An Illustrated History of Central Oregon, Western Historical Publishing Company, Spokane, WA. 1905, page 283

JONATHAN N. PATTERSON, deceased. For many years, the subject of this memoir was identified with the growth and the upbuilding of Wasco county. He was one of the best known pioneers throughout the west and was engaged in arduous duties that required much fortitude and genuine grit, for many years. He was born on July 11, 1835, the son of Jonathan and Teena (Foster) Patterson, natives of Kentucky and North Carolina, respectively. Both families came from Tennessee to Illinois thence to California. The father died en route in Bear Valley, Nevada, while the mother with nine children came on through to California where she was married six years later to Mr. Robinson. Our subject was thirteen years old when they crossed the plains with ox teams, it being then 1848, and he mined and drove stage in California, making two good fortunes. After that, he engaged in the livery business. Burning out in that, he turned his attention to mining in Nevada, Idaho and Montana. He made frequent trips to Oregon with stock and in 1867, he drove stage from The Dalles to Boise City. In 1875, he drove stage from The Dalles to Canyon City. About this time, he filed on a homestead in Rail Hollow and after five years sold it and took railroad land near by. Abandoning this, he came to his present place which Mrs. Patterson bought. He was then broken in health and suffered much. Mr. Patterson had served in the Rogue river and other Indian wars of the fifties and participated in the Kern creek Indian struggle at which place he received a hernia as the result of heavy lifting. From this, after a short illness, his death occurred on March 18, 1901.

In February, 1874, Mr. Patterson married Miss Jane Hurst, who was born in Linn county, Oregon, on March 17, 1857. Her father, James Hurst, was a native of Kentucky and his ancestors were born in Virginia and England, and were early pioneers to Tennessee, Kentucky and Missouri. He married Melinda Davis, a native of Illinois, whose father was born in Germany. They crossed the plains with ox teams and in 1851, settled in Linn county on a donation claim and now live on Ten-mile creek near the free bridge in Wasco county. Mr. Patterson had three brothers, George, Daniel and William, and one sister, Mrs. Carrie Zekehouse. Mrs. Patterson has the following named brothers and sisters, Benjamin, Marion, James, William, Uriah, Mrs. Susie Gray, Mrs. Emily Love, Mrs. Melissa Evans, Mrs. Sina Brown, Mrs. Nancy Brown, Minerva and Mrs. Millie Boles.

Mrs. Patterson has managed her estate with becoming wisdom and is a lady whose labors are worthy and whose life has been such as to win the confidence and esteem of all who know her. She has had much to endure and to try her during her life, owing to the illness of her husband, but she has borne all patiently, manifesting a wisdom that has enabled them to pass successfully along and it has won a good competence for her to enjoy in these later years of her life.



