

Snipes

Ben E. Snipes as trustee of Ben E. Snipes, Mary A. Snipes, William L. Hill, D.B. May and others has filed suit in the superior court, Seattle, against John W. Thompson of Washington, D.C. the amount involved being \$594,675 .

The litigation refers to what is known as the Hill tract of land and about which there has been litigation since the oldest inhabitants can remember.

Snipes asks first that Thompson be declared to hold the property in trust for the plaintiffs; to pay \$187,986 to himself (Thompson) to pay \$511,375 to Ben E. Snipes; to hold in common with Snipes, Hill and May the property.

If Thompson has placed it out of his power to fulfill the terms he is asked to pay \$584,675 to the plaintiffs. They claim he is about to transfer the property--~~akima~~ Herald, Aug 10, 1899.

Snipes Drive to Montana

Benj. Snipes, Esq., one of our heavy cattle dealers, started a large drove of cattle for the Montana market yesterday.

—The Dalles Mountaineer, Sat. Apr. 6, 1867

Pioneers

Ben E Snipes

Dr. Power, receiver for the Ben E. Snipes banks and estates submitted his report to the superior court on March 20. It shows:

"Nomiaal assets \$354,805.43; liabilities of the Ellensburgh bank \$122,670/80; liabilities of the Roslyn bank , \$81,985.87; Ben E. Snipes estate, \$75,398.2. Of the assets as above \$83,737 is bills receivable; \$86,086 is real estate and \$38,891 judgments.

The balance is made up of 'other a sets' \$146,089.98.

The latter includes overdrafts, cou ty and city warrants, notes, horses and cattle, rents due, unpaid drafts and due from correspondents.

The valuation placed on his horses and cattle is \$21,396.18. The list of creditors embraces about \$00 names. The greatest liability under one head is \$50,000 savings deposits in the Roslyn branch bank. --Yakima Herald, March 22, 1894.

There passed to the world beyond last Sunday morning Thomas Harrison.

He has been suffering for about two months from acute indigestion. Mr. Harrison was among the first of the second lot of land settlers who came here. Except the first few months after arrival, he has been full of hope for this country and took a keen interest in everything promoting its development.

He was born in Ohio in 1826 when he moved to Linn Co., Iowa removing from there to Sunnyside in Feb. 1900. The funeral services were conducted by Bishop Eby of the Dunkard church of which the deceased was a member for over thirty years. He leaves an aged widow, two sons and one daughter, the sons S.J. and W.H. Residing here. The remains were interred in the Sunnyside cemetery. Grandpa Harrison was beloved by all. The Sunnyside Sun, Oct. (21) 1903.

Zillah

R. Hatch, known all over the lower county as the keeper of the hotel at Zillah, died at his inn on Tuesday night of a complication of blood poisoning and lumbago.

Deceased was a man of 55 or 60 years old who was more or less prominent during the days of canal construction in the Sunnyside country as he and his sons managed a portable boarding house which was largely patronized by contractors and the workmen on the payrolls ran into thousands of dollars each month.

Mr. Hatch was ill for several weeks. The remains were interred at Zillah, this morning at 10 o'clock--Yakima Herald, Sept. 26, 1895.

Pioneers..Crossing Plains

Crossing the plains on a prairie schooner in 1872 was not adventure; it was mighty hard work. There didn't appear to be much danger from Indian scalping; there was lots of annoyance from Indian chiseling.

There was no greater spiritual urge to leave the safe but regimented highways of civilization in preference to freedom and democracy in the west; the pioneers merely thought they saw a chance to make a better living in an easier manner.

Thus 80-year-old Lewis Tanner of this city attempts to debunk romantic disquisitions on the winning of the west. Tanner claims he ought to know, for he came west in 1872 in a covered wagon train when he was 17 years old.

The pioneer acknowledged that, if he were young and had his choice he would strike out for the Yakima valley.

Tanner described the preparations made before the settlers left for the west. The father, Peter Tanner, was reasonably well supplied with gold he had made during the California gold rush.

A shoemaker was called to the Tanner home near Milwaukee, Wis. and several pairs of boots were made for each member of the family; blue jeans and home made coats were mended

and underwear, if any was worn, was fashioned by the women.

The elder Tanner purchased three hand-made lynch pin wagons, paying \$100 in gold for each. He broke six cows to the job of pulling one hitched four horses to another and four oxen on the third.

Peter Tanner had been across the plains in 1849 and profited by his experience. He laid by spare harness, and

wagon repairs that he knew were most likely to be needed.

He had to be extremely careful for the load that the lumbering covered wagon could haul uphill and down across unbridged rivers and through mud, sand and sand, was limited.

Home cured bacon was the only meat that they could take.

There was also a supply of flour, corn meal, beans, dried pumpkin and dried apples on a string, green coffee to be roasted over a campfire and ground as needed. This, plus

such milk as the cows supplied about comprised the larder as far as Lewis Tanner can recall.

The exception was buffalo and antelope meat and wild fowl the

travelers brought down along the trail and fish they caught in the streams.

Speaking of a larder every wagon had as part of its

equipment a "tar pot" or pail of mixed tallow and lard.

This was used to grease the wheels as petroleum products and service stations were not available.

The horses and cattle had to find all their feed and

most of their water as best they could along the trail. Three

of the wagons hauled barrels of water, but this was needed for

the human members of the train, especially in case the Indians attacked.

Bedding consisted mainly of blankets or quilts and cooking

utensils included a big iron kettle where innumerable stews

were made with the help of fresh meat killed along the way.

Bread was baked in dutch ovens buried in the coals of camp

fires. Stoves were out of the question.

Ropes, pulleys and chains were an important part of the

equipment. Frequently the wagons had to be lowered down river

banks with them.

2--Pioneers Crossing

plains.

Probably there were more guns than any other kind of equipment.

There were needle guns and rifles of various make and calibers and every male carried at least one revolver.

Ammunition boxes were kept brimful through replacements at trading posts along the way. Many of the men were long hunting knives in their belts.

The Tanners and several other families first drove to Iowa, wintered and then started west with 27 wagons. Peter Tanner was the wagon boss and his word was law. He had two lieutenants to take his place in event of illness. There were grumblings and differences of opinion at times but Tanner held sway as completely as a captain aboard his ship.

His son recalls that progress was slow and often the train did not travel more than 10 or 12 miles in a day. The wagon boss knew from experience that a slow but a steady pace with plenty of time spent on keeping the equipment in first class shape was better in the long run.

The pioneers would roll out their blankets long before dawn and would be ready to continue westward as soon as it became light enough to see.

Meals were in order from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. as the sun glared down on the open plains mercilessly and made traveling unwise. Then the train would move on until it was too dark to drive except for instances when a good camping place was found earlier and the country beyond looked forbidding.

Wagons would be stationed in a circle every night with the people eating and sleeping inside. Men and boys took turns standing guard as much to protect grazing cattle and horses from thieving Indians as to prevent scalping raids.

Mounds of dirt and rock marked the trail. Tanner explained

they were the only road signs that would withstand ravages of the elements and damage at the hands of the savages.

The trail was anything but an easy and inviting highway and the pioneers frequently had to dig away rock and dirt slides. Storms were a constant menace and one hail storm near North Platte Neb. covered the ground a foot deep. The stones took the hair off the backs of the cattle and horses in spots.

"Indians, Humph!" Tanner snorts. "They were darned pests, not a bit of trouble from them during the whole trip except that we had to feed them once in a while and give them smoking and chewing tobacco."

The redskins trailed along after the caravans like scavengers. The pioneers, unwilling but occasionally, bought friendship of the tribesmen through whose lands they passed. The Indians were early American racketeers.

Though the Tanners wintered near Goldendale they did not become permanent settlers. The father was disgusted with the dry country and complained that he could not find even good drinking water. Soon the family moved to Kansas.

Young Tanner came back to this valley several years later and worked for various ranchers, among them Blackburn brothers of Bickleton. He also worked near the present city of Topeka and went to Iowa where he married and lived for many years.

Tanner again came to Yakima 15 years ago to spend the remaining years of his life. Yakima Republic, April 27, 1935.

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Pioneers

Old Joe Bowser

Old Joe Bowser is dead. That was the remark which on Friday morning last occasioned more reminiscent comment, more stories of pioneer days than the same statement about almost any other resident would have done.

For Old Joe as he was (without disrespect) called, had many a friend and many more passing acquaintances among the boys and ranchers in this country and he was well known in the city too where his rather infrequently visits always terminated in some episode remembered laughingly or otherwise by his associates after he had gone.

The manner of his death will always remain a mystery, although it is understood to have been heart failure, resulting from Joe's prevailing habit of indulging rather excessively in intoxicants.

He was found, dead, away up in the mountains of the Klickitat with the skin of a bear he had killed flung across his shoulders. There were no wounds or marks of violence. He had been dead a couple of days.

When he left his cabinmate to go away on his trip he told him not to worry as he was going to have a "big hunt." When however the dog he owned came back alone and half starved several days later, fears for Old Joe's safety ended in a search and his body was found. It was carried down to Tampico flung across the back of a pack horse that being the only means of transportation and Mr. J.P. Marks then brought it to this city where it was prepared for burial.

The ceremonies were simple and were held at the undertaking parlors of Lombard & Horsley where the remains were lying. His daughter, Mrs. N.H. Lillie of Toppenish, was present.

Old Joe was a character. He was a man perhaps 63 years old, a miner, prospector and stock owner in the early days; then a livery stable keeper in the old town when it was in its palmyest days, then

prospector , miner and hunter until he died.

There are many odd tales of the old man afloat, particularly about his apparently inexhaustible means of obtaining money.

He always cached it, digging it up when wanted. He dug up \$6,000 from the middle of the road in front of his livery stable in the old town one day and left the country. He unearthed \$12,000 from beneath an old tree at the First National bank corner in the old town; and that did not represent all of his wealth apparently. No one knew where he got it, but he always had it.

Once he had a little trouble with a member of his family, it is reported and thinking that his money was wanted and that he was being conspired against he packed up all his goods and went off to South America where he spent every dollar he had, merely to keep it from his fancied enemies. The amount he took away is said to have been \$26,000.

Whenever he came to Yakima he always had \$100, \$200 or \$300 in gold with him, yet he never had a bank account.

It is probable that there may yet be money planted near the Marks ranch at Tampico or about his camping place in the mountains.

Old Joe was not a squaw man in the common acceptance of the term. He was legally married to an Indian woman who by whom he had one child, now Mrs. N.H. Lillie of Toppenish.

He was a jolly, good hearted and typical westerner, free with his money, his hospitality and perhaps his manners. He had enemies of course; but who has not? But he had many staunch friends who roughed it with him and who knew the man inside out.

He was a boon companion, a sturly pioneer, happy-go-lucky hunter and trapper who knew how to make his camp fire more enjoyable by his wild stories, but who could take a man's part when it came to physical demands.

Old Joe is dead; but his memory lives in the hearts of his hardy pioneer friends- Yakima Herald, Sept. 27, 1894.

Historical

George Hinkle of T^ampico, one of the first settlers of the Yakima valley, called at The Herald office on Wednesday and talked of the early days when this country was thought to be worthless for everything except stock.

Mr. Hinkle came here in 1866 from Modoc lake, Ore., in company with a man named Wilson, who proved to be a thief and skipped out with one of Mr. Hinkle's horses.

The white people then in the valley were Bill Lindsey, Andy Gervais, Joe Bowser, Dave ^Heaton, J.K. Allen and Mr. Hatton.

The next year Charles Schanno and family came up from The Dalles and settled on the site of Yakima City, where he opened a store.

In Portland, on his way here, Mr. Hinkle became acquainted with Bill Gillihan who had \$100,000 and was looking around for a place to go into the stock business.

Gillihan concluded to look at this country but when he saw the big black sage he said he didn't want any of it in his and returned to Portland where he soon dropped his money over the green cloth.

The first and second winter of Mr. Hinkle's stay in this valley there was hardly enough snow at any time to cover the ground, and there was no climatical inconveniences attached to camp life.

The succeeding winters made up for that mildness, however. "At that time there was no thought that this country was any good in an agricultural sense, however," said Mr. Hinkle.

I was somewhat venturesome and planted a small orchard but the winters would kill the trees down to the trunk. Finally I

went away for five years and when I came back this orchard wa

in full bearing condition and looked loaded down with fruit.

Mr. Hinkle is of the opinion that the climatical conditions have changed somewhat since those pioneer days and that now it is neither so cold in winter nor so hot in summer--
Yakima Herald, May 3, 1894.

Pioneers- Sunnyside
stock raising stages

With the death of J.B. Morgan at Sunnyside on October 7, 1905, one of the most historical careers in this section of the country was brought to a close and the heartfelt sympathy of the entire community goes out to the bereaved family.

Mr. Morgan familiarly known as "Jock" was born May 11, 1844 at Burlington Iowa and crossed the plains with his parents in 1850. The journey consumed eleven months and cost the family the life of its leader and protector who died on the way. Arriving at Albany, Or. they settled on a donation claim where "Jock" spent his boyhood days until he reached the age of 15 years. Then he became an employe of the old California Stage Company as a stock tender. His natural ability and thorough knowledge of the work together with trustworthiness soon placed him on the payroll as the crack driver on the fastest stages.

He was entrusted with the most responsible of the missions which he always promptly and faithfully fulfilled. His career as a stage driver ended as he drove the last stage into Salem, Or., just ahead of the first locomotive that entered the town.

In 1871 Mr. Morgan took up stock raising, buying and selling and drove a band of cattle across the state line into the state of Washington. In 1872 he made his headquarters at Goldendale and 1873 he entered the Yakima country braving the dangers and surmounting the difficulties of frontier life on the Indian reservation. In 1882 he removed to what has ever since been the home of the Morgans, just across the river from Mabton, where the entire surrounding community is well acquainted with his kindness of heart and openhearted liberality.

On July 26, 1866 Mr. Morgan was united in Marriage to Miss
"Emperance Hervey at Roseburg, Or. and they shared together the
trials and hardships incident to the life of the border;
his wife now survives him. Two sons also living, Chas. D. and Harry
H. Morgan. The funeral services were held at the Federated
church Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. Lee A. Johnson had
charge of the services and preached the sermon. The music was
conducted by the ladies quartette. The floral offering was large
many handsome pieces being sent by loving friends who gathered from
far and near to pay their respects to one whom they all loved--
The Sunnyside Sun, Oct. 22 1905.

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