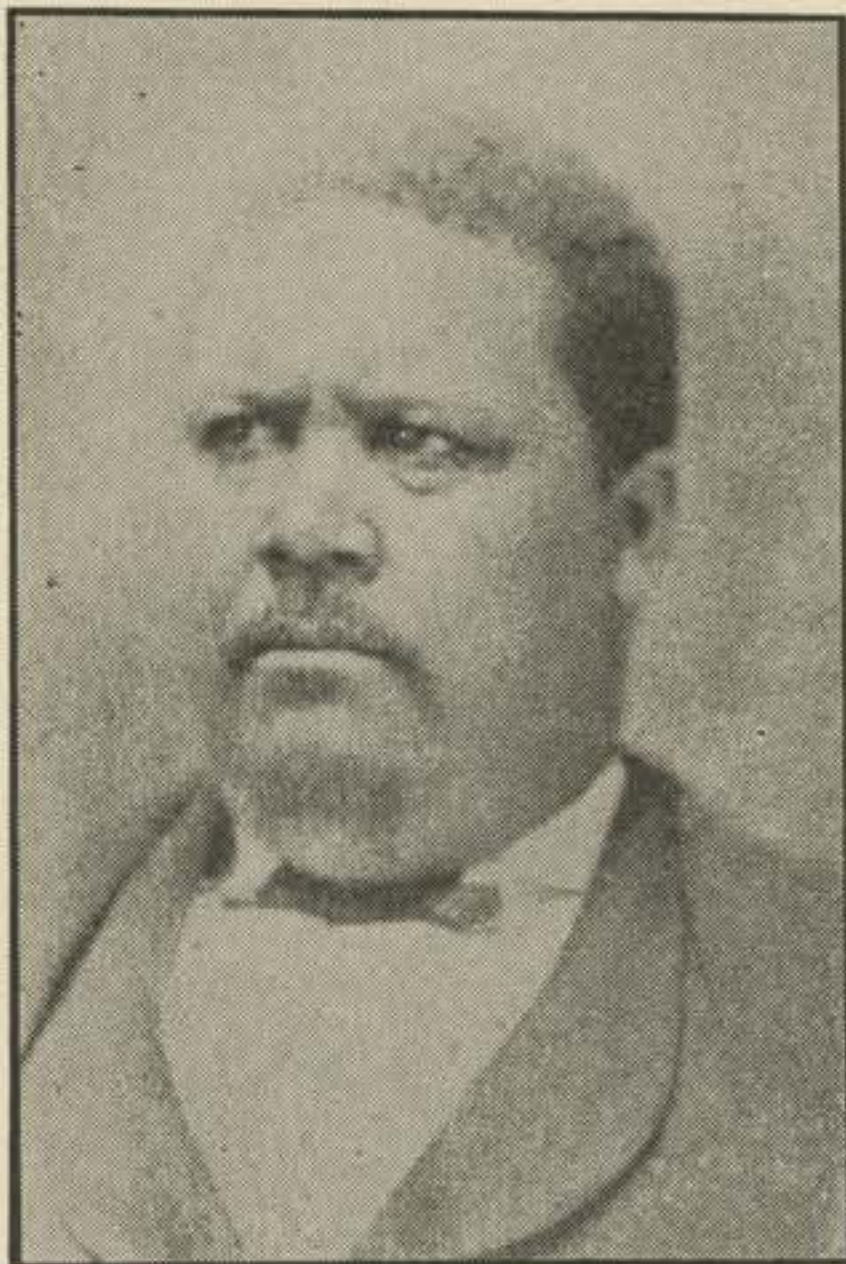


MR. WILLIAM GROSS
(Deceased)
Seattle, Washington



Mr. William Gross was the pioneer colored resident of the State of Washington, one of the most extensive taxpayers in the third ward and the largest man in the state.

Mr. Gross in many respects had a remarkable career.

He was born in Washington, D. C., and at the age of twenty-five years enlisted in the navy, and was a member of the expedition under Commodore Perry when the treaty was made with China, was honorably discharged in the year 1852, and located in San Francisco, California, later coming to British Columbia, finally to the State of Washington and settling in Seattle, where he engaged in the hotel business and owned and operated the second hotel established in the city, known as "Our House." He remained in the business until the conflagration of 1889, at which time the hotel was totally destroyed and after which he lived in retirement with his family on his ranch, the homestead of which now stands on Twenty-fourth Avenue between Olive and Howell Streets.

He was a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and a 33rd degree Mason, a member of the Washington Pioneers Association, and a founder and member of the First A. M. E. Church of this city.

Mr. Gross departed this life in the year 1898, leaving surviving him a widow, Mrs. Sarah Gross, and a son, Mr. George H. Gross.

Mrs. Gross, better known and remembered as "Granny Gross," died March 11th, 1918.