, and Laban S. is a resident of McMinnville.

After the death of her husband Mrs. Morin continued to live on the home place, and in 1860 was united in marriage with Addison Darr, who was born and reared in Ohio, and who crossed the plains in 1852. Two children were born of this union, of whom Addison is living in Dayton, and Ella is the wife of a farmer of this neighborhood. In 1888 Mr. Darr died, and since then his widow has lived on the same place, enjoying the same enviable reputation for hospitality which has characterized her whole life in Oregon. She is prominent in the Christian Church, which she joined as a young woman, and her influence has ever been exerted along educational and general improvement lines.

J. S. Morin, the oldest son in the family, and one of the prominent farmers in this county, is unmarried, and has passed his whole life with his mother. He is enterprising and progressive, and a model farmer and manager. A Democrat in politics, he has never aspired to official recognition, but has honestly cast his vote for the man rather than his political inclinations. Mr. Morin is a welcome member of the Masonic fraternity, in which he has passed all of the chairs but that of treasurer, and he is also identified with the Eastern Star." [Portrait and Biographical Record of the Willamette Valley p. 1469-70]

6. Female Chrisman
b. c1828 Lee Co, VA
d.

1830: Lee Co, VA; Joel Chrisman; 1 male-Gabriel (5-9), 1 male-Joel (30-39); 2 females-Eleanor & Unknown (under 5); 2 females- Elizabeth & Chelessa (5-9); 1 female-Polly (30-39)

7. William McConnell Chrisman

b. 20 Sep 1830 Lee Co, VA

d. 10 Nov 1904 McMinnville, Yamhill Co, OR

m. 06 Mar 1853 Yamhill Co, OR

Margaret Parrish

b. 1837 Canada

d. 1889 Yamhill Co, OR

1840: Jackson Co, MO; Joel Crisman, 2 males-William & Campbell (5-9); 1 male-Gabriel (15-19); 1 male-Joel (40-49); 1 female-Rebecca (under 5); 1 female-Izza (10-14); 2 females-Chelessa & Eleanor (15-19); 1 female-Elizabeth (20-29); 1 female-Polly (40-49)

1850: Yamhill Co, OR, November 5, 1850; Joel Crissman, 55, farmer, VA; Mary 52, VA, William, 20, VA; Campbell, 16, MO; Rebecca A., 13, MO

1860: Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR, July 31, 1860; Wm C. Crisman, 30, farmer, VA; Margaret, 23, Canada

1870: Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR, August 27, 1870; William Chrisman, 39, farmer, \$6000 \$3330, VA; Margaret, 33, keeping house, Can; Ella Banister, 12, at home, OR; Levi Boyce, 40, farmer, \$0 \$300, VA

1897: elected Mayor of McMinnville, Yamhill Co, OR [Oregonian, Portland, OR, Tuesday, November 2, 1897 p.3]

1900: McMinnville, Yamhill Co, OR, Jun 1900; Wm M.C. Chrisman, head, Sep 1830, 69, m-8yrs, VA VA VA, capitalist; Sarah A., wife, Sep 1867, m-8yrs, 0-0, TN TN TN

WT44: William Crisman

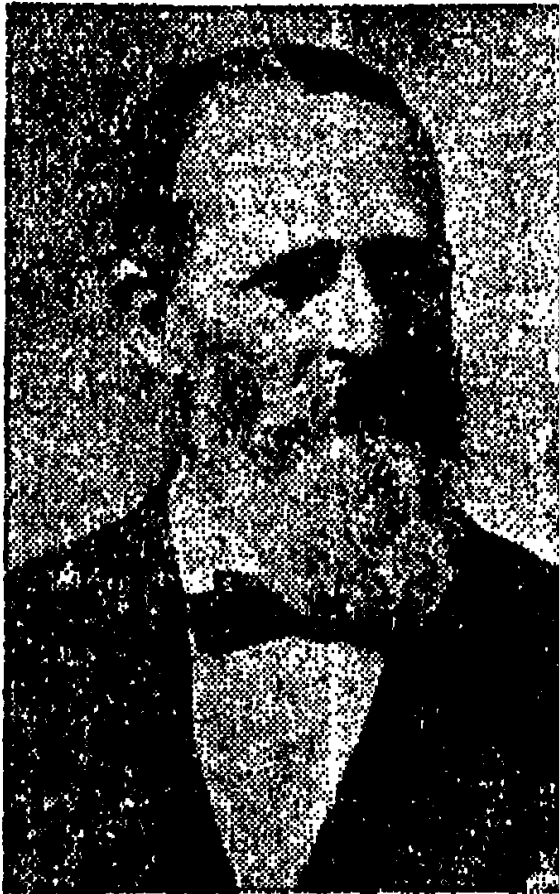
TOPA: 1876 p.41, emigrant of 1844, William Crisman

CHRISMAN, WILLIAM M. C., of McMinnville, was born in Virginia, September 20, 1830, and came to Oregon in 1844, locating near Dayton the next year. He lived on a farm for many years, then six years in Amity, and since then in McMinnville. He was one of

the first Republicans of the state, and has been a frequent member of conventions and committees, and was a nominee for the legislature from Yamhill County.

[Republican League Register p. 190-91]

PUBLIC-SPIRITED CITIZEN OF YAMHILL COUNTY



The Late W. M. Chrisman.

McMINNVILLE, Or., Nov. 8.—(Special.)—William McConnell Chrisman, pioneer and public-spirited citizen, died here at 8 this morning, aged 74 years.

Mr. Chrisman was born in Virginia, September 20, 1830. His parents were both natives of the Old Dominion. His family was of German descent. Mr. Chrisman came with his parents to Oregon in 1844, reaching Oregon City late in the Fall of that year, exhausted and almost destitute from the effects of a six months' tiresome trip from Jackson County, Missouri, to the Willamette Valley. In the Spring, of 1845 with his parents he settled in Dayton, in Yamhill County, on a donation land claim of 640 acres.

He was a Royal Arch Mason and had been an honored member of that order for the past 40 years. He was elected Mayor of McMinnville and served three terms. He was school director for six years and McMinnville owes much to him for its high standard of public education. While not an office-seeker in any sense, he at all times took a deep interest in public affairs and was one of the founders of the Republican party in this state, formerly being a Whig, although his father and grandfather

were Jeffersonian Democrats of the old school. It had been Mr. Chrisman's hope since taken down that he might live until election day and vote for the election of President Roosevelt, who was his ideal American statesman.

The funeral will be under the auspices of the Masons, Thursday, at 2 P. M.

Judge Galloway says: "I have known William M. Chrisman all his life, have been associated with him in business, and know he was absolutely incorruptible. He was a high type of the American citizen and a worthy specimen of the rugged pioneer."

[Oregonian, Portland, OR, Thursday, November 10, 1904 p.6]

"William M. C. Chrisman, an esteemed Oregon pioneer of 1844, and one of McMinnville's most prosperous citizens, was born in Virginia, September 20, 1830. His parents, Joel D. and Polly (Sproul) Chrisman, were both natives of the Old Dominion, where they and their respective families were well and favorably known. Grandfather Gabriel Chrisman, was born in Virginia about the year 1776. The family is of German

descent, whose ancestors were early settlers of Virginia. The parents of the subject of our sketch had nine children, eight of whom attained maturity, five now living. One son is a prominent citizen of the Dalles, Oregon; one lives in Ventura county, California; while the others are also esteemed residents of this State, all of whom are financially very successful, and stand high in their various communities for business integrity and morality.

The subject of our sketch was the seventh of the family, and accompanied his parents to Oregon when he was fourteen years of age. This was in 1844, and that winter was spent in Oregon City, when in the spring of 1845, the family came up the Willamette river, about two miles southeast of the present site of Dayton, where they pre-empted (540 acres of land bordering on the river. They camped on their claim until their log house was built, which was covered with boards, with logs laid across to keep the boards in place. The floor was of split and hewed timber. All their cattle, with the exception of three oxen and two cows, had died, and with the assistance of these oxen and one of the cows in a team, and a wooden mold-board plow, they did their first plowing. Ten acres of wheat were sowed and harrowed in, and with an extemporized scythe blade and fingers, they harvested the first grain, which was afterward laid shingle fashion, with heads up, inside of a corral, on which they turned the horses, who ran around upon the grain until it was threshed. The straw was then piled in the middle, while two persons with a sheet, fanned the grain, which another person, standing on a box, poured in front of the fan. In this tedious fashion, they threshed forty bushels to the acre. Their provisions for the first year was principally boiled wheat, and they used parched wheat for coffee. All the grain was ground in a large coffee-mill. The seed for their first crop was borrowed.

The father was an industrious, upright man, who gave close attention to the affairs of his farm, taking little interest in anything else, excepting that he was a good shot and loved to hunt, by which means, the family had all the venison they wanted. The subject of our sketch recalls with interest, a visit made them by some of their young friends, boys and girls, who came on horseback a distance of fifteen miles to spend the evening and have a social dance. There was nothing in the house to eat, except wheat, and the subject of our sketch was anxious to have some deer come along so that he might add to the larder. He soon discovered some and came to the house for the gun, when his father said, "Let me take it, I can get one of them", and the family stood in the door and watched while the father kept the brush between him and the deer until he got close enough to shoot. It was a long range, but a doe fell when the gun cracked. She proved to be a very old one, but they had venison steak and parched wheat for supper; and those early gatherings of the young pioneer are among the brightest memories treasured by the participants to-day.

The mother was an industrious, frugal woman, devoted to her family and friends, and was much beloved because of these qualities and her uniform good nature. She was born February 17, 1798, and died March 27, 1852, leaving many to mourn her loss. After her death, the father divided the land, giving the youngest sufficient property to keep him during the rest of his life. The father survived until August 16, 1875, when he expired in the midst of his family and friends, who had learned to esteem him for his many sterling qualities of mind and heart, he was born November 7, 1795.

The subject of our sketch attended school two and one-half miles from his home. This school was kept on Dayton plains, and was taught by a Mr. Smith, and there, Mr.

Chrisman learned to spell, read and figure, studying his lessons by the light of kindlings on the hearth.

When he arrived at maturity he commenced life for himself on a half section of land, which he worked industriously, and was quite prosperous

In 1853 he was married to Miss Margaret Parrish, a daughter of John and Margaret Parrish, who came to Oregon in 1850. After their marriage they moved on to their new farm, and while they were building the hewed-log house, they camped under the sheltering boughs of an oak tree, on their land, and the young devoted wife, helped him raise the house. This place was located six miles south of Dayton on the Salem road. They resided here for six years, when they sold and purchased the land he has since owned, located seven miles southwest of Dayton. He first purchased here, 105 acres of land, on which he built a good house, where he and his wife lived and worked, meeting with gratifying success and accumulating property and means. He added from time to time to his original purchase, until he became the owner of 935 acres of as choice farming land as was to be found in the country.

He then retired from his farm, going to Amity, where he built a large comfortable residence, where he and his family lived for six years. At the end of this time he sold out, and came to McMinnville, where he purchased a pleasant home, where he and his family now reside.

Mr. and Mrs. Chrisman lived very happily together, being greatly devoted to each other. They had no family of their own, but took and raised a child to womanhood. Mrs. Chrisman became afflicted with a cancer of the stomach, and her husband cared for her most tenderly, but after six months' suffering she died in 1889. They had been married thirty-seven years, and Mr. Chrisman pays a most glowing tribute to her memory, pronouncing her as good a woman and as devoted a wife as ever lived. She was universally beloved on account of her lovable disposition and high Christian character. To express in some slight degree his great love for his wife, he has placed a beautiful monument on her grave, which is one of the handsomest ever seen, and cost \$3,000.

Mr. Chrisman was again married Jny 11, 1892, to Sarah A. Kilby, a native of Tennessee. His farm, which he still owns has been principally devoted to grain, and has always been very productive. He is now raising a good many cattle and draft horses on the place, which is proving to be very successful and remunerative. Of late he has been loaning money. He is a stockholder in the First National Bank of McMinnville, the prosperity and firm financial standing of which is proverbial.

He is a strong Republican in politics, while his father was a Democrat. Mr. Chrisman voted the Whig ticket at his first vote, showing that he is a person who does his own thinking. When the Republican party was formed he joined them, and his constituents nominated him for Representative to the State Legislature, but that was an off year for the party, and every candidate was defeated; not, but that the men were worthy, but owing to a combination of circumstances, for which no one was responsible. While not being an office-seeker, he is, like all good men, deeply interested in the affairs of his State, and for many years has attended the convention of his party.

He is a Royal Arch Mason, and was for a couple of terms Master of his lodge.

Thus is added another name to the already glorious throng of Oregon's developers and present standard bearers. It is by reason of such sterling qualities of heart and mind as exhibited by the present subject, that she is enabled to take such a proud stand among the

Sisterhood of States, standing in the foremost ranks, with her feet planted on a sure foundation of agricultural and financial worth, while the exhilarating breezes of liberty and the balmy zephyrs of happiness bathe her celestial forehead.” [Illustrated History of Oregon by H.K. Hines p. 532-34]

“CHRISMAN, WILLIAM M. C.--Born in Virginia in 1830; accompanied his parents to Missouri in 1833, and to Oregon in 1844. Served in the Yakinia war. He is proprietor of a very large farm at Amity. Married Margaret Parrish in 1853, and they had five children, all of whom are deceased.” [History of the Willamette Valley by Herbert Lang p.894]

8. Izza Chrisman

b. 1832

d. Aug 1865 when the Brother Jonathan sank

m. 26 Dec 1848 (Oregon Spectator)

William Logan

b. 1823 Montgomery Co, MO

d. Aug 1865 when the Brother Jonathan sank

1840: Jackson Co, MO; Joel Crisman, 2 males-William & Campbell (5-9); 1 male-Gabriel (15-19); 1 male-Joel (40-49); 1 female-Rebecca (under 5); 1 female-Izza (10-14); 2 females-Chelessa & Eleanor (15-19); 1 female-Elizabeth (20-29); 1 female-Polly (40-49)

1850: Yamhill Co, OR, November 6, 1850; William Logan, 25, farmer, MO; Isy, 23, MO; Hugh, 8/12, OT

ODLC: #193 Yamhill Co, OR; b. 1823 Montgomery Co, MO; sc 15 Sep 1848; m. Izza 26 Dec 1848 Yamhill Co, OR. Aff: Elias J. Crandal, Alvie Kimsey.

1860: Fall River, Wasco Co, OR, August 11, 1860; Wm Logan, 35, farmer, \$3400 \$4440, MO; Izzy L., 33, VA; Hugh, 10, OR; William, 12, OR; Saml Harris, 3, OR

Children of William Logan and Izza Chrisman:

i. Hugh Logan

b. 1850 Yamhill Co, OR

d. 1913 Wasco Co, OR

buried Odd Fellows Cemetery, The Dalles, Wasco Co, OR

ii. William Logan

b. 1848 OR

d.

iii. Samuel Harris Logan
b. 1857 OR
d.

9. Campbell Ewing Chrisman
b. 04 Jan 1835 Pike Co, MO
d. 15 May 1908 Wasco Co, OR

m. c1864 Wasco Co, OR
Mary Adeline Murphy
b. Jun 1846 IL
d. 20 Feb 1922 Salem, Marion Co, OR, Oregon State Hospital

1840: Jackson Co, MO; Joel Crisman, 2 males-William & Campbell (5-9); 1 male-Gabriel (15-19); 1 male-Joel (40-49); 1 female-Rebecca (under 5); 1 female-Izza (10-14); 2 females-Chelessa & Eleanor (15-19); 1 female-Elizabeth (20-29); 1 female-Polly (40-49)

1850: Yamhill Co, OR, November 5, 1850; Joel Crissman, 55, farmer, VA; Mary 52, VA, William, 20, VA; Campbell, 16, MO; Rebecca A., 13, MO

1860: Fall River, Wasco Co, OR, August 11, 1860; Campbell E. Chrisman, 34, farmer, \$0 \$300, MO; Wm C. Pierson , 37, farmer, \$0 \$200, NY

1870: Fifteen Mile Pct, Wasco Co, OR, July 22, 1870; Campbell E. Chrisman, 34, farmer, \$3200 \$4650, MO; Mary A., 23, keeping house, IL; Lillie, 6, OR; Hugh, 4, OR; Levi, 1, OR

1880: The Dalles, Wasco Co, OR, June 19, 1880; C.E. Chrisman, 43, head, farmer, MO VA VA; Mary, 33, wife, keeping house, IL IL IL; Lilley, 15, dau, at home, OR MO IL; Hugh, 14, son, work out, OR MO IL; Levi, 9, son, OR MO IL; Frank, 8, son, OR MO IL; Eugene, 2, OR MO IL; Sam Hammit, 21, lives with, farmer, OR MO IL

1884: Wasco Co, Hawthorne Asylum, MaryA. Chrisman #908, commitment, Record #031

1893: Wasco Co, Hawthorne Asylum, Mary A. Chrisman, commitment, Record #071

1893: Wasco Co, Hawthorne Asylum, M.A. Chrisman, commitment, Record #102

1898: Wasco Co, Guardianship, Mary A. Chrisman, Wasco Co Record #A-520

1900: The Dalles, Wasco Co, OR, June 7, 1900; Campbell Chrisman, head, Jan 1835, 65, m-42yrs, MO MO MO; Eugene, son, May 1878, 22, s, OR MO IL; Fred, son, Jun 1888, 11, s, OR MO IL

1908: Wasco Co, Estate, Campbell E. Chrisman, Wasco Co Record #0234

1900: Oregon State Insane Asylum, Salem, Marion Co, OR, June 29, 1900; Mary Chrisman, inmate, Jun 1846, 53, m, 6-6, IL KY KY, housewife

1910: Oregon State Insane Asylum, Salem, Marion Co, OR, May 16, 1910; Mary Chrisman, 63, m'd, inmate, IL unk KY

1920: Oregon State Insane Asylum, Salem, Marion Co, OR, January 3, 1920; Mary A. Chrisman, 73, inmate, IL unk unk

1922: Wasco Co, Estate, Mary A. Chrisman, Wasco Co Record #0981

Children of Campbell Chrisman and Mary:

- i. Lillie Chrisman (1864-)
- ii. Hugh Chrisman (1865-1942) buried Oddfellows Cemetery, The Dalles, Wasco Co, OR
- iii. Levi Chrisman (1869-1954) buried Oddfellows Cemetery, The Dalles, Wasco Co, OR
- iv. Frank Chrisman (1871-1950) buried Oddfellows Cemetery, The Dalles, Wasco Co, OR
- v. C. Eugene Chrisman (1878-1959) buried Oddfellows Cemetery, The Dalles, Wasco Co, OR

10. Rebecca Ann Chrisman

b. 17 Feb 1837 MO

d. 04 Jul 1895

buried Masonic Cemetery, Lafayette, Yamhill Co, OR

m. 08 Apr 1852 Yamhill Co, OR

Alexander B. Westerfield

b. 09 Mar 1822

d. 10 Nov 1869 Yamhill Co, OR

buried Masonic Cemetery, Lafayette, Yamhill Co, OR

1840: Jackson Co, MO; Joel Crisman, 2 males-William & Campbell (5-9); 1 male-Gabriel (15-19); 1 male-Joel (40-49); 1 female-Rebecca (under 5); 1 female-Izza (10-14); 2 females-Chelessa & Eleanor (15-19); 1 female-Elizabeth (20-29); 1 female-Polly (40-49)

1850: Yamhill Co, OR, November 5, 1850; Joel Crissman, 55, farmer, VA; Mary 52, VA, William, 20, VA; Campbell, 16, MO; Rebecca A., 13, MO

Children of Alexander Westerfield and Rebecca Chrisman:

- i. William I. Westerfield (13 Dec 1863-)

- ii. George Westerfield
- iii. Cora Westerfield (16 Feb 1856-19 Feb 1860)
buried Masonic Cemetery, Lafayette, Yamhill Co, OR
- iii. Alexander B. Westerfield
- iv. Cornelius Westerfield (16 Mar 1854-18 Apr 1904)
buried Masonic Cemetery, Lafayette, Yamhill Co, OR

“WILLIAM I. WESTERFIELD is the proprietor of the Grass Valley Journal, a bright and newsy sheet of Sherman county, the product of his skill and brain. He was born in Lafayette, Oregon, on December 13, 1863, the son of Alexander B. and Rebecca A. (Chrisman) Westerfield, who were married in the east and came to Oregon in the forties. The father died when our subject was six years of age and the mother died on July 4, 1895. The father was a physician and surgeon in the Mexican War and practiced many years in Yamhill county, Oregon. Our subject spent his life until 1898 in the county of his birth. He received his education in the Lafayette public schools and when ten years of age entered the office of the old Lafayette Courier. For five or six years he labored there and became master of every portion of the printer's trade. Then he spent two years in a drug store. After that, in company with his brother, Alexander B., he bought the Lafayette Register and job office, which they operated for three or four years. At about that time, the county seat was removed from Lafayette to McMinnville, and six months previous to that Mr. Westerfield sold the Register. The plant was removed later to McMinnville. Our subject then took up the printing and undertaking business and conducted it, together with a store, for three and one-half years, then he worked at various employments through the hard times, and in 1898 he came to Grass Valley. For a few months he was in the employ of the Journal Publishing Company, and then leased the Grass Valley Journal. In February, 1902, he bought the newspaper and printing plant and since then has handled it in person. He has made the Journal a very attractive and good paper, which is highly prized throughout this part of the state. In addition to his printing establishment, he owns a residence and two lots in Grass Valley, besides other property.

In 1890, at Lafayette, Oregon, Mr. Westerfield married Anna B. Gardiner, who was born near Kalama, Washington. Her father, William A. Gardiner, was born in Scotland and died in Portland, in 1902. He married Clara B. Martin, who died at Portland, in 1898. Our subject has three brothers; George, in Dayton; Alexander B., in McMinnville, Oregon; Cornelius, deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Westerfield four children have been born, Floyd C, Elvena, and Veda and Vera, twins.

Mr. Westerfield is past grand of the I. O. O. F., and present chief patriarch of the Encampment. He also belongs to the A. O. U. W., and he and his wife are members of the Degree of Honor. For five years Mr. Westerfield has been city recorder and in this capacity has given excellent satisfaction. Personally, he is a man well informed, retiring and with little ostentation, and the success he has made of his paper indicates his ability.” [An Illustrated History of Central Oregon p.545]