

JOHN S. PHIPPS resides on Center Ridge eight miles southeast from Boyd, where he owns a half section of land, two-thirds of which are cropped. He was born in Missouri, on August 18, 1851, the son of William and Sarah (Boone) Phipps, natives of Indiana and Missouri, respectively. The father's parents were also born in Indiana and died when he was a small child. They were of Scotch-English extraction. The mother's parents were born in Missouri. Her grandfather was a brother of Daniel Boone. Our subject's parents now live in Yakima county, Washington. The father is aged nearly eighty and the mother is past seventy. They crossed the plains to Oregon in 1853 settling on a donation claim in Washington county, where they remained sixteen years, then journeyed to Yamhill county and eight years later went thence to Polk county. John S. was educated in the various places where the family lived during his youth and when twenty-two started out in life for himself. He first rented land and about 1879, went to Klickitat county, Washington and spent four years near Bickleton, then we find him teaming in Portland for ten months after which he was in Polk county for two years. Then he came to the east side of the mountains and filed on the claim where he now lives and also purchased railroad land. Since then, he has given his time and attention to the improvement and cultivation of this place and he has a good farm which pays good annual dividends.

On January 1, 1877 in Polk county, Mr. Phipps married Miss Arminda Davidson, the daughter of Andrew and Rachel (Goodrich) Davidson. Her marriage occurred near Ballston, Oregon. She was born in Polk county on November 24, 1858. The father and his parents were born in Tennessee from an old colonial family of Scotch-Irish ancestry. He died in 1884. The mother was born in Indiana and died in August, 1901. Both were on the old Polk county donation claim at the time of their death. They crossed the plains with ox teams in 1846 and settled on the donation claim where they remained the balance of their lives. The trip was fraught with great hardship and suffering. At the point where the Applegate cut off branched from the old road, one-half of the train took that and the balance came on the usual route. Mrs. Phipp's grandfather came to Oregon in 1844 and when word was brought him that his son-in-law and family would come by the Applegate cut off, he immediately with all speed fitted out a supply train to meet them as he well knew what they would have to encounter. Hurrying to the rescue, he arrived just in time as they were nearly starved to death and sick besides. Their cattle were dead and he was obliged to leave the wagons and all their luggage. He finally transferred them to the valley and they arrived in Dayton in a condition well expressed by the homely phrase "more dead than alive." To add to the trouble, the mother had broken her arm and her husband was down with mountain fever and two small children were to be cared for. However, they were nursed back to health in the Willamette valley and there lived for many years. Mr. Phipps has one brother, Ellis, and five sisters, Mrs. Eliza Goldie, Mrs. Annie McLean, Mrs. Wilmina Hayden, Mrs. Mary Godaberg, deceased and Cassandra, who died when fifteen years of age.

Mr. Phipps is a good active Democrat and has been school director for twelve years. To our subject and his wife, the following children have been born, Lillian, Inez, Blanche, Wanda, and Clarence.