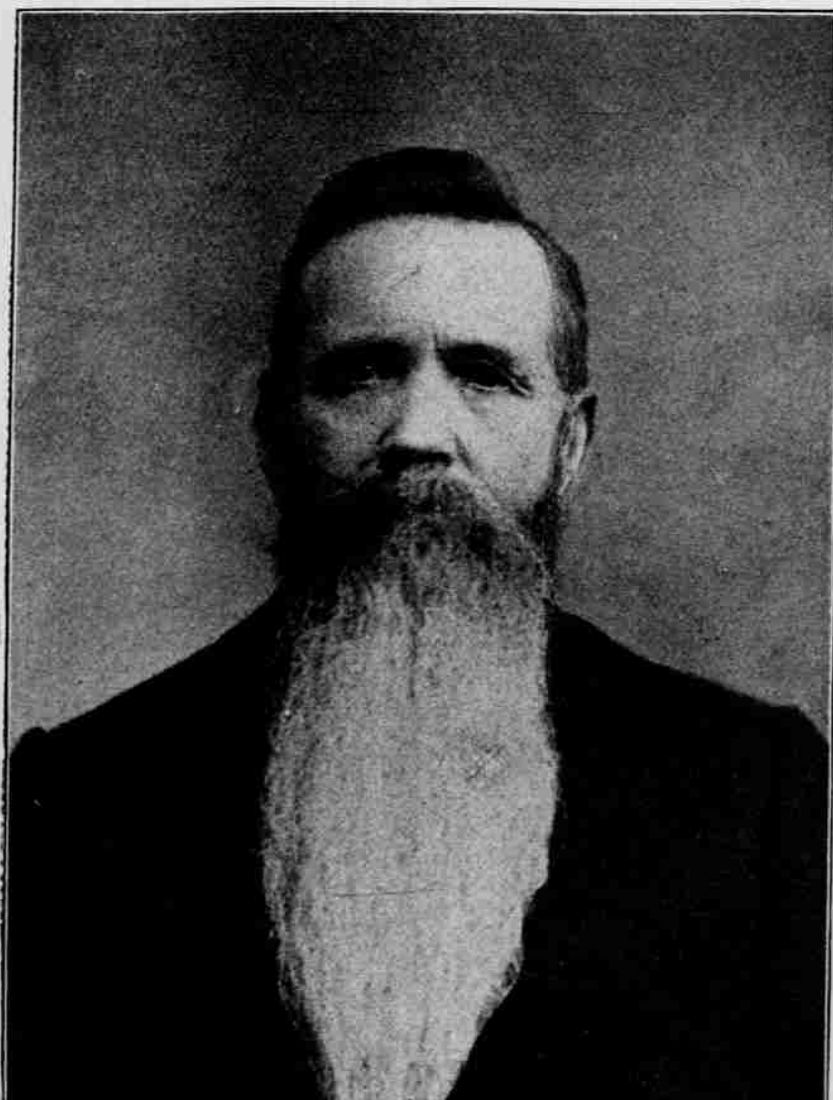


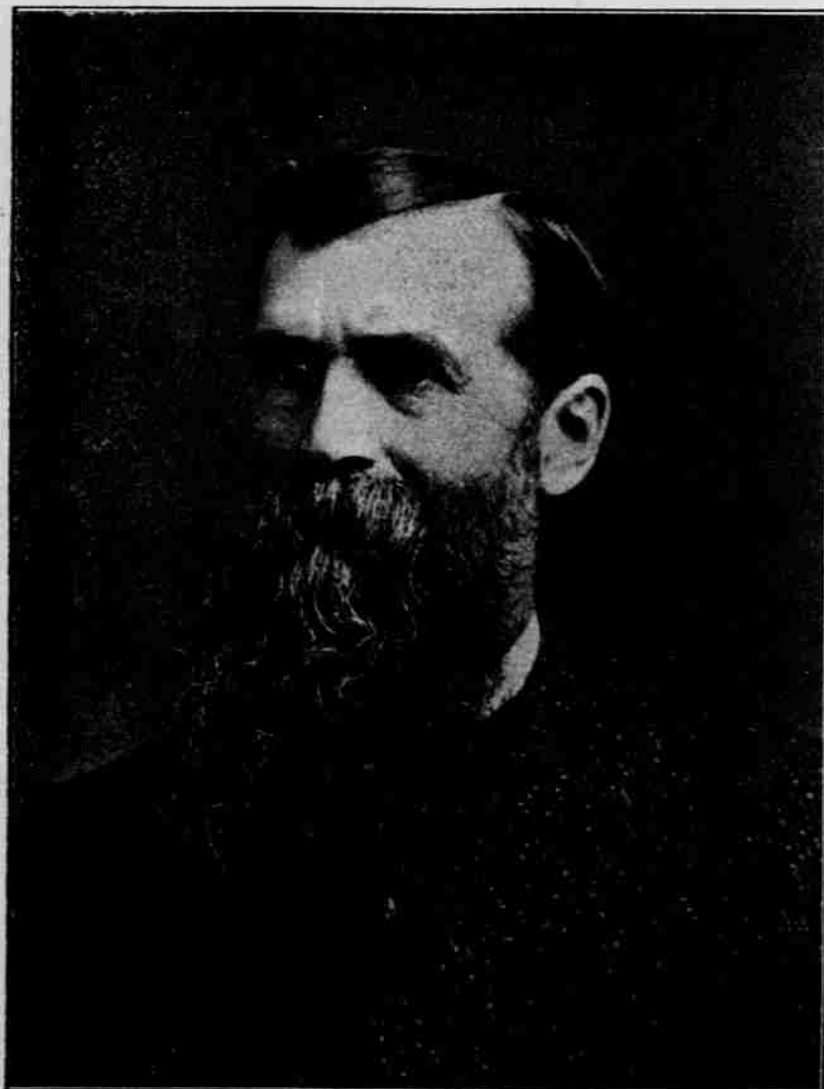
SMITH FRENCH.

The sterling citizen whose every thought is for the good of the community in which he has reared his home and cemented his associations, must always command the respect and esteem of his fellow citizens. Of such metal and commanding such respect, is he whose name is inscribed above. Mr. Smith French was born in Vermont in 1837, and is virtually a self-educated man, as he lost his parents early in life. He arrived in The Dalles in 1877, and went into merchandising with E. B. McFarland, under the name of McFarland & French, and his business qualifications were such that he was enabled to sell out in 1892 with a competency. He is still, however, largely interested in



WM. H. BIGGS.

other enterprises, being secretary of the Gilman-French Land and Live Stock Company, whose interests are in Gilliam and Grant counties, and being heavily stocked with cattle, is today one of the largest ranches west of the Rockies. He is also a director in the Wasco Warehouse Co. and The Dalles Electric Light, Telephone and Power Co., acting as secretary of the latter. In 1861 he married Miss Esther B. Magee, of Canada, and they have three children. His home, an illustration of which is presented elsewhere, is considered one of the most attractive in the city.



D. M. FRENCH.

Wasco county's favorite son is probably Robert Mays, County Judge, and member of the firm of Pease & Mays. We all "pick at him," more or less, but we like him in spite of it. When anything goes wrong in the county, there is always a man the people complain to, in the hope that he will "do something." Mr. Mays is that man in Wasco county, and while he is unable to fix it when there is a lack of rain, or high water in the river, he does all he can, and does it cheerfully.

Although Mr. Mays is one of the most prosperous men in The Dalles, and is getting along in years, he is universally known as "Bob. Mays." We believe this fact is to his credit; if he was generally known as "Mays," or "Mr. Mays," it would be fair evidence that the people didn't like him.

Mr. Mays was born in 1830, in Tennessee, moving with his father's family at an early age to Illinois, and received his education there, marrying Miss Lowdema Fowler at the age of 22. With his wife and child he crossed the plains in an ox team, the journey consuming six months. Arriving here with limited means, he began stock raising, and met with gratifying success, and is still to-day largely interested in farming and stock raising.

In 1891 he embarked in mercantile life, in connection with Edward C. Pease, succeeding McFarland & French. Politically he has been a Republican since the war, and is a consistent upholder of the principles of that party. He was elected a member of the legislature in 1874, Mayor of the city in 1860, 1891 and 1892, and County Judge in 1895.

He has raised six sons and two daughters, and is more proud of the fact that they are all good citizens than of anything else.

Wm. H. Biggs, Receiver of the United States Land Office in The Dalles, was born in Belmont county, Ohio, May 12, 1831. His father was a ship carpenter, and moved to Lewis county, Missouri, when William was nine years old. On coming to manhood his occupation was that made so famous by Mark Twain, of piloting on the Mississippi river. At the beginning of the war, and during the early portion of it, he was sheriff of his county, a position that at that time and place required a determined man to fill, afterwards his services were tendered to the naval department for Mississippi river work.

Coming to the coast in 1874, he farmed and was in the grocery business in California for six years. He then came to Oregon, and settled in Wasco county in that portion now known as Sherman county, being among the first to raise wheat and build wire fencing in that section. He owns several hundred acres adjoining the town of Wasco, sixty of which are a portion of the town, and in fact carried a chain when the townsite was first surveyed in 1883. Since the war he has been a consistent democrat, and is influential in his party in the State. He was a member of the legislature in 1887 and 1888, and was nominated for the State Senate in 1889, but living in a district overwhelmingly Republican was defeated. In 1890 he was appointed Railroad Commissioner by Governor Penney.

In 1894 he was appointed Receiver of the Land Office by President Cleveland, which position he now holds, and having demonstrated through long years a capacity to manage his own business successfully he naturally has transacted the public business with safety and honor.

D. M. FRENCH.

In this, our republican form of government, men who earn a national reputation, as a general thing indulge in a greater or less degree in the politics of our country. There are some men, however, who possess remarkable business sagacity, and as such acquire an enviable reputation that is far more lasting and of greater consequence. Such a man is the subject of this sketch. Born in Orleans county, Vermont, June 16, 1828, his education was that of the tall dip and district school. He arrived in San Francisco in February, 1853, being one of 1400 souls blown ashore near San Diego on the steamer Golden Gate. He then for a period of about ten years was actively engaged in merchandising, etc., in the southern mines in Calaveras county. In 1862 he came to The Dalles, and was engaged in merchandising until 1874. He then became the senior member of the firm of French & Co., bankers, and although they began in a small way, yet by judicious and conservative management they have reached a position today accorded to but few of our banking institutions by the commercial world. Mr. French is also president of the Arlington National Bank, the Gilman-French Land and Live Stock Company, the Dalles Electric Light, Telephone and Power Company, and is also interested in a number of other enterprises. As a financier he has been very successful and when properly approached has given liberally towards any enterprise leading to the advancement of The Dalles. In 1864 he married Miss Gee, of San Francisco, and some years after her death married Miss Carter, and has four children living.

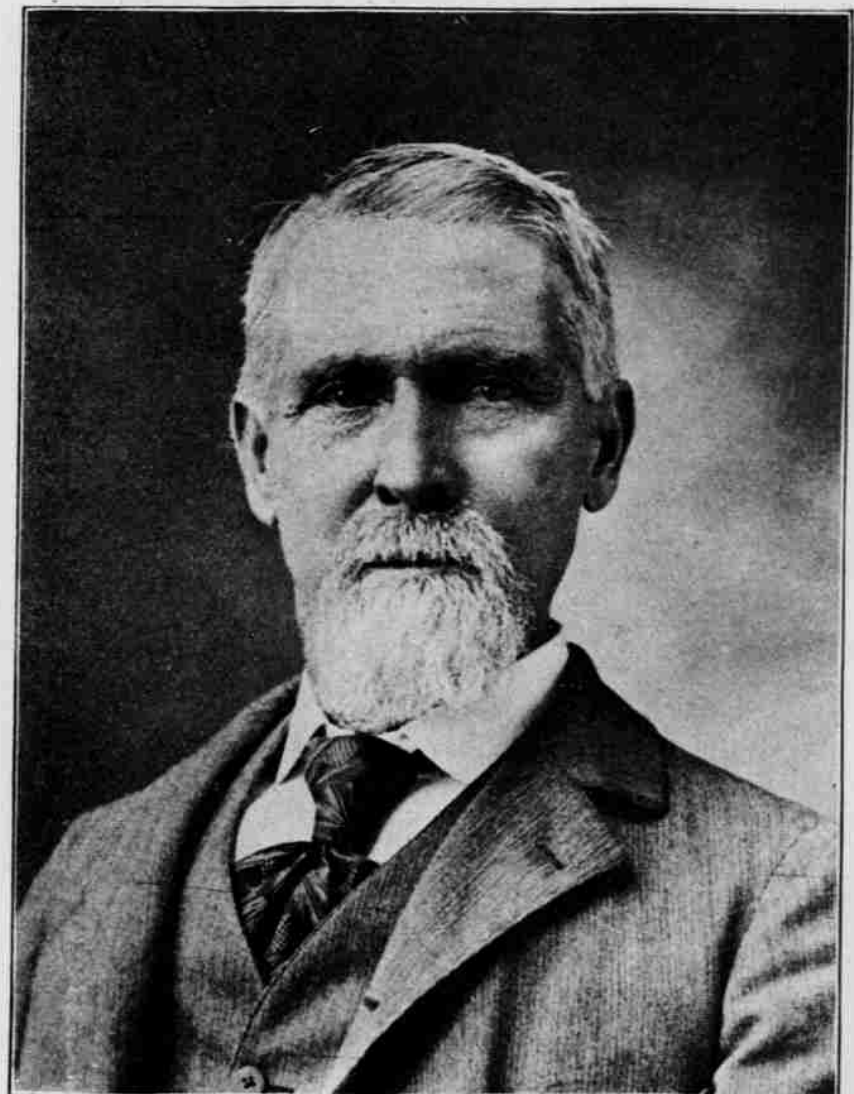
JAMES F. MOORE,

Register of the United States Land Office at The Dalles, was born in Bloomington, Monroe county, Indiana, in 1848, and accompanied his parents at the age of four to the southern part of Iowa, in Jefferson county, where he received his preliminary education in the public schools. He also attended Fairfield University, in the same state. After his arrival in Oregon he renewed his studies at the Willamette University during the winters of '71 and '72. He had located in Lake county in the spring of 1872, and spent his time teaching school. Going to California in the summer of 1875, he spent a year there, and then again returned to Oregon, settling in Coos county, where he remained five years, engaged partially in teaching school and partially reading law in J. M. Siglin's office. He also served as superintendent of schools for one term, but declined reelection. In 1881 he moved to Lakeview, Lake county, and again took to reading law, this time in ex-State Senator Cogswell's office, and was admitted in October, 1884. Moving then to Prineville, Crook county, he remained there until he was appointed Register of the Land Office by President Cleveland, in 1894.

He has always been an earnest Democrat, and has considerable influence in his party in this section. He has made an excellent official, and has hosts of warm friends.

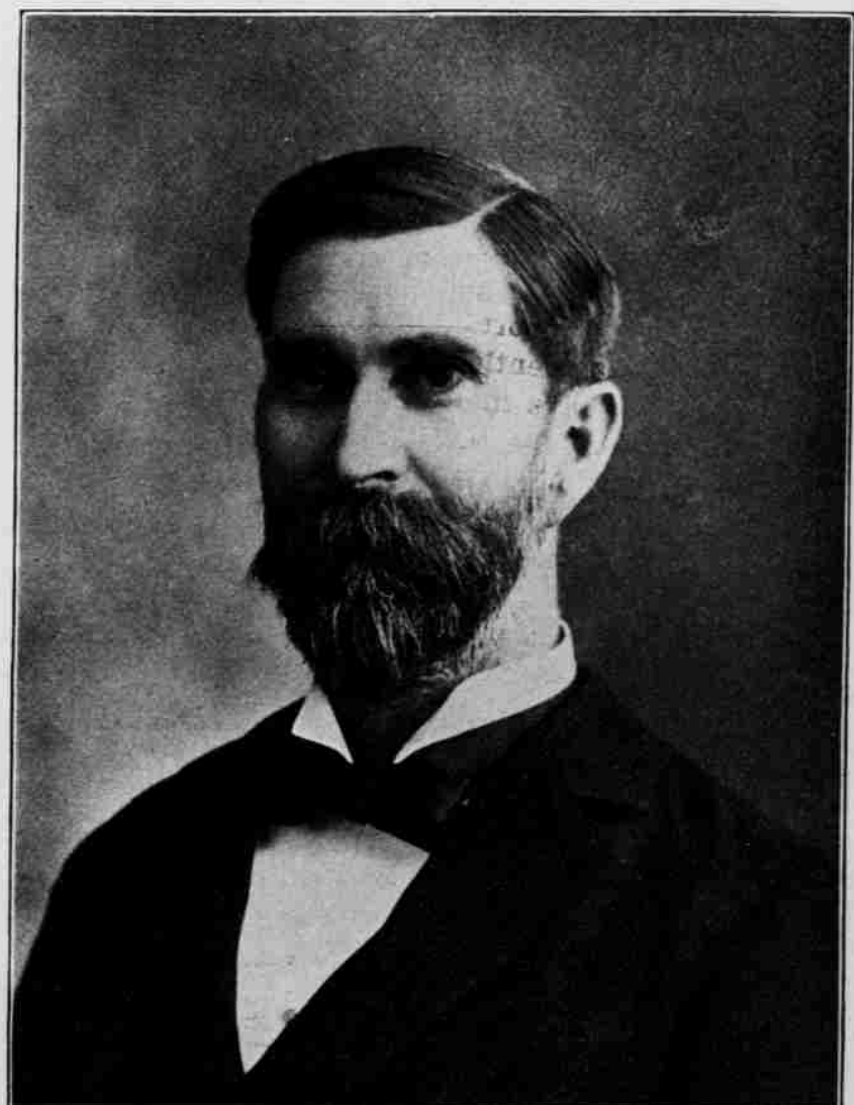
J. W. FRENCH.

Whatever of praise may be due to the man who has, with the advantages of a collegiate education, and abundant leisure for after study, risen to a position of honor and trust among his fellow men, we must accord a greater meed of praise to him who, without these advantages, has by sheer force of ability and integrity, elevated himself into a position in the financial world held by but few men in the Inland Empire. J. W. French started in life without any of these advantages, and is indebted to no man or institution for the mental gifts he possesses. They have all been culled from the practical field of every-day life. He was born in Vermont in 1830. In 1852 he came by the Isthmus route to California, where for twelve years he was engaged in various enterprises. In the spring of 1864 he came to



JUDGE ROBERT MAYS.

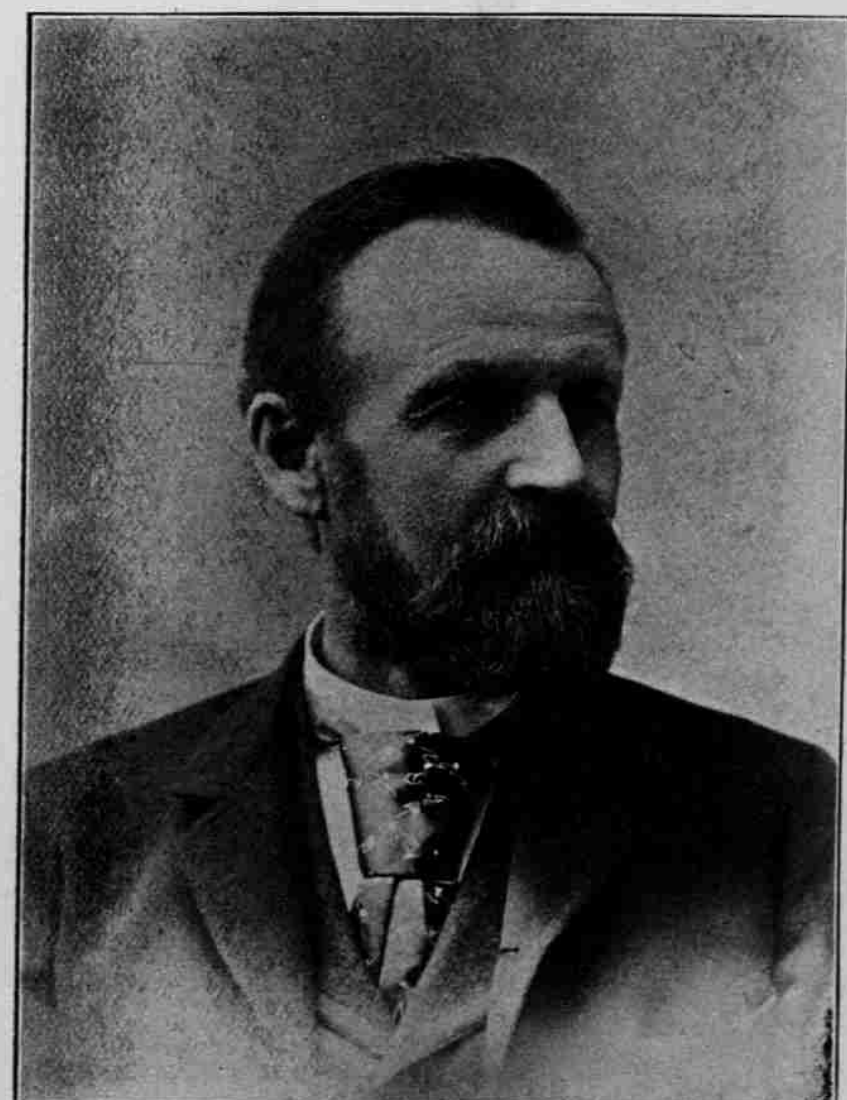
The Dalles, and at once established himself in the mercantile business in connection with D. M. French, J. M. French and G. B. Gilman, under the firm name of French & Gilman. In 1868 the firm became French & Co., and continued so until 1875, when they sold out to Brooks & McFarland. He then, in connection with his brother, D. M., seeing the need of the community for a bank, established that of French & Co., and from that small venture of 1875 the present financial bulwark has grown. He also has large



JAMES F. MOORE.

interests outside, being treasurer of the Gilman-French Land and Live Stock Company, and others too numerous to mention. Mr. French is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Wasco Lodge, No. 15.

He is married to Miss Laura E. Burk, of Maine, and has three children, his daughter being the wife of the late Virgil G. Bolton, who was so well known as cashier of the bank; his oldest son is connected with the General Electric Company in Lynn, Massachusetts, and his youngest is employed in the bank.



J. W. FRENCH.