

"In Memory of Matthias Stanton"

Another of our most beloved pioneers has been called to his eternal home. Matthias Stanton, or Matt Stanton, as he has always been familiarly known, died March 18, 1936 at his home in the Ahtanum Valley, about two miles from the old home where he was born June 14, 1877.

He came from a long line of pioneers. His great-grandfather and great-grandmother on his mother's side, William and Martha (Clark) Engle, crossed the plains with the ox-team and covered wagon in 1845. They settled in Clackamas County, Oregon. Mitchel Whitlock, who had crossed the plains the same year, and Malvina Engle were married in 1846 in Clackamas County and settled on a donation land claim in Marian County. To them was born, on October 11, 1851, a daughter, Felicia, who became the mother of Matt Stanton.

His grandfather Stanton started to cross the plains in 1852. He died on the way and his wife and children continued the journey, settling in Salem, Oregon. His father, Matthias Stanton, and Felicia Whitlock were married in Oregon in 1869 and soon after came to Yakima County where Mr. Stanton had previously taken up government land in the Ahtanum Valley in 1868. Through the death of Matt Stanton our community has lost an honest and noble citizen, and our Historical Society a loyal member whom we can ill afford to lose. A feeling of deep regret is being felt by his many friends.

Having grown up in this community he took a deep interest in its welfare and could see the possibilities in its future. The torch which has been handed down from his great-grand parents must now fall to the sons and daughters of pioneers whose duty it is to carry it with the same courage and christian fortitude. Although his loved ones are mourning their great loss, we as friends can only point them to the God in which he trusted.

"Beyond these chilling winds and gloomy skies,
Beyond death's cloudy portals,
There is a land where beauty never dies,
Where love becomes immortal."