

JOHN C. JOHNSTON, another member of the firm of "Johnstons," an enterprising and prominent citizen of Dufur, Wasco county, was born in Centreville, New Brunswick, March 21, 1854. His parents and their distinguished ancestry are mentioned elsewhere in this work.

While living at home with his parents our subject attended the public schools in his vicinity, where he secured a liberal business education, and in 1876 he went to San Francisco, California, and thence to Sonoma county, same state, remaining there two years, one year of which he was employed in a hotel and one year on a ranch. He then came to The Dalles, Oregon, with his brother, Thomas H., and subsequently was with the firm of French & Gilman, stock-raisers, in Wheeler county. He remained with them nine years, during which period he raised cattle for himself, and quite successfully. He disposed of his stock to the firm in 1887, and the following two years traveled in the vicinity of Portland and the Puget Sound country, engaged in various employments. He came to Dufur in 1890, and purchased an interest in the business being conducted by his brothers, George and T.H. He at present has charge of the hardware department. Our subject is one of the five Johnstons who are mentioned in sketches elsewhere.

Politically Mr. Johnston is the only Democrat in the family. He has frequently been delegate to state and county conventions, and has served one term as mayor of Dufur, one term as councilman, and one as school director. With his brothers he is interested in the Wasco Warehouse & Milling Company, farm lands and stock.

He was united in marriage, May 31, 1888, at Dufur, to Josie I. Laing, of Portland, Oregon, born in Worcester, Massachusetts. Her father, Colonel, John K. Laing, was a native of Woodstock, New Brunswick, in the same county in which our subject was born. During the Civil War Colonel Laing commanded the Fourteenth Maine Volunteer Infantry, having enlisted as a private and risen from the ranks. He was in active service four years, and was frequently promoted for bravery on the field. He lives in Portland, Oregon. Her mother, Frances (Hayward) Laing, was a native of Maine, born near Bangor. She died in Portland, Oregon, in 1887. Mrs. Johnston has two brothers and one sister: Edward, a Southern Pacific railway engineer, of Rosebery, Oregon; Everett, a school boy, at home, in Portland, and Elizabeth, at home with her father in Portland. Mr. and Mrs. Johnston have three children living, Hazel, Lucile and Helen, aged thirteen and five years, and eleven months, respectively. Our subject is a member of the I.O.O.F., of which he is past grand, the Rebeckah Lodge and Nicholson encampment, at Dufur.