

## DOCUMENTS

### *Astorians Who Became Permanent Settlers\**

When the Astorians left the Oregon country a number remained for some time in the employ of the North-West Company, and of these many became permanent settlers, while three lost their lives before the coming of American settlers.

As an archaeologist gathers the scattered fragments of broken pottery and fits the tiny fragments together so as to restore in some measure the original articles; so it is now possible to collect the widely distributed items which refer to these Astorians, and present a brief biography of each. Although the complete data is lacking, yet there is enough, with the exception of Sailor Jack, to fit into the history of the Oregon country the part that each one of these had enacted, and some became of considerable prominence.

Three of the list here assembled died too soon to be rated as permanent settlers. These are Archibald Pelton, Johann Koaster and John Day. The other fifteen, arranged alphabetically, are as follows:

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|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. William Canning          | 9. Louis L. Bonte           |
| 2. Alexander Carson         | 10. Michel Laframboise      |
| 3. John Coxe                | 11. Etienne Lucier          |
| 4. Lieut. Baptiste Dorion   | 12. Jean Baptiste Desportes |
| 5. Marie L'Aguivoise Dorion | McKay                       |
| 6. Jean Baptiste Dubrieul   | 13. Thomas McKay            |
| 7. Joseph Gervais           | 14. Francois Payette        |
| 8. Sailor Jack              | 15. George Ramsay           |

### *Those Who Might Have Become Permanent Settlers*

Archibald Pelton ("Judge"). He was of the sixth generation in New England. His father was David Pelton who married Hannah Milliken and lived at West Farms, Connecticut. He was born about 1792, and ran away from home and joined the expedition of Pierre Menard and Andrew Henry which ascended the Missouri River in 1809. In 1810 when near the Three Forks of the Missouri he escaped massacre by Blackfoot Indians and wandered for some time in the forests. He was found by Shahaptian Indians and taken

\*Editorial Note: Mr. J. Neilson Barry's Astorian Biographies are here given the rank of Document as it will probably be referred to as such for years to come. In transmitting the manuscript, Mr. Barry wrote: "This is a labor of love on which I have been working for many years." Those who read the biographies and study the abundant references to sources will appreciate the extent and thoroughness of the undertaking.  
—EDITOR.

to Clearwater River, where he was picked up by Donald McKenzie of the overland expedition of the Pacific Fur Company, and taken to Astoria, 1812. He remained in the employment of the North-West Company at Fort George (Astoria) after the Astorians had left, but was murdered by Clatskanie Indians in 1814. (*Washington Historical Quarterly*, Vol. 19, 199-201).

Johann Koaster, ("Jo Ashton")<sup>1</sup>, A Russian ship-carpenter, long in the employ of the Russians in Alaska, then went to New York, probably on Astor's ship, the *Enterprise*. He went to Astoria on the *Tonquin*, 1811, and aided in laying the keel of the *Dolly*. He accompanied W. P. Hunt to Sitka and Hawaiian Islands on the *Beaver*, 1812. Returned to Astoria on the *Albatros* and was in command of the *Dolly* and very frequently mentioned by Andrew Henry, 1813-1814. On August 16th, 1815 he sailed in the bark *Columbia* of the North-West Company but became suddenly insane and leapt overboard on May 2nd. 1815.

John Day.<sup>2</sup> Born in Culpepper County, Virginia. Was employed by Ramsay Crooks and Robert McClellan on the Missouri River, and with them joined the overland expedition of the Pacific Fur Company. He is mentioned a number of times as a hunter of that party. At Caldron Linn, (Milner, Idaho) he accompanied Crooks detachment down the left bank of Snake River to near the present site of Homestead, Oregon. The party there turned and started back, when they saw the party under W. P. Hunt across the river. Crooks and Day crossed, but Day became so ill that he could not travel and Crooks remained to nurse him. Through the kindness of Shoshone Indians they survived and subsequently started toward Astoria via what became the Oregon Trail. In Grande Ronde Valley, a Canadian, J. B. Dubreuil became ill and was left with some friendly Shoshones. Crooks and Day reached the Oregon river which has ever since been called John Day, where they were robbed by Indians, and returned to the Umatilla River where they were befriended by the famous Chief Yeckatapam. They were picked up by the David Stuart party and taken to Astoria. John

<sup>1</sup> *Gabril Franchere*, translated by J. V. Huntington, New York, 1854. Reprint, R. G. Thwaites, "Early Western Travels," Cleveland, Ohio, 1904. 30 (194); 103 (242). Elliott Coues, *Manuscript Journals of Alexander Henry*, N.Y. 1897. See Index. Peter Corney, *Voyages in the Northern Pacific*, Honolulu, T.H. 1896. 28, 41. Kenneth D. Porter, "Joseph Ashton, Astorian Sailor," *Ore. Hist. Quar.*, Vol. 31, 343-350.

<sup>2</sup> Washington Irving, *Astoria*. Many editions. Chaps. 14, 20, 23, 31, 36, 41, 43. Alexander Ross, *First Settlers*. London, 1849, pp. 187-193. Reprint, R. G. Thwaites, "Early Western Travels," Vol. 7; 188-193. Alexander Ross, *Fur Hunters*, London, 1855, Vol. 2; 62. Alexander Ross, "Journal," 1825. Edited by T. C. Elliott. *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. 14, 380. John Day, "Will." Edited by T. C. Elliott, *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. 17; 373-9. *Pacific Railroad Reports*, Vol. 1; 332.

Day started with the Robert Stuart party to St. Louis, 1812, but became temporarily insane, and was sent back to Astoria. The John Day River, also in Oregon, near Tongue Point, was probably named from that incident. Washington Irving was misinformed that he had died shortly afterwards. On March 29th, 1814, he engaged to hunt for the North-West Company on shares in the "Spanish" (Green) River region, and left Fort George, (Astoria) April 4th, 1814 in canoe number seven. He was with Donald McKenzie in the Snake River country and died February 16th, 1820 on Birch Creek, Idaho, which for long was called John Day River.

### *The Permanent Settlers*

1. William Canning, ("Cannon"),<sup>3</sup> was born in Pennsylvania, 1755. Diligent search has failed to find any record of him during the Revolutionary War, but he was a soldier at a frontier post shortly afterwards. In 1810 he joined the overland expedition of the Pacific Fur Company to Astoria, and had an experience in the Rocky Mountains with a grizzly bear of which his version varied from that of Washington Irving, who spelled his name Cannon, but he always signed himself Canning.

March 28, 1814 he was engaged with the North-West Company, and is listed as a millwright, at Fort George, (Astoria) in 1814, where there is mention of his having been sick.

In 1824 he accompanied the expedition to Fraser River.

He built the grist mill of the Hudson's Bay Company near Fort Vancouver, and was superintendent of the saw mill in 1832 when he was mentioned by John Ball and by Nathaniel J. Wyeth who wrote that he was "Treated by him with greatest kindness." Wyeth spelled his name as "Mr. Cawning."

In 1839 he signed the Petition to Congress which was taken to Washington by Rev. Jason Lee.

In the records of the Estate of Ewing Young there are many items, and two signatures, "Canning." 1839-1841.

Feb. 18, 1841, he was elected Justice of the Peace for the local government in the Willamette Valley; and that same year informed

<sup>3</sup> Washington Irving, *Astoria*, Chap. 26. Compare with J. W. Nesmith in *Transactions*, Oregon Pioneer Association, 1875, 56. Coes, *Alex. Henry* (already mentioned), Vol. 2, 861, 869, 915. John Work, "Journal," 1824. Edited by T. C. Elliott, *Wash. Hist. Quart.*, 3, 198. John Ball, "Journal," 1832. *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, 3; 82. Nathaniel J. Wyeth, "Journal," *Ore. Hist. Society*, 1899, p. 176. H. S. Lyman, "Reminiscences of Louis La Bonte," *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, 1; 175. "Slacum's Report," (Congressional Document), *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, 13; 213. "Estate of Ewing Young," *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, Vols. 21, 209, 210 (2), 211, 216, 223, 293, 294, 301 (2). Charles Wilkes, *Narrative of Exploring Expedition, Philadelphia*, 1849, Vol. 4; 348. Charles Wilkes, "Journal," 1841; *Wash. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. 17; 46. Gustavus Hines, Many titles to well known book, p. 141. W. H. Rees in *Transactions*, Oregon Pioneer Association, 1879, pp. 20, 23.

Charles Wilkes, later Admiral, that he thought there was "No necessity for McLaughlin's authority or laws to govern" the country.

In 1843 he was rescued during high water from the grist mill of Thomas McKay at Champoeg, in the Willamette Valley, Oregon. There is a tradition that he was present at the meeting held at Champoeg, May 2, 1843, of which the official minutes shows that he and others who had held office for two years were continued in office until July 5, 1843.

He died in 1854.

2. Alexander Carson<sup>4</sup> had been trapping near the head of the Missouri River, for two years, and was returning when in May, 1811, he met the overland expedition of the Pacific Fur Company on their way to Astoria, and he joined them as a free trapper. He was detached with three others on Snake River, near the mouth of Hoback River, September 28, 1811. After a successful winter's hunt they were attacked by Crow Indians, who killed one man, Detaye, and robbed them of almost everything. The three made their way to the mouth of the Weiser River, (Idaho) where they joined Baptiste Dubreuil who had been with Crooks, and the three Canadians who had robbed the caches at Caldron Linn, (Milner, Idaho). In the summer of 1812 they were picked up by John Reed, and taken to Donald McKenzie's post, (Orofino, Idaho) and then went to Astoria, 1813.

March 28, 1814, Carson agreed with the North-West Company at Fort George (Astoria) to hunt, on shares, in the region of "Spanish" (Green) River, and left Fort George, April 4, 1814, in canoe number six.

Alexander Ross mentioned a man named "Coison" on June 6, 1824, but the lack of the title "Mr." makes it improbable that it was Alexander Carson.

He was with John Work in the Snake River country, 1830-1831, and was detached at the head of five men who were forced to eat three of their horses.

He subsequently became a settler in the Willamette Valley and was killed by an Indian about 1837. There is a tradition that this occurred at Alec's Butte, in Yamhill County, which is said to have been named for him.

<sup>4</sup> Irving's *Astoria*, Chaps. 17, 19, 25, 31, 44, 52. Coues. *Alex. Henry Journals*, Vol. 2, 861, 875. Alex. Ross, "Journal," *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. 14, 382. John Work, "Journal," 1830-1; edited by T. C. Elliott, Vol. 13, 366; Vol. 14, 314. Lee and Frost, *Ten Years in Oregon*, N.Y. 1844, p. 31. "Louis La Bonte," edited by H. S. Lyman, *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. 1, 173, 175.

3. John Coxe<sup>5</sup> was a Hawaiian, and witnessed the death of Capt. James Cook, in 1779. In 1811 he was engaged by the Pacific Fur Company and sailed on the *Tonquin*, where he so much resembled one of the sailors named John Coxe, that he was always afterwards called by that name. In this extraordinary way the name of that sailor, whom Gabriel Franchere had forgotten, has been saved from oblivion. He was one of the Hawaiians who buried the Sandwich Islanders near Cape Disappointment immediately after the arrival of the Astorians in the Columbia River, 1811.

In July, 1811, he was sent to Okanogan with David Stuart, but his ready wit had so attracted David Thompson that he exchanged for him Michael Boulard. Thompson wrote of how astonished Coxe was at seeing snow. He took him to Spokane House, and then to Fort Williams, on Lake Superior, 1812. Coxe was then sent to England on the *Isaac Todd*. From there he sailed from Portsmouth, March 25, 1813, and went to Rio Janiero, Brazil. Since he would be very valuable on the Columbia River, John McDonald took him with him on board H. M. S. *Phoebe* to Juan Fernandez, "Robinson Crusoe's Island" but more properly Alexander Selkirk's. Coxe was there transferred to H. M. S. *Raccoon*. Shortly afterwards an explosion of powder took place, and Coxe saved himself by his quick wits. He arrived at Astoria for the second time December 1st, 1813.

He was listed as being at Fort George (Astoria) for the summer of 1814. He was shipped back to Hawaii that same summer on either the *Isaac Todd* or the *Columbia*, each of which had some Hawaiians, but both went to China and the *Columbia* brought back all the Hawaiians to the Columbia River, which made the third visit for Coxe. He was subsequently returned to the Hawaiian Islands and became one of the bodyguard of King Kamehamela II, and accompanied him to London in 1832. This was the second visit of Coxe to England. He returned to his native islands and for the fourth time went to the Columbia River, and had charge of the swine at Fort Vancouver.

Miss Edna Martin of the Bancroft Library, Berkeley, California, has kindly copied the following statement which H. H. Bancroft obtained in 1878 from Caulfield Anderson. "...A couple of miles below the fort "(Vancouver)" there were luxuriant meadows of

5 Alex. Ross, *First Settlers*, 114, 200 (Thwaites, 125, 200). Tyrrell, *Narrative of David Thompson*, 510, 554. Masson, *Les Bourgeois*, Vol. 2, 44-49. Coues, *Alex. Henry*, Vol. 2, 868. Peter Corney, *Voyages*, 28-73. Barry, in 38th Report, Hawaiian Historical Society, 1929, 20-24. Manuscript of British Admiralty in possession of the author.

great extent. A portion of these bore at that time the name of Coxe's Plain, a name I think which it still continues to bear. Old Coxe, a native of the Sandwich Islands and a very original character, was the swine-herd and had his residence there among the oaks which dotted the verge of the plain. Coxe in his way was rather a historical character for when a boy he had witnessed the death of Captain Cook at Tahiti "(error, Hawaii)" and had afterwards accompanied King Tamaa-maah to England as one of his bodyguard, where he presented arms to George III, "(Error, George IV)" and together with the rest of the party had been rather a lion in London. The old man after being many years in the enjoyment of his new and changed employment, and being regarded by the Company as a faithful pensioner, died eventually at his residence among the oaks and was duly interred in the burial ground on the hill close by where the United States barracks have since been erected."

4. Pierre Dorionne of Senlis, France, emigrated to Quebec prior to 1688, and had numerous descendants in Canada, some of whom became quite prominent. One of this family, named Pierre Dorion, as it was then spelled, was born on the St. Lawrence before 1750, and went to the region of St. Louis, (now Missouri) prior to 1780. After the conquests of General George Rogers Clark he took the oath of allegiance and wrote a letter to Genral Clark, May 31, 1780, requesting permission to move to the east side of the Missouri. He brought suit at Cahokia, October 26, 1780, for money due him from Ch. Ducharme. He subsequently became the first white settler in what is now South Dakota, and was very highly recommended to Lewis and Clark, who engaged him as an interpreter and subsequently commissioned him to accompany some Indian Chiefs to Washington, D. C.

He married an Indian woman, and had several sons, one of whom was also named Pierre Dorion<sup>6</sup>. This son married an Iowa Indian woman, named Marie, which may indicate that she was baptized, and possibly married by some missionary priest, but the records have not yet been published. Pierre Dorion, Jr., accompanied Manuel Lisa up the Missouri and in 1811 engaged to accompany the overland expedition of the Pacific Fur Company to Astoria. At that time he had two sons, one three and the other a baby, who

<sup>6</sup> J. K. Townsend, *Journey*, Philadelphia, 1839, footnote, p. 244, (1836). Gustavus Hines, *Rocky Mountains and other titles*, 165, 414. A. J. Allen, *Ten Years in Oregon* (Dr. E. White), Ithaca, N.Y., 1848, 178. Samuel Parker, *Journal*, Ithaca, N.Y., 1836, 363. F. F. Victor, *Early Indian Wars*, 1894, 44, 52, 210, 507. F. F. Victor, *River of West*, 327. H. H. Bancroft, *History of Oregon*, Vol. 1, 268, 276, 75, 702, 734. W. H. Gray, *A History of Oregon*, 1870, 312, 313. Barry, *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. 30, 278.

may have been Jean Baptiste Dorion. There is much written in regard to Pierre Dorion Jr. and his heroic wife, Marie L'Aguivoise Dorion, and there are several mentions of the two children.

After an arduous journey they reached Astoria in 1812, and the elder son seems to have died shortly afterwards. Pierre Dorion and his wife with the one child accompanied John Reed to the Snake River country, 1813. Reed seems to have built his first house on the Malheur River, where Vale, Oregon, now is. There another baby boy was born to the Dorions, and one of the two children was Jean Baptiste Dorion. Much has been written of the heroism and terrible sufferings of Marie L'Aguivoise Dorion and those two children, one four years old, and the other only four months. After the Reed massacre they made their way to the Blue Mountains, and subsequently climbed over the summit, but all food had been consumed and Madame Dorion was compelled to leave the two children in the forest while she feebly crawled on her hands and knees to a camp of Nez Perce hunters, who went back and found the children. They were then taken to the Columbia River, and learning that the brigade with the Astorians had just passed, the Indians took the little family in a canoe and overtook the Astorians. Franchere wrote of how they heard the voice of a little child calling in French for them to stop. This may have been Baptiste.

Madame Dorion was taken to Fort Okanogan, and subsequently lived at Fort Nez Percés, (Old Fort Walla Walla: Wallula, Wash.) One of the two children died. There is absolutely no possibility of Paul Dorion mentioned by Francis Parkman being a son of Marie L'Aguivoise, since his mother was "Holy Rainbow" a Yankton Indian.

Baptiste Dorion was guide for J. K. Townsend in 1835, and in 1842 acted as interpreter for Dr. Elijah White when he visited the Cayuse and Nez Perce Indians. There are numerous mentions of Baptiste who seems to have been considered as a leader among the half-breeds. Usually the writers also refer to his parents, which definitely identifies him, and also his mother who has been confused with the Yankton woman, "Holy Rainbow" of Dakota.

In the Roman Catholic mission records at St. Paul's and St. Louis, Oregon, are numerous entries in regard to the Dorions. When the marriage of Marie L'Aguivoise Dorion to John Toupin was validated, July 19, 1841, by Rev. F. N. Blanchet, afterwards Archbishop, his mother affirmed that Jean Baptiste Dorion was her son by an earlier alliance. He was baptized February 3, 1845, by Father Sanos,

S. J., who wrote that his parents were Pierre Dorion and Marie Aioe, which, like Aguivoise, was another of the one hundred and six methods of spelling the apparently simple name Iowa.

Baptiste's eldest son was named Pierre Dorion, who was born in 1836, baptized July 25, 1841, and died in 1854. Three other children also died, Genevieve, Phileminie and Joseph, but David lived until recent years but can not now be located although he is well remebered.

In 1848 during the cayuse war, Baptiste was commissioned as second lieutenant of the Oregon Rifles, under Captain Thomas McKay, (Astorian), and took part in the battle of Well Springs. He was murdered by a white man in 1848.

5. Marie L'Aguivoise<sup>7</sup> was a member of the Iowa Indian tribe, whose apparently simple name was spelled in over one hundred different ways. She was probably born about 1792 near the mouth of the Platte River, and about 1807 married Pierre Dorion Jr. (See data under Baptiste Dorion). Her eldest son was probably born about 1808 and her second son in 1810. In 1811 she accompanied her husband on the overland expedition of the Pacific Fur Company to Astoria. During the journey, at the present site of North Powder, Oregon, her third child was born, Dec 28, 1811, but died Jan. 7, 1812, near where Duncan, Oregon, now is. This was the first child with Caucasian blood born on the Oregon Trail and the first buried.

After arriving at Astoria, 1812, the eldest son seems to have died. In 1813 she accompanied the Reed expedition to the Snake River country, and her fourth child, a son, was born at Reed's first post, which was probably where Vale, Oregon, now is. Reed then moved to the mouth of Boise River (now Idaho) and built his second post in the angle on the south side, where subsequently Donald McKenzie started a post, 1819, and later Thomas McKay built Snake Fort in the old corral, about 1835.

In January, 1814, Reed and two of his men were murdered at this post and Pierre Dorion and three men were murdered at an outpost. There are very graphic descriptions of Madame Dorion's sufferings and heroism. She made her way through the snow to the Blue Mountains, and in the spring of 1814 succeeded in crossing them, and was rescued in a starving condition by Nez Perce Indians, who took her and her two little children to the Columbia River

<sup>7</sup> A long list of references may be found in *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. 30, p. 278. Lee and Frost, *Ten Years in Oregon*, N.Y., 1844, 30, 35. John Work, "Journal 1830-1," (T. C. Elliott), *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. 14, 305; also Vol. 13, 369.



where they met the Astorians who were on their way to Montreal.

She was taken to Fort Okanogan, which was subsequently in charge of Alexander Ross and of Ross Cox, who obtained more complete particulars of the Reed massacre than Franchere. Probably about 1818 she married her second husband, a Monsieur Venier, and a daughter, Marguerite; was born about 1819. Whenever the records of the North-West Company shall be found there may be some mention of this man, who seems to have died soon after the marriage. She must have been a very attractive woman, since she married for the third time, about 1824, to John Toupin, interpreter at Fort Nez Percés, and quite a prominent character. A son, Francois Toupin, was born about 1825 and a daughter, Marianne, about 1827. Since her husband was with John Work in the Snake country 1830-1, she was probably with him, and was one of the women "Who availed themselves of the hot springs to wash their clothes."

On April 14, 1838, while riding with her daughter, Marguerite Venier and Mrs. Panbrun, near Fort Nez Percés, she met Rev. Jason Lee, who wrote in his journal that she had a grown daughter. Her husband took a land claim in the Willamette Valley, 1841, and she used to visit the Methodist mission, and "Could speak pretty good English and was quite polite in her address." On July 25, 1841, her marriage was validated by Rev. F. N. Blanchet, later Archbishop, who used the spelling, L'Aguivoise, for her tribal name, and recorded that she was "Born of poor infidels of the territory of Saint Louis, United States." At that time she formally asserted that her two eldest children, Jean Baptiste Dorion and Marguerite Venier, were born from previous matrimonial alliances.

She gave to Dr. Elijah White several pairs of moccasins which were "Very neatly executed after the most approved fashion of her tribe." and "He was much impressed by her noble and commanding bearing." She is still remembered by a neighbor, Mrs. Isabel Bertrand, who was daughter of Alexis Aubichon. She was called Madame Iowa, and was "kind and patient." She was "spare built" and about five feet five or six inches in height, and weighed about one hundred and sixty pounds.

Although she lived for about ten years only two miles from Salem, Oregon, yet there seems to be no mention of her by early settlers, except in the references cited and in the land and Church records. She died September 3, 1850, one record is 1851, but her grave is unknown.

6. Jean Baptiste Dubreuil<sup>8</sup> was a member of the overland expedition of the Pacific Fur Company to Astoria, and is first mentioned on December 12, 1811, when he remained in the canyon of Snake River with Ramsay Crooks and John Day while W. P. Hunt and the rest of the party went on. He accompanied Crooks and Day as far as the Grande Ronde Valley, (now Oregon) when he became exhausted and was left with some friendly Shoshones, March, 1812. He then made his way back to the mouth of Weiser River, where he joined six other stragglers and was picked up by John Reed and taken to the post of Donald McKenzie, (Orofino, Idaho), and reached Astoria in January, 1813.

After the collapse of the Pacific Fur Company he seems to have been engaged by the North-West Company, and was with the brigade which left Fort George (Astoria) on April 4, 1814; in canoe number ten. He was with John Work in the Snake River country, 1830-1, and was mentioned as having found a beaver stream and as being sent to try on the Owyhee River, (now Oregon).

He settled in the Willamette Valley, Oregon, about two and a half miles south of Champoeg; and was mentioned in the accounts of the Ewing Young Estate, 1841. In the tax list of 1844 his property was valued: Horses \$320, Cattle \$300, Hogs \$95.

7. Joseph Gervais<sup>9</sup> was born in Canada in 1787 and accompanied the overland expedition to Astoria, 1810-12. He was with Donald McKenzie in the Willamette Valley, 1812, when he had a quarrel with an Indian. It was probably at this time that Pudding River was named from an incident connected with Gervais and Lucier, although the traditional date is wrong. (W. H. Rees, *Trans. Ore. Pion. Assn.* 1879, 23). There is so very much detail in the numerous references that space permits of but a bare outline. His wife was daughter of Chief Coboway, (Clatsop), whose two sisters married Louis La Bonte and Solomon H. Smith. He was three times men-

<sup>8</sup> Irving's *Astoria*, Chaps. 36, 41, 52. Coues, *Journals of Alex. Henry*, Vol. 2, 875. John Work, "Journal, 1830-1," *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. 14, 284, 290. "Ewing Young Estate," *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. 21, 267, 288. "Louis La Bonte," (W. H. Lyman), *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. 1, 173, 175. "Tax List, 1844," *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. 31, 14.  
<sup>9</sup> 1812, Alex. Ross, *First Settlers*, 237, compare 234; Thwaites, 231, 228. 1814, Coues, *Alex. Henry*, Vol. II, 868, 889, 904. 1825, Dr. John Scouler, *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. 6, 173. 1830, "Louis La Bonte," (H. S. Lyman), *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. I, 171, 173-4. 1832-4, Nathaniel J. Wyeth, *Journal*, 178 (map) 179, 233. 1834, Rev. Jason Lee, *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. 17, 264, 398, 401. 1835, Rev. Samuel Parker, *Exploring Tour*, 172. 1834-6, Methodist Mission Record Book, *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. 23, 235, 239 (2), 241, 248, 251, 255, 257, 264. 1837, W. A. Slacum, U.S.N., *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. 13, 192, 197, 210, 212. 1841, Eugene D. de Moiras, *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. 26, 168, 173. Lee and Frost, *Ten Years in Oregon*, 125, 132 (2). Gustavus Hines, 13. H. H. Bancroft, *History of Oregon*, Vol. I, 64, 74 (error as to H.B.Co.), 161, 301, 304, 314, 316, 319. W. H. Gray, *A History of Oregon*, 262, 266, 267. "Tax List, 1844," *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. 31, 17. Edwin V.O'Hara, *Catholic History of Oregon*, Portland, Oregon, 1925, 20 (2). Charles H. Carey, *History of Oregon*, Chicago, 1922, Index. 1839-1841, "Ewing Young Estate," *Ore. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. 21, 218, 226, 268, 271, 295, 301, 303.

tioned by Alexander Henry at Fort George (Astoria) 1814. In 1825 Dr. John Scouler gave medical treatment to his sick daughter. He seems to have completed his time of service with the North-West Company and have become an independent trapper before the Hudson's Bay Company came to the country, although he was confused with a J. Baptiste Gervais with Ogden in 1826. (*Oregon Historical Quarterly*, Vol. 10, 354). About 1830 he began farming in the Willamette Valley, about ten miles south of Champoeg, where he was mentioned by Nathaniel J. Wyeth who shows his place on his map, 1832. He employed Louis La Bonte for a time, and Etienne Lucier camped at his place until his house was built. Gervais was employing Solomon H. Smith as a tutor for his children at the time of the arrival of Rev. Jason Lee, who camped in Gervais' melon patch, which he found to be advantageous in the morning, 1834. There is much detail given as to the live stock, buildings and agricultural products of the farm, and that he also owned a mill.

Gervais was very prominent in the Methodist mission until the arrival of the Roman Catholic priests, 1838, when he was one of the committee to welcome them. He signed the petition to Congress requesting American government, 1837, and offered to pay eight dollars towards reimbursing Ewing Young if he would discontinue his distillery. He was a member of the temperance society, and was elected as Constable when the local government was organized, February 18, 1841. He was on the committee of the "First Wolf Meeting" May 2, 1843, as he was said to have "Generally favored American settlement and enterprise." This committee called the "Second Wolf Meeting" which met at the residence of Gervais, March 6, 1843; he being on the committee for scalp bounties and also on the committee which called the meeting at Champoeg, May 2, 1843, where Gervais was said by Robert Newell to have been one of the five Canadians whose votes decided the matter of organization. That meeting continued him, and the others who had been elected two years before, in their offices until the Fifth General Meeting, July 5th, 1843. Gervais was one of the officers of the meeting of which Sidney Smith was chairman which suggested changes in the form of government in 1844, erroneously supposed by some to have been in 1843. Two of the soldiers of the Cayuse War, Isaac and Xavier Gervais may have been his sons. He died July 13, 1861. The town of Gervais, Oregon, was named for him.

J. NEILSON BARRY

(To be Continued)