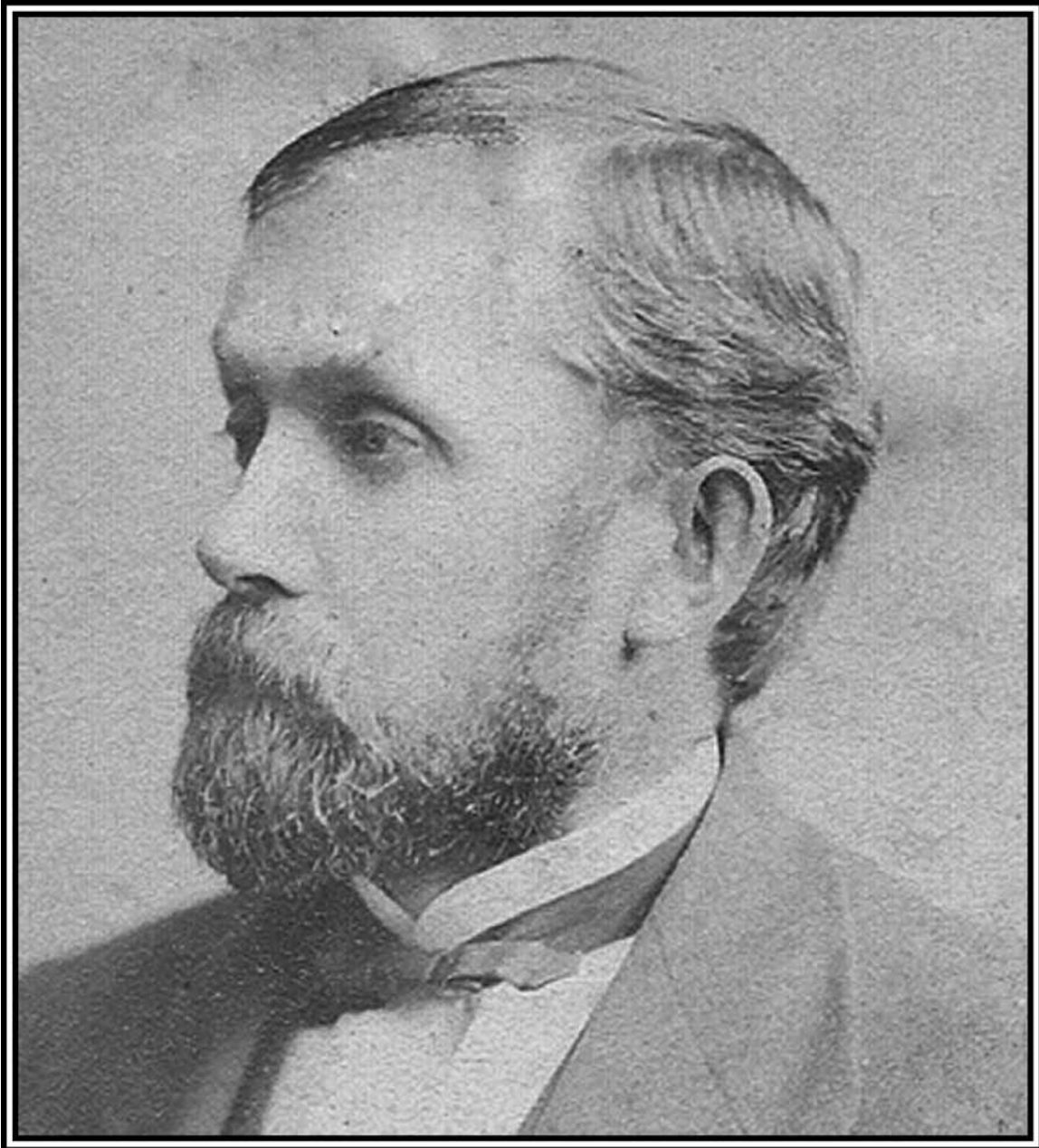


BLACKBERRY PRESERVES

The Journal of the

KIRKLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY



Stiles Rust Nettleton, Sr.

Taken in 1872

Elva Whiting Collection (1931-2020)

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Volume XXXI, Issue I

Jan/Feb 2024

www.kirklandheritage.org

Kirkland Heritage Society Heritage Hall 203 Market Street

Kirkland Heritage Society hours:
Monday from 10 to noon
Wednesday from 2 to 5



Sending our Mail

Claire found a quiet corner to fold the newsletters for the November mailing. She looks like she enjoys it a goes a great job. After the folding, there is the sealing, labeling and stamping. And yes, we know those seals on two sides are a nuisance but they are required by the post office.



Linda Johnson Jatton did a lot of stuffing of envelopes for the renewal notices. Wayne kept us company.



Life Members:

Richard and Lisa Altig, Cindy Anderson, Maureen Baskin, Laura Bradley-Pierucci, Bob and Valerie Burmester, David and Tasha Davis, Steve Lamson, Anne R. Fleming, Dan & Kim Hartman, Sandi Kelly, Ray & Clare Lincoln, Joan McBride/Margaret Meister, Matt McCauley, Larry Miller, Laura May Moseng, Jim & Cathy Neir, Tom & Sally J. Neir, Richard & Kathy Nelson, Timothy & Mary Ord, Richard and Peggy Ostrander, Michael and Cathy Radcliff, Darlene "Dee" Miller Saunders, Larry Springer/Penny Sweet.

In the Mail

Hi, Loita. I saw you mentioned they postponed the mural project in BP, (issue 6, 2023). Do you know why it was postponed until Spring? We were talking about it at our Moss Bay meeting and nobody knew.
Don Winters

Don and all:

The mural was postponed because work needs to be done behind the wall to guarantee it will remain stable. Then some sort of coating will be applied to the wall that will help protect the wall. Then the mural will be painted. One weekend is needed to do the painting but two weekends will be reserved to allow for a weather event (rain). Loita



Frank Rosin 1936 - 2023

Hugh Sisk, LWHs class of 1973, posted this message on Facebook. It is how Frank will be remembered by many Kirkland "kids".
Printed with Hugh's permission.

So sad to hear of Frank's passing. I spent countless hours and days at his place during my time in the Sea Scouts and later as a tenant in his apartments. I practically lived down there when I was a Scout, and Frank usually had no problem with us raiding his fridge or making a sandwich. I ate a ton of peanut butter sandwiches washed down with Fanta root beer (10 cents from his pop machine) during that time, or the occasional bowl of his homemade split pea soup. He was so tolerant of the hijinks all of us kids got into but would occasionally raise his voice - and that was usually enough for us to know we'd better straighten up or risk being banished for a while. He was always recording old radio programs and would have them playing in the background constantly. I learned to really like listening to them, and still do to this day. I could go on and on but suffice it to say he was a truly wonderful man and I along with many others will miss him.

A Treasure in the Mail

October 2023

Dear Kirkland Heritage Society,

I've been a resident of Rochester, New York; I moved here in 1999 from Charlottesville, Virginia.

In October 2023 I was doing some heavy-duty cleaning and organizing of my attic when I came upon a tiny but beautiful and very old-looking book, with an ornately embossed cover. I carefully peeked inside and found another ornate imprint on the inside of the front cover; an imprint of the name "S.R. Nettleton." A couple of pages into the book, I found Nettleton's signature, along with the date July 21, 1856. I was thrilled for several reasons, including that my wedding anniversary is July 21!

The book, *Prison Tales*, looked and smelled quite antique, but considering its advanced age, was in amazing condition. I reached back into my memory to try to recall how I might have acquired this book. Studying it more, I discovered within the pages a yellowed newspaper clipping from 1932 - a story about the McGuffey School in Charlottesville, Virginia. Thanks to that clip, I was able to deduce that somehow, somewhere I acquired the book while living in Virginia.

I then set out to discover more about "S.R. Nettleton." Thanks to the magic of the internet, it didn't take me long to learn that Mr. Stiles Rust Nettleton was a Washington state legislature representative in the 19th century, and was buried in Kirkland upon his death in 1911. I also discovered that he was born in Ohio in 1834, and served in the Union Army in western Virginia during the Civil War. I deduced that this is how a book from Nettleton's collection ended up in Charlottesville, Virginia, where I picked it up 130 years later!

After all these wonderful discoveries, I reached out to the Kirkland Heritage Society, so the book can get home to Kirkland and Mr. Nettleton after all these years.

Evan Lowenstein
Rochester, New York

Nettleton Family History

by Loita Hawkinson

The thoughtful donation of *Prison Tales*, opens an opportunity to write about this Kirkland family. The Nettletons were familiar faces in Kirkland from 1900 until the 1940's

The 1854 book, *Prison Tales* was signed and dated by Stiles Rust Nettleton on July 21, 1856. He was 22 years old with the Civil War, marriage, family and an impressive political and business career before him.

Much of the Nettleton family history is shadowed by Clark Mills Nettleton because he built the 1914 Nettleton home that is now the center of Nettleton Commons. Most of the older Kirkland residents remember this home as Green's Funeral Home. Clark Nettleton is a former owner of the Seattle Post Intelligencer. Because of his beautiful home, it has been assumed that Clark Nettleton was the first of his family to live in Kirkland. but the entire family had lived on State Street. There were three Nettleton homes, one owned by Clark's brother, one by two of his sisters and Clark's small home that was replaced with his 1914 home that was a show piece in Kirkland for decades. (See back cover.)

The patriarch of Kirkland's Nettleton family was Stiles Rust Nettleton, Sr. The family and community values of Civil War veteran Stiles Rust Nettleton, Sr. are illustrated in his two page Last Will and Testament. Upon his death on May 17, 1911, Mr. Nettleton left \$1.00 to each of his living children: Elva Nettleton Turner, Alice Lyra Nettleton, Mabel Online Nettleton (Williams), Sarah "Marie" Nettleton, Hiram Sherman Nettleton, Clark Mills Nettleton, Stiles Rust Nettleton, Jr.

Continued page 4



Stiles Rust
Nettleton, Sr.
as he was
remembered
in Kirkland
(1834-1911)



Almeda Mills
Nettleton
(1834-1921)



Clark Mills
Nettleton
(1868-1943)



Jennie Brophy
Nettleton
(1871-1946)



Elva Nettleton
Turner
(1863-1913)



Marie
Nettleton
(1880-1975)



Hiram Sherman
Nettleton
(1866-1951)



Mabel Nettleton
Williams
(1874-1946)



Stiles Rust
Nettleton, Jr.
(1876-1942)



Alice
Nettleton
(1873-1962)

Continued page 5

Mr. Nettleton's own words from his will: "I give, devise and bequeath to my wife Almeda O. Nettleton all of my estate . . . to be her sole property to do with as she pleases, by sale, mortgage or otherwise . . . I have faith in the good sense of my wife, and feel assured she will do full justice to our children in finally disposing of my estate but it is my wish that to my children and grandchildren, each of them, be given as mementos, certain articles of my personal property, the familiarity of my said wife with these articles will guide her in shaping the selection for each." Will signed October 9, 1909 in Kirkland and witnessed by Sam Collins and Elizabeth Collins, the adult children of Kirkland Mayor Reginald H. Collins. The dots in this statement replace the legalese.

Upon a person's death, a notice had to be placed in a newspaper advising any creditors that a person had died and if money was owed, the creditor had time to step forward and be paid from the estate. Many executors placed notices in a tiny area paper that hopefully would not be read by creditors. Mrs. Nettleton placed the notice in the East Side News, Kirkland's local newspaper owned and edited by Samuel F. Collins who had also witnessed the will. In 1911, the East Side News was the major newspaper for the entire eastside. The notice ran for the required four weeks.

The first born, Elva Nettleton Turner was the wife of Edgar Turner, namesake of Turner's Corner in Snohomish. It is Elva's great granddaughter, Elva Whiting (1931-2020), who provided much of this history about the Nettleton family, including rare photos.

Hiram Sherman Nettleton was known as both Hiram and Sherman. He married and had two daughters. This branch of the Nettleton family was the only one to stray from the Seattle/Kirkland area, moving to Tacoma where he owned the successful Nettleton furniture business. In 1928 he sold his business and returned to Seattle.

Much has been written about Clark Nettleton

over the years. In 1890, Clark worked for Leigh S.J. Hunt, owner of the Seattle PI. Mr. Hunt hired the very young Clark Nettleton who had experience with the newspaper business. Clark's uncle had started the Minneapolis Tribune. Letters from Clark to Marie and Mabel (who were still in Minnesota) enticed them to move to Seattle with the promise of theatre tickets from Leigh Hunt upon their arrival. Leigh Hunt often gave Clark tickets as well.

Clark left the PI after Mr. Hunt sold it and opened many businesses and entered politics including serving on the Kirkland Town Council. He was respected and trusted in both Seattle and Kirkland. He failed at little. In 1918, Clark purchased the struggling Seattle PI, hoping to bring it back to its former glory when it was owned by Leigh Hunt. Having achieved that by 1921, Clark sold the Seattle PI.

Clark had been a twin. Jennie died when she was four. Their six year old sister Alma had died the day before.

Alice Lyra Nettleton, was a teacher and remained close to her family. She invested with brother Clark and had a niece named for her (making research rather tricky). Alice arrived in 1890, enticed by her brother and Leigh Hunt's theatre tickets. Her funeral service was held at Green's Funeral Parlor, her brother's former home and the site of many family and neighborhood gatherings.

Mabel Nettleton, was a Seattle school teacher living with her parents in Kirkland. She decided she wanted a car so she took the ferry into Seattle to look at gently used automobiles. That evening she returned, the owner of her used car and smitten with the used car salesman. Mabel and Ralph Williams married in 1924 in the home of her brother Clark Mills Nettleton. Ralph became a successful Kirkland businessman and Mabel opened Kirkland's first gift shop. When she died in 1946, her services were held at the Green Funeral Home, the former

Continued page 6

home of her brother. Ralph and Marie lived on Norkirk's 12th Avenue.

Stiles Rust Nettleton, Jr. finished his schooling in Seattle and then went to the Klondike Gold fields when it was rumored to be rich in gold. When the USS Portland docked in Seattle, Stiles was met by his brother Clark who was an Associated Press Reporter. Stiles told Clark of the gold in Alaska. Clark immediately sent wires throughout the county. It is this early reporting of the Alaska gold fields that gave Seattle the edge and Seattle became the official outfitter for the Klondike. Because Kirkland had the Seattle Woolen Mill on the shore of Lake Washington by what is now Heritage Park, Kirkland thrived as they supplied woolen goods to the prospectors. Stiles took his riches and invested with Clark in dairy farms all over the state. (See BP May/June 2012 issue). Stiles then served during WWI.

Marie Nettleton, known as Aunt Rie, was a Seattle school teacher. After graduation in 1900, she taught in Houghton for a year. From the society news, we know both she and sister Mabel socialized with the Kirk and Kellett families. Kirk and Kellett are Kirkland founders, arriving in 1888 and founding Kirkland. The older Nettleton's socialized with the French family, considered Kirkland's "first family" having arrived in 1872. Marie had retired prior to WWII. Like many local teachers, she returned to teach during the war, retiring again in 1945. It is Marie who taught her niece, Elva Nettleton Turner, the value of keeping family history.

This writing provides just a sample of this historic family. Each deserves a feature of their own.

Of the Nettleton children, five of the seven are buried in the Kirkland Cemetery as are their parents. Elva Nettleton Turner and husband Edgar are buried at Turner's Corner in Snohomish. Clark Mills Nettleton and wife Jennie Brophy Nettleton are buried in Seattle.



Clark M. Nettleton
for
Port Commission

Colored citizens of Seattle never had more loyal friends than the members of Major Nettleton's family.

Clark Nettleton is a worthy son of his father's principles.

Vote for Nettleton

(Paid for by H. R. Cayton)

This newspaper endorsement for Clark Nettleton recognized his father's Union service during the American Civil War.

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** During WWI, the Hello Girls were ladies who served as telephone operators. For KHS, these sweet ladies email to remind you of the next meeting or event.

Volunteer editor: Fred Hawkinson

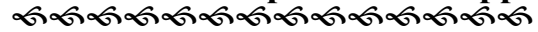
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Kirkland Heritage Society

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**KHS is 100% volunteer with no paid staff.
Your memberships make it happen.**



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January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

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Customer Service Division at:
425-587-3300**



The Clark Mills Nettleton home
as featured in the 1914 *Seattle Times*
The home has been moved a few feet and is the
center of **Nettleton Commons** on State Street.

Blackberry Preserves is produced by the **Kirkland Heritage Society**, for KHS members and those interested in Kirkland's past. **Loita Hawkinson, Editor.**
For information on KHS - visit our website: www.kirklandheritage.org,
or call 425 827-3446 to leave a message.

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