

WILLIAM S. CRAPPER, whose father founded Crapper district, is one of the industrious farmers of the Hood River valley and lives about six miles south from town. He was born in Clayton county, Iowa, on January 24, 1865, the son of Dorsey S. and Elizabeth (Cottrell) Crapper. The father was born in Kentucky, and his father was a native of Scotland and a ship owner. Our subject's great-grandfather was a patriot in the Revolution and served four years in the field and three chained to the deck of a prison ship. He was a companion to Daniel Boone and with that worthy man fought the Indians. He died in Indiana aged one hundred and seven. Our subject's grandfather was drowned at sea, and many of the family were killed by Indians in Kentucky. Our subject's mother was born in Michigan and her people are prominent railroad men. Her mother was of Irish extraction. Her father was a prominent railroad builder. She died at the home of this son, October 31, 1897, and her husband died in Portland, on March 11, 1903. Our subject was with his father in Webster City, Iowa, where the latter operated a drug store. He was a pioneer of the town, and a prominent man there. His education was secured from the public schools and he tried to enlist in the Civil war but was rejected on account of poor teeth. In 1877, the family came west overland and after five years of residence in Portland came to Hood River, landing here in March, 1884. They took land and our subject now owns eighty acres of his father's original homestead. He devotes his land to general crops and is a substantial resident and leading citizen.

On September 4, 1890, in the house where he now lives, Mr. Crapper married Miss Rosa M. York, and Mr. Crapper's sister, Mrs. McCurdy was married at the same time. The parents of Mrs. Crapper, Frank and Johana (Writer) York, are natives of Switzerland and Germany, respectively, and now live in Bellingham Bay, Washington. Mrs. Crapper was born in Iowa and has two brothers, Henry A. and Frank N., and one sister, Flora Hennis. Mr. Crapper has two sisters, Belle McCurdy and Nettie Hackett. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Crapper, Nettie B., Viola, and Mildred, aged twelve, nine, and four, respectively.

By way of reminiscence we note that in the winter of 1856-7 our subject's father started with his family and equipage from Spirit Lake, Iowa, to Hamilton county, but were caught in a blizzard and lost all stock except one horse. Finally they got in only to find the people mourning their death, and one man stoutly maintaining he had buried them. The next spring they went back to pick up their stuff and found nearly all the old neighbors murdered by the Indians. Mr. Crapper is a pioneer and comes from a race of stanch pioneers and they have all done much to open up various sections from the colonial days to the present.