

ALPINE COUNTY PIONEER WOMAN IS DEAD

Mrs. Mary Merrill, a resident of Woodford, Alpine county, Calif., since 1882, died yesterday in Mojave, Calif., at the home of her son, Grant, whom she had been visiting.

Mrs. Merrill was a native of Oregon and was eighty-two years old. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Phelix O'Neil, crossed the plains from Des Moines, Ia., to enter California. The family was forced to go north into Oregon because of Indian troubles, finally arriving at a place now named Jacksonville.

O'Neil, who was captain of the long wagon train, built a fort which was mapped and known as Fort O'Neil. Mary O'Neil Merrill was born there and several years later moved to Woodford. There she was married to W. P. Merrill. He died some time ago.

She is survived by her son, Grant P. Merrill of Mojave, and a daughter, Mrs. Bernice Dangberg of Woodford. She was the grandmother of George Dangberg, jr., of Woodford, and Austin, Stewart and Robert Merrill of Mojave and the aunt of Mrs. Albee Quinn of Oakland, Mrs. Ruby Thomas of Reno, George Laughton of Anderson, Charles Laughton of Sparks and Grover Hill of Verdi. She also leaves two stepchildren, Will Merrill of Lodi and Mrs. George P. Hays of Huntington Park, Calif.

The funeral will be held from the family home at Woodford Wednesday at 1:30 p. m.

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