

Thomas Dickerson Mercer  
Pioneer of 1852  
compiled by Stephenie Flora  
oregonpioneers.com

Thomas Dickerson Mercer

b. 11 Mar 1813 Harrison County, Ohio

d. 25 May 1898 Seattle, King County, Washington

buried [Lakeview Cemetery](#), Seattle, King County, Washington

s/o Aaron Mercer and Jane Dickerson

m1. 25 Jan 1838 Princeton, Bureau County, Illinois

Nancy Brigham

b. 06 Jun 1816 New Hampshire

d. 21 Sep 1852 Cascades of the Columbia on the Oregon Trail  
memorial in [Lakeview Cemetery](#), Seattle, King County, Washington

d/o Joseph Brigham

m2. 14 Sep 1859 Salem, Marion County, Oregon

Hester Louretta Ward [emigrant of 1853]

b. 25 Dec 1822 Kentucky

d. 12 Nov 1897

buried [Lakeview Cemetery](#), Seattle, King County, Washington

d/o Jesse Ward

1850: Bureau County, Illinois, December 12, 1850; Thomas Mercer, 37, farmer, \$5000, OH;  
Nancy, 35, NH; Mary Jane, 11, IL; Eliza Ann, 9, IL; Susanna, 6, IL; Alice, 1, IL; Franklin  
Warren, 18, farmer, NY

1856: Washington Territorial Census, King County, Washington, Thomas Mercer, 44, single, b.  
Harrison County, OH

1860: King County, Washington, August 5, 1860; Thos. Mercer, 47, inn keeper, \$2000 \$1000,  
OH; H.L., 37, KY; Susan, 16, IL; Allace, 11, IL; D.B. Ward, 21, laborer, KY

1870: Seattle, King County, Washington, June 9, 1870; Thos Mercer, 57, farmer, \$2000 \$700,  
OH; Loretta, 47, housewife, KY; Wm T. Graham, 12, WT; F.W. Lampe, 33, farmer, \$2000  
\$100, Prussia; Robt Crary, 34, carpenter, Eng

1879: Washington State Census, King County, Washington, Thomas Mercer, 66, retired, OH;  
Hester, 56, housekeeping, KY

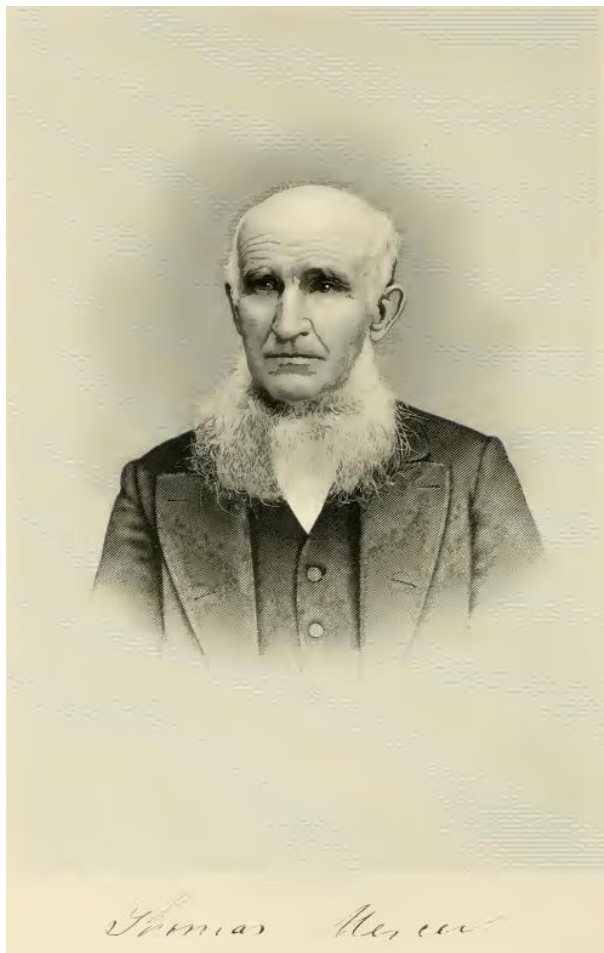
1880: Lake Union and Salmon Bay, King County, Washington, June 23 & 24, 1880; Thos Mercer, 66, farmer, OH Mass Mass; Loretta, 56, wife, keeping house, KY MD MD

1881: Washington State Census, King County, Washington, Thomas Mercer, 68, farmer, OH; Loretta H., 58, wife, KY

1885: Washington State Census, King County, Washington, Thomas Mercer, 72, farmer, OH; L.H., 62, housewife, KY

**Mrs. Hester Loretta Mercer, wife of Judge Thomas Mercer, died in Seattle Friday of heart disease. She had been an invalid for a number of years. She was 84 years old, and had been a resident of Seattle for 39 years.**

[Morning Olympian, Olympia, Washington, Monday, November 15, 1897 p.3]



JUDGE THOMAS MERCER, one of the few living pioneers who were identified with the early history of Seattle, was born in Mercersburg, Ohio, March 11, 1813, and was the eldest son of Aaron and Jane (Dickerson) Mercer, natives of Virginia and Pennsylvania, respectively. Aaron Mercer removed to Ohio in boyhood, being among the pioneers of that country. He learned the process of manufacturing woollen cloths and blankets and then operated his own factory very successfully for a number of years. In 1834 he was among the pioneer settlers at Princeton, Bureau county, Illinois, and there spent the remainder of his life.

Fourteen children were born of this marriage and six of the number are still living, Thomas being the first born. His education was chiefly in the school of necessity, as labor was the chief occupation of the pioneer, and in the noble army of workers Judge Mercer has been arrayed throughout his life. He was a bright, active boy, quick in mathematics and mechanical work. His boyhood was passed in the factory of his father, and with his systematic methods and recognized ability he became foreman at the age of fourteen years and operated the factory up to 1834, when the family removed to Illinois and engaged in farming. In 1836 young Mercer started a store in a little, old, log cabin in Princeton, and this enterprise he prosecuted for one year, abandoning it then because of the close confinement entailed. He then returned to agricultural life.

In 1837 he took an active part in the division of Putnam county, and the organization of Bureau county, and incidental to his efforts in this connection, in visiting different localities, he killed a valuable horse by rapid driving. With the organization of the new county, he was elected the first County Clerk, but as the revenue yielded was but twenty-five cents per day he soon turned over the office to other parties.

Our subject was married in Princeton, in 1838, to Miss Nancy Brigham, a native of New Hampshire. He then continued farming up to 1851, when he sold out, settled up his affairs, and in April, 1852, with his wife and four children, left his Illinois home, and with horse teams crossed the plains to Oregon. In the same train were Dexter Horton and William

H. Shondy, both of Seattle. The usual adventures were encountered by the emigrants, but they met no disasters until they reached the Dalles, where Mrs. Mercer was taken sick, and at the Cascades she passed on to the other world, leaving a bereaved husband and four small children, the eldest being not quite fourteen years old. The following winter was passed in Salem, where Mr. Mercer purchased one-half interest in a blacksmith shop and worked from six A. M. to eleven P. M. Flour was forty dollars per barrel and all other provisions in proportion. In the summer of 1853 he removed his little ones to Puget Sound, traveling by boat to the Cowlitz river and then driving to Olympia, the trail being almost impassable. From Olympia he drove to Steilacoom, and there by boat to Seattle, arriv-



ing here August 25, 1853. He took up a claim of 150 acres, adjoining that of D. T. Denny, all of which is now within the city limits. He brought to the primitive town the same team of horses which had transported him safely across the plains, and his was the first wagon brought to the town. His claim being situate back from the water, the young men turned out and assisted him in cutting a trail wide enough for his wagon to pass through to his ranch, and for a number of years he did the teaming for the town. In 1854 he built a box house, securing lumber from Yesler's mill. This house was somewhat open to the light of day, but it afforded protection and was soon improved. Part of his claim, being bottom land, was soon cleared, and the second year he raised in hay, oats and vegetables, sufficient to provide for his family and stock. Mr. Mer-

cer was a hard worker and was progressive in his ideas, and soon became the leading farmer of the community.

For seven years he was mother, father and protector to his family of little ones, all of whom grew to maturity, and three of whom are still living: Mary J., wife of Henry Parsons; Susan, wife of David Graham; Alice, wife of Clarence B. Bagley.

In 1859, Mr. Mercer was married, in Salem, Oregon, to Miss Loretta H. Ward, of Kentucky, daughter of Jesse Ward, a pioneer of 1853; and returning to Seattle he continued his agricultural life.

With the organization of King county, in 1854, Mr. Mercer was appointed one of the first Commissioners, and in 1858 he was elected Probate Judge and held the position for ten consecutive years. With the increased settlement of the town and demand for residence property, Mr. Mercer platted the town of Eden and later that of West Seattle, from the sales of which he has realized a considerable fortune. He still retains a part of his original claim, which has increased to a value far beyond his fondest dreams. It fell to the lot of Mr. Mercer to name those beautiful lakes now the pride of Seattle. In an address delivered at a picnic in 1854 he suggested that the greater be called Lake Washington, after the father of our country, and the lesser be called Union, as the probable future connection between the two great salt and fresh water bodies.

In 1883, he built his present commodious residence overlooking the modest cottage which was built in 1854, and which he still cherishes as a relic of the past. The home also commands a view of the great city which he has so materially aided in developing. He has always been an enthusiastic believer in Seattle's destiny as the metropolis of the great Northwest, and upon every occasion has done his share to promote the city's good. His life has been a quiet and peaceful one, guided by a high sense of honor, and his present prosperity is chiefly enjoyed because of the possibilities of increasing his charities and deeds of benevolence.

Bagley, Jenner, Mercer Papers 1856-1961  
<http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv20587>

Children of Thomas Mercer and Nancy Brigham:

1. Mary Jane Mercer

b. 07 Jan 1839 Princeton, Bureau County, Illinois

d. 08 Sep 1910 Thurston County, Washington

buried [Ruddell Pioneer Cemetery](#), Lacey, Thurston County, Washington

m. 1857 King County, Washington

Henry George Parsons [Pioneer of 1853]

b. 21 Nov 1831 Livingston County, New York

d. 05 Jan 1907 Thurston County, Washington

buried [Ruddell Pioneer Cemetery](#), Lacey, Thurston County, Washington

1850: Bureau County, Illinois, December 12, 1850; Thomas Mercer, 37, farmer, \$5000, OH; Nancy, 35, NH; Mary Jane, 11, IL; Eliza Ann, 9, IL; Susanna, 6, IL; Alice, 1, IL; Franklin Warren, 18, farmer, NY

1870: Chambers Prairie, Thurston County, Washington, June 6, 1870; Henry G. Parsons, 38, farmer, \$1200 \$800, NY; Mary Jane, 31, keeping house, IL; Glory [Flora] Ann, 12, attending school, WT; Nancy Ellen, 10, attending school, WT; William M., 8, attending school, WT; Eliza A., 6, at home, WT; Ann V., 3, at home, WT; not named, 4/12, male, at home, WT

1880: Thurston County, Washington, June 4, 1880; Henry G. Parsons, 48, farmer, NY VT Mass; Mary J., 41, wife, keeping house, IL OH NH; Flora A., 22, dau, teacher, WA NY IL; Nancy E., 20, dau, at home, WA NY IL; Wm M., 17, son, works on farm, WA NY IL; Alice E., 15, dau, at home, WA NY IL; Anna V., 13, dau, at home, WA NY IL; Lela M., 10, dau, at home, WA NY IL; Mary, 79, mother, Mass Mass Mass

1900: Chambers, Thurston County, Washington, June 7 & 8, 1900; Henry G. Parsons, head, Nov 1831, 68, m-43 yrs, NY VT Mass; Mary J., wife, Jan 1839, 61, m-43yrs, 6-4, IL OH NH; Flora A., dau, Dec 1857, 42, s, WA NY IL, teacher-public school

## DEATH OF MRS. MARY J. PARSONS, OLD PIONEER

Mrs. Mary Jane Parsons, widow of the late Henry G. Parsons, formerly a well-known rancher of Chambers Prairie, died last evening at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Dell Kagy, on the Prairie, after a lingering illness, due to rheumatism.

Mrs. Parsons was born in Illinois in 1839. She and her husband came to this county 52 years ago and took up their home on Chambers Prairie where they lived until the time of Mr. Parsons' death, when Mrs. Parsons went to live with her daughter. She was one of the best known pioneers of this part of the state.

Mrs. Parsons is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Kagy and Mrs. Robert Cruikshank, wife of the deputy county auditor. Funeral services will be held from the Kagy home on Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock, with interment at Ruddel's cemetery.

[Olympia Daily Recorder, Olympia, Washington, Friday, September 9, 1910 p. 1]

## PIONEER H. G. PARSONS DEAD

RESIDENT OF CHAMBERS PRAIRIE  
OVER HALF CENTURY.

Crossed the Plains and Located Here in  
1853—Was 76 years of Age—Veteran  
of Indian Wars and a Pensioner.



Henry G. Parsons, a pioneer of 1853, died Saturday night at 7:15 o'clock at his home on Chambers prairie, six miles southeast of Olympia, where he has lived for more than a half century. Death was due to ailment attending old age, Mr. Parsons having reached the advanced age of 75 years. He was a son-in-law of Judge Thomas Mercer, the noted Seattle pioneer. His wife survives him. Their golden wedding anniversary would have been celebrated next March.

Fifty years ago next March Mr. Parsons married Mary Jane Mercer in the little old Mercer cottage still standing in North Seattle.

Henry George Parsons was born in New York state November 21, 1831. He crossed the plains to Washington territory in 1853 and during the same year took up the claim that has ever since been his home. He was one of the best known pioneers of the county. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Parsons, of which four survive. They are Miss Flora A. Parsons, Mrs. Alice Parker of Elma, Mrs. Lela Kagy of Chambers prairie and Mrs. Robert Cruikshank of Olympia.

Mr. Parsons was a veteran of the Indian wars of 1855-56, and was drawing a pension for many years prior to his death.

At his bedside at the time of his death was a Mr. Graham of Graham & Graham, a well known law firm of Seattle, Mr. Graham being a brother-in-law of the deceased, having also married a daughter of Judge Mercer. Mr. Graham is about 80 years of age, although still active in his profession. He was in Olympia on legal business and had been conferring with Mr. Parsons during the last days of his illness.

The funeral was held this afternoon from the family residence on Chambers prairie. Rev. F. A. La Violette, pastor of the First Methodist church of Olympia conducted the services. A quartet composed of Mrs. R. S. Anderson, Mrs. F. A. La Violette, C. V. Leach and Rev. Mr. La Violette sang. Interment took place in the Chambers prairie cemetery. The services were widely attended by friends and neighbors, and a number of people went out from Olympia.

[Olympia Daily Recorder, Olympia, Washington, Monday, January 7, 1907 p.1]

Children of Henry Parsons and Mary Mercer:

Children:

i. Flora A. Parsons

b. 21 Dec 1857 Washington

d. 08 Oct 1934 Seattle, King County, Washington

buried [Ruddell Pioneer Cemetery](#), Lacey, Thurston County, Washington

never married

ii. Nancy Ellen Parsons

b. 16 Feb 1860 Washington

d. 23 Jan 1899

buried [Ruddell Pioneer Cemetery](#), Lacey, Thurston County, Washington

m. David Fleetwood

iii. William M. Parsons

b. 27 Oct 1862 Washington

d. 02 Aug 1889 Washington

buried [Ruddell Pioneer Cemetery](#), Lacey, Thurston County, Washington

iv. Alice E. Parsons

b. 04 Apr 1865 Washington

d. 01 Apr 1946 Elma, Grays Harbor, Washington

buried [Ruddell Pioneer Cemetery](#), Lacey, Thurston County, Washington

m. Lewis Thomas Parker

v. Anna Viola Parsons

b. May 1867 Washington

d. 14 Sep 1934 Olympia, Thurston County, Washington

buried [Odd Fellows Memorial Park](#), Tumwater, Thurston County, Washington

m. Robert A. Cruikshank

vi. Lela May Parsons  
b. Feb 1870 Washington  
d. 18 Oct 1948 Olympia, Thurston County, Washington  
buried [Ruddell Pioneer Cemetery](#), Lacey, Thurston County, Washington  
m. Dell M. Kagy

2. Eliza Ann Mercer  
b. 30 Mar 1841 Princeton, Bureau County, Illinois  
d. 25 Oct 1862 Seattle, King County, Washington  
buried [Lakeview Cemetery](#), Seattle, King County, Washington

m. 04 Dec 1856  
Walter Graham  
b. 13 Oct 1828  
d. 15 Sep 1919  
m2. Catherine Adams  
buried [Evergreen Washelli Memorial Park](#), Seattle, King County, Washington  
s/o William Graham and Jane French

1850: Bureau County, Illinois, December 12, 1850; Thomas Mercer, 37, farmer, \$5000, OH; Nancy, 35, NH; Mary Jane, 11, IL; Eliza Ann, 9, IL; Susanna, 6, IL; Alice, 1, IL; Franklin Warren, 18, farmer, NY

1870: Seattle, King County, Washington, July 25, 1870; David Graham, 34, farmer, \$2000 \$750, NY; Susanna, 25, housewife, IL; George, 9, WT; Walter Graham, 41, farmer, \$2050 \$475, NY; Elizabeth, 30, housewife, NY

3. Susannah Mercer  
b. 30 Sep 1843 Princeton, Bureau County, Illinois  
d. 24 Jun 1942 Seattle, King County, Washington  
buried [Evergreen Washelli Memorial Park](#), Seattle, King County, Washington

m. 23 May 1861 Seattle, King County, Washington  
David Graham  
b. 02 Oct 1835 New York  
d. 19 May 1919 Seattle, King County, Washington  
buried [Evergreen Washelli Memorial Park](#), Seattle, King County, Washington  
s/o William Graham and Jane French

1850: Bureau County, Illinois, December 12, 1850; Thomas Mercer, 37, farmer, \$5000, OH; Nancy, 35, NH; Mary Jane, 11, IL; Eliza Ann, 9, IL; Susanna, 6, IL; Alice, 1, IL; Franklin Warren, 18, farmer, NY

1860: King County, Washington, August 5, 1860; Thos. Mercer, 47, inn keeper, \$2000 \$1000, OH; H.L., 37, KY; Susan, 16, IL; Allace, 11, IL; D.B. Ward, 21, laborer, KY

1870: Seattle, King County, Washington, July 25, 1870; David Graham, 34, farmer, \$2000 \$750, NY; Susanna, 25, housewife, IL; George, 9, was adopted, WT; Walter Graham, 41, farmer, \$2050 \$475, NY; Elizabeth, 30, housewife, NY

1880: Duwanush, King County, Washington, June 8 & 9, 1880; David Graham, 44, farmer, NY Scot CT; Susan, 36, keeping house, IL OH NY

1900: Seattle, King County, Washington, June 15, 1900; David Graham, head, Oct 1835, 64, m-39yrs, NY Scot NY, retired farmer; Susanah M. (M. probably for Mercer), wife, Sep 1843, 39, 0-0, IL OH NH



# SUSANNAH GRAHAM, PIONEER, DEAD

SEATTLE, June 25.—(P)—A career almost as old as the history of the civilized Pacific Northwest closed here last night with the death of Susannah Mercer Graham, Seattle's 98-year-old first citizen.

Remarkably alert and spry, Mrs. Graham was up and about until two weeks ago when illness forced her to go to bed.

As Susannah Mercer she came west from Illinois in 1852 in a wagon train of which her father was captain. In September the group settled at Salem, Ore., and a year later she and her father and three sisters proceeded to Seattle.

## ESTABLISHED HOME

They came by way of Portland with a team of horses, then traveled on a scow to Monticello where they transferred to canoes for the trip up the Cowlitz river. They finished the trip by team and her father established his home on the same site on which she lived until her death.

In 1856 the family went through the Indian attack upon Seattle, escaping at midnight from the marauders. She often said her most vivid recollection was the firing of the guns from the ship Decatur when it came to the relief of the beleaguered city.

She married David Graham in 1861 and they established their home on the family claim on Queen Anne hill from which vantage point she watched Seattle grow into the largest city north of San Francisco.

### MRS. DAVID GRAHAM FUNERAL

Funeral services for Mrs. Susannah Mercer Graham, Seattle's "Pioneer First Lady" who died Wednesday at the age of 98, will be conducted at 1:30 o'clock tomorrow in the Arthur A. Wright & Son Chapel. The Rev. Dr. F. Paul McConkey, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, will officiate. Burial will be in Washelli. Mrs. Graham, who came to Seattle in 1853 with her father, Thomas Mercer, was the widow of David Graham.

Serving as pallbearers will be six grand-nephews of Mrs. Graham—Gordon D. Graham, Earl B., Fred C. and Lawrence M. Jenner, Richard B. Allen and Park D. Bagley.

[The Seattle Times, Seattle, Washington, Friday, June 26, 1942 p.26]

4. Thomas Dickerson Mercer

b. 03 Nov 1846 Princeton, Bureau County, Illinois

d. 10 Nov 1846 Princeton, Bureau County, Illinois

memorial [Lakeview Cemetery](#), Seattle, King County, Washington

5. Alice Mercer

b. 26 Oct 1848 Princeton, Bureau County, Illinois

d. 09 May 1926 Seattle, King County, Washington

buried [Mt. Pleasant Cemetery](#), Seattle, King County, Washington

m. 24 Dec 1865 King County, Washington

Clarence Booth Bagley

b. 30 Nov 1843 Troy Grove, Dekalb County, Illinois

d. 26 Feb 1932 Seattle, King County, Washington

buried [Mt. Pleasant Cemetery](#), Seattle, King County, Washington

s/o Daniel and Susannah Bagley

1850: Bureau County, Illinois, December 12, 1850; Thomas Mercer, 37, farmer, \$5000, OH; Nancy, 35, NH; Mary Jane, 11, IL; Eliza Ann, 9, IL; Susanna, 6, IL; Alice, 1, IL; Franklin Warren, 18, farmer, NY

1860: King County, Washington, August 5, 1860; Thos. Mercer, 47, inn keeper, \$2000 \$1000, OH; H.L., 37, KY; Susan, 16, IL; Allace, 11, IL; D.B. Ward, 21, laborer, KY

1870: Olympia, Thurston County, Washington, July 18, 1870; Clarence B. Bagley, 26, printer, \$5070 \$2000, IL; Alice M., 21, keeping house, Rena, 1, at home, WT

1880: Olympia, Thurston County, Washington, June 4, 1880; C.B. Bagley, 36, publisher, IL PA Mass; Alice M., 31, wife, keeping house, IL OH CT; Rena, 11, dau, at home, WA IL IL; Myrta, 8, dau, at home, WA IL IL; Ethel W., 2, dau, at home, WA IL IL; Alice C.,

7/12 (Nov), dau, at home, WA IL IL; Susan R., 61, mother, at home, chronic rheum, Mass Mass Mass; Danl, 61, M.P. Minister, PA NY NY

1900: Seattle, King County, Washington, June 11, 1900; Clarence B. Bagley, head, Nov 1843, 56, m-35yrs, IL PA PA, clerk board of public works; Alice M. (M probably for Mercer), wife, Oct 1848, 51, m-35yrs, 5-5, IL OH NH; Ethel W., dau, Jun 1877, 22, s, WA IL IL; Alice C., dau, Nov 1879, 20, s, WA IL IL; Cecil C., son, Jul 1888, 12, s, WA IL IL, at school; Daniel, father, Sep 1818, 81, m-60yrs, PA NY NY; Susannah, mother, May 1819, 81, m-60yrs, 1-1, Mass CT Mass

# MRS. ALICE M. BAGLEY SUMMONED BY DEATH

Oldest Woman Resident of Seattle, Member of Pioneer Mercer Family, Succumbs.

**D**AUGHTER of one of Seattle's first pioneer families and known throughout the Northwest as one of the few survivors of the early pioneer days of the city, Mrs. Alice Mercer Bagley, wife of Clarence B. Bagley, secretary of the Board of Public Works, died yesterday morning at the family home, 900 Second Ave. N.

Crossing the plains in a covered wagon train, Mrs. Bagley arrived in Seattle with her father, Thomas Mercer, when she was only 4 years old. That was in 1853, and in the seventy-three years that have intervened since that time, the history of Alice Mercer Bagley's life has run parallel with the growth and development of Seattle.

## Occupied Family Home 40 Years.

For more than forty years she had lived in the Bagley family home at 900 Second Ave. N., the site of which was part of the original claim taken out by her father in 1853.

On December 24, 1865, from her father's home on this claim, near the point where Roy Street and Taylor Avenue now meet, Alice Mercer journeyed in a lumber wagon to the little church that stood where the Seattle National Bank now is, and there on Christmas Eve she was married to young Clarence Booth Bagley, who with his father, Daniel Bagley, pioneer Seattle minister, had made the perilous trip across the plains in the same wagon train with his future wife. Last Christmas Day Mr. and Mrs. Bagley held open house to celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of their wedding day and of the open house which followed their wedding.

Mrs. Bagley was born in Princeton, Ill. She attended private schools and the territorial university in Seattle.



#### Oldest Woman Resident.

For many years Mrs. Bagley had been an active member of the Washington State Pioneer's Association and of the Women's Auxiliary to that organization. Mrs. Bagley was the oldest woman resident in Seattle in number of years here, and shared honors with Roland Denny, whose arrival here antedated hers, as the oldest residents of Seattle. Mrs. Bagley, her sister, Mrs. Susie Graham, now in Los Angeles, and Mrs. Laura Bell Hall, also in California are believed to be the last surviving members of the little band of pioneer citizens who took refuge in the old Seattle blockhouse during the Indian War.

In addition to her husband and sister, Mrs. Bagley is survived by five children, all of whom reside in Seattle. They are Mrs. Rena Gaiffith, Mrs. Myrta Jenner, Mrs. Ethel W. Allen, Mrs. Alice Claire Hammons, and Cecil Clarence Bagley.

Funeral services for Mrs. Bagley will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock in the Butterworth Mortuary. Burial will be in the family plot in Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

[The Seattle Daily Times, Seattle, Washington, Monday, May 10, 1926 p.10]

# C. B. BAGLEY, 88, SEATTLE PIONEER, DIES IN HOSPITAL

Northwest Historian and  
Beloved by Citizens, Is  
Taken Away; Grandsons  
Named as Pallbearers

Funeral service for C. B. (Pop) Bagley, pioneer Seattle historian who died yesterday at the age of 88 years after a short illness, will be held Monday at noon at the Butterworth Mortuary. He died in Providence Hospital yesterday after an illness since Sunday.

Mr. Bagley will be buried in old Mt. Pleasant cemetery on Queen Anne hill. There the bodies of his father and mother and wife now lie. He will be placed in the same plot.

## Will Carry Coffin

The active pallbearers named are grandsons: Earl B. Jenner, Lawrence M. Jenner, Fred J. Jenner, Richard B. Allen, Robert M. Allen and Park D. Bagley.

The honorary pallbearers will be W. D. McKay, Prof. Edmond S. Meany, Rolland H. Denny, Loren Hanford, Will A. Dickey, Paul C. Harper, R. J. Ferguson, and J. Willis Sayre.

Seventy-one years ago, in October, 1860, a slim youth ran into Seattle, feet tripping over logs and ruts, hands clinging to the rear of a two-horse buggy. It was Clarence B. Bagley—"Pop" Bagley to his thousands of friends—who died today.

"Lots of men have run out of Seattle," he used to laugh, "but I'll bet I was the first and only one to run into town. It was a fifteen-day run, too, all the way from Salem, Or., holding onto the buggy, the first vehicle to reach Seattle on its own wheels."

The buggy was occupied by his parents, the Rev. and Mrs. Daniel Bagley, Methodist Protestant missionaries.

"Pop," whose reminiscences enlivened virtually every Board of Works meeting, from 1899, when he became its secretary, until 1929, when he was retired, was Seattle's unofficial but most ardent historian.

#### Born in Illinois

He was born in a log cabin November 30, 1843, at Troy Grove, Ill., 100 miles west of Chicago. And when a wagon train left Princeton, Ill., April 20, 1852, for the Oregon Country, the small boy whose life became inextricably linked with the development of Seattle was a member of the party.

So was Dexter Horton.

So was Thomas Mercer, whose daughter, Alice, then a babe in arms, wed the stripling Bagley in Seattle's first church wedding, Christmas, 1865, in the "White Church," the Methodist Episcopal structure, at Second Avenue and Columbia Street.

Mrs. Bagley died at the family home, 900 Second Ave. N., May 9, 1926. They had lived there forty years. The home is on the site of her father's original homestead, laid out in 1853.

Mr. Bagley is survived by five children, all of Seattle. They are:

Mrs. F. S. Griffith, Mrs. Earle R. Jenner, Mrs. H. Eugene Allen, Mrs. Frederick D. Hammons and Cecil C. Bagley.

### At Birth of University

Mr. Bagley was the last survivor of the historic party which cleared the ten-acre site for the territorial University of Washington in March, 1861. His father, arriving here the fall before, had started teaching school and left Clarence, a pupil, as teacher of the fifteen other pupils while he obtained territorial officials' consent to the university project.

The site, now the Metropolitan Center, was between Seneca and Union Streets and from between Third and Fourth to between Fifth and Sixth Avenues.

As soon as the first building was erected, Mrs. Bagley's uncle, Asa E. Mercer, became the first "university" teacher, teaching his niece and Clarence Bagley among his sixty students.

### Married Alice Mercer

The wedding of the 17-year-old Alice Mercer and the 22-year-old Clarence Bagley was a social event of the holiday season in 1865. Every one of the 200 residents was a guest at the church ceremony and at the "open house" at the home that later was to become Bagley "Brown Church" parsonage, at Second Avenue and Madison Street, afterward. A kindly providence permitted the celebration of the sixtieth anniversary, in the same city, but now grown two thousand fold.

Mr. Bagley recalled Seattle's famous "Big Winter" of 1861-62 when there was skating on six inches of ice on Lake Union for six weeks.

That was the season when two feet of snow, which started falling before Christmas, did not disappear until March.

Also he recalled the city's hottest summer, in 1864, when thermometers one day registered 114 degrees inside wooden buildings.



### His First Party

Mr. Bagley had many birthday parties at which high city officials dined him and praised him and presented him with costly gifts and parchment screeds, but the birthday party he remembered best was his first in Seattle, his seventeenth birth anniversary a month after his arrival here.

His mother invited all the children of his age—there were nine in town, mostly girls. And for refreshments the youngsters ate Oregon apples and fresh-from-the-oven New England mince pies.

Having traveled across the Great Plains and the Rockies by wagon train when a child; having trudged into Seattle at the tail end of a buggy when a youth; having ridden in Seattle's first street cars; having seen the first automobiles in town, Mr. Bagley had his first airplane ride a few years ago, and enjoyed it.

### Took First Vacation

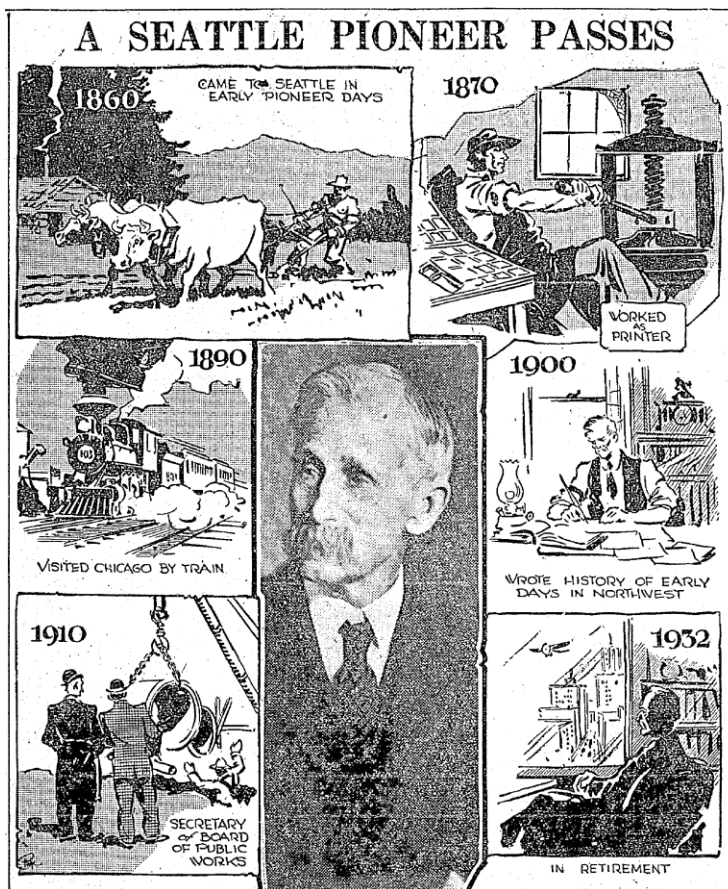
Following his retirement at City Hall in 1929, the then 86-year-old pioneer, took his first vacation by making a hike over the Naches Pass with a grandson and a party of younger men who were winded and outdistanced by the man for whom they had been afraid the tramp across the snow would be too much.

But that was because he was beckoned on by a vision—the remembrance of the time, away back in 1853 when the first and only ox train crossed Naches Pass, a trail led by James B. Biles—and the vision of the other pioneers who had labored across the country to help carve out a new nation on the western coast, and who preceded him across "the Great Divide."

### Newspaper Publisher

Olympia, too, will mourn him today, for between the time he "ran into Seattle," and the time he became Seattle's Board of Works secretary, he published a newspaper in the state capital.

Seattle's school children will mourn him, too. Several years ago he divided his great collection of Northwest histories, making a gift of hundreds of volumes to the University of Washington, and privately printing a 2,000-volume edition of "Pioneer Seattle and Its Pioneers" as a gift to the public schools here, as a climax to his voluminous writings, which included a History of Seattle and many magazine and newspaper articles and pamphlets.



[The Seattle Daily Times, Seattle, Washington, Saturday, February 27, 1932 p.3]

Children of Clarence Bagley and Alice Mercer:

i. Rena B. Bagley

b. 1868 Washington

d. 1946 Seattle, King County, Washington

buried [Wright Crematory and Columbarium](#), Seattle, King County, Washington

m. Griffith

1870: Olympia, Thurston County, Washington, July 18, 1870; Clarence B. Bagley, 26, printer, \$5070 \$2000, IL; Alice M., 21, keeping house, Rena, 1, at home, WT

1880: Olympia, Thurston County, Washington, June 4, 1880; C.B. Bagley, 36, publisher, IL PA Mass; Alice M., 31, wife, keeping house, IL OH CT; Rena, 11, dau, at home, WA IL IL; Myrta, 8, dau, at home, WA IL IL; Ethel W., 2, dau, at home, WA IL IL; Alice C., 7/12 (Nov), dau, at home, WA IL IL; Susan R., 61, mother, at home, chronic rheum, Mass Mass Mass; Danl, 61, M.P. Minister, PA NY NY

ii. Myrta Bagley

b. 1871 Washington

d. 1964 Washington

buried [Lakeview Cemetery](#), Seattle, King County, Washington

m. Earle Robison Jenner

1880: Olympia, Thurston County, Washington, June 4, 1880; C.B. Bagley, 36, publisher, IL PA Mass; Alice M., 31, wife, keeping house, IL OH CT; Rena, 11, dau, at home, WA IL IL; Myrta, 8, dau, at home, WA IL IL; Ethel W., 2, dau, at home, WA IL IL; Alice C., 7/12 (Nov), dau, at home, WA IL IL; Susan R., 61, mother, at home, chronic rheum, Mass Mass Mass; Danl, 61, M.P. Minister, PA NY NY

iii. Ethel Whipple Bagley

b. 16 Jun 1877 Washington

d. 26 Feb 1965 Washington

m. Harry Eugene Allen

1880: Olympia, Thurston County, Washington, June 4, 1880; C.B. Bagley, 36, publisher, IL PA Mass; Alice M., 31, wife, keeping house, IL OH CT; Rena, 11, dau, at home, WA IL IL; Myrta, 8, dau, at home, WA IL IL; Ethel W., 2, dau, at home, WA IL IL; Alice C., 7/12 (Nov), dau, at home, WA IL IL; Susan R., 61, mother, at home, chronic rheum, Mass Mass Mass; Danl, 61, M.P. Minister, PA NY NY

1900: Seattle, King County, Washington, June 11, 1900; Clarence B. Bagley, head, Nov 1843, 56, m-35yrs, IL PA PA, clerk board of public works; Alice M. (M probably for Mercer), wife, Oct 1848, 51, m-35yrs, 5-5, IL OH NH; Ethel W.,

dau, Jun 1877, 22, s, WA IL IL; Alice C., dau, Nov 1879, 20, s, WA IL IL; Cecil C., son, Jul 1888, 12, s, WA IL IL, at school; Daniel, father, Sep 1818, 81, m-60yrs, PA NY NY; Susannah, mother, May 1819, 81, m-60yrs, 1-1, Mass CT Mass

iv. Alice Clair Bagley

b. Nov 1879 Washington

d. 1975

m. 24 Jun 1903 Seattle, King County, Washington to Frederick Dent Hammons

1880: Olympia, Thurston County, Washington, June 4, 1880; C.B. Bagley, 36, publisher, IL PA Mass; Alice M., 31, wife, keeping house, IL OH CT; Rena, 11, dau, at home, WA IL IL; Myrta, 8, dau, at home, WA IL IL; Ethel W., 2, dau, at home, WA IL IL; Alice C., 7/12 (Nov), dau, at home, WA IL IL; Susan R., 61, mother, at home, chronic rheum, Mass Mass Mass; Danl, 61, M.P. Minister, PA NY NY

1900: Seattle, King County, Washington, June 11, 1900; Clarence B. Bagley, head, Nov 1843, 56, m-35yrs, IL PA PA, clerk board of public works; Alice M. (M probably for Mercer), wife, Oct 1848, 51, m-35yrs, 5-5, IL OH NH; Ethel W., dau, Jun 1877, 22, s, WA IL IL; Alice C., dau, Nov 1879, 20, s, WA IL IL; Cecil C., son, Jul 1888, 12, s, WA IL IL, at school; Daniel, father, Sep 1818, 81, m-60yrs, PA NY NY; Susannah, mother, May 1819, 81, m-60yrs, 1-1, Mass CT Mass

v. Cecil Clarence Bagley

b. 21 Jul 1888 Washington

d. 17 Jan 1971 Washington

buried [Mount Pleasant Cemetery](#), Seattle, King County, Washington

1900: Seattle, King County, Washington, June 11, 1900; Clarence B. Bagley, head, Nov 1843, 56, m-35yrs, IL PA PA, clerk board of public works; Alice M. (M probably for Mercer), wife, Oct 1848, 51, m-35yrs, 5-5, IL OH NH; Ethel W., dau, Jun 1877, 22, s, WA IL IL; Alice C., dau, Nov 1879, 20, s, WA IL IL; Cecil C., son, Jul 1888, 12, s, WA IL IL, at school; Daniel, father, Sep 1818, 81, m-60yrs, PA NY NY; Susannah, mother, May 1819, 81, m-60yrs, 1-1, Mass CT Mass