An Illustrated History of Central Oregon, Western Historical Publishing Company, Spokane, WA. 1905, page 245-246

JAMES W. DICKSON is an example of one who has seen sorrow and much of the hard side of life in his younger years, but who, in spite of all adversity and trying times, has fought his own way to a successful position in the community today and has won from the shy maid of fortune a goodly competence which is a justly bestowed reward for his industry and faithfulness. He resides about a mile south from Endersly postoffice where he owns two hundred acres of choice land, which produces an abundance of general crops each year. He uses half for pasture and hail for crops. In addition to handling his farm, Mr. Dickson does considerable freighting and teaming and is well known all through the country. Wherever he is known he has friends as his walk has been such as to win the esteem of good people.

James W. Dickson was born in England, on December 16, 1856. When three months of age, his parents embarked for the United States and while on the voyage, the father was lost over-board, and our subject does not even know his Christian name. The mother died soon after landing in Illinois, while James was still an infant. Then he was taken by a brother of his mother, who lived in the province of Quebec, Canada, and with this man he remained until thirteen. During those years of service, he had things rather severe, and his education was sadly neglected by the man who should have looked after it. However, young Dickson was made of the stuff that would not down and at the age mentioned stepped forth from this position to start in life for himself. He then applied himself at all opportunities and learned readily and stored his mind with a good fund of knowledge for life's battle. He went from Canada to New York upon leaving his uncle and from that day to this, he has always supported himself. He worked in the lumber woods and on the farms and in May, 1878, landed in Oregon City. He was in various places in the Willamette valley for three years and then came to Wasco county. After this he spent a year in sawmilling on Puget sound and late in the eighties he took his present place as a homestead. He added a railroad forty by purchase and since then has bestowed his labors here with the happy result that he has a choice place. On January 2, 1888, Mr. Dickson married Miss Mary Fligg, the wedding occurring at the home of the bride's sister. Her father is George Fligg and he is mentioned elsewhere in this volume with the other members of his family. Mr. Dickson had one brother, William, who was killed in the battle of Fredericksburg, in the Rebellion. Four children have been born to our subject's household, Wilbur, Ernest, Ruth and Delbert. Mrs. Dickson is a member of the Christian church. Mr. Dickson is a Republican, chairman of the school board and a member of the A.F.&A.M.

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