



Yamhill County Museum, 6th and Market Street, Lafayette, Oregon

# YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, October 14, 1980 7:00 P.M.

PLACE: First Methodist Church, 1405 Deborah Rd., Newberg

POTLUCK: bring your own table service

PROGRAM: Mr. W. C. Little on early life in the Yamhill area

\* \* \* \* \*

### MUSEUM NEWS

We have had a big donation of articles - a collection of elephants, 50 in all and shadow box for elephants - silver, dishes linens, tools for the farm display, hand planes from the George Gay farm, etc.

A Mr. Falkner from California bought two Old Yamhill books - was here doing genealogy September 16th, related to the Sheridan families.

We are having few visitors so have cut back open days to Saturday and Sunday afternoons or by appointment.

Mr. Little who will show his pictures will have a very interesting program.

We have another 8' showcase to be filled when repairs are complete.

We have some cemeterys to record, can someone help. We need them updated so we can have a booklet of records to sell.

If you have a new address, please send it in as third class mail will not be forwarded.

For appointments phone 472-7935.

ROMA SITTON

\* \* \* \* \*

Don't throw away your old unidentified family pictures!! Sooner or later you may find someone who has the same ones identified. I have been in correspondence with a woman whose sister got rid of the old family pictures because they were all unidentified. It is an old Yamhill County family and our local museum has copies of some of their old pictures. I have shared copies of ours with her and she tells me that she recognizes some of them as having been among the pictures now lost to the family. If you do not want old unidentified photographs give them to the Museum. All we need to know is the family name or to whom they belonged originally. Even this is not necessary.

Another related problem with old pictures is dating them. The type of picture and size, fashion of dress, name of photographer(if any) are all clues to the age of a picture. Daguerrotype are the oldest photographs. This process was invented in France in 1839 and soon spread to America. Daguerrotypists were probably in Oregon by 1850 (and even before). The only authentic Yamhill County daguerrotype that I am certain of is one of Amos Cook and Fannie Scott taken soon after they were married in 1853 in Lafayette. According to a letter, of which we have a copy, an itinerant "artist", as these men were called, was

staying at the same Lafayette hotel in which Amos and Fanny were staying while their house was being built across the river. This was in October of 1853. A note written by one of the Cooks' daughters and placed in the daguerrotype dates the picture as October 1853.

Other pictures, obviously taken about the same time, are coming to light. Two copies of very old pictures of Daniel and Mary Cooper Matheny and Henry and Elizabeth Matheny Hewitt, apparently taken from old daguerrotypes are now being copied. These pictures show the same manner of dress and almost the same poses as the Cook picture. They could very well have been taken at the same time and by the same "artist".

Daguerrotype photography did not last long because the paper process soon came into popular use. By 1860 daguerrotypes were out. The small (2" x 3" ) prints were popular during the 1860's . Pictures of the 1870's and 1880's were usually larger.

RUTH STOLLER

\* \* \* \* \*

CURRENT OFFICERS, YCHS

President . . .	Elsie Warmington	Directors:	Emmett Dromgoole
Vice Pres. . .	Mike Boundy		Harvey Stoller
Secretary . . .	Mildred Renne		Laurence Schreiber
Finance Sec. . .	Evelyn Nieman		Ernest Shelburne
Treasurer . . .	Ione Kilgore		

\* \* \* \* \*

Annual Dues	\$ 3.00	Life Membership	YCHS	\$50.00
State Associate Dues	7.50			

\* \* \* \* \*

DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

\* \* \* \* \*