

CLINTON L. GILBERT is one of the most enterprising and successful educators in the state of Oregon. Should he do no more in this important field, he has already accomplished sufficient to place his name indelibly on the records in the state of Oregon as one of the leading men of his day. At present he is proprietor of the Mount Hood hotel at Hood River, which is under the management of his son and doing a good business.

Clinton L. Gilbert was born in Mount Blanchard, Ohio, on January 26, 1859, the son of James H. and Phoebe A. (Wingate) Gilbert, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio, respectively. The father was a contractor and enlisted in 1862, in Company B, Ninety-ninth Ohio Volunteers, as second lieutenant. He served for ten months and then was killed at the battle of Murfreesboro. His father came from England and is a well known builder and contractor. Our subject studied in the common schools of Mount Blanchard and when less than sixteen years of age began teaching, having secured a county certificate. Later, he spent three years at a normal school at Lebanon, Ohio, then studied medicine at the Miami Medical College. After this, he taught again in Ohio and Kansas until 1887 then went to Los Angeles and took a position in the faculty of the Los Angeles Business College, the training school. Later, he was principal of the same and in 1889 came to Oregon and immediately took up teaching. He was for two years the principal in the public schools in Hood River and in 1894, was appointed deputy county assessor and assistant county school examiner and in this latter position, he served for five years. In 1895, he was deputy county clerk and in 1896, was elected school superintendent of Wasco county, holding the same for eight years, being reelected twice. He has been instrumental in establishing libraries in every district school in Wasco county. Mr. Gilbert was appointed secretary of the Oregon State Teacher's Association and in this capacity formulated a plan of holding uniform examinations for the eighth grade throughout the state. The practicability and benefit of the same was immediately seen and the plan was adopted and under the efficient direction of state school superintendent, Ackerman, it was carried out successfully throughout the entire state. The benefit derived from this will be readily seen when it is understood that pupils having completed the eighth grade receive diplomas which will entitle them to higher instructions in any part of the state, this being a great stimulus for the youth to complete the grades. It is working admirably throughout the state. At the present time, Wasco county is leading the entire state, as shown in the school exhibit at the world's fair at St. Louis.

In 1900, Mr. Gilbert bought the hotel which his son now operates.

On December 14, 1878, Mr. Gilbert married Miss May A. Wells, who was born December 10, 1861 in Henry county, Ohio, where her wedding occurred. Her parents, James and Clara (Scribner) Wells, were natives of Ohio. The father was killed in the Civil War when this daughter was two years old. The mother is a member of the well known Scribner family. Mr. Gilbert has three brothers, Melville S., J.M., and Zealand T. The latter died in 1895. Mrs. Gilbert has two brothers, Clarence E. and Frank W. Our subject and his wife have two children, Maude F., the wife of Fred H. Shoemaker, manager of the Washington Life Insurance Company at Pendleton, Oregon, and Clarence F.

Mr. Gilbert is a member of the A.F. & A.M., the K.P. and the A.O.U.W. He is a staunch Republican and influential in the conventions, besides being a very active laborer for educational affairs.