

LESLIE BUTLER, senior member of the firm of Butler & Company's bank, is one of the leading business men in northern Oregon. He has a wide and varied experience in many lines of enterprise and has accumulated a fund of wisdom and experience, which, added to his native talent, makes him strong, capable and upright in the financial field. The bank is established at Hood River and does a large business.

Leslie Butler was born in Randolph county, Indiana, on November 10, 1847, the son of Robert H. and Ann M. (Thompson) Butler, natives of Campbell county, Virginia and Center county, Pennsylvania, respectively. The family is an old and prominent one and the grandfather of our subject, Jonathan Butler, was a patriot in the Revolutionary War. Robert H. Butler died in Kansas in 1869. His widow died at The Dalles in 1898. She was of Pennsylvania Dutch stock. When Leslie was seventeen years of age, the family moved to Kansas, where the father died soon after. Our subject being the only son, responsibilities of the family devolved upon him and he attended to matters until twenty-two when he went to work in a grocery store in Ottawa. He had been well educated in the schools where he had lived until his father's death and for eight years he continued in the store, gaining a large fund of experience and thoroughly mastering the details of the business. The last year in this service was spent on the road as commercial salesman. After that, he was three years in railroad work and in 1881, came to The Dalles and opened a grocery store. For twelve years he continued in that, and at the time of the big fire was very fortunate in that his property was not destroyed. He sold out at that time and opened a large grocery and wholesale establishment which he conducted for five years, then he closed out and became credit man, with Wadhams and Keer Brothers, one year at Portland. Then in company with his son, he opened a banking business at Hood River in April, 1900, and since that time they have done a fine business.

On November 10, 1867, at Peoria, Kansas, Mr. Butler married Miss Carrie Bixler, a native of Illinois. Her father, Noah Bixler, was a native of Peoria and from Dutch stock. He was a pioneer to Ohio, Indiana and Illinois and married Nancy Brown. They both died at Ottawa, Kansas. Mr. Butler had three sisters, Mrs. Lydia Raglan, Sarah and Martha. The last two are deceased. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Butler; Cora, wife of Hon. George Dysart, an attorney at Centralia, Washington; Truman, with his father in the bank; Nellie, wife of Dr. E.L. Kniskern, at Centralia, Washington; Carrie, wife of C.H. Vaughn, bookkeeper of the bank; Pearl and Jessie, deceased.

Politically, Mr. Butler is a staunch Prohibitionist. He is not a member of any church denomination but a liberal supporter of them all and a bright minded and public spirited citizen. Mr. Butler is a man that impresses one as being possessed of much wisdom and business ability, while his geniality and kindness are evident to every one. The result is that he is looked up to and advised with by all and his example and wise principles have done much to build up and assist him in this section.