

SEATTLE'S QUARTER CENTURY CLUB

While twenty-five years in the history of a country is like unto a second to a year, yet in the West, which, for the most part, is made up of persons looking for greener pastures, and who will stampede to a distant part almost on a moment's notice, if reports come that digging is good, a quarter of a century is quite a while for a westerner to stay in one place and, as it were, grow up with the country, Seattle herself is not over seventy years old and there still live in the city persons who saw the first tree felled, where now stands magnificent Seattle with all of the conveniences known to science and civilization. History does not record the presence of a colored man, woman or child at that eventful moment, but they were not long in putting in their appearance, and at least two of them have resided here continuously ever since, and they could as consistently belong to a Half Century Club as to a quarter century one.

MRS. SARAH GROSE for more reasons than one therefore heads the list of this Quarter Century Club. First, because she would be just as eligible to a half a century club. She and her husband came to Seattle when it was little less than an Indian trading post and here she has resided ever since. They kept hotel for many years and of course were known from coast to coast and from Mexico to British Columbia. They accumulated a large amount of real estate, which became very valuable, and while they had many financial reverses she, (her husband is dead), still has some property left. Mrs. Grose is seventy-six years of age and fifty odd years of that life have been spent in Seattle. Many years ago she gave up active business and since has lived with her grand children and on the plat of ground her husband took for debt forty years ago. She is in fairly good health and would be quite active if she did not have trouble with her eyes. Her children are all dead.

ROBERT L. DIXON, son-in-law of Mrs. Grose, has resided in Seattle for fifty odd years, more than forty years of that time he operated a barber shop. His health failed him some five years ago and he retired from the business. He is seventy odd years of age and more or less feeble, owing to continued sickness. He has two children in the city, Mrs. Will Black and W. M. Dixon, and he lives with the former. The twenty-five years the writer has known him, he has never heard of him having a cross word or a misunderstanding with any one. While he has never been active in church work, yet he has an unsullied reputation and has always done whatever good he could for his fellow man, and, if there be such a thing as "a home eternal in the heavens" he ought to have no trouble entering therein when he is compelled to shuffle off this mortal coil.

I. I. WALKER, who owns a twenty-acre tract of ground on the east shore of Lake Washington, has been one of the leading spirits among the colored citizens of this city and state for the past twenty-five years, and he has always been true to the cause he represented. He was among those who made the mad rush to Alaska after gold had been discovered there, where he resided for nine years, but tiring of that life, he returned to Seattle and took up the burden where he laid it down. He is now working at the Great Northern dock and is earning on an average of five dollars per day. He has always longed to own an ideal truck farm and he says, "if I keep my health a few years more I am certain I will realize my ideal."

HENRY GREGG has been a conspicuous figure in Seattle for the past thirty years and is well and favorably known to white and black folk in the city. He is at present City Pound Master and has a large force of men under him. Mr. Gregg is one of the best fixed men in the city from a financial standpoint. His wife has been a resident equally long as himself. He enjoys the best of health.

GEORGE H. MANEY and wife have resided in the city for the past thirty years and Mr. Maney has always taken a leading part in the public affairs of the community. He is a Baptist preacher and was successful in not only permanently organizing the Mt. Zion Baptist church of this city, but in purchasing the plat of ground and the erection of a building thereon. He is an employe of King county.

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