

William Caples Sr. Family
Pioneers of 1844 and 1850 and 1852
Compiled by Stephenie Flora
oregonpioneers.com

William Caples, Sr.

b. 27 Jan 1766 Baltimore County, Maryland

d. 24 May 1836 Newport, Tuscarawas County, Ohio

[T.D. Baker - ancestry.com]

m. 21 Aug 1793 Baltimore County, Maryland

Elizabeth Green

b. 1779 Baltimore County, Maryland

d. 13 Aug 1850 Tuscarawas County, Ohio

[T.D. Baker - ancestry.com]

Children of William and Elizabeth Green:

1. Robert Green Caples Sr. [did not emigrate west]

b. 29 Dec 1792 Baltimore, Baltimore County, Maryland

d. 30 Sep 1881 Gnadenhutten, Tuscarawas County, Ohio

buried [Newport Methodist Cemetery](#), Newport, Tuscarawas County, Ohio

m. Nancy Ann Davis 28 Jul 1825 Tuscarawas County, Ohio

1850: Tuscarawas County, Ohio

1860: Tuscarawas County, Ohio

1870: Tuscarawas County, Ohio

1880: Tuscarawas County, Ohio

2. Charles Wesley Caples [did not emigrate west]

b. 14 Jun 1796 Baltimore, Baltimore County, Maryland

d. 02 Jan 1884 Andrew County, Missouri

buried [Amazonia Cemetery](#), Amazonia, Andrew County, Missouri

m1. Matilda Eleanor Tracy 28 Jun 1819 Tuscarawas County, Ohio

m. Elizabeth [unknown] c 1832

3. Mary Caples [emigrated 1852]

b. 31 Mar 1798 Middletown, Washington County, Pennsylvania

d. 24 Nov 1876 St. Helens, Columbia County, Oregon

buried [Masonic Cemetery](#), St. Helens, Columbia County, Oregon

m. 11 Jun 1816 Tuscarawas County, Ohio

Phillip Laffer [emigrated 1852]

b. 23 Jan 1795 Pennsylvania

d. 07 Jul 1871 St. Helens, Columbia County, Oregon

buried [Masonic Cemetery](#), St. Helens, Columbia County, Oregon

1850: Jefferson County, Missouri, November 30, 1850; Phillip Laffer, 56, farmer, \$1655, PA; Mary 52, PA; Daniel Mesner, 22, farmer, OH; Edna Messner, 17, NC; Charles Townsend, 9, NC

1860: Union, Columbia Co, OR, June 11, 1860; Philip Laffer, 66, farmer, \$1620 \$1172, PA; Mary, 63, PA; Joseph Caples, 58, farmer, \$1280 \$0, MD

1870: St. Helens PO, Columbia County, Oregon, July 26, 1870; Phillip Laffer, 75, farmer, \$2500 \$800, PA; Mary, 73, keeping house, PA; Mary S. Misner, 16, at school, OR [lived with Laffer family as foster/adopted child, d/o Daniel Messner (1794-1829 and Christiana Elizabeth Messner (1798-1829)]

4. Joseph S. Caples **[Pioneer of 1844]**

b. 23 Jun 1803 Baltimore, MD

d. 10 Nov 1881 Union, Columbia Co, OR

buried [Masonic Cemetery](#), St. Helens, Columbia County, Oregon

m. 1832 Washington County, Ohio

Mary Ann Laffer **[died prior to emigration]**

b. 1812

d. 18 Jan 1837 Tuscarawas Co, OH

buried [Newport Methodist Cemetery](#), Newport, Tuscarawas County, Ohio

1844: "Thursday, July 11--On our return to camp, Mr. Joseph Caples shot a long distance at an antelope, and broke its hind leg; [was pursued until caught and killed]" [Transactions of Oregon Pioneer Association 1888 p.93; Diary of Edward E. Parrish]

1844: "emigrant of 1844, Joseph Caples" [Transactions of Oregon Pioneer Association 1888 p.93, p. 113; Diary of Edward E. Parrish]

ODLC: #4002 Washington Co; Joseph Caples, b. 1803 Baltimore, MD; arr OR 01 Dec 1844; sc 14 Dec 1847. Aff: H.M. Knighton, Chas. G. Caples, Thomas H. Smith, Aaron Boyles

1846: Dec 15; Twality Co, Land Claim, Joseph Caples, Provisional and Territorial Record Vol 4 p.123

1849: Twality Co, Census, Joseph Caples, Provisional and Territorial Record #3451

1850: Washington Co, Census, Joseph Caples, Provisional and Territorial Record #3450

1850: Washington Co, OR, December 14, 1850; Joseph Cable (sic), 50, farmer, OH; Charles, 19, OH; Hezekiah, 17, OH; Joana, 15, OH; Jacob, 35, farmer, OH; Robt German, 35, laborer, Eng; Joseph Barrow, 50, laborer, Eng

1853: Washington Co, Census, Joseph Caples, Provisional and Territorial Record #5290

1854: Columbia Co, Tax Roll, Joseph Caples, Provisional and Territorial Record #14031

1854: Columbia Co, Tax Roll, Joseph Caples, Provisional and Territorial Record #8024

1855: Columbia Co, Tax Roll, Joseph Caples, Provisional and Territorial Record #14032

1855: Columbia Co, Tax Roll, Joseph Caples, Provisional and Territorial Record #8022

1857: Columbia Co, Tax Roll, Joseph Caples, Provisional and Territorial Record #14034

1858: Columbia Co, Tax Roll, Joseph Caples, Provisional and Territorial Record #14035

1859: Columbia Co, Tax Roll, Joseph Caples, Provisional and Territorial Record #14036

1860: Union, Columbia Co, OR, June 11, 1860; Philip Laffer, 66, farmer, \$1620 \$1172, PA; Mary, 63, PA; Joseph Caples, 58, farmer, \$1280 \$0, MD

1865: Columbia Co, Census, Joseph Caples, Columbia Co Record p. 03

1880: Union, Columbia Co, OR, June 10, 1880; Hez Caples, 42, merchant, OH MD OH; Minerva, 26, wife, keeping house, OR OH IL; Harry H., 9, son, at home, OR OH OR; Ralph, 5, son, at home, OR OH OR; Garfield, 3, son, at home, OR OH OR; Joseph Caples, 77, father, without occupation, MD MD MD [Joseph actually appears to be living next door]

4-i. Phillip Caples [died prior to emigration]

b. 13 Sep 1823

d. 1837 Iowa

4-ii. (Dr.) Charles Green Caples [Pioneer of 1844]

b. 22 May 1832 Tuscarawas, OH

d. 03 Apr 1906 St. Helens, Columbia Co, OR

buried [Masonic Cemetery](#), Columbia City, Columbia Co, OR

m. 10 May 1855 OR

Lucinda Margaret McBride [Pioneer of 1846]

b. 1836

d. Sep 1916 Columbia City, Columbia Co, OR

buried Masonic Cemetery, Columbia City, Columbia Co, OR

d/o James McBride and Mahala Miller

ODLC: #1560 Columbia Co; SC 01 Oct 1853

Spec: July 8, 1847; Chas. Caples signed a petition to ban the sale of alcohol in Clatsop Co

1846: Mar 21; Champoege County, Land Claim, Charles G. Caples, Provisional and Territorial Record Vol 1 p.143

1850: Washington Co, OR, December 14, 1850; Joseph Cable (sic), 50, farmer, OH; Charles, 19, OH; Hezekiah, 17, OH; Joana, 15, OH; Jacob, 35, farmer, OH; Robt German, 35, laborer, Eng; Joseph Barrow, 50, laborer, Eng

1853: Washington Co, Census, Charles Caples, Provisional and Territorial Record #5290

1854: Columbia Co, Tax Roll, Charles G. Caples, Provisional and Territorial Record #14031

1854: Columbia Co, Tax Roll, Charles G. Caples, Provisional and Territorial Record #8024

1855: Columbia Co, Tax Roll, Charles G. Caples, Provisional and Territorial Record #14032

1856: Columbia Co, Tax Roll, Charles G. Caples, Provisional and Territorial Record #14033

1857: Columbia Co, Tax Roll, Charles G. Caples, Provisional and Territorial Record #14034

1858: Columbia Co, Tax Roll, Charles G. Caples, Provisional and Territorial Record #14035

1860: The Dalles, Wasco Co, OR, June 30, 1860; Chas G. Caples, 38, farmer, \$2000 \$1000, OH; Lucinda, 24, MO; Unnamed, 2/12, f, OR

1865: Columbia Co, Census, C.G. Caples, Columbia Co Record p. 03

1870: Cowlitz Co, WT, August 10, 1870; C.G. Caples, 38, physician, \$5000 \$500, OH; Lucinda, 34, keeping house, MO; Byron, 10, at home, OR; Maggie, 8, at home, OR; Louise, 5, at home, OR

1880: Union, Columbia Co, OR; June 19, 1880; Charles G. Caples, 48, physician, OH; Lucinda, 44, wife, keeping house, MO TN MO; Byron, 20, son, without occupation, OR OH MO; Maggie, 17, dau, OR OH MO; Willie, 15, dau, at home, OR OH MO; Dell M., 9, dau, at home, WT OH MO; Frederick, 8, son, at home, OR OH MO

1900: Union, Columbia Co, OR, June 6, 1900; Charles G. Caples, head, Ma 1832, 68, m-45yrs, OH MD OH, farmer; Lucinda M., wife, June 1836, 63, m-45yrs, 7-5, MO TN MO; Frederick C., son, May 1872, 28, s, miner, OR OH MO



Caples House Museum

Overlooking the majestic Columbia River in beautiful Columbia City, Oregon, you can explore the history of the Charles G. Caples family (early Oregon pioneers) through our extensive collection of artifacts and exhibits. Our museum brings the past to life. Come visit us and discover the stories of Caples House!

“An early pioneer, Dr. Charles Green Caples migrated across the Oregon Trail as a boy. After his marriage to Lucinda McBride, he studied medicine in Portland and passed the examination by the Board of Physicians for his degree. In 1870 he constructed his two story home on the same spot where his father Joseph Caples built his log cabin in 1846. The family lived on this land

until 1959, when Dell Caples Houghton, a daughter of Charles and Lucinda Caples and a member of Mount St. Helens Chapter, Oregon State Society Daughters of the American Revolution, willed the house and property to the OSSDAR as a museum.

The Caples House Museum complex occupies a whole city block in the historic locality of Columbia City Oregon. Here, in 1870, on the banks of the beautiful Columbia River and with a majestic view of Mt. St. Helens, Dr. Charles Green Caples built his two-story home from logs cut near Monticello Washington, now called Longview. The house was occupied continuously by the Caples family until 1959." [<http://capleshouse.com/history.html>]

PIONEER WOMAN DIES

MRS. L. M. CAPLES, OREGON RESIDENT SINCE 1846.

**Funeral Will Be Held Tomorrow at
Columbia City—Five Children and
Other Relatives Survive.**

Lucinda M. Caples, widow of the late Dr. C. G. Caples, a pioneer of Oregon, died yesterday at her home at Columbia City.

Mrs. Caples was born in 1836. She came with her parents, Dr. and Mrs. James McBride, to Oregon in 1846, and was married to C. G. Caples in May, 1855. She resided in Columbia County from that time until her death.

She leaves the following children: Mrs. Margaret Wharton, Dr. Byron M. Caples, Miss Willie Caples, Mrs. Dell Shinn and Fred C. Caples. Other immediate relatives surviving her are her brother, Justice L. A. McBride, of Deer Island; Dr. J. H. McBride of Pasadena, Cal., and her sisters, Mrs. Louisa A. Woods and Mrs. N. E. Dolman.

The funeral will be held from the family residence at Columbia City tomorrow at 1:30 P. M.

[Oregonian, Portland, OR, September 5, 1916 p.8]

CHARLES G. CAPLES, M. D.

Among the pioneer families of Columbia county, none had more influence in their respective communities or performed more distinctive service for their fellowmen than the Caples family, a worthy representative of which was the late Dr. Charles G. Caples, who, as an able, devoted and successful physician and loyal and public-spirited citizen, was for a long period one of the conspicuous figures of his section of the county.

The Doctor was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, on the 22d of May, 1832, a son of Joseph and Mary (Laffer) Caples, mentioned more fully in the sketch of H. H. Caples, which appears elsewhere in this work. In the family was only one daughter, Joanna, who was married in 1859 to George W. Maxwell, and for several years they made their home in Yamhill county, Oregon, but later removed to Clark county, Washington, residing there until the late '70s. They then removed to Columbia City, Oregon, where Mrs. Maxwell died but Mr. Maxwell's death occurred at Vancouver, Washington. In their family were two children: Lawrence V. Maxwell, who married and had three children: Lawrence V., Jr., now a resident of New York city, Charles H. of Columbia City, Oregon, and Lucille, of Kelso, Washington; while Chester B. Maxwell, is a resident of Wieser, Idaho. He is married and has one daughter, Muriel.

Dr. Caples lived in his native county until twelve years of age and in 1844 accompanied his parents on their journey across the plains to Oregon. He attended the public schools of Ohio and Salem, Oregon, also Tualatin Academy near Forest Grove, now known as Pacific University. In 1848, when seventeen years of age, he joined the gold rush to California, where he was engaged in mining about one year making enough money to pay the tuition and expenses of his sister and himself at Tualatin Academy. On leaving that institution he returned to Columbia City, and took a donation land claim of three hundred and twenty acres, a portion of which on the high land was heavily timbered, while the remainder was mainly rich river bottom land. He gave his attention to clearing this place, which he developed into a good farm, there spending the remainder of his life. After his marriage in 1855 he went to Portland and took up the study of medicine under the direction of Dr. Giltner, one of the ablest physicians of that city, and in the course of time passed the examination before the board of physicians and was granted the degree of Doctor of Medicine. In 1868 he was appointed state medical examiner for the insane at Monticello, Washington, in

which capacity he rendered effective service for three years, after which he returned to his farm at Columbia City, where he practiced medicine for many years. He possessed high qualifications as a physician, for which profession he was naturally fitted. In those early days the practice of medicine in this sparsely settled country meant long and tiresome trips, day and night, over often almost impassable roads, in fair weather and foul, to reach those who required his services. The record of Dr. Caples was replete with faithful service, as he spared not himself that he might relieve the suffering of the sick, and he commanded the unqualified confidence, esteem and gratitude of the people of his community. After many years of practice, he retired and lived quietly on his farm until his death, which occurred April 3, 1906, when he was seventy-four years of age.

On May 10, 1855, Dr. Caples married Miss Lucinda M. McBride, who was born in Missouri, a daughter of James and Mahala McBride, the former a native of Tennessee and the latter of Missouri. The family came to Oregon in 1846, crossing the plains with ox teams and covered wagons, and prominent among the pioneer families of this state. One of their sons, Thomas A. McBride, is now chief justice of the supreme court of Oregon. Mrs. Caples died September 4, 1916, leaving five children, as follows: Dr. Byron M., born at The Dalles, Oregon, is now a practicing physician at Waukesha, Wisconsin, and is the owner of the Waukesha Springs Sanatorium; Margaret A., is mentioned below; Willie L. is a resident of Arcadia, California; Dell M. is the wife of E. L. Houghton, of Santa Cruz, California; and Frederick C. is a mining engineer at Wedderburn, Oregon.

Margaret A. Caples, who was born in Yamhill county, Oregon, attended the public schools and completed her education in old Columbia City Academy. She remained at home until her marriage in 1883 to E. M. Wharton, who was born in Princeton, Illinois, and is a son of Samuel and Mary Wharton, both now deceased. Mr. Wharton was educated in the public schools of his native state, and in 1870 went to Kansas, where he lived until 1875 and then came to Oregon. After living here for a year he returned to Kansas, where he remained until 1882, when he came back to Oregon and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land at Columbia City. The land was covered with heavy timber, a large part of which he cut into cordwood and sold to the river steamboats. In the course of time he cleared a large part of the land which he planted to fruit, developing it into a valuable ranch. In 1883 he opened a general store at Columbia City, which he conducted for four years, and was then elected treasurer of Columbia county, serving in that position for six years. In 1904 he moved to Portland, Oregon, where he successfully engaged in business for eighteen years, and then returned to Columbia City, where he and his wife are now living. They have a comfortable and attractive home on the hill just west of the highway, commanding a splendid view of the Columbia river valley and the majestic snow-clad peaks of Mt. Adams and Mt. St. Helens. Mr. and Mrs. Wharton are the parents of three children, namely: Herbert M., born in Columbia City, is a member of the Masonic order and lives in California; Gertrude M. is the wife of R. O. Compton, of Waukesha, Wisconsin, and they have a son, Charles C.; and Louise M. is the wife of Leroy Larson, of Oakland, California, and they have a son, Paul W. Mr. Wharton is a member of St. Helens Lodge, No. 32, A. F. & A. M., at St. Helens. Mrs. Wharton is a student of Indian lore, being able to speak the languages of several of the Indian tribes of the Columbia river country and has written and dramatized a very pretty Indian play. She and her husband are greatly interested in the welfare of their city and county, standing for all that is best in the life of their community, and to a marked degree they command the sincere regard of all who know them.

Children of Charles Caples and Lucinda McBride:

4-ii-1. Infant Caples

b. 14 Apr 1857 Columbia County, Oregon

d. Apr 1857 Columbia County, Oregon

[burial location unknown](#)

4-ii-2 Aurelia Bell Caples

b. 28 May 1858 Columbia County, Oregon

d. 21 May 1860 The Dalles, Wasco County, Oregon

[burial location unknown](#)

4-ii-3 Dr. Byron McBride Caples

b. 21 May 1860

d. 18 Jan 1945 Waukesha County Wisconsin

buried [Prairie Home Cemetery](#), Waukesha, Waukesha County, Wisconsin

m. Grace Harriett Stelle 1901

4-ii-4. Margaret Alice "Maggie" Caples

b. 05 Aug 1862 Columbia City, Columbia County, Oregon

d. 14 Jan 1947 Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California

buried [Masonic Cemetery](#), Columbia City, Columbia County, Oregon

m. Elijah McVey Wharton 27 May 1883 Columbia City, Columbia County, Oregon

4-ii-5. Willie Louise Caples

b. 26 Mar 1865 Columbia City, Columbia County, Oregon

d. 29 Feb 1948 St. Helens, Columbia County, Oregon

buried [Masonic Cemetery](#), Columbia City, Columbia County, Oregon

4-ii-6. Dell Montana Caples

b. 16 Jul 1870 Cowlitz County, Washington

d. 12 Jul 1968 St. Helens, Columbia County, Oregon

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

m1. George Hazen Shinn 11 Apr 1895 Columbia County, Oregon

m2. Edward L. Houghton 28 Nov 1918 Coos County, Oregon

4-ii-7. Frederick Charles Caples

b. 31 May 1872 Columbia City, Columbia County, Oregon

d. 05 Jan 1958 Columbia City, Columbia County, Oregon

buried [Masonic Cemetery](#), Columbia City, Columbia County, Oregon

m. Henriette Campbell 1923 Oregon

4-iii. Hezekiah Caples **[Pioneer of 1844]**

b. 14 Mar 1834 Tuscarawas County, Ohio

d. 27 Nov 1918 Woodland, Cowlitz County, Washington

buried [Masonic Cemetery](#), St. Helen, Columbia County, Oregon

m. 12 Aug 1869 Multnomah County, Oregon

Minerva Jane Bonser

b. 22 Feb 1854 Sauvie Island, Columbia County, Oregon

d. 24 Feb 1903 Caples Landing, Columbia County, Oregon
buried [Masonic Cemetery](#), Columbia City, Columbia County, Oregon

m2. Jun 1918 Cathlamet, Washington

Emma L. Hansen

b. 1896

d.

1846: Oct 3; Twality Co, Land Claim, Joseph Caples, Provisional and Territorial Record Vol 3
p.120

1850: Washington Co, OR, December 14, 1850; Joseph Cable (sic), 50, farmer, OH; Charles, 19,
OH; Hezekiah, 17, OH; Joana, 15, OH; Jacob, 35, farmer, OH; Robt German, 35, laborer, Eng;
Joseph Barrow, 50, laborer, Eng

1854: Columbia Co, Tax Roll, Heseekiah (sic-Hezekiah) Caples, Provisional and Territorial
Record #14031

1856: Columbia Co, Tax Roll, Heseekiah (sic-Hezekiah) Caples, Provisional and Territorial
Record #14033

1857: Columbia Co, Tax Roll, Heseekiah (sic-Hezekiah) Caples, Provisional and Territorial
Record #14034

1858: Columbia Co, Tax Roll, Heseekiah (sic-Hezekiah) Caples, Provisional and Territorial
Record #14035

1859: Columbia Co, Tax Roll, Heseekiah (sic-Hezekiah) Caples, Provisional and Territorial
Record #14036

1860: Clark Co, WA, July 13, 1860; Jane Caples, 44, \$3000 \$500, Eng; John W., 21, farmer, \$0
\$200, OH; Flora, 9, WT; Mary, 6, WT; Hezekiah, 24, farmer, \$750 \$600, OH; Jessee Feeling, 29,
carpenter, NY; Wm W. Nichols, 38, carpenter, \$0 \$50, Long Island

1865: Columbia Co, Census, Hezekiah Caples, Columbia Co Record p. 03

1880: Union, Columbia Co, OR, June 10, 1880; Hez Caples, 42, merchant, OH MD OH;
Minerva, 26, wife, keeping house, OR OH IL; Harry H., 9, son, at home, OR OH OR; Ralph, 5,
son, at home, OR OH OR; Garfield, 3, son, at home, OR OH OR; Joseph Caples, 77, father,
without occupation, MD MD MD [Joseph actually appears to be living next door]

1900: Lancaster, Cowlitz Co, WA, June 20, 1900; Hezekiah Caples, head, Mar 1835, 65, m-
31yrs, MD MD OH, farmer; Minerva, wife, Feb 1859, 46, m-31yrs, 4-4, OR OH IL; Harry, son,
Oct 1870, 29, s, OR MD OR, marine (?) engineer; Ralph, son, Jun 1875, 24, s, OR MD OR, farm
laborer; Hugh, son, Jan 1884, 16, s, OR MD OR

1910: Lancaster, Cowlitz Co, WA, April 20, 1910; Hezekiah Caples, head, 68, wid, OH PA OH

1918: Columbia Co, Estate, 1918, Hezikiah Caples, Columbia County Record #0634

HARRY H. CAPLES

Harry H. Caples, who is now retired from active business pursuits, is the oldest native-born resident of Columbia City, Oregon, where he is living within three blocks of the spot where he was born. He has led an active life, has met with fair success in his material affairs, and has well earned the leisure which he now enjoys. He was born on the old Caples donation claim on which now stands Columbia City, on the 11th of October, 1870, and is a son of Hezekiah and Minerva (Bonser) Caples, the former born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, in 1834, and the latter in Columbia county, Oregon territory, February 21, 1854. His paternal grandfather, Joseph Caples, left Ohio in 1843 for Missouri, making the journey overland with ox teams. In the spring of 1843, with his sons, Hezekiah and Charles, and daughter, Joanna, (the mother having died in Ohio in 1838), he started for Oregon, crossing the plains with ox teams and covered wagons. They arrived in this state in the fall of that year and spent the first winter at Salem. In the spring of 1845 he went to Portland, which at that time consisted of one lone cabin. There he was offered a donation claim of six hundred and forty acres for five hundred dollars, but not liking the looks of the place or perhaps not having the five hundred dollars, he declined the offer. On that land the main part of the city now stands. He went on down the river towards Astoria and in 1846 filed on three hundred and twenty acres of land at what is now Columbia City. While on his way down the river, looking for a location, and when opposite what is now Columbia City, he saw a large eagle dart down to the river and grab up a large salmon. It landed the big fish on the bank of the river and Mr. Caples at once grabbed up his rifle and shot the bird, thus securing both the eagle and the salmon. It was a beautiful spot and they made camp there. He was so attracted by the place that he filed claim to the land. After building a log house on the river bank, he began cutting wood for the river steamers which were then beginning to ply the stream, but soon afterward went to Clatsop county, where he worked on a dairy ranch for a few years. He then returned to his claim and again began cutting wood for the steamboats, this serving the double purpose of affording him some revenue and of getting his land cleared of its heavy timber. He found on his land a lot of squared timbers, the presence of which puzzled him. Going to Fort Vancouver, he told Dr. John McLoughlin, the Hudson Bay Company factor, about them. The Doctor told him they were cut and squared by the Hudson Bay Company's men and were intended for building a new fort there, but that, because of the hostility of the Indians, the plan was abandoned. Mr. Caples took a deep interest in the locality where he settled and served one term as sheriff of Clatsop county. His death occurred in 1881. He was a man of strong character, great determination and personal courage, and bore his full share of the burden of the new community in which he settled.

Hezekiah Caples received a somewhat limited education in the public schools of Salem, Oregon, and assisted his father in clearing the ranch and planting an orchard. They gave their attention chiefly to raising of cattle, and raising hay sufficient to winter them. In 1889 Mr. Caples moved across the river into Cowlitz county, Washington, where he bought five hundred acres of land, on which he raised stock cattle, and later on ran a large dairy. He lived there until his death, which occurred November 26, 1921. His wife died February 24, 1903. Mr. Caples served six years as a member of the board of county commissioners of Cowlitz county, and was a member

of the Masonic order at Kalama, Washington. He was a steamboat captain and pilot and owned a vessel, which he sailed on the river for many years. To him and his wife were born four sons, namely: Harry H.; Ralph, who was a steamboat captain and died in 1921; Arthur, who is a widower and has a married daughter, Velma, now the wife of Austin Burt; and Hugh, who is married and has two children, Nineva and Donald. The three brothers live in Columbia City, and still own a large part of the townsite. The Indian name for Columbia City is "Kumahi."

Harry H. Caples attended the public schools of Columbia City and spent two years at Oregon Agricultural College, where he pursued a course in mechanics. After leaving college he assisted in the operation of the home farm for two years, and in 1897 he and two other young men took a trip to Rossland, British Columbia. In the spring of 1898 he went to Fort Wrangel, Alaska, and from there to Fort Simpson, British Columbia, where he worked for the Hudson Bay Company as assistant engineer on a steamboat on the Skeena river, transporting goods to the various posts, from which points they were carried by pack mules to the interior. The Skeena river is known as one of the most dangerous for steamboating in the northwest. Mr. Caples remained with the Hudson Bay Company four years and then returned to the home ranch at Columbia City, where he remained two years. In 1903 he went to Portland and, after taking an examination, was granted a chief engineer's license, after which he followed steamboating on the Columbia river for over twenty years. He and his brothers owned tugboats and Ralph was also a pilot and master mariner. In 1924 they sold their boats and Mr. Caples came back to the home ranch and, building a nice home in Columbia City, retired. He also owns a ninety acre dairy farm a mile and a half down the river, on which he is raising pure bred Jersey cattle.

In 1900, at Victoria, British Columbia, Mr. Caples was married to Miss Maude Graham, who was born in Oceana county, Michigan, a daughter of George and Albina (Hills) Graham, of whom the former was born in Illinois and is deceased, while the latter was born in New York state. Mr. Graham came to Oregon in 1881 and followed the business of commercial fishing on the Columbia river for many years. His death occurred in February, 1924, and his wife is still living in her own home and doing her own work, being remarkably active for her years. To them were born six children, Ernest, deceased; Edward, Maude; Albert, deceased; Elmer; and Orwin.

Mr. and Mrs. Caples are the parents of a daughter, Ethel May, who was born on the old donation claim in Columbia City and is the wife of Arthur Oberg. They have two children, Ruth Eleanor, born October 6, 1925, and Doris Jeanette, born March 3, 1928, they being the fifth generation to live on the old Caples homestead. Mrs. Oberg attended the public schools of Columbia City and graduated in 1921 from the Girls' Polytechnic School in Portland. Mr. Caples is a member of St. Helens Lodge, No. 117, I. O. O. F., in which he has passed through the chairs; also Golden Rule Encampment, at Portland, and Canton No. 1, P. M. at Portland. He and his wife are members of the Rebekah Lodge, I. O. O. F. Mr. Caples is a man of splendid personal qualities, honorable in all of his dealings and cordial and friendly in his relations with those about him, and throughout the community in which he lives he enjoys the genuine regard and good will of his fellowmen.



DEATH OF MRS. HEZEKIAH CAPLES.

Mrs. Minerva Caples, who died recently in Caples, Cowiltz County, Wash., was the wife of Hezekiah Caples. She was born in Columbia County, Oregon, February 21, 1854. There she spent her early life, and was married to Mr. Caples August 12, 1880. She was a member of the Christian Church, having been immersed by Dr. McBride 33 years ago. She left a husband and four sons, the youngest 19 years old. The interment was in St. Helens, Or.

The Late Mrs. Hezekiah Caples.

[Oregonian, Portland, OR, March 25, 1903 p.12]

MAN, 86, WEDS WOMAN 22

Hezekiah Caples, Prominent Columbia County Pioneer, Takes Bride.

ST. HELENS, Or., June 12.—(Special.)—Hezekiah Caples, aged 86, and one of the most widely known pioneers of Columbia County, and Ella Hanson, aged 22, for several years past his housekeeper, were quietly married at Cathlamet, it became known here today. Mr. Caples is the owner of a considerable portion of the site of Columbia City, near here, and is wealthy.

Family opposition to his proposed nuptial venture is said to have occasioned its secrecy. Mr. Caples himself today confirmed the news of his wedding.

[Oregonian, Portland, OR, June 13, 1918 p.1]

SUIT BEGUN TO BREAK WILL

Heirs of Cowlitz Pioneer, Who Married at 86, Allege Incompetency.

KELSO, Wash., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Action was started this week in the Cowlitz County Superior Court by Harry Caples and others, heirs of Hezekiah Caples, a prominent Cowlitz County pioneer and owner of large acreage, to break the will left by Mr. Caples, who died a short time ago. Hezekiah Caples, aged 86, and his housekeeper, Emma L. Hansen, aged 27, were married at Cathlamet in June of this year. The plaintiffs allege the incompetency of Mr. Caples, mentally and physically, at the time of the marriage.

It is alleged that Miss Hansen and her sister had to assist Mr. Caples to the place where the marriage ceremony was performed and that he fell asleep immediately afterward. Other similar charges are made in the complaint.

[Oregonian, Portland, OR, December 19, 1918 p.7]

Children of Hezekiah Caples and Minerva Bonser:

4-iv-1. Harry H. Caples

b. 11 Oct 1870 Columbia County, Oregon

d. 18 Jul 1948 Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

4-iv-2. Ralph E. Caples

b. 05 Jun 1875 Columbia County, Oregon

d. 21 May 1918 Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

4-iv-3. Arthur Garfield Bonser Caples

b. 31 Aug 1877 Columbia County, Oregon

d. 28 Jan 1956 Columbia County, Oregon

4-iv-4 Hugh Joseph Caples

b. 24 Jan 1884 Columbia County, Oregon

d. 13 Jan 1947 Columbia County, Oregon

Genealogy of the Caples Family and Allied Families of Maryland compiled by Almarie Moore Edwards; third edition revised by Dorothy Caples Thompson; fourth edition edited and reorganized by C. Walter England, Ph.D., C.G. 1984.

Descendant: Bill Martini correspondence April 30, 2004

Laffer Researcher: Walter Laffer correspondence May 1, 1998

4-v. Johanna Laffer Caples **[Pioneer of 1844]**

b. 31 May 1835 Tuscarawas Co, OH

d. 20 Aug 1919 St. Helens, Columbia County, Oregon

buried [Masonic Cemetery](#), Columbia City, Columbia County, Oregon

m. 06 Jun 1859

George Washington Maxwell

b. 29 Jul 1832 Ohio

d. 30 May 1914/01 Jun 1914 Vancouver, Clark County, Washington

buried [Vancouver Barracks National Cemetery](#) , Vancouver, Clark County, Washington

1850: Washington Co, OR, December 14, 1850; Joseph Cable (sic), 50, farmer, OH; Charles, 19, OH; Hezekiah, 17, OH; Joana, 15, OH; Jacob, 35, farmer, OH; Robt German, 35, laborer, Eng; Joseph Barrow, 50, laborer, Eng

1860: Dayton, Yamhill Co, OR, July 28, 1860; G.W. Maxwell, 28, farmer, \$800 \$400, OH; Joanna, 22, MO; John Anderson, 28, day laborer, Eng

1880: Union, Columbia Co, OR, June 9, 1880; George W. Maxwell, 48, clerk in store, IN IN IN; Jo L., 44, wife, teacher, OH; Lawrance, 19, son, without occupation, OR IN OH; Chester B., 13, son, at home, WT IN OH

1900: Union, Columbia Co, OR, June 9, 1900; Joanna L. Maxwell, head, May 1836, 64, wid, 2-2, OH MD OH

1910: Union, Columbia Co, OR, May 4 & 5, 1910; Joana L., head, 73, wid, 2-2, OH OH OH

Note: some family researchers state that she was divorced from her husband but there were several George Washington Maxwells and both 1900 and 1910 census records state she was a widow.

Children of George Maxwell and Johanna Caples:

4-v-1. Lawrence Victor Maxwell

b. Sep 1860 Oregon

d. 30 Jul 1948 The Dalles, Wasco County, Oregon

4-v-2. Chester Bornwell Maxwell

b. 01 Jan 1868 Cowlitz County, WA

d. 01 Sep 1945 Jefferson County, Washington

5. William Henry Caples **[Pioneer of 1850]**

b. 05 Mar 1806 Baltimore, Baltimore County, Maryland

d. 17 Oct 1892 Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

buried [Lone Fir Pioneer Cemetery](#), Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

m1. 03 Oct 1828 Tuscarawas County, Ohio

Harriet Tracy

b. 1810 Tuscarawas County, Ohio

d. Nov 1847 Andrew County, Missouri

buried [Amazonia Cemetery](#), Amazonia, Andrew County, Missouri

m2. 28 Feb 1848 Andrew County, Missouri

Nancy Nowell **[Pioneer of 1850]**

b. 05 Nov 1830 York County, Maine

d. 17 Jul 1914 St. Johns, Multnomah County, Oregon

buried [Lone Fir Pioneer Cemetery](#), Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon
d/o Silas Lafayette Nowell and Nancy F. Hatch

ODL: #1327 Clackamas County; William Caples, b. 1806 Baltimore County, Maryland; settled claim 26 Nov 1850; m'd Nancy Feb 1848 Andrew County, Missouri: Affidavit: John Wand (sic-Waud), James Thompson, Solomon Richards, James John
Genealogical Material in Oregon Donation Land Claims Volume 1 p. 53

1860: Willamette, Portland PO, Multnomah County, Oregon, July 17, 1860; Wm Caples, 54, farmer, \$1500 \$600 Maryland; Nancy, 30, ME; J.L., 17, MO; Jane, 12, MO; Wm, 8, OR; Elizabeth, 5, OR; Robt, 3, OR; Nancy, 7/12 OR

1870: St Johns Pct, Portland PO, Multnomah County, Oregon, no date; Wm Caples, 64, farmer, \$4000 \$1450, MD; Nancy, 40, keeping house, ME; Wm W., 18, at school, OR; Elizabeth, 15, at school, OR; Robert, 13, at school, OR; Olive, 10, at school, OR

1880: St. Johns Pct, Multnomah County, Oregon, June 9, 1880; William Caples, 74, head, retired physician, MD MD MD; Nancy 50, wife, keeps house, ME ME ME; W. W. 28, son, farmer, OR MD ME; Elizabeth, 25, dau, school teacher, OR MD ME; R. J., 23, son, farmer, OR MD ME; Olive, 20, dau, milliner, OR MD ME

Children of William Caples and Harriet Tracy:

5-i. Nancy Caples [\[Pioneer of 1850\]](#)

b. 1829 Tuscarawas County, Ohio

d. 03 Dec 1886 Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

buried [Lone Fir Pioneer Cemetery](#), Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon
m. Capt. John Waud

5-ii. Alicy Caples [\[Pioneer of 1850\]](#)

b. 18 Nov 1832 Tuscarawas County, Ohio

d. 05 Apr 1918

buried [Sheridan Masonic Cemetery](#), Sheridan Yamhill County, Oregon
m. Sylvester Potter
m. Daniel Star Southmayd

5-iii. Hiantha Caples [\[Pioneer of 1850\]](#)

b. 23 Jun 1835 Tuscarawas County, Ohio

d. 20 Oct 1885 Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

buried [Lone Fir Pioneer Cemetery](#), Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon
m. Seldon Murray

5-iv. Harriet Green Caples [\[Pioneer of 1850\]](#)

b. 1838

d. 24 Feb 1868

[burial details unknown](#)

m. Jacob R. French

5-v. Jacob Lafayette Caples [\[Pioneer of 1850\]](#)

b. 08 May 1844 Tuscarawas County, Ohio

d. 11 Feb 1921 Multnomah County, Oregon
buried [Historic Columbian Cemetery](#), Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon
m. Lenora Raney

5-vi. Susan Mary Caples **[Pioneer of 1850]**

b. 20 Jul 1846

d. 01 Mar 1929 Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

buried [River View Cemetery](#), Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

m. Amos Martin Roberts

5-vii. Janet B. "Jane" Caples **[Pioneer of 1850]**

b. 02 Nov 1847 Andrew County, Missouri

d. 01 Jul 1931 Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

buried [Hubbard Cemetery](#), Hubbard, Marion County, Oregon

m. Francis Marion Dodge

Children of William Caples and Nancy Nowell:

5-iii. William Washington Caples

b. 1852 Multnomah County, Oregon

d. 08 Feb 1897 Salem, Marion County, Oregon

buried [Gleason Cemetery](#), Whiskey Hill, Clackamas County, Oregon

5-ix. Elizabeth Caples

b. 13 Jan 1855 Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

d. 07 Jan 1944 Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

buried [Lone Fir Pioneer Cemetery](#), Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

5-x. Robert James Caples

b. 05 Jan 1857 Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

d. 23 Mar 1908 Woodburn, Marion County, Oregon

buried [Belle Passi Cemetery](#), Woodburn, Marion County, Oregon

5-xi. Olive Caples

b. c1860

d. Feb 1938 Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California

6. Susanna Caples

b. 1810 Newport, Tuscarawas County, Ohio

d. 19 May 1874 Newport, Tuscarawas County, Ohio

buried [Newport Methodist Cemetery](#), Newport, Tuscarawas County, Ohio

m. Christian Laffer 15 Apr 1832 Tuscarawas County, Ohio

1850: Tuscarawas County, Ohio

1860: Tuscarawas County, Ohio

1870: Tuscarawas County, Ohio

7. McKenzie "Kenzie" Caples **[Pioneer of 1850]**

b. 14 Aug 1810 Tuscarawas County, Ohio

d. 30 Nov 1853 St. Helens, Columbia County, Oregon
buried [Masonic Cemetery](#), St. Helens, Columbia County, Oregon

m. 09 Mar 1837 Tuscarawas County, Ohio

Jane Waud **[Pioneer of 1850]**

b. 11 Jan 1815 Yorkshire, England

d. 26 Sep 1889 Columbia County, Oregon

buried [Masonic Cemetery](#), St. Helens, Columbia County, Oregon

m2. Capt. Francis Adam Lemont (1812-1895)

1850: Washington County, Oregon Territory, December 14, 1850; Kinzie Cables (sic), 40, farmer, OH; Jane, 25, Eng; John, 10, OH; Charlotte, 7, OH

1860: St. Helens, Clark County, Washington Territory; July 13, 1860; Jane Caples, 44, \$3,000 \$500, Eng; John W., 21, farmer, \$0 \$200, OH; Flora, 9, WT; Mary, 6, WT; Hezekiah, 24, farmer, \$700 \$600, OH; Jesse Feeling, 29, carpenter, NY; Wm W. Nichols, 30, carpenter, \$0 \$50, Long Island (NY)

1870: St. Helen PO, Columbia County, Oregon, July 23, 1870; f. A. Lamont, 57, farmer, \$10,000 \$500, ME; Jane, 56, keeping house, Eng; Flora Caples, 18, teaching, \$2000, OR; Mary E., 16, teaching, \$2000, OR; Frank Ward (Waud), 11, at school, OR; Emma Ward (Waud) 9, OR

1880: St. Helen, Columbia County, Oregon, June 24, 1880; Francis Lemont, 68, merchant, ME ME ME; Jane, 65, wife, keeping house, Eng Eng Eng

Children of McKenzie Caples and Jane Waud Lemont:

7-i. John W. Caples **[Pioneer of 1850]**

b. 18 Jan 1840 Missouri

d. 12 Jan 1928 Forest Grove, Washington County, Oregon

buried [Forest View Cemetery](#), Forest Grove, Washington County, Oregon

m. Harriett Louise Gibson 20 May 1866



COUPLE WED 60 YEARS

**MR. AND MRS. JOHN W. CAPLES
OBSERVE ANNIVERSARY.**

**Family at Forest Grove Host to
Friends and Relatives, Who
Extend Congratulations.**

The 60th anniversary of their marriage was celebrated by Mr. and Mrs. John W. Caples, Thursday, May 20, in Forest Grove. Friends and relatives called during the day, and many messages of felicitation were

received by the couple. A family dinner was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Caples in Forest Grove.

Mr. Caples, who is 86, was in business in Forest Grove and in Washington for many years. Mrs. Caples, formerly Harriett L. Gibson, is 79. Both are in good health. They have lived in Forest Grove since March 1, 1883.

Mr. and Mrs. Caples, with their parents, crossed the plains by ox team in 1850 and 1852. They settled on Lewis river, Washington territory. The couple were married May 20, 1866. Their children are: C. C. Caples, Forest Grove; J. R. Caples, Portland; J. B. Caples, Seattle; A. B. Caples, Forest Grove, and Mrs. Oro C. Dimick, Portland.

[Sunday Oregonian, Portland, Oregon, Sunday, May 23, 1926, p. 34]

7-ii. Charlotte L. Caples **[Pioneer of 1850]**

b. 08 Jun 1843 Ohio

d. 17 Mar 1921 Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

buried [Forest View Cemetery](#), Forest Grove, Washington County, Oregon

m. James Caleb Woods 30 Jan 1860 Yamhill County, Oregon

7-iii. Flora Jane Caples

b. 23 Jun 1851 Oregon

d. 04 Oct 1929 Fresno, California

buried [Fowler Cemetery](#), Fowler, Fresno County, California
m. Silas Calhoun 1874

7-iv. Mary Elizabeth Caples

b. 23 Feb 1854 Washington

d. 25 Jun 1924 Union County, Oregon

buried [Wilhelm's Portland Memorial Mausoleum](#), Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

m. George Browne 30 Nov 1881 Columbia County, Oregon

m. [Frederic William Gardiner appears to be same person as George Browne; probable name change]

8. Elizabeth Caples

b. 1814 Tuscarawas County, Ohio

d. 02 Dec 1895 Washington County, Kansas

buried [Maplewood Cemetery](#), Barnes, Washington County, Kansas

m. Andrew L. McChesney 1838

1860: Andrew County, Missouri

1870: Andrew County, Missouri, widow

1880: Washington County, Kansas; widow living with daughter

9. Anna Caples

b. 1815 Tuscarawas County, Ohio

d. 1840 Tuscarawas County, Ohio

buried [Newport Methodist Cemetery](#), Newport, Tuscarawas County, Ohio

m. Jacob Figley 19 Apr 1831 Tuscarawas County, Ohio

10. Jacob Green Caple

b. 1820 Tuscarawas County, Ohio

d. 23 May 1880 Andrew County, Missouri

burial location unknown

m. Margaret Abbott 06 Jun 1848 Andrew County, Missouri