

THE SUNDAY STATESMAN PIONEER AND FEATURE PAGE

FRIENDS DEPLORE 'AUNT' ROSA'S LOSS IN THREE STATES

Death of Mrs. James Morfitt Removes Pioneer of Idaho, Oregon and Washington; Was One of Earliest.

Mrs. Rosa E. Morfitt, a pioneer of Washington and Oregon, died at the family home at 1012 North Nineteenth street, Boise, June 14, after an illness of several weeks.

Mrs. Morfitt was the daughter of J. D. and Eliza Ann Hoffstatter, and was born at Ottumwa, Iowa, Aug. 17, 1858. She crossed the plains in 1864 with her mother, two sisters and a brother, arriving at Walla Walla, Wash., where Mr. Hoffstatter, a millwright, was engaged in his trade, having crossed to Washington in 1862—two years before the arrival of his family.

In Washington First.

The Hoffstatters lived at Walla Walla and Waiilatpu, Wash., and Milton, Ore., until 1875, when they moved to Connor creek, where Mr. Hoffstatter and his sons engaged in mining.

The family soon moved to Baker, Ore., where Mrs. Morfitt attended Notre Dame academy, and graduated during 1880, and afterward taught school in Baker and Malheur counties, Oregon.

She was married to James Morfitt April 16, 1882. They made their home near Malheur, Ore., where Mr. Morfitt was operating a sawmill business until 1884, when they moved to a homestead on Willow creek, Malheur county, Ore., where they lived for 33 years, during which time they

bought other properties and built up a livestock business.

Noted for Hospitality.

At their ranch the open-handed hospitality characteristic of a cattle country was always extended, and many were the tired and hungry cowboys, stockmen and travelers who were given a warm meal and a bed by "Aunt Rosa," as Mrs. Morfitt was called for years by her many friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Morfitt sold their interests in Oregon during 1918 and moved to Boise where they since have made their home.

Husband Still Lives.

Mrs. Morfitt leaves her husband, James Morfitt, two sons, James C. and Frank L. Morfitt, a daughter, Mrs. Gertrude E. Evans of Walla Walla, Wash., a sister, Mrs. Josephine Moore, Nehalem, Ore., two brothers, George Hoffstatter, Cambridge, and M. D. Hoffstatter, Roseburg, Ore., five grandchildren and many other relatives.