

2007 King Family Reunion

These items were part of a display about the Plunkett family at the 2007 reunion. That was the year we met at Bezell Memorial Forest, which is located on the old Plunkett farm in Kings Valley.

Ashnah's cake plate is in the family collection of Joan Larsen.

The picture of Patricia Plunkett Holler holding her great-grandfather James Plunkett's cane was taken at the reunion on other year when the owner of the cane brought it in to display.

PPH

Family Group Record

Husband		James Plunkett	
Born	17 Feb 1836	Place	Brockville, Leeds, Ontario, (Upper) Canada
Christened		Place	
Died	12 Jun 1911	Place	Kings Valley, Benton, Oregon
Buried	14 Jun 1911	Place	Kings Valley, Benton, Oregon
Married	28 Jun 1864	Place	Kings Valley, Benton, Oregon
Husband's father	William Robert Plunkett		
Husband's mother	Sarah CANADA or CADE?		

Wife		Ashnah Norton	
Born	8 Feb 1847	Place	Kings Valley, Benton, Oregon
Christened		Place	
Died	14 Apr 1933	Place	Blodgett, Benton, Oregon
Buried		Place	Kings Valley Cem, Benton, Oregon
Wife's father	Lucius Carolus Norton		
Wife's mother	Hopestill (7) King		

Children List each child in order of birth.

1	M	Lucius Plunkett
Born	26 Jun 1865	Place Kings Valley, Benton, Oregon
Christened		Place
Died	12 Feb 1926	Place Chehalis, Lewis, Washington
Buried	15 Feb 1926	Place Kings Valley Cem, Benton, Oregon
Spouse	Adeline Zumwalt	
Married	2 Dec 1890	Place , Benton, Oregon

2	M	Wiley Plunkett
Born	17 Feb 1867	Place Kings Valley, Benton, Oregon
Christened		Place
Died	5 Jul 1934	Place Corvallis, Benton, Oregon
Buried	6 Jul 1934	Place Kings Valley Cem, Benton, Oregon
Spouse	Rose Mae Allen	
Married	1892	Place , Washington

3	M	Frank Plunkett
Born	5 May 1869	Place Blodgett, Benton, Oregon
Christened		Place
Died	7 Mar 1946	Place Corvallis, Benton, Oregon
Buried	9 Mar 1946	Place Kings Valley Cem, Benton, Oregon
Spouse	Nellie Ann Tatum	
Married	8 Oct 1893	Place Kings Valley, Benton, Oregon

4	M	Barton Plunkett
Born	30 Aug 1871	Place Kings Valley, Benton, Oregon
Christened		Place
Died	26 Sep 1875	Place Kings Valley, Benton, Oregon

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Family Group Record

Husband James Plunkett		
Wife Ashnah Norton		
Children List each child in order of birth.		
4	M	Barton Plunkett
	Buried	Place Kings Valley Cem, Benton, Oregon
	Spouse	
	Married	Place
5	M	Edgar Plunkett
	Born	19 Jun 1873 Place Kings Valley, Benton, Oregon
	Christened	Place
	Died	30 May 1935 Place Corvallis, Benton, Oregon
	Buried	1 Jun 1935 Place Kings Valley Cem, Benton, Oregon
	Spouse	Dora A Read
	Married	5 Sep 1897 Place Benton, Oregon
6	F	Bertha Plunkett
	Born	1 Mar 1876 Place Kings Valley, Benton, Oregon
	Christened	Place
	Died	8 Feb 1957 Place Corvallis, Benton, Oregon
	Buried	11 Feb 1957 Place Oak Lawn Mem. Pk, Benton, Oregon
	Spouse	John A (Jack) THOMPSON
	Married	26 Jun 1899 Place Astoria, Clatsop, Oregon
7	F	Sarah Plunkett
	Born	10 Jul 1878 Place Kings Valley, Benton, Oregon
	Christened	Place
	Died	16 Apr 1965 Place Corvallis, Benton, Oregon
	Buried	19 Apr 1965 Place Corvallis, Benton, Oregon
	Spouse	John Albin BOTTGER
	Married	14 Jan 1899 Place Corvallis, Benton, Oregon
8	M	Garfield Plunkett
	Born	17 Apr 1881 Place Kings Valley, Benton, Oregon
	Christened	Place
	Died	14 Mar 1942 Place Sweet Home, Linn, Oregon
	Buried	16 Mar 1942 Place Kings Valley Cem, Benton, Oregon
	Spouse	Minnie Pauline Girrard
	Married	23 Dec 1903 Place Wren, Benton, Oregon
9	M	Henry Plunkett
	Born	25 Jun 1883 Place Kings Valley, Benton, Oregon
	Christened	Place
	Died	11 Oct 1960 Place Kings Valley, Benton, Oregon
	Buried	13 Oct 1960 Place Kings Valley Cem, Benton, Oregon
	Spouse	Ada Jane B Whiting
	Married	19 Apr 1903 Place Kings Valley, Benton, Oregon



Small drum, Courtesy of the Horner Collection, Benton County Historical Society.

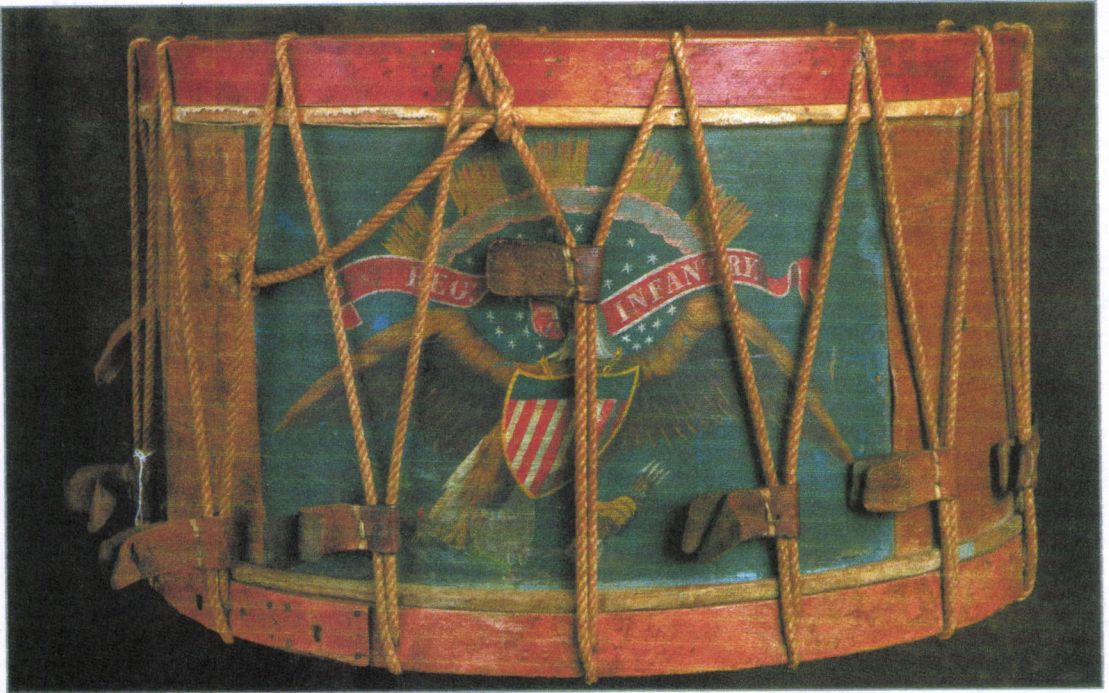
Small drum detail.



Four former Fort Hoskins soldiers pose with the musical instruments they played when serving at the fort: James Plunkett, Si Copeland, Charles Franks, and J.C. Lottenheiser. The drums they are playing are those seen on these pages. Photo taken at the 1922 rededication. Courtesy of Benton County Historical Society and Museum.

Pictures from the book
Fort Hoskins Illustrated
 By David R. Brauner, Ph.D.
 With Nahani A. Stricker

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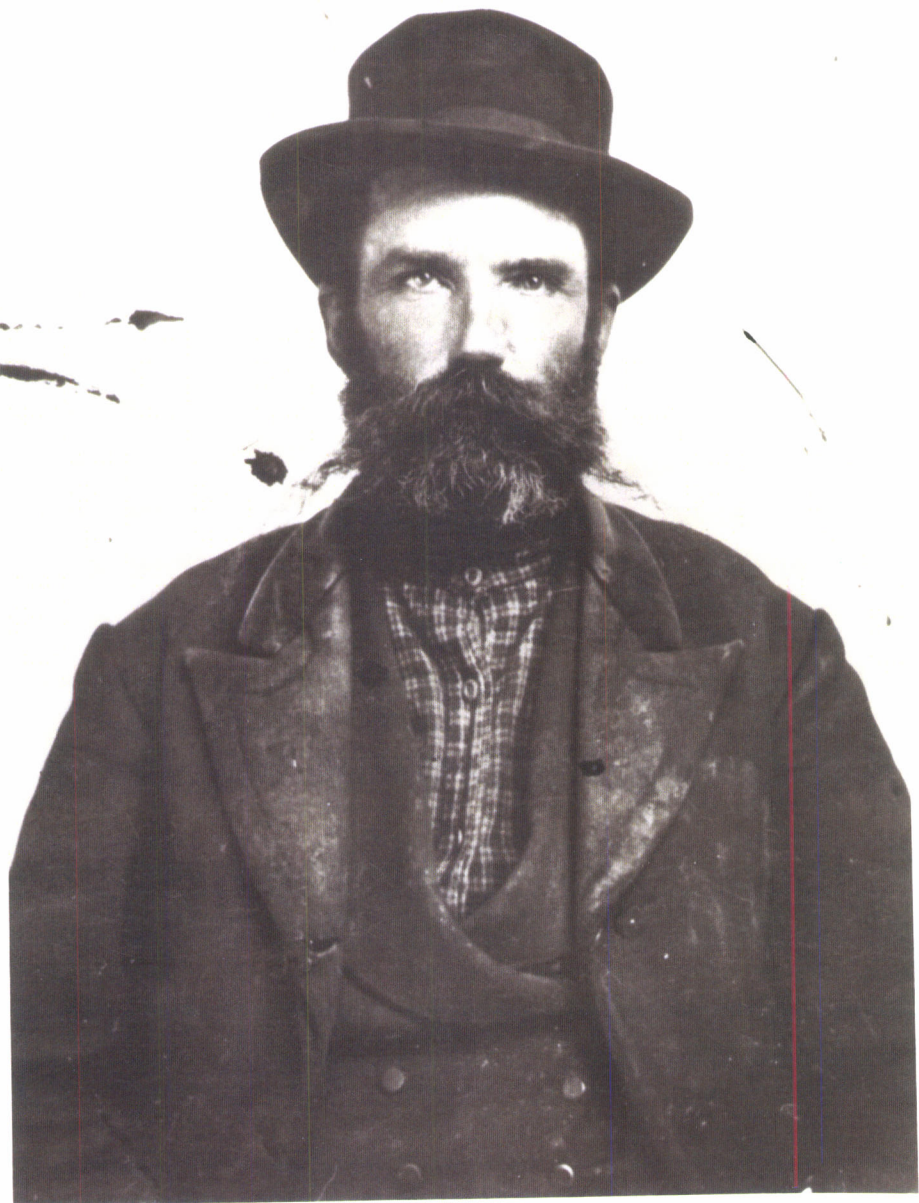


Large drum, courtesy of the Horner Collection, Benton County Historical Society.



Large drum detail: Company D, Fourth Infantry, California Volunteers.





JAMES PLUNKETT



STANIS PUNKOTI



ASHNAH'S
CAKE PLATE



GENERAL PHIL SHERIDAN WAS STATIONED AT FORT HOSKINS BEFORE CIVIL WAR

(Editor's Note: General Phil Sheridan was once stationed at Fort Hoskins, in western Benton county, before the Civil War. The late John B. Horner, eminent Oregon historian, wrote the following story of romance and a big bass drum.)

Two Oregon incidents, General Phil Sheridan never forgot. One was a romance, the other was horse racing with James Plunkett, who was Sheridan's bass drummer at Fort Hoskins in 1856.

At this time Sheridan and Plunkett were frequent visitors at the home of Lucius Norton whose beautiful daughter, Ashnah, later Mrs. James Plunkett, prepared many a delicious meal. And it is said that the young lieutenant frequently danced with the charming daughter of Lucius Norton. Although Plunkett won the bride, he and Sheridan remained the best of cronies.

While Lieutenant Sheridan was stationed at Fort Hoskins, James Plunkett kept time with a bass drum to the martial strains of John C. Loutsenhiser's fife and the tenor drum of Charles A. Frank, and old-timers tell us that the fire of musketry and the roar of cannon frequently gave dramatic effect to Phil Sheridan's drum corps. It was the best outdoor music that Kings Valley had heard up to that time.

The Frank-Loutsenhiser-Plunkett drum corps also played for a reunion at Newport in 1890. Again they played at the McKinley rally in 1896, with their headquarters at the old Occidental hotel in Corvallis.

Drum in Museum

Plunkett's bass drum, which is in the Oregon State college museum, was a curiosity. It was really two drums made into one. This is how it happened. The regular bass drum of the troopers was destroyed in moving some effects from Dayton, Oregon, to Fort Hoskins. Sheridan thereupon gave two snare drums to the drum corps. The drums were glued together to make the bass drum, which supports a double coat of arms. Frank and Loutsenhiser were the mechanics that fashioned the historic drum, which is a vivid reminder of old times to many a pioneer who visits the college museum.

Besides enjoyment of the mili-

tary drum corps there were many matters of interest occurring at Fort Hoskins at that time.

Beer From Corvallis

Sheridan got most of his grain and flour for Fort Hoskins at Rowland Chambers' grist mill, which still stands in Kings Valley. He bought hay, butter, eggs and beef from the farmers, there being scarcely any other market for their produce. Beer, transported from Corvallis, was retailed at a saloon just off the reserve at Hoskins. Groceries were purchased at Dayton and Corvallis, and hauled by six-mule teams—the drivers usually being Charles Day, David Thompson and James Plunkett.

Mrs. Plunkett is authority for the statement that some men at Fort Hoskins who became incensed at the saloon-keeper, put him in the saloon, locked the doors and set the building on fire. Some one who came along put out the fire before the building had burned down. So it will be seen that the troops at Fort Hoskins had entertainment other than placing Indians under guard.

Soldiers Are Named

At one time the Indians along the Luckiamute were making threatening demonstrations, whereupon the volunteers sent all of them to the Siletz reservation. There was, however, an Indian woman by the name of Shay, whom the soldiers did not send to the Siletz reservation. Their reason for the exception was that when some of the soldiers had been stationed on Rogue river the Indians poisoned the soldiers' spring. The Indian woman reported the matter to the soldiers who brought her to Fort Hoskins, where she drew a soldier's rations for several years. Later they allowed her to come into the mess house after the soldiers ate. In this way she was sustained until her death when she was buried with funeral rites at Fort Hoskins.

Among the soldiers stationed at Fort Hoskins, whose names are familiar to Bentonites and who marched to the drum beat of James Plunkett were: William Dunn, Captain Roy Bensill, Charles H. Frank, John C. Loutsenhiser, Josiah S. Copeland, Thomas S. Espy, Samuel Case, John McDowell, Isaac Norton.

Readers of the foregoing are reminded that the college museum where the historic drum may be seen will be open to visitors from 2 to 4 p. m. every day beginning April 1.

James Plunkett

Passing of Kings Valley Pioneer Active in Stirring Scenes of Early Days. Prominent as Soldier, Pioneer and Citizen.

After a lingering illness of many months an old soldier and pioneer, Jas. Plunkett passed away June 12th at his home in Kings Valley. The deceased was born at Des Moines Iowa on the 17th day of Feb. 1836. He crossed the plains to California during the early gold excitement; enduring those awful hardships which only the old pioneers can conceive of. While in California he engaged in mining until his country issued a call for volunteers in 1861. On the 18th day of Sept. of that year he enlisted in Company D. 4th Infantry, which was commanded by Captain Scott and sent to Oregon to be stationed at Ft. Hoskins. He served with valor and distinction and was given the hazardous duty of conducting a pack train from the Fort to the Siletz through a region which was at that time peopled by hostile Indians. He was honorably discharged the 19th day of Dec. 1865 and since that time has made his home in Kings Valley near the old fort.

While yet a soldier he met and married Ashnah Norton June 22nd 1864 his bride bore the distinction of being the first white child born in Kings Valley. To this Union was born nine children eight of whom survive him. Those left to mourn the loss of the departed one are his wife; two daughters Mrs. J. A. Bottger of Summit Mrs. J. A. Thompson of Blodgett—six sons — Wiley, Garfield and Henry of Kings Valley, Edgar of Blodgett, Frank of Philomath and Lucius of Mill City; one sister Mrs. Mary Adams of Utah; also 28 grand children. The remains will be laid to rest in the Kings Valley cemetery.

His life as a citizen has marked by the same ability which won him fame as a soldier. Besides the immediate family a large number of friends mourn the loss of one whom all loved and respected. His was a life well spent, he leaves to his family the remembrance of a kind and affectionate father and husband and a good record of a

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