

EAST MULTNOMAH RECORD

Gresham, Multnomah, Co., January 5, 1906

METZGER FAMILY HOLDS REUNION

Many Descendants of Dutch Baron Lay Claim to Multi- Millions

A notable reunion of the Metzger families of Gresham was held at the residence of John H. Metzger, Jan. 1. '06. All the morning the ushers were kept busy admitting the arriving guests, who in all numbered about fifty persons. On entering the parlor each guest was presented with a reunion badge. A very enjoyable time was had in reminiscences by the elder members of the family, while the younger were engaged in sports on the lawn. A bountiful repast that would have satisfied the most fastidious epicurean palate, was served in good old German style to which all present did ample justice. After which they reported to Metzger's Hall where they listened to an address by Geo. W. Metzger on the purpose of the organization and the history of the Metzger family for several centuries past.

Then followed a well prepared program as follows: Instrumental duet, Grace Lawrence and Pearl Metzger; Recitation, Elsie Metzger; Recitation, Velma Metzger; Chorus, Children; Reading, L. Metzger; Vocal duet, Jennie Metzger and Minnie Lawrence; Recitation, Willa Metzger; Recitation, Isabel Metzger; Solo, Ed Metzger; Recitation, Quin Metzger; Instrumental selection, *Lucy Metzger*; Recitation, *Emma Metzger*; Duet, *Minnie Lawrence and Ed Metzger*; Recitation, *Pearl Metzger*; Piano solo, *Isabel Metzger*; Closing song, "God be with you till we

meet again."

The Metzgers of Gresham, Ore. have organized as are other branches of the family in different States. There are said to be over 11000 members. This organization is known as "The Oregon Society United Descendants Baron Theobald Metzger von Weibnom."

The following are the officers: Henry Metzger, Advisor; John H. Metzger, President; D. W. Metzger, Vice-President; Geo. W. Metzger, Secretary; James A. Lawrence, Treasurer.

They have a membership here of 62 members. It was in the swashbuckling days of the picturesque Kingdom of Holland that Theobald Metzger lived. He was born in Kettenheim, Germany, Dec. 21, 1626, but became a resident of Holland at a very early age. His distinguishing characteristics were superabundant energy and an ability to play politics which soon caused him to burst into prominence. Among the placid people he was accounted a fiery man. He entered the army when he was yet a young man and soon became lieutenant-general of the Cavalry. Shortly after ward he was made Governor of Breda-Brabant, Netherlands, which was a post of great distinction and importance in the latter part of the seventeenth century.

He then became a Baron. He did a great deal to improve the defenses of the town and arranged for flooding a wide area of surrounding territory on a few days notice. Many of the trees that now flourish on the ramparts of Breda were planted by his direction. He was the wealthiest man in the county and left to his descendants an inheritance of over \$200,000, -000 now held in trust by the government of Holland.