

you wanted to know something
 about the ^{boy we} were raising after
 he was with us near four years
 his parents who were Irish Catholics
 wanted him back as they had
 a Parental claim and affection for
 him. I thought at that time
 up I suppose if I would have
 been Catholicism and had him
 to cross him self before eating
 I could of kept him he was
 a very smart boy I thought
 a great deal of him he has a
 high order of intellect and
 by proper training he would have
 made a very smart man
 I still keep run of him and
 may at some future day do
 something for him that is if
 he dose not become useless
 she was certainly ~~was~~ a grate
 favourite with me, my wife
 was very much attached to him
 we thought it best to give him up

my dear Mrs. H. of
 San King Valley June 8th 1874

W. H. Kees
 My Old and esteemed
 friends I have seated my self
 to jot down a few lines to you
 I recied your picture in due
 time for which I was very
 thankful in looking at your
 picture that old familiar ^{face}
 day you by is going down the
 hill of life it brought to mind
 many incidience of our early associ-
 ation in Oregon some laughable
 upon the whole present for me
 to recitate in this same nature
 country I have ^{picture of} Mrs. Matthew
 and her son Charles I have
 also the picture of our departed
 old and esteemed friend
 Robert Newell when I look

at any of you it being to mind
my association with the early
pioneers of Oregon poor old
Doc I often think of him
we parted on the top of the
celebrary Mountains since
be to our old friend when
I received a slip cut from
an Oregon newspaper through
Friend F K Matthew that you
are holding on the 16.8.77 of the
month a grand Pioneer Association
it would be a grate pleasure
to me if I could only be with
you where I spent the years
of my early manhood to rejoice
with you all in the interchange
of friendly greetings I ^{am} glad
to see ~~at~~ and hope that
you will keep it up from year
to year as veterans who settled
that far of country and I

hope I may have the pleasure
yet of meeting with all at
one of your grand reunions
and like many of my old
friends by the hand and
and have a good time and
more with you all in 77 if
nothing unusual takes place
Now our old and kind
Mother died the month of
March last in her 84 years
of her age the family were
all at home she was naturally
of a kind disposition she always
rose to her feet and ~~met~~
met every person at the door
who came to see her as long
as she could raise up
Lorden is with us and
I think he will stay here
I don't think it worth
while for him to go back