

DAVID R. COOPER, who resides at Mount Hood, is one of the largest land owners in that section and has the distinction of being a pioneer farmer and settler in this portion of the valley. He was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, on December 9, 1845, the son of George and Eliza (Kid) cooper, both natives of Scotland, where they remained until their death. The father came from an old Highland family that had dwelt in Aberdeenshire for over three hundred years. After receiving a good education in his own country and remaining there until 1872, our subject came to the United States, landing in Oakland, Oregon, where he joined his brother, James T., who had crossed the plains with burros and jacks in 1849. He took his citizen papers out at Roseburg, in 1873, then bought a farm near his brother and remained on it for ten years. In 1882, he came over the mountains from The Dalles to the place where the settlement of Mount Hood is now located. There were then no roads and no settlers except two bachelors, Sam Baldwin and Harry Teimen, the latter now deceased. Mr. Cooper selected a quarter section and filed on the same. A few months thereafter, he made the acquaintance of Captain H.C. Coe, and made arrangements to build a road from this settlement to Mount Hood. They completed it and then sold to William Ladd, of Portland. They soon brought settlers here in great numbers and tourists constantly and Mr. Cooper is justly entitled to the credit of opening up and building up of this country. A few months later, Mr. Cooper's wife and six children joined him and they were the first family to settle in this wilderness. He now has a large orchard in the upper settlement, having over three thousand bearing trees. He also has a large pear orchard. He still owns a rich quarter, which he homesteaded, except for a half acre, which was donated for school purposes. He was a leading spirit in the organization of district number six, and started the school and since has been director almost constantly. In political matters, Mr. Cooper is independent, reserving for his own decision all the questions of the day without being trammelled by party lines. He has been a delegate to the various conventions and is an influential man.

At Glasgow, Scotland, on September 13, 1870, Mr. Cooper married Miss Marion Porteous, who was born in Hollytown, Scotland. Her father, John Porteous, was a native of the same place as also were his ancestors for many generations back. He died there in 1901 and his widow still lives there. Mr. Cooper has the following named brothers and sisters, James T., John, Robert, Ann Perkins and Isabella, in Scotland. Mrs. Cooper's brothers and sisters are John, James, Alexander, Daniel, Mary, Christina, Jessie and Margaret, all in Scotland. To our subject and his wife, ten children have been born; James T., in Scotland, and now a sheep man at The Dalles; Warren, John, George and David, at home; Wyoming, the wife of James A. Cook, a farmer at Hood River; Christina, married to Elmer Gribble, a farmer at Mount Hood; Lizzie, May and Hattie, at home. For six years after the road was opened, Mr. Cooper followed the business of guiding parties to Mount Hood and also operated a tent hotel for tourists. He has labored faithfully during the years of his residence here and has secured a fine competence as the result of his industry. He is a leading man in the community and deserves the esteem and confidence of the people which are generously given.

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