



The Bulletin

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***The Battle after the War: the Story of
Nelson Alexander Flinn of Virginia***

Keyser Family Bible

Nanci Remington



Paul and Aimee Keyser at Paradise Inn in Mt. Ranier National Park, the Tatoosh Range in background. Picture by L.C. Pier in August 1922.

Editor's Note: Occasionally the GFO receives a donated family Bible. The family information in the Bible is extracted and images are captured. When there is an interesting story to tell about the Bible or its owners, Nanci Remington has graciously provided an article for us to share in the Bulletin. If you find a family Bible at a local bookstore, thrift store, or yard sale and donate it to the GFO, the valuable family information within its covers will be collected and retained so it may be found by researchers in the future, and perhaps Nanci will be inspired to share another story with us.

The Keyser Family Bible, published in 1838,¹ was first owned by Jacob Keyser according to the name and date written inside the front cover. The migration of the Keyser family can be followed using the birth, marriage, and death records that were recorded in this Bible, beginning with the first entry of his marriage to Susan Frances Burner on 22 Jan 1839.

According to the Bible, Jacob Keyser, the son of Noah Keyser and Ann Roads (of Page County, Virginia) was born on 16 Dec 1812. Shortly after his marriage, Jacob moved to Cooper County, Missouri, where his first child was born in 1839. Later records show the family in

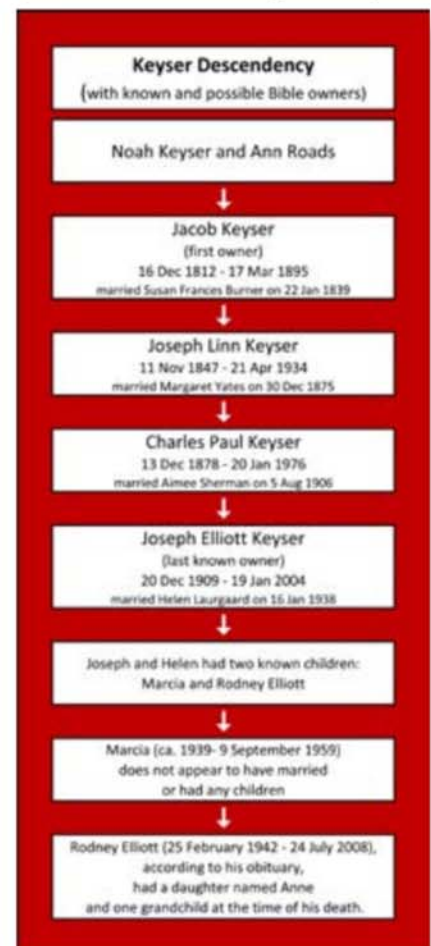
Howard County, Missouri, where Jacob died on 17 Mar 1895. Jacob fathered sixteen children between Susan and his second wife Virginia Chandler, and all are listed with birth information and a few other dates in the Bible.

The Bible does not name the next owner. It may have been Jacob's son, Joseph Linn Keyser. Joseph was born in Cooper County "thursday at 11 oclock a.m. the 11th November AD 1847." A biography in *Sons of Confederate Veterans*² notes that he enlisted in the Confederate Army in 1864, but was captured before being assigned to a unit. He later moved to Elko, Nevada, where he married Margaret Yates in 1875.

The next named owner was Charles Paul Keyser, son of Joseph and grandson of Jacob Keyser. According to several records, including his World War I draft registration,³ Charles was born 13 Dec 1878 in Elko, Nevada.

A biography in *History of the Columbia River Valley from The Dalles to the Sea*⁴ states that he married Aimee Sherman in 1906 and had one son, Joseph, who was born in Portland, Oregon, in 1909. Charles was a prominent figure in the early development of Portland Parks Bureau and served as its first superintendent.⁵ His son, Joseph, was a life-long resident of Portland and died there in 2004.

Who owned the Bible after Charles



Keyser's fine 'idears'

Most residents of the metropolitan area probably did not recognize the name Charles Paul Keyser, which appeared in the obituary columns the other day. But they owe a lot to him.

Keyser died at 97, almost 67 years after he went to work in developing Portland city parks and 27 years after his retirement as park superintendent in 1949.

His achievements in that office were remarkable. His career should be an inspiration currently for local officials confronted by a diminishing availability of green spaces in and around the city.

The statistics are impressive — an increase in Portland park acreage from less than 200 to more than 5,000 during Keyser's tenure in the bureau. But it is more productive to consider the particular projects that remain as evidence of his zeal in promoting Portland's outdoor recreational facilities. Just a few of these are Eastmoreland Golf Course, the first public course in the state; the 3,000-acre Forest Park, unique in the nation, and the International Rose Test Gardens.

If it had not been for Keyser, these community assets would probably not exist today, because he employed extraordinary ingenuity in acquiring the necessary properties and in finding public funds to pay for the developments.

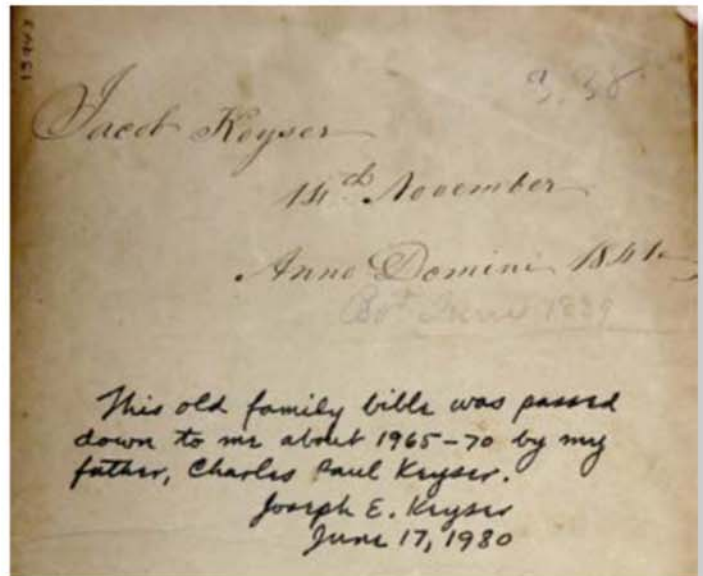
When Keyser was appointed park superintendent in 1917, Portland Mayor George Baker introduced him as "a kid with funny 'idears'." That's the kind we are in need of today.

Charles Paul Keyser's outstanding accomplishments are well-summarized in this article from *The Oregonian*, January 24, 1976; © Oregonian Publishing Co. Reprinted with permission.

is uncertain. An envelope and a note were found inside the Bible. The envelope was addressed to Joseph E. Keyser with a return address from Charles Paul Keyser. The note reads: "Given to Jack Keyser by Rodney E. Keyser 7/2/04." A year ago, this Bible made its way to a used book store and was then donated to the GFO.

Author's note – Additional information about this family, including homestead photos, cemetery maps, and another Bible transcription, can be found in the Virginia Historical Inventory of the Library of Virginia. <http://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/guides/opac/vhiabout.htm>

INSIDE FRONT COVER



Jacob Keyser

14th November

Anno Domini 1841

Bot June 1839

This old family bible was passed down to me about 1965-70 by my father, Charles Paul Keyser.

Joseph E. Keyser

June 17, 1980

Family Records [from center of Bible]

MARRIAGES

Jacob Keyser and Susan Frances Burner were married on Tuesday evening the 22nd January A.D. 1839 by Elder A.C. Boston Bapt Church

Noah Keyser and Ann Roads of Page Co Va were married on the 14th of March A.D. 1809

Jacob Keyser and Virginia Ann Field (formerly V.A. Chandler) were married Thursday 22nd February 1855 by Eld Robt Harris Baptist Church

Mary Isabella Keyser & James Taylor in Franklin, MO. were married thursday evening 5th February 1857 By Thos A. Gaines of the Reform Baptist Church

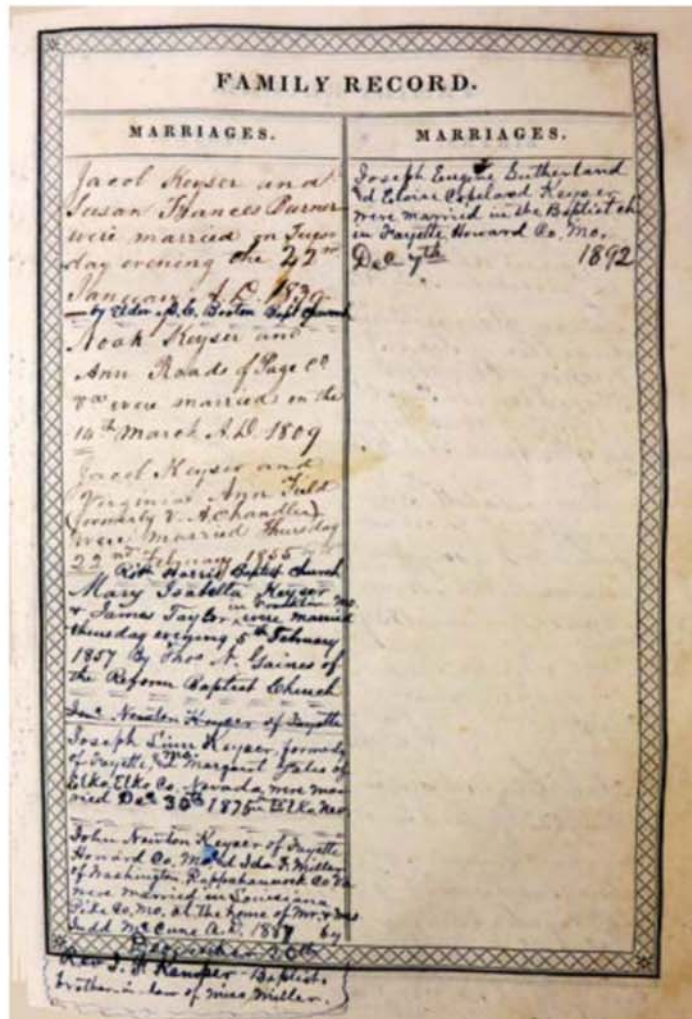
Jno Newton Keyser of Fayette

Joseph Linn Keyser, formerly of Fayette, and Margaret Yates of Elko, Elko Co. Nevada were married Dec 30th 1875 in Elko, Nev.

John Newton Keyser of Fayette, Howard Co. Mo. and Ida F. Miller of Washington, Rappahannock Co Va were married in Louisiana, Pike Co, Mo, at the home of Mr. & Mrs.

Judd McCune A.D. 1887 by December 20 Rev I F Kemper – Baptist, brother-in-law of Miss Miller

Joseph Eugene Sutherland and Eloise Copeland Keyser were married in the Baptist ch in Fayette, Howard Co, Mo. Dec 7th 1892



BIRTHS

Jacob Keyser son of Noah Keyser & Ann Roads (of Page Co Virginia) was born on 16th December A.D. 1812

Susan Frances Burner daughter of John R. Burner & Elizabeth Strickler (of Page Co Virginia) was born on 9th April A.D. 1815

Mary Isabella Keyser Daughter of Jacob and Susan F. Keyser was born on the 25th of Novmr Anno Domini 1839.

John Newton Keyser son of Jacob & Susan F. Keyser was born friday morning 17th Sept A.D 1841

Ann Elizabeth Keyser daughter of Jacob and Susan F. Keyser was born Sunday morning 3rd March A.D. 1844 and died Saturday October 21st at 1:30 oclock P. M 1922 Fayette, Howard Co. Mo, aged 78 years – 7 months and 18 days, of Pleur-Pneumonia.

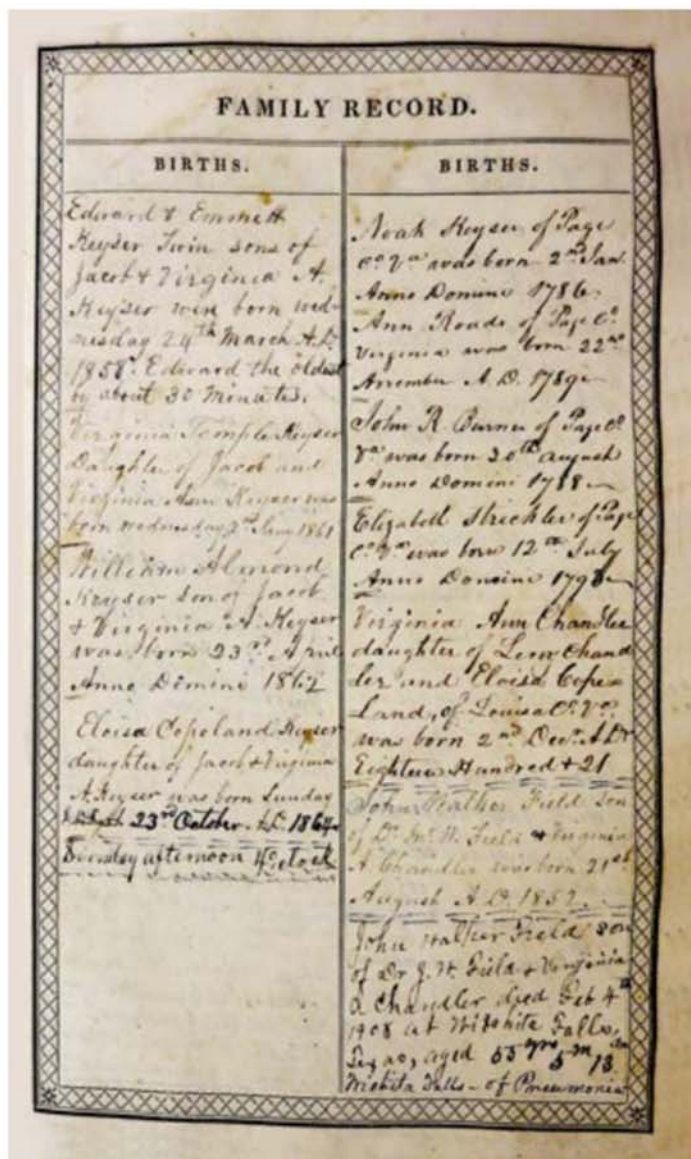
Eliza Jane Keyser daughter of Jacob and Susan F. Keyser was born on friday morning 10th October A.D. 1845.

Joseph Linn Keyser son of Jacob & Susan F Keyser was born thursday at 11 oclock a.m. the 11th November AD 1847

Emma Susan Keyser daughter of Jao & Susan F. Keyser was born Wednesday 9th Janry A.D. 1850

Charles Lee Keyser son of Jao & Susan F. Keyser was born Friday morning 6th Dec. A.D. 1850





Edwin Burner Keyser son of Jacob & Susan F. Keyser was born Wednesday morning the 31st Dec. A.D. 1851

(margin note) All the 1st wives children were born in Cooper Co Mo

Leroy Keyser, Son of Jacob & Virginia Ann Keyser was born Tuesday morning 11th March A.D. 1856 in New Franklin, Howard County Missouri and died at Mangum, Oklahoma January 8th 1902 of Pneumonia

Joseph Linn Keyser died in Elko, Nevada April 21, 1934 of coronary occlusion.

Edward and Emmett Keyser Twin sons of Jacob & Virginia A. Keyser were born Wednesday 24th March A.D. 1858. Edward the oldest by about 30 minutes.

Virginia Temple Keyser Daughter of Jacob and Virginia Ann Keyser was born Wednesday 2nd Jan 1861

William Almond Keyser Son of Jacob & Virginia A. Keyser was born 23rd April Anno Domini 1862

Eloisa Copeland Keyser daughter of Jacob & Virginia A. Keyser was born Sunday night eve 23rd October A.D. 1864 Sunday afternoon 4 o'clock

Noah Keyser of Page Co Va was born 2nd Jan. Anno Domini 1786

Ann Roads of Page Co Virginia was born 22nd November A.D. 1789

John R. Burner of Page Co Va was born 30th August Anno Domini 1788

Elizabeth Strickler of Page Co Va was born 12th July Anno Domini 1793

Virginia Ann Chandler daughter of Leroy Chandler and Eloisa Copeland, of Louisa Co Va was born 2nd Dec. A.D. Eighteen Hundred & 21

John Walker Field son of Dr Jn W. Field & Virginia A. Chandler was born 21st August A.D. 1852

John Walker Field son of Dr J. W. Field & Virginia A Chandler died Feb 4th 1908 at Wichita Falls, Texas, aged 55^{yrs} 5^m 13^{da} Wichita Falls - of Pneumonia

DEATHS

Noah Keyser died on the 7th August A.D. 1842 in Page Co Va aged 56 years 7 months & 5 days

Elizabeth Burner wife of Jno R. Burner of Page Co Va died on 23rd Oct. A.D. 1838 aged 45 yrs 3 mos & 11 days

Emma Susan Keyser daughter of Ja. & Susan F. Keyser died 1st Feby 1850 aged 24 days (nearly)

Charles Lee Keyser son of Jac & Susan F. Keyser died 15th Feby 1851 aged 2 months and 9 days

Susan Frances Keyser wife of Jacob Keyser died Tuesday night at 11 o'clock 23rd March A.D. 1852, aged 36 years 11 mos & 14 days of Pulmonary Consumption.

Edwin Burner Keyser son of Jacob & Susan F. Keyser died 21st Septem A.D. 1852 aged 8 mos & 21 days

Eliza Jane Keyser died in Fayette Mo. Feb. 4th 1923. Found dead in her house alone on Sunday morning. Age 77 yrs 3 mon 24 d. cause. Probably mitral insufficiency

Ann Keyser wife of Noah Keyser of Page Co Va died 28th August 1861 Aged 71 years 9 mos & six days

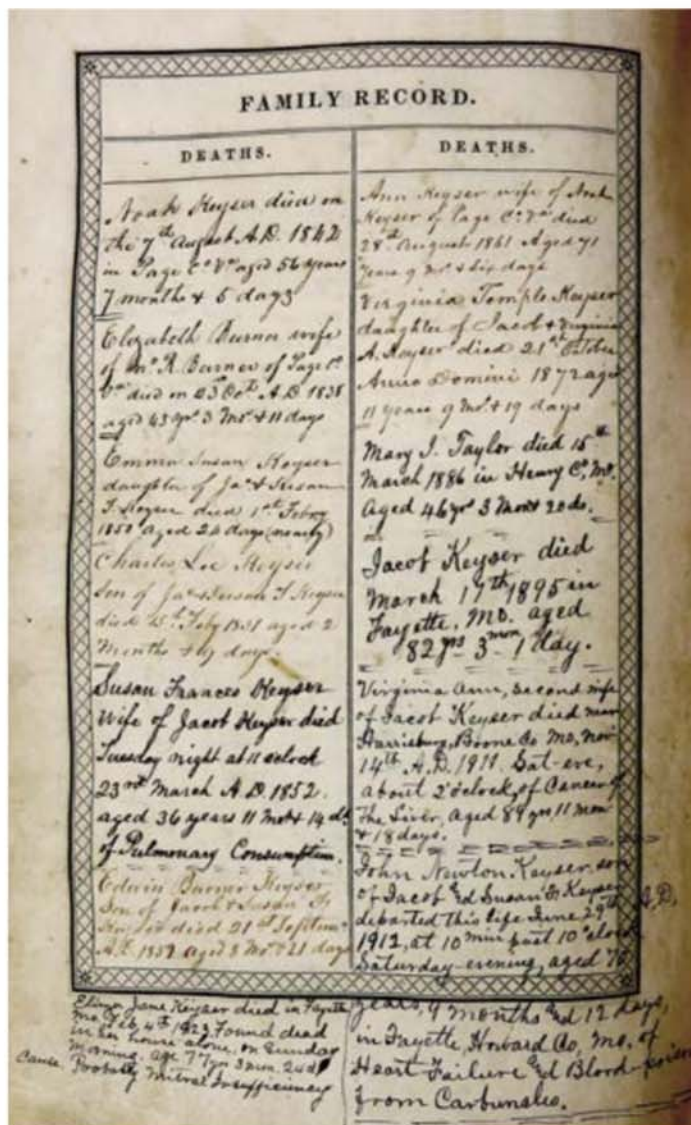
Virginia Temple Keyser daughter of Jacob & Virginia A. Keyser died 21st October Anno Domini 1872 aged 11 years 9 mos & 19 days

Mary I. Taylor died 15th March 1886 in Henry Co Mo Aged 46 yrs 3 mon & 20 ds

Jacob Keyser died March 17th 1895 in Fayette, Mo. aged 82 yrs 3 mon 1 day

Virginia Ann, second wife of Jacob Keyser died near Harrisburg, Boone Co Mo, Nov' 14th A.D. 1911. Sat eve about 2 o'clock, of cancer of The Liver, aged 89 yrs, 11 mon & 18 days.

John Newton Keyser son of Jacob and Susan F. Keyser departed this life June 29th A. D. 1912, at 10 min past 10 o'clock Saturday evening, aged 70 years, 9 months and 12 days, in Fayette, Howard Co, Mo, of Heart Failure and Blood-poison from Carbuncles.



ENCLOSURES

Envelope (not stamped) inside Bible addressed to

Joseph E. Keyser
7406 S.E. 27th Ave.
Portland, Oregon 97202

Return address

Charles Paul Keyser
1225 S. W. 6th Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97204

Handwritten note:

Given to Jack Keyser by Rodney E. Keyser 7/2/04

Snapshot of two adults on bench

[note on back] Paul and Aimee Keyser at Paradise Inn in Mt Ranier National Park. Tatoosh Range in Background
Picture taken by L.C. Pier in August 1922

Accompanying Card:

Mrs. L.C. Pier
187 E 31st St.

Dear Mr Keyser

Just this little sweet story to let you know I am thinking of you at this Christmas Time

1922

ENDNOTES

1. Keyser Bible Records, 1786-1980. Holy Bible., New York: A. Chandler for the American Bible Society, 1838
2. Harold Roberts, II, Sons of Confederate Veterans (<http://www.dixon-hunley.org/>). Rec. Date: 22 Nov 2014.
3. "United States World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918," index and images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/K6ZY-Q4D>: accessed 22 Nov 2014), Charles Paul Keyser, 1917-1918
4. Fred Lockley, History of the Columbia River Valley from The Dalles to the Sea (Chicago, Illinois: S. J. Publishing Co., 1928)
5. "Keyser's fine 'idears,'" Oregonian, 24 Jan 1976, p. 17, col. 3; digital images, Multnomah County Library (<https://multcolib.org/>: accessed 22 Nov 2014), The Historical Oregonian, 1861-1987

Editor's Note: Some of the handwritten information in superscripts was difficult to read in the typed extractions, so they were changed to normal typeface size for legibility.