An Illustrated History of Central Oregon, Western Historical Publishing Company, Spokane, WA. 1905, page 353

ISAIAH J. BUTLER is one of Wasco county's good men and his labors here for many years testify that he is possessed of industry and has accomplished a great deal for the improvement and upbuilding of the country. He is a man of good principles and is guided by integrity. At the present time, Mr. Butler resides on his farm about two miles east from Kingsley. In addition to this he has some timber land. He does general farming and is a good substantial farmer.

Isaiah J. Butler was born in Wayne county, Ohio, on February 26, 1835. His parents are mentioned in the sketch of his brother's life, Polk Butler. In his native country, our subject was educated and reared and gave his attention to farming. He had traveled some before he turned his face to the west and finally located in Oregon, whither his brother, Daniel W., who is now in Coleville, California, had come in 1852. It was in the spring of 1877, that our subject landed here and in the fall of the same year, his brother, Polk Butler, came on. The three brothers established a saw mill and operated it for some time. But the enterprise proved disastrous and they lost nearly all the capital they possessed. Then they gave that up and our subject filed on a homestead of disputed railroad land which he later secured and where he lives now. The balance of his land he secured by preemption and by purchase.

In Illinois, Mr. Butler married Miss Emmeline Riggs, who was born in Warren county, Illinois, and whose parents, David C. and Elizabeth (Smith) Riggs, were natives of Missouri. The father was one of an old southern family of distinction and the mother's ancestors were prominent colonial people. Mrs. Butler has the following named brothers and sisters, John, Reuben, Mahlon, Douglass, Mrs. Nancy Galbraith, Mrs. Angeline Henderson, Mary, deceased, and Mrs. Kate Wickery. To Mr. and Mrs. Butler two children have been born, D. Clyde, and Stella, who died July 30, 1904. At the, first call for troops to defend the flag, our subject promptly enlisted in an Illinois regiment and served three months. In political matters he is independent. He is a man who has the esteem of all and he and his wife have traveled the pilgrim journey many years together and are faithful and good people.

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