

ALEXANDER J. ANDERSON resides three miles west from The Dalles, where he owns a choice farm with his brother. It is especially adapted to the culture of fruit and he is one of the leading orchardists and general farmers in this part of the country. His place is known far and wide as a land mark near the Columbia river and personally he is respected and esteemed.

He was born in Delaware county, New York, on September 19, 1836, the son of John and Margaret (Sims) Anderson, natives of Scotland.. They both died in Illinois, the father in, 1896 aged eighty-two, the mother was aged eighty. They had come to the United States when children and were married in Delaware county, New York. The father followed farming and did millwright work. He was a prominent citizen and for thirty years was justice of the peace in Illinois, holding that office until the time of his death. They had moved to that state in 1845, our subject being then nine years of age and had settled about one hundred miles west from where Chicago now stands. Alexander remained with his parents until twenty-four years of age and then enlisted in 1861 in the first United States Regiment, Mechanics and Fusileers, and served three months. Being mustered out, he reenlisted in the cavalry but was not sent to the front. Then he offered his services on the gunboat but was not accepted on account of no more men being needed. In 1864, he came to Idaho then visited the Boise Basin in Idaho and the next year landed in Eugene, Oregon. Three years were spent there in carpentering then we find Mr. Anderson in Portland in the sash and door factory. Two years later, he took up cabinet work and followed the same until 1879, when he came to The Dalles and took charge of the furniture store for J.F. Rowers. In the year of 1884, he sold out and our subject and his brother purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land on the river below The Dalles. Part of it is devoted to pasture and eighty acres of it are especially adapted to fruit. He has a very large orchard and produces some of the most excellent fruit in the valley. In addition to this, Mr. Anderson raises a great deal of Wyandotte poultry and other fowls, as peacocks, turkeys, geese and so forth. He produces abundance of vegetables each year and handles some stock.

In 1867, at Eugene, Mr. Anderson and Miss Sarah J. Powers, a native of Illinois anti the daughter of Benjamin Powers, born in Vermont and descended from an old and prominent colonial family. In 1852, Mr. Powers started across the plains and while en route, his wife was taken away by death. Mr. Anderson has three brothers, George, James and John and three sisters, Jane Monroe, Nettie Pierce and Margaret Gibbs. Mrs. Anderson has four brothers, Benjamin F., John, William and Albert. Three children came to bless the home of Mt. Anderson, Minnie, the wife of Henry L. Kuck, a harness manufacturer of The Dalles, Nellie, a music teacher in Portland, and Albert who died.