

## Applegate Emigrants to Oregon In 1843

**Albert APPLEGATE** was actually born in the Oregon Territory December 6, 1843 at the abandoned Willamette Mission where his parents, Charles Applegate and Melinda Miller, wintered. While not enumerated as an emigrant of that year he can certainly be considered a pioneer of that time period. Albert married January 17, 1869 at Drain, Douglas County, Oregon to Nancy Johnson. His adult years were spent in the Douglas Co area. It was here that he raised his family: Mercy D. (1870), Nellie M. (1871), Jesse Grant (1873), Fred (1875) and Lulu (1878). Albert died March 18, 1888. After his death his wife, Nancy Johnson Applegate, married James Shelley and was residing at Eugene, Lane County, Oregon in the 1900 census.

**Alexander McClelland APPLEGATE** was born Mar 11, 1838 in St. Clair County, Missouri, the son of Jesse Applegate and Cynthia Parker. He was five years old at the time the Applegates crossed the plains to Oregon in 1843. With his family he settled in Polk County in 1844 and in 1850 was living in Benton County. By 1860 the family had moved to Yoncalla, Douglas County, OR. Shortly after arriving, Alex went to the Idaho gold fields with Henry Lane, son of the famous Joseph Lane, who lived in nearby Roseburg. He and Henry and Alex's cousin John Applegate enjoyed playing the fiddle together. They often played at dances as "The Fiddlers Three." Henry Lane had been a suitor of Alex's cousin, Harriet. When the young men received the news in Idaho of the death of Harriet Applegate, Alex wrote home: "Your dream that some of us who parted last spring would no longer meet again in this life has been fulfilled. You were right in supposing that we had heard of Harriet's death and there were but few dry eyes in the camp. Poor Henry Lane seemed to take Harriet's passing harder than any of the rest of us. After we had all calmed down enough to go to sleep, we awoke far into the night only to see him sitting by the fire with his face in his hands." In 1863 Alex married Isabel Estes. They remained in Douglas County where they became the parents of two sons: Henry (1865) and Winfield (1866). Alex died Feb 1, 1902 in Douglas County, Oregon.

**Charles APPLEGATE** was a native of Kentucky, having been born there January 24, 1806 to Daniel Applegate and Rachel Lindsay. He was the eldest of the three Applegate brothers who brought their families to Oregon in 1843. He had married July 30, 1829 in Cole County, Missouri to Malinda Miller. They remained in Missouri, farming and establishing a family. By the time they made the journey west the family included eight children with another one on the way: Lucy (1830), Susan (1831), Ellen (1832), James (1834), Mary (1836), Lisbon (1837), Irene (1839), and John (1842). Albert was born soon after arrival in December 1843.

The family left Missouri with their most prized possessions, two wagons (each drawn by four oxen) along with ten cows and one horse. Upon arrival in the valley Charles worked the first winter for the Willamette Mission blacksmith, Alanson Beer. The next spring he moved his family to Polk County and settled on a donation land claim. In 1850 he is found residing in Benton County but by 1860 he had moved to Douglas County. By this time, more children had joined the family: Harriet (1845), Thomas (1847), Jane (1848), Fanny (1850), George "Buck" Applegate (1852) and Milton (1854). Including the infant who had died in 1841, Charles and Malinda were the parents of sixteen children.

In 1851 Charles and his brothers built a schoolhouse in Douglas County, installing James Applegate as teacher. At a cost of \$1000 they purchased from Harper's Publishing Company of New York, a library, which was shipped around Cape Horn.

## Applegate Emigrants to Oregon In 1843

Charles also gained some notoriety when he built a home that was divided in half. One side was for the men and the other for the women. This home has been restored and is the oldest home in Oregon that is still owned by direct descendants. It is listed in the National Historic Register and detailed drawings were made in 1934. Lindsay moved his family away from Yoncalla, and the families of Jesse and Charles became distant. Charles died August 9, 1879 at the age of seventy-three and was buried at the Yoncalla Cemetery. Melinda survived him by nine years.

**APPLEGATE, CHARLES**--Born in Henry County, Kentucky, January 24, 1806 ; removed to St. Louis, Missouri, in 1820. Married in 1829 to Miss Melinda Miller. Set out with his brothers, Jesse and Lindsay, for Oregon in the memorable year 1843. Settled in Polk County, and remained there until 1860, when he removed to Yoncalla, Douglas County, and resided there until his death, August 9, 1879." [History of the Willamette Valley by Herbert Lang p.610]

**Edward Bates APPLEGATE** was born Nov 1833 in Missouri to Jesse Applegate and Cynthia Parker. He was nine years old at the time of the crossing of the plains. During the trip down the rapids of the Columbia River, the boat carrying Edward capsized. He was drowned along with two others of the Applegate party, Edward's cousin, Warren Applegate and the close family friend, Alexander McClellan. Their bodies were not found. He had been the oldest son of the family.

**Elisha "Lish" Lindsay APPLEGATE** was born April 8, 1832 in St. Clair County, Missouri. He was the eldest son of Lindsay Applegate and Elizabeth "Betsy" Miller. In Missouri his mother had scolded him for sneaking off to swim. She thought it dangerous, but it was his ability to swim that saved Elisha when the boat he was riding in was overturned in the Columbia River drowning his brother Warren, cousin Edward, and family friend, Alexander McClellan. Elisha's body had been beaten upon the rocks and many bones had been broken. Some mended improperly and caused him great discomfort in later years.

The winter of 1843-44 was spent with his family in the abandoned Methodist Mission near Wheatland. In 1844 he moved with them to Salt Creek in Polk County. He was eighteen when the family moved to Yoncalla. On August 1, 1861 he married Marie Isabel Marshall at Salem, Marion County, OR.

In the census records Elisha is listed as a carpenter and a surveyor but it appears he had many talents. He was a staunch Republican and gained some renown as a writer for the People's Press. He was well known as a speaker and a simple story would never do if there was a way to embellish it. However, the stories told about him would probably have stood up against any he told on his own.

Elisha Applegate had a yearling calf which he wanted to break. One day Applegate took the yearling out into a lane. Not having a gentle ox with which to yoke up the calf, Applegate put the yoke on the calf's neck and then the other end over his own neck. The queer-looking couple started down the lane, at first slowly, and finally the calf broke into a run, dragging the old pioneer along at a rapid rate. Meeting some men, Applegate called out: "We're runnin' off, goll-darn our fool souls. Stop us! Stop us!" But as nobody stopped the "fools," they plunged into the Yoncalla River, where Applegate just escaped drowning.

## Applegate Emigrants to Oregon In 1843

Another story revolves around how "Lish" Applegate saved the University of Oregon. In 1872 when the question of a state university was raised, various towns felt they had the right to it. A battle was waged. The Legislature favored Eugene and stated that the college would be located there provided, by a certain date, the sum of \$50,000 was "subscribed". In those days that was a vast sum of money for a little country village. The committee having the matter in charge succeeded in getting about \$35,000 subscribed in labor, board for workmen, lumber, nails, bricks, glass, lime etc. But comb the entire county as they would, taking from the farmers garden truck, colts, mules, cows, poultry, butter and eggs still less than two-thirds of the needed sum was in evidence on the subscription papers and the workers were in despair.

They reckoned, however, without Lish Applegate. Lish was one of those handy men who are never stumped. For when the committee made known their troubles Lish said, "Gimme that paper." And seating himself on a store box he wrote in a bold hand, "Lish Applegate, \$15,000." The day was saved. Lish didn't have a red cent but subscription was all that was asked for. Of course, Lish never paid it, never paid a cent, but the alleged subscription tided them over, the Legislature was apprised that the amount was legally subscribed. By the time the money was needed the committee was able to finish raising it and the university was located at Eugene.

Lish Applegate was the father of Florence (1862), Francis (1864), Cynthia (1870). He died December 1, 1896, another pioneer passing into history.

**Ellen APPLEGATE** was born Nov 29, 1832 in Missouri, the daughter of Charles Applegate and Melinda Miller. She resided with her parents until December 26, 1852 when she married George A. Burt. By 1860 she is living with her husband and children in Umpqua County. Ellen died December 6, 1867 at Yoncalla, Douglas County, OR. Her husband is found living at Yoncalla in the 1870 census. They were the parents of Parrit (1855), John A. (1856), Henry H. (1858), Lucy A. (1860), Susan (1863), Fosco (1864) and Ellen (1867).

**Gertrude APPLEGATE** was born in 1841 in St. Clair County, Missouri, the daughter of Jesse Applegate and Cynthia Parker. She was the second daughter and seventh child of the couple and was two years old in the 1843 migration. The family settled in Polk County, Oregon, on Salt Creek in 1844. When Gertrude was nine, the family moved to what is now Yoncalla, Douglas County, Oregon. It was there that Gertrude grew to young womanhood during a time when the heated sectional controversy alienated neighbor from neighbor. Her father was a staunch Unionist. Their neighbors, the Drain family, were Southern sympathizers. It was at the Drain home where Gertrude would meet James D. Fay, a charming young man whom she had met while away at school. Fay became the city attorney for Corvallis, a hotbed of secessionist sentiment in 1860, and Fay became outspoken for the cause. He then moved to Jacksonville, which was even more secessionist than Corvallis. He regularly would take trips by stage from Jacksonville to Corvallis, stopping at the Spotted Horse Inn station, where a buckboard would be waiting to take Fay to the Drain home for his secret rendezvous with Gertrude. To Jesse Applegate, Fay was the spokesman for the cause of evil. In October of 1864 Gertrude took passage on a southbound stage where she married James Fay in Jacksonville. Gertrude wrote regularly to her family but no answers came, not even when she announced the birth of her son James Fay, Jr. Jesse forbade anyone to mention her name in his home. In 1865 Gertrude was discovered to have the consumption, and as she deteriorated, she requested to go home to be with those she loved before she wasted away. Her mother pleaded with Jesse, but to no avail.

## Applegate Emigrants to Oregon In 1843

It was 1867 before Jesse at last relented enough to allow his daughter and her baby to come for Cynthia to care for, but Fay was not to set foot in the Applegate home. Gertrude's brothers rushed to help Fay lift Gertrude down from their carriage when they arrived at Yoncalla. Cynthia rushed to the door saying, "All of you please come in! And take my girl upstairs to her old room. Inside the door was Jesse Applegate. Gertrude said to him, "Papa, I have come home to die." Jesse sternly answered, "You have only come home to be nursed back to health by your good mother. That is all you have come for." He did not visit with her in her sickbed that day and stayed away entirely. When the end was near, Gertrude requested to see her husband. Apparently Jesse relented and Fay was permitted to visit his dying wife. The next morning Gertrude asked to see her father, and they found him hoeing weeds in his orchard. After some reluctance, he went into the house and up to Gertrude's room. No one ever knew what words transpired between father and daughter. Afterwards Jesse returned to his orchard alone and continued to hoe the weeds. Gertrude was twenty-six years old when she died."

**Irene APPLEGATE** was born March 20, 1839 in St. Clair County, Missouri, the seventh child of Charles Applegate and Melinda Miller. She remained with her family through their various moves and, like her sister Lucy, she did not marry. She remained in the old Applegate home in her later years, being cared for by her brother, George and his wife. She died July 26, 1919 and was buried at the Yoncalla Cemetery

**Ivan Decatur APPLEGATE** was born June 25, 1840, in St. Clair County, Missouri, the son of Lindsay Applegate and Elizabeth "Betsy" Miller. He was three years old when his parents brought the family to Oregon. He moved with his family to what later became Douglas County in the early 1850s. He was in a party that rescued a wagon train from the Modoc Indians at Bloody Point in 1861. In 1862 he moved into the town of Ashland, where he helped operate the toll road over the Siskiyou Mountains that his father operated. The following year he enlisted as a captain of the State Militia at Ashland. In 1868 he was appointed to take charge of the commissary in the Oregon Indian Department. In this capacity he served as an interpreter for the Snake Indians while living on the Klamath Indian Reservation. In 1870 he retired from public life but was called back into service the following year as a special representative to the Modoc Indian camp on Lost River. While in that position he participated in the first battle of the Lava Beds and later was one of six men who risked their life to retrieve the bodies of citizen who had been slain by the Indians.

On July 14, 1871 he married Margaret Hutchinson in Jackson County. She was twenty two years old; Ivan was thirty-one at the time. Ivan and Margaret were the parents of five children: Alice (1872), Ada Florence (1874), Moray Lindsay (1877), Lena L. (1880) and Jessie. Ivan died at the age of seventy-eight on December 28, 1918. Margaret died eight years later on November 22, 1926. Both are buried at the Klamath Falls Cemetery, as are Ivan's brothers, Oliver and Lucien.

**Aged Resident Met Death by Clothing Catching Fire---** A most distressing accident occurred in Ashland Saturday morning when Captain Ivan Applegate, one of the oldest and most respected citizens of this city, was burned so severely at his home on Granite street that death resulted several hours afterwards.

## Applegate Emigrants to Oregon In 1843

The casualty occurred at an early hour in the morning when Captain Applegate arose and started a fire in the fireplace in the dining room of his home. He was clad in his night clothing, over which he had donned a bath robe. After kindling the fire Captain Applegate stood in front of the fireplace to get warm, and in some manner his bath robe caught fire and was a mass of flames before he discovered it. His cries brought Mrs. Applegate to his aid, and she made a valiant effort to extinguish the fire which by this time had virtually enwrapped the aged man. The alarm was spread to Mr. and Mrs. Emil Peil who live next door, the latter of whom is a daughter of the injured man, and they hastened to the scene of the disaster, and succeeded in putting out the flames and called a physician who ministered to the injuries as far as possible. The shock, together with the severe burns, proved fatal, however, and death followed at about five o'clock Saturday evening.

Capt. Ivan D. Applegate was a pioneer among pioneers. His residence in Oregon dates back to 1843, seventy-five years to the time of the laying of the first foundations for the building of a state on the Pacific Coast. He often referred to the fact that his first recollections were at three years of age as he tugged at the ragged skirts of his mother on the turbulent voyage down the Columbia river rapids near The Dalles, where his elder brother and three others were drowned, on the last leg of the long journey across the unbeaten paths of the great American continent from the Missouri river to the land "where rolls the Oregon." The Applegate immigration of 1843 was the first extensive movement of settlers to this state from the Middle West and the party numbering some eight hundred all told soon made its impress upon the great virgin territory, and its sturdy American citizenship was largely responsible for the rescue of the territory from British domination.

At the head of this great immigrant party, which was organized and set out from Missouri, were the three Applegate brothers, Jesse, Charles and Lindsay, each of whom with their families have made a strong impress upon the history of Oregon. Ivan was a son of Lindsay Applegate, who after some years spent in the Willamette and Umpqua valleys, located at Ashland, the old homestead comprising a large part of the present site of the city, the family dwelling having been located upon the lot which now is covered by the Elks temple. Lindsay Applegate and his sons literally blazed the way and were conspicuous in opening up the immigrant trails thru this region and into southeastern Oregon and in safeguarding the later settlers who braved the dangers from hostile Indians and attendant privations in pioneering this section. Lindsay Applegate in the early sixties became the first government agent for the Klamath Indians and his sons assisted him in establishing and maintaining friendly relations between the redskins and the white settlers who were gradually encompassing their homes and their hunting grounds.

Ivan Applegate, schooled and trained in the ways and character of the aborigine and an adept in their language, became one of the noted Indian scouts of the region, and it is said that few if any white men ever gained and maintained their confidence as he. He represented them in their conferences with the settlers, and was trusted to represent them in their dealings with the government. He rendered important service to the government and people in the Modoc Indian war and it has often been said that if his counsel had been followed many of the horrors of that war would never have occurred.

With the opening up and development of the great Klamath basin, Capt. Applegate engaged in the stock business there and operated upon quite an extensive scale, experienced the ups

## Applegate Emigrants to Oregon In 1843

and downs of that business in the earlier days. Energetic and active always, it is told of him that he recouped a modest fortune in the sheep growing business in the lava bed region near the state line after he had passed the age of seventy years.

Sturdy and honest of character, keen of mind, typical of Oregon pioneers, he was also broad and tolerant, loved the freedom of his country and its institutions. He was proud of the state which he had seen grow and develop from infancy and loyal to his own home and community.

A year or more ago Capt. Applegate sold out his stock interests in the Klamath country and removed to Ashland, the home of his youth, where he built an attractive home and sought to spend his remaining days with his devoted wife in peace and quietude.

He is survived by his wife who before their marriage was Miss Maggie Hutchinson, daughter of one of the pioneer settlers of the Klamath region, and herself one of the first school teachers in Ashland, and by two daughters, Alice, wife of E. Peil of this city, and Lena, wife of W. O. Smith, editor of the Klamath Falls Herald, and by one son, Morey L., a planter in Mexico. Three brothers, Jesse of Roseburg, Capt. O. C. Applegate, the well-known citizen of Klamath Falls, and Lucian B. Applegate, also a prominent resident of Klamath county, as well as two sisters, Mrs. Alice Sargent, wife of Col. H. H. Sargent, U.S.A. retired of Jacksonville, and Mrs. Rachel Alford, wife of M. L. Alford, city recorder of Medford, survive of the original Lindsay Applegate family.

The funeral was held and interment made today at Klamath Falls." [Source: Ashland Tidings, Ashland, Oregon, Tuesday, December 31, 1918, Page 1, Columns 3 & 4; contributed by Frank Dawes]

**James APPLEGATE** was born Aug 5, 1834, the son of Charles Applegate and Melinda Miller. On January 25, 1859 he married Caroline Coffee Johnson at Bethel in Polk County. The couple moved to Douglas County where James farmed. It was here that their children were born: Josephine (1860), Mary (1862), Nancy (1864), Lulu (1866), Mabel (1867), Grace (1869) and Vincent W. (1874). By 1880 the family had moved to California and was residing at Goose Lake in Modoc County. James died at Los Angeles, California, Aug 31, 1896. He was described as having a medium build with brown hair and sandy whiskers; witty and quick in conversation

**Jesse APPLEGATE** was born July 5, 1811 in Kentucky, the son of Daniel Applegate and Rachel Lindsay. On Mar 13, 1831 in Cole county, Missouri he wed Cynthia Ann Parker. The family continued to live in Missouri where Jesse worked for the Surveyor General's office. By the early 1840s the prosperous farm that he owned was beginning to fail due to the poor American economy. Hearing of the opportunities in the northwest, the Jesse Applegate family along with the families of Charles and Lindsay Applegate, joined the emigration of 1843. Jesse was elected leader of the "Cow Column," the division of the immigration with larger herds of stock. He wrote a reminiscence of that time called "A Day with the Cow Column" that is still available today.

The brothers spent the winter of 1843-44 in the abandoned buildings of Willamette Mission twelve miles north of Salem. The following year they moved to sites on Salt Creek in western Polk County. They were there for six years before moving to what is now Yoncalla, in Douglas County.

## Applegate Emigrants to Oregon In 1843

Jesse was certainly the most prominent of the three Applegate brothers, but he was a complex man. Along with Levi Scott and others, the Southern Route, also referred to as the Applegate Trail was established in 1846. The emigrants of the first crossing faced many hardships and many placed the blame on Jesse Applegate for failing to ensure that it was accessible. One of his most outspoken, critics was the attorney Jesse Quinn Thornton. Yet Jesse Applegate was revered as the "Sage of Yoncalla." He was a prolific writer and hardly an edition of any of the papers were published without containing a comment either regarding him or penned by him. When his daughter ran off to marry a staunch Southern sympathizer, he refused to speak to her ever again. It wasn't until she called to him from her death bed that he relented and even then it was unknown what transpired between them because he never spoke of it.

Jesse eventually lost his Donation Land Claim due to signing as a surety in an affair that failed. Later he even lost his sanity. Jesse moved to California in 1872 and made enough money to return to Yoncalla, where he spent the rest of his life raising grapes. His wife Cynthia died in 1881. After the death of his wife he went to live with his daughter, Sarah Applegate Long. She reported that her father suffered from visions at night of all the relatives that had died before. He would walk the floors late at night and slept little. Jesse died in Yoncalla in Douglas county April 22, 1888 at the age of seventy-seven.

Jesse and Cynthia were the parents of twelve children: Rozelle (1832), Milton (d. MO), Alexander McClellan (1838), Robert Shortess (1839), William Henry Harrison (1841), Gertrude Applegate (1842), Edward Bates (1843), Daniel Webster (1845), Sarah "Sallie" (1848), Peter Skeen Ogden (1851), Ellen (1854) and Flora (1857).

**APPLEGATE, JESSE A.**--Born in Missouri in 1835 ; came to Oregon with the world famous party led by his relatives, Charles, Jesse and Lindsay Applegate, in 1843. Has lived at various points in the valley. Studied law with the firm of Wilson & Harding, at Salem, and was admitted to the bar in 1864. Was married in 1863 to Virginia Watson. Their children are Glendower, McClellan and Erie. Mr. Applegate was superintendent of schools for Polk County in 1863-64, and member of the Legislature in 1865-66. Residence, Salem." [History of the Willamette Valley by Herbert Lang p.611]

Jesse Applegate APPLEGATE was born November 1836 in Missouri to Lindsay Applegate and Virginia Watson. Named in honor of his uncle Jesse Applegate, he was seen in most census records as Jesse A. Applegate. Many years later, Jesse would write a memoir of the trip across the plains entitled, "Recollections of My Boyhood." Jesse witnessed--with his one good eye--the drowning of his brother Warren, his cousin Edward, and old Alexander McClellan, called "Uncle Mac" by the family, and the near drowning of William Doak and Jesse's uncle, William Parker. Jesse spent the winter with his family in the abandoned buildings of the Willamette Mission north of Salem. In 1844 the family settled on Salt Creek in western Polk County. They were there six years before the family moved to Yoncalla in Douglas County. Jesse studied law with the firm of Wilson & Harding in Marion Co and was admitted to the bar in 1864. He was superintendent of schools in Polk Co 1863-64 and a member of the Legislature in 1865-66.

Jesse and his wife Virginia had at least six children; the 1880 U. S. Census showed Jesse as age 43 living with his wife Virginia, 39, and three sons and three daughters between the ages of four and nineteen. Jesse's last years were spent at the Soldiers' Home in Roseburg, Oregon,

## Applegate Emigrants to Oregon In 1843

where he was completely blind. He died in 1918 at the age of eighty-three, the same year as his younger brother Ivan.

**John APPLEGATE** was born March 12, 1842 in St. Clair County, Missouri, the son of Charles Applegate and Melinda Miller. He was a year old when he joined the emigration of 1843 with his parents. He enlisted in the Union Army in 1865 as a private in Company K, First Oregon Mounted Volunteer Infantry and served one year on the frontier. Was well known at a fine fiddler and along with Alexander Applegate and Henry Lane, entertained at many a local function. In 1874 in Douglas County he married Laura V. Bridges, the daughter of Rev. Daniel W. Bridges. The couple resided at Yoncalla, Douglas County, Oregon until their death. They were the parents of seven children: Annie Lola (1876), Bertha A. (1882), Emma Mary (1886), Charles D. (1884), Susie (1890), Gertrude and John Lindsay (1889). John died January 2, 1912 and his wife died Feb 21, 1937.

**Lindsay APPLEGATE** was born Sep 18, 1808 in Henry County, KY, the son of Daniel Applegate and Rachel Lindsay. He was named Anthony Lindsay Applegate after his mother's father but in the records he always appears as Lindsay Applegate. As a young man he moved to St. Louis and in 1823 joined Ashby's trapping expedition. He served in the Black Hawk War as a volunteer under General Whitesides.

On January 13, 1831 in Cole County, Missouri Lindsay married Elizabeth Basham Miller. She was the sister of Charles Applegate's wife, Malinda. The family resided in Missouri, raising their family. In 1839, Robert Shortess, who had worked for Lindsay Applegate and Daniel Waldo at their mill on the Monagaw River in 1836-37, immigrated to the Oregon Territory. The letters he sent back about the new land encouraged the Applegates and Waldos to join him. Armed with his guidebook, the families joined the emigration of 1843.

Upon arrival they spent the first winter in the abandoned buildings of the Willamette Mission north of Salem. The following spring they moved into what is now Polk County. In 1846, Lindsay and his brother, Jesse, joined 13 other men to find a Southern Route into the Oregon Territory. In 1850 Lindsay joined General Lane to pursue deserters from Fort Vancouver; served as special Indian agent under General Palmer and in 1853 commanded a company of volunteers during the Rogue River Indian War.

In 1859 Lindsay purchased the toll road leading from Northern California to Southern California and went to reside in Siskiyou Mountains. In 1861 he was the captain of a volunteer company to protect incoming emigrants and in 1862, a member of the Legislature representing Jackson county. In 1864 Lindsay was an interpreter for the Klamath-Modoc Indian Treaty and served as a sub-agent until the military took over in 1869. He resided in Jackson County until his death on November 28, 1892. He is buried in the Ashland Cemetery, Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon.

Lindsay and Elizabeth were the parents of: Elisha Lindsay (1832), Warren (1834), Jesse Applegate (1835), Theresa Rose (1838), Ivan Decatur (1840), Lucien B. (1842), Oliver Cromwell (1845-1938); Annie (1847-1870); Frank (1850-1872); Alice (1852-1934); Jerome Applegate (1855-1856); and Rachel Lindsay (1857-1940).

"APPLEGATE, LINDSAY--Born in Henry County, Kentucky, September 18, 1808; his family settled near St. Louis, Missouri, in 1820, and about three years later he joined General Ashby's fur

## Applegate Emigrants to Oregon In 1843

company, and participated in an expedition into the country of the hostile Indians. Returning to St. Louis he was married in 1831 to Elizabeth Miller. He served in the Black Hawk war. Set out for Oregon in May, 1843, and settled in Polk County. The expedition of the above year was, probably, the most important of all the movements of that sort whose direction was to this State, and Lindsay Applegate, with his brothers, Charles and Jesse, were the moving spirits therein. Its details are elsewhere set forth. In 1844 Lindsay Applegate served as a member of the first organized company of soldiers designed to protect the infant settlements from the invasion of hostile Indians. In 1846 he, with Jesse Applegate, sought out the Southern Immigrant Route, by which, in that year, a considerable number of pioneers entered this State. In 1848 he went to California by land, and returned during the same year by water. In 1850 he joined General Lane in pursuit of the deserting regulars from Vancouver. In the same year he served as special Indian agent under Gen. Palmer. Commanded, in 1853, a company of volunteers who enlisted to combat the Rogue River tribes, but was not in action. In 1859 he purchased the toll road leading from Northern California to Southern Oregon, and went to reside on the Siskiyou Mountains. In 1861 he was chosen captain of a volunteer company, whose object was to protect incoming immigrants, and set out to patrol the southern route from Klamath eastward. Was a member of the Legislature of Oregon in 1862, and was likewise special Indian agent. Served at Klamath, as such, until 1869. Resides at Ashland, Jackson County." [History of the Willamette Valley by Herbert Lang p.611-12]

**Lisbon APPLEGATE** was born Dec 29, 1837 in St. Clair County, Missouri, the son of Charles Applegate and Melinda Miller. He was five years old during the crossing of 1843. While crossing the plains, the boy, perhaps tired of walking on such a hot day, hid out in the wagon drive by George Beale, from whom the Applegate children had been told to stay away. Beale would later commit murder, but even in 1843, it could be seen that he was an unsavory character. Beale was driving the wagon up a steep hill, applying the whip heavily to the oxen. At last they just stopped and the wagon began rolling down the hill backward. Beale jumped out and the wagon crashed, dumping food everywhere. Lisbon was crying and covered in flour, but no one then realized how seriously he was injured. After his accidents, Lisbon began to periodically have seizures. Then the seizures became a daily occurrence and before long he was confined to a wheel chair. Finally, the boy that had so much promise became totally bed ridden and incapacitated. Despite the loving care that was showered upon him, his ability to speak deteriorated and his attic room became his prison from which there was no escape. On the 1870 census, beside his statistics was the notation "idiotic". He died November 22, 1896 at the home of his deceased parents that he shared with siblings. He was buried in the cemetery at Yoncalla.

**Lucien B. APPLEGATE** was born April 24, 1842 in St. Clair County, Missouri, the son of Lindsay Applegate and Elizabeth "Betsy" Miller. He was one year old when the family started for Oregon. After settling in Polk County for a brief period of time, the family moved to Douglas County where they resided until shortly after the 1860 census was taken. It was then that the family moved to the Ashland area in Jackson County, where his father operated the toll booth on the road over Siskiyou Summit. The family established a close relationship with the Indians both in Yoncalla and in the Ashland area. Lucien helped his father to establish the Klamath Indian Agency and Lucien himself became the superintendent of farming there for the Indians. During the Civil War, Lucien was commissioned a major in the Oregon Volunteer Militia.

## Applegate Emigrants to Oregon In 1843

On June 9, 1866, at Ashland, he married Margaret E. Grubb, who crossed the plains in 1852. In 1869 he moved his family to Swan Lake Valley in Klamath County where he worked 5,000 acres of hay and grain and raised livestock. He prospered and in 1916 Margaret and Lucien celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary with family and friends on the Brookside Ranch where they had lived 46 of their 50 years together. They were the parents of six children: Elmer I. (1867), Minnie A. (1868), Fred L. (1871), Evelyn R. (1876), Bessie B. (1879) and Elsie T (1881). Margaret died in 1925 and Lucien died January 4, 1926. They are buried in the Klamath Falls Cemetery, as are his brothers Ivan and Oliver.

**Lucy APPLEGATE** was born May 7, 1830 the daughter of Charles Applegate and Melinda Miller. Lucy was the eldest daughter of the family and was well liked by all. As a young woman, Lucy injured an eye, blinding herself in that eye. After that her popularity with young men ceased, and Lucy never married.

Lucy was a hard worker and an avid gardener and could be found tending her vegetables and roses when she wasn't tending the needs of the Applegate family. She inherited the old Charles Applegate home upon her mother's death in 1888 and continued to live there until her death July 3, 1910 at the age of eighty. Her obituary stated "Miss Lucy Applegate, an early Oregon pioneer who recently died at her home in Yoncalla. All who looked upon her face after death said within their hearts 'Dear Aunt Lucy,' for she was loved by all who knew her and many who did not know her heard much of her life work in caring for others and held her in high esteem."

**Mary A. APPLEGATE** was born January 6, 1834, the daughter of Charles Applegate and Melinda Miller. February 18, 1857, at the age of 23, she married John Webster Perit Huntington. In 1852 he went to the Yoncalla country where he took a land claim in the Hayhurst Valley near the Applegate family. Brilliant, versatile and well-educated, he taught school, practiced law, and in 1860 was a state legislator. In 1863 president Lincoln appointed him Supt. of Indian Affairs for Oregon, 1864-69. Selling his farm, he moved to Salem where he died June 3, 1869, less than two weeks after the death of his young son. After the death of her first husband Mary married John E. Wilson. Mary died December 23, 1878. Mary was the mother of two sons by her first husband: Benjamin (1859) and John Webster Perit Huntington Jr. (1861-1869).

**Robert "Bob" Shortess APPLEGATE** was born December 29, 1839, the son of Jesse Applegate and Cynthia Parker. He was named in honor of Robert Shortess, a family friend who had emigrated to the Oregon Territory in 1839. Robert married January 5, 1858 in Douglas County to Malinda A. Miller. He died October 17, 1893 at Yoncalla. Robert and Malinda were the parents of Aaron Purcill (1859), William (1861), Oscar (1863), Annie L. (1865), Catherine (1867), Edna (1870), Jessie (1873) and Ira (1875).

**Rozelle APPLEGATE** was born July 7, 1832 in St. Louis, Missouri, the oldest daughter of Jesse Applegate and Cynthia Parker. After moving with her family to Polk County in the spring of 1844 she met Charles Putnam, a young printer from Lexington, Kentucky who had arrived with the emigration of 1847. They were married shortly thereafter on December 12, 1847. When the Applegate family moved to Douglas County, the Putnams went with them. They settled on a land claim and started a family that eventually reached eight in number: Charles (1848),

## Applegate Emigrants to Oregon In 1843

Lucinda (1851), Horace (1852), Edward (1854), Gertrude (1856), Susan and Joseph (1858) and Ada (1860).

Rozelle Putnam was the first woman to set type in the Oregon territory. Charles printed a small paper called The Oregon American and Evangelical Unionist. Rozelle, like her sister Harriet, died of consumption. Her husband sent her to her parents' home so her mother could nurse her. She died at the age of twenty-nine. Jesse and Cynthia reared the motherless children after their mother's death. Charles spent much of his time at the Applegate home thereafter. In 1862 he went to the Idaho gold fields with his Applegate brothers-in-law and cousins, also taking his eldest son, Charles Putnam Jr.

**Susan APPLEGATE** was born May 25, 1831 in Missouri, the daughter of Charles Applegate and Melinda Miller. March 11, 1851 she married Robert C.H. Smith, who was also an emigrant of 1843. They settled in Douglas County where they farmed and raised their seven children: Richard (1852), Frances (1854), Robert Frank (1856), Jerome (1859), Ellen (1861), Albert (1864) and Elmer (1868). Robert Smith died in 1888 and Susan died nine years later on December 30, 1907.

**Theresa Rose APPLEGATE** was born Feb 24, 1838 in St. Clair County, Missouri, the daughter of Lindsay Applegate and Elizabeth Miller. April 20, 1868 she married Gen. John Marshall McCall. They were the parents of Lindsay (1869), Lydia T. (1871), Elsie May (1873) and John O. (1875). Theresa died Feb 9, 1875 in Jackson County, Oregon. By the 1880 Jackson County census Gen. McCall had remarried Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Anderson.

**Warren APPLEGATE** was born c1834 in St. Clair County, Missouri, the son of Lindsay Applegate and Elizabeth Miller. His family left the other immigrants at Fort Walla Walla, purchasing boats to navigate down the Columbia to Fort Vancouver. The boat in which Warren was a passenger capsized, and he, his cousin Edward, and old family friend Alexander McClellan perished. It was truly a tragic end to a gargantuan effort for the boy, who, like the others, walked most of the way to Oregon. He died just before entering the promised land of the Willamette Valley. For the Applegate family, half-starved, facing the rains of winter, it must have indeed been gloomy. Warren's body and those of the others were never found.

**William Henry APPLEGATE** was born Feb 1844, some two months after arrival in Oregon, the son of Jesse Applegate and Cynthia Parker. While not enumerated as an emigrant of 1843 he certainly qualifies as an early pioneer of that time period. He was living with his parents in Douglas County until 1871 when he married Nancy Elizabeth Grubb. William is shown in most census records as Henry Applegate until 1900 and 1910 when he is listed as William Henry Applegate. The 1910 census lists his occupation as dairy farmer. Henry and Nancy were the parents of seven children: Ernest (1875), Herbert (1876), Zoe (1878), Clarence (1880), Walter T. (1882), Chester A. (1883), and Roscoe (1888). Henry died January 3, 1913 in Jackson County, OR.