

## 1845: Oregon Trail

Information on two of our (Associated) Tree Branches is found in the Benton County Museum History. **Rev Thomas Simpson Kendall and John and Sarah (Junkin) McCoy** left in early May 1845, with 'the Oregon bound emigrant companies starting from the St. Joseph, Missouri area totaled, according to the St. Joseph paper, 223 wagons, 954 persons, with 545 firearms, 9,425 cattle, and 108 horses and mules. John Clark was hired as pilot for the journey to the junction with the Independence-to-Oregon trail. The elected captains for the companies of 1845 this train consisted of 12 Captains according to which lists of emigration in 1845'. Source: Emigrants to Oregon compiled by Stephenie Flora http://www.oregonpioneers.com/1845.htm

## Rev. Thomas S. Kendall

John Kendall (b: unk) married Martha Alexander; their son William Kendall (1755) married Jean Linn. Their son, Rev Thomas S. Kendall (1809) married his cousin, Nancy Kendall in 1833, daughter of Robert Kendall.



Rev. Thomas S. Kendall came to Oregon in 1845, with his two daughters, Miranda, 9, and Julia, 7. His wife, Nancy, had died in Tennessee six years previously.

A minister of the Associate Presbyterian Church, Kendall organized a congregation in Molalla before coming to Linn County. When he was circuit riding, his daughters often rode with him, one fore and one aft, on a single horse.

Leaving his daughters with friends, Rev. Kendall spent 2 years searching for gold. Upon his return to Oakville, Linn County, Oregon, he helped organize a congregation and sharing his found gold with building a bridge and school. For more information on Thomas Kendall, see the Kendall History.

## John and Sarah (Junkin) McCoy.

Lancelot Junkin (1753) married Martha Galloway. Their son, James A. Junkin married Sarah Tomson. Their daughter Sarah Junkin (1814 – 1883), married John McCoy.



This family traveled to Oregon at the same time as Rev. Kendall, both settling in The Willamette Valley. John and Sarah were involved in organizing the Willamette Associated Presbyterian church in Oregon.



With the Associate Reformed Presbyterians in Union Point Rev Kendall helped organize the United Presbyterians, and took part in the expansion as new congregations arose in Albany in 1853, at Table Rock in the Rogue River Valley in 1854, at Kendall's Bridge in 1854, in the Mohawk Valley, and at Harmony, near Halsey.

Missionaries, ministers, and elders of several denominations of Presbyterians pioneered in the Oregon Country. The Whitman-Spalding group in the Walla Walla country represented the New School Presbyterians.

Old School adherents established churches at Clatsop Plains, Eugene City, Brownsville, and Marysville. J.A. Cornwall of the Cumberland branch started churches at La Creole, Marysville, Abiqua (Silverton), McMinnville, and Spring Valley. The Associate Presbyterians' first minister was T.S. Kendall, of whom we hear more later. The Associate Reformed branch sent Wilson Blain to Oregon. Source: Benton County Museum