

GEORGE WASHINGTON BROMLEY FAMILY

(Father of Della Miller,
Long-time resident of Mt. Pleasant)

George Washington Bromley was born Aug. 28, 1857 in Mariposa, CA. and died at his home in Bickleton at the age of 71 years (1928). His parents were Herrick and Mary Ellen (DeVore) Bromley. In 1872, he married Elizabeth Wattenberger. Shortly after the birth of their first child Emma Lee (1880), they came to Bickleton. They were preceded by George's father, his sister Etta, brother Albert and brother-in-law Conrad Wattenberger.

George and Elizabeth had three children: Emma Lee (1880-1956) Gantenbein, who had five children (Ethel, Henry, Glen, Ada and Edith); Mary Ellen (1883-1960); Thomas who had four children (Claude, Evelyn, Frank and Elizabeth); Theodosia Etta (1885-1944) Williams, who had two children (Clarence and Verna).

The same year that George and Elizabeth's third child, Theodosia Etta, was born (1885), Elizabeth died. In 1890, George married Eliza Bunting of Illinois who died just a year later. In 1893, George married Eliza West also of Illinois. She died in 1927 just the year before George's death (1928).

George and Eliza had six children: Frank (1896-1973) married Mary Ganders; George (1897-1957) married Bertha Hooker; Zuleika (1901-1951) Grey who had one son Charles; Alice (b. 1906) Ptitsin who had three children, (Elena, Leda and Gregory George); Charles



George and Eliza Ann Bromley, granddaughter Elizabeth and family pet.

(1908-1974) married Mary Ellen Davis; Delia (b. 1910) Miller who had one son, Lee Duain.

George Sr. farmed and was noted for his horses. As a young man, he shipped carloads of horses to the Midwest. He was one of the original founders of the Community State Bank of Bickleton and was a director at the time of his death. He was a member of the Excelsior Lodge No. Ill, I.O.O.F. at Bickleton and a charter member of the Alder Creek Grange No. 890. Both he and Eliza were members of the Congregational Church of Wamber, 111.

George's wife Eliza was quite musical. She played the organ and sang. Several Edison phonograph recordings of her voice were made by the late Isaac Campbell whose wife was Amanda Wattenberger, a niece of George's first wife Elizabeth.

The children of George and Eliza have had varied careers. Frank, the oldest, took up wood-carving when he retired from farming. Some of his carvings are on display at the Powell Museum in Grandview. He was president of the Pioneer Association in 1966. George Jr. was a farmer (wheat and cattle). He was a member of the Grange and the I.O.O.F. of Bickleton. Zuleika taught school for many years and had a small farm at Mountindale, Ore. Alice was a dress designer in Los Angeles and traveled extensively. Charles, a farmer, was an avid sports fan, a community worker and

a member of the I.O.O.F. Lodge, the Grange and the Masonic Lodge.

Delia lives at Washougal, Wash. Before her husband's death in 1963, she helped her husband manage a store, service station and a garage — with farming on the side — and at one time a fishing boat in Alaska. After her husband's death, Delia worked for seven years in a cannery at Seldovia, Alaska. Her son, Duain, was in the army, stationed at Fort Richardson at Anchorage. At present time, 1981, Della's granddaughter Vikki Lee is teaching in the Centerville school. The other granddaughter, Lisa Iona lives in Vancouver, Wash.

—Della Miller

(Della Miller lived at Mt. Pleasant and was very active in the Historical Society. She was also in Extension Homemakers, and the Grange. The family has a wonderful Civil War diary. Her son has it.)