William Brown Dobelbower

Pioneer of 1847

compiled by Stephenie Flora
orenpioneers.com

William Brown Dobelbower
b. 16 Sep 1823 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
d. 21 Apr 1911 Rainier, Columbia County, Oregon
buried Knights of Pythias Cemetery, Rainier, Columbia County, Oregon
s/o Charles and L. H. Dobelbower

m. 1854

Emily Adeline Tigard
b. 09 Jan 1836 West Fork, Washington County, Arkansas
d. 18 Nov 1908 Columbia County, Oregon
buried Knights of Pythias Cemetery, Rainier, Columbia County, Oregon
d/o Hugh and Frances Keziah "Fanny"(McClendon) Tigard

Note: seen spelled as Doblebower as often in the records as Dobelbower

Transactions of Oregon Pioneer Association: 1888 p.16 W.B. Doblebower, pioneer of 1847

ODLC: #1499 Washington; William B. Dobelbower, b. 1823 Philadelphia, PA; arr prior 01 Dec 1850; sc 08 Aug 1853. Aff: John Griffith, Amos Griffith, S.M. Nye

Note: although several sources say William Dobelbower came in 1850 he is shown on the trail in 1847. It is possible he returned east and emigrated a second time in 1850.

1856: Washington County, William A. Dobelbower, Tax Roll, Provisional and Territorial Record #12279

1857: Washington County, William A. Dobelbower, Tax Roll, Provisional and Territorial Record #12279A

1859: Washington County, William A. Dobelbower, Tax Roll, Provisional and Territorial Record #12279C
1880: Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon, June 15, 1880; Wm B. Doublebower, 56, carpenter/farmer, PA PA PA; Emily A., 44, wife, Ark MO GA; Alice L., 20, dau, OR PA Ark; Nellie, 9, dau, OR PA Ark; Lewis H., 4, son OR PA Ark

1900: Cowiche, Yakima County, Washington, June 4, 1900; William B. Dobelbower, head, Sep 1823, 76, m-46yrs, PA PA PA, farmer, Emily A., wife, Jan 1836, m-46yrs, 9-4, Ark MO GA; Fred W., son, Oct 1857, 42, s, OR PA Ark, farm laborer
CELEBRATE GOLDEN WEDDING AT RAINIER, OR.

MR. AND MRS. W. B. DOBELBOWER.

Mr. and Mrs. William B. Dobelbower celebrated their golden wedding anniversary February 5, at their home, in Rainier, Or.; Mr. Dobelbower was born in Philadelphia, September 28, 1823. In 1850 he crossed the plains to Oregon. Mrs. Dobelbower (formerly Emily A. Tigard) was born in Cane Hill, Washington County, Ark., January 9, 1826. She crossed the plains to Oregon in 1852. Mr. and Mrs. Dobelbower were married by the late Elder Barton in 1854, and settled on a donation claim the same year in Washington County. Mr. Dobelbower enlisted in the Oregon Mounted Volunteers, and served in the Walla Walla and Yakima Indian War of 1855 and 1856. He moved to Portland in 1872, worked at his trade as carpenter, and built many of the old-time residences.

Mr. and Mrs. Dobelbower are the parents of eight children, three of whom are living, with three grandchildren. They are both hale and hearty, and look forward to many future celebrations.
Children of William Dobelbower and Emily Tigard:
1. Charles C. Dobelbower
   b. 1856
   d. 29 Jun 1933
   buried Bethany Memorial Cemetery, Warren, Columbia County, Oregon

2. Fred W. Dobelbower
   b. Oct 1857 Multnomah County, Oregon
   d. 25 Mar 1901 Cowiche, Yakima County, Washington
   buried Tahoma Cemetery, Yakima, Yakima County, Washington

3. William B. Dobelbower
   b. 1862
   d. 1863
   buried Crescent Grove Cemetery, Tigard, Washington County, Oregon
4. Robert F. Dobelbower  
b. 1866  
d. 1868  
buried Crescent Grove Cemetery, Tigard, Washington County, Oregon

5. Lilly M. Dobelbower  
b. 1873  
d. 1875  
buried Crescent Grove Cemetery, Tigard, Washington County, Oregon

6. Lewis H. Dobelbower  
b. 1876 Rainier, Columbia County, Oregon  
d. Nov 1889 Rainier, Columbia County, Oregon  
buried Crescent Grove Cemetery, Tigard, Washington County, Oregon

---

**DIED.**  

At Rainier, Or., Lewis, youngest son of William B. and Emily A. Dobelbower, age 18 years.  
Funeral from residence of C. C. Dobelbower, 312 Third street, Thursday, at 10 A.M.

---

[Oregonian, Portland, Oregon, Wednesday, November 20, 1889 p.4]

7. Nellie Dobelbower  
b.  
d.
W. B. Dobelbower near Rainier saved his daughter Nellie’s life last summer. Mr. Dobelbower keeps a wood-wharf. His daughter slipped back through a hole in the wharf. He kicked off his boots, jumped in and caught her at the last moment. The water was deep and the current strong. When he lifted her up the first words she said were “There goes my hat.”

Mr. Dobelbower saved a boy’s life some years ago in Portland. The rescued boy’s first ejaculation was “Where’s my fishing line?” Mr. Dobelbower’s life was saved in like manner when a boy, and to make himself even he has saved two human lives. His preserver he never knew, as he vanished after the commission of the heroic deed to escape the reception of thanks.