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Murphy Family Biographies

Brittney Teal-Cribbs
Western Oregon University

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Murphy Family Biographies

Rachel Cook(e) Murphy Butler

Rachel Cook(e) Murphy Butler (1788-1874) was the daughter of Rachel Cook(e) (1753-1842) and Baptist Minister John Murphy (1752-1848). She married Peter Butler (1789-1856) on July 25, 1811, and her sister married their friend, Elijah A. Davidson. They had ten children together, and she traveled with him and five of their children and several grandchildren to the Oregon Territory in 1853 to join their son Elijah who had preceded them in 1850. She outlived her husband by 18 years, and both of them are buried in the Butler Davidson Cemetery.

Children of Rachel Cook(e) Murphy Butler:

- Ira Frances Marion Butler (1812-1909); married Mary Ann Davidson (1814-1888) in 1835; buried in the Butler Davidson Cemetery
- William Cooke Butler (1814-1891); married Rebecca Elam (Blanche) Lucas (1818-1891) in 1837
- Eliza Ann D. Butler Ground (1816-1864); married Edward Ground (1809-1885) in 1834
- John Murphy Butler (1818-1864); married Eliza Smith (1818-1858) in 1842
- Joseph Franklin Butler (1820-1872); married Sarah Jane ?
- Margaret C Butler Smith (1822-1871); married Isaac Smith (1816-1897) in 1840; buried with her husband in the Butler Davidson Cemetery
- Elijah Davidson (Lides) Butler (1824-1858); married Sarah Elizabeth Lucas
- James Whitman Butler (1826-1905); married Mary Ground (1836-1880)
- Elizabeth (Lissie) Hannah Butler Hutchinson (1829-1866); married Thomas Hanna Hutchinson (1824-1860) in 1851 and Spencer W. Miser (1825-1904) in 1865; buried with her first husband in the Butler Davidson Cemetery
- Isaac Butler (1831-1913); married Sarah Webb

John Ecles Murphy

John Ecles Murphy (1806-1876) was born in Warren County, Kentucky, to William Murphy (1776-1846) and Nancy Ferguson (1779-1862) and moved to Illinois in 1830. He married Francis Wright Doughty/Daughty Murphy (1810-1891) in 1827 and they had twelve children, two of whom were twins (Emma and Ellen). He became a minister, and along with other members of the community in Monmouth, Illinois, became interested in founding a Christian college in Oregon. He traveled to the Oregon Territory in 1852 on the Murphy Wagon Train for that purpose. A staunch abolitionist who opposed slavery and advocated for the release of slaves, he became the first minister of Monmouth's Christian Church. He is considered one of the founders of Monmouth University (now Western Oregon University). Until the last years of his life, he continued to collect money from the community for use by the University while making his rounds as a circuit preacher. He is buried with his wife in the Fir Crest Cemetery.

Children of John Ecles Murphy:

- Susan Jane Marshall Murphy (1829-?); married Mr. Marshall
- William Preston Murphy (1831-1915); married Sarah Taylor in 1855 and Sarah Stanton
- Elizabeth Frances Murphy (1832-1914); married Albert Whitfield Lucas in 1851; buried in the Fir Crest Cemetery
- Henderson Warren Murphy (1835-?); married Rebecca L. Davidson in 1862
- James Thompson Murphy (1837-?)
- David Murphy (1839-?)
- Preston Murphy (1842-?)
- Nancy Rowland Murphy (1844-?); married Mr. Stump
- Mary Adeline Murphy (1847-?); married C. E. Chrisman in 1863
- Sarah Ann Murphy (1852-?); married Mr. Mulkey
- Emma Murphy (1854-?); married James McMurray; Emma and Ellen were twins
- Ellen Murphy (1854-1863); buried in Butler Davidson Cemetery

Land Claim: T9S R5W secs 31, 30, 29, 32; at Airlie

William Murphy

William Murphy (1816-1874) was the son of John Murphy Jr. (1779-1848) and Nancy Lamb (1788-1830), and the cousin of John Eccles Murphy (1806-1876). He was married to Elizabeth Roundtree (1823-1889) in 1841, and they traveled with his cousin John to the Oregon Territory in 1852. Together they had eleven children, although one died as an infant. He is buried in the Fir Crest Cemetery with his wife and some of their children.

Children of William Murphy:

- Livy Alexander Murphy (1842-1910); married Elizabeth Estrella Robinett in 1871; buried in IOOF Cemetery, Medford, OR
- John Leon Murphy (1843-1912); married Ruthannah Rebecca Jane Rohrer in 1870; buried in the Fir Crest Cemetery
- Morvin Dudley Murphy (1845-1933); married Mary Isabell Lane Robinett in 1875 and Clara Evaline Riggs Matlock in 1910; buried in the Union Cemetery, Crawfordsville, OR
- Nancy Ellen Murphy (1847-1870); married Orville Butler in 1861; buried in the Fir Crest Cemetery
- William Perry Murphy (1850-1867); buried in the Fir Crest Cemetery
- Mary Francis Murphy (1852-1868); buried in the Fir Crest Cemetery
- Infant Murphy (1854-1854)
- Artemus Eccles Murphy (1856-1933); married Martha Frances Robinett in 1886; buried in the Union Cemetery, Crawfordsville, OR
- Curtis Jason Murphy (1856-?); married Agnes Pearl
- Byron Lincoln Murphy (1861-?); married Lillie Arminta Powell in 1885
- Ida May Constance Murphy (1863-1943); married Edwin Newman McCaw in 1889

Elizabeth Frances Murphy Lucas

Elizabeth Frances Murphy Lucas (1832-1914) was the daughter of John and Francis Murphy. She married Albert Whitfield Lucas (1827-1893) and they had nine children together. She traveled with her parents and husband to the Oregon Territory in 1852. She was the longest surviving of the original group of adult settlers from Monmouth, Illinois. She is buried with her husband in the Fir Crest Cemetery.

Children of Elizabeth Frances Murphy Lucas:

- Adah Lucas (1853-1910); married Thomas Winthrop Shelton (1844-1893) in 1870
- Jay Prentice Lucas (1856-1932); married K.F. Lucas
- Mary Lucas (1858-?)
- Katherine Lucas (1859-1930); married William D. Fenton (1853-1925) in 1879
- Susan Jane Lucas (1862-1897); married Jackson Hugh Stanley (1859-1915) in 1880
- Albert Lincoln Lucas (1865-1927); married Mabel Morrell (1872-?)
- Nellie Lucas (1867-?)
- Frank Lucas (1868-1928); married Lorena Mulkey (1873-?)
- Fred Lucas (1871-1894)