

Mrs. Porterwillis copy.

MRS. ROLLIN C. COOPER

(Wife of Cooperstown's Founder)

Emma C. Hutchin was born in West Elkton, Ohio on July 13, 1851 and spent her early youth in that locality.

In the early '60s she with her parents and sister, Grace, journeyed to Colorado, then known as "Pike's Peak", by wagon train, being among the early pioneers of that state and sharing the vicissitudes incident to the uprisings of the Indians during which many settlers were massacred and all of them passed through harrowing experiences.

On September 14, 1870 she was married to Rollin C. Cooper of Pueblo, Colorado and went at once to her new home in that city where ten years were spent. Two sons, born while in this home, passed away in infancy.

In 1880 Mr. and Mrs. Rollin C. Cooper came to Dakota Territory where once again they found themselves on the front line of pioneering and became active in the life establishment of church, school and social life in the community. Mrs. Cooper was called the "Mother of the Congregational Church" at Cooperstown. She was the first president of the W.C.T.U. at Cooperstown which was organized mainly by her efforts. (This organization is still active at Cooperstown.)

Mrs. R.C. Cooper died at Cooperstown, N.D. in October 1929. An adopted daughter passed away in 1911 at the age of 27 years. Miss Grace Hutchin, the sister of Mrs. R.C. Cooper resides at St. Petersburg, Florida.

Bibliography :

Griggs County Sentinel-Courier -Oct. 3, 1929
Cooperstown, N.D.

Judge W.H. Carlston
Cooperstown, N.D.

Grace Hutchin, sister of Mrs. R.C. Cooper
St. Petersburg, Florida.

T. J. COOPER

Thomas Jefferson Cooper was born near Shoreham, Vermont, Sept. 3, 1836 and was a son of Thomas and Caroline (Baker) Cooper. His father was a native of Vermont and was one of the settlers near Miles, Line Tp. Washburn Co. Michigan where he moved with his family when Thomas Cooper was two years old.

T. J. Cooper was the third in a family of ten children. Leaving home when merely a lad, to make his own way, Thomas Cooper went to Red Wing, Minn. where in 1857 he was united in marriage to Mary E. Washburn, a native of Illinois. Two children were born of this union; namely, Charles Leona and Julia Leona (now Mrs. W. A. Merrill).

For a few years, T. J. Cooper was a hardware merchant at Red Wing, Minn. In 1860 the California gold fever was at its height and Mr. Cooper with his family and many others started for Pike's Peak region, as Colo. was known at that time. On this western journey, T. J. Cooper was the spokesman for the overland covered wagon train. Upon reaching a river valley cut on the plains, they planned to descend and for the night in a coulee. However by the intuition of T. J. Cooper who had conversed and watched the movements of an Indian chief, who advised them to descend, they camped on a bluff. This wagon train went safely thru, but the train before and the train following theirs were massacred.

In Colo., T. J. Cooper's mining was both gulch and quartz in the vicinity of Fairplay, Colo. and Alma, Colo. and the tale of his "ups" and "downs" rival those of the Argonauts in '49. He was a partner of Jire Jo Jones of Independence, Mo., who as a miner was known by every prospector from Colo. to the Pacific. He made his great stake at this time and to better his fortunes in '64 and '65 during the great Indian war on the Platte River in partnership with Louis F. Bartels, a merchant in Denver, Colo. followed freighting across the plains from St. Joe., Mo. to what is now Denver, Colo. In 1866 found the adventurous miner back in the gulch mines

THE COOPER GROUP
OF
THE YANKEES IN GRIGGS CO.

Rollin C. Cooper and his brother, Thomas J. Cooper brought (in 1880) railroad land (in Griggs Co.) secured some soldiers' scrip for same, took pre-emption, homesteads and tree claims for themselves and their friends. They controlled two townships of land which was known as the Cooper Bros.' land. Influenced by letters written by the Cooper Bros. about the splendid opportunities offered in Dakota Territory, about seventy friends and acquaintances from St. Clair, Michigan came in 1881 and 1882 and formed the Cooper settlement which later became the town of Cooperstown. Of these settlers, besides the Coopers, were the families of Will H. Carleton, Anton Luger, Herbert K. Smart, Willard Washburn, Dr. T. F. Kerr, Dr. C. Howell, D. B. Brown, Julius Stevens, Edward Stair, Maynard Crane, the Houghton Brothers, Ed. Glass, Fred Williams, Edna Thompson, C. W. Bethie, S. B. Langford, W. C. Barnard. This group brought their Yankee customs as slicing the bread at the table, etc. with them. This eastern (Michigan) group had money, education and refinement. Among them were professional men. The greater share of the business places at Cooperstown were founded by this group. They were the only originally American group in Griggs Co. They were socially bound up in church activities as sociable singing societies and young folks' meetings. Their amusements were taffy pulls, pop-corn parties, sleighride parties. About 40 years ago they had their select dancing clubs, reading clubs, literary societies, etc.

Through the Cooper Bros. they secured work. This group established society; had lovely homes with comforts of life; brought eastern ideas and habits; had progressive and advanced ideas; were

THE COOPER GROUP
OF
THE YANKEES IN GRIGGS CO.

aggressive in a correct way; and were people of good principles. Dr. T. J. Kerr, of the group, was the first Co. Supt. of schools in the County. The Cooper Bros. were instrumental in organizing the Sanborn-Cooperstown and Turtle Mt. R.R. which later was purchased by the N. P. Railroad. It was through Coopers influence that the county seat was changed from Hope to Cooperstown. The founders of Cooperstown were prominently associated with every venture in the history of Griggs Co.

Wherever there was any public enterprise on foot, the question was "what does Cooper say about it?" or "what will Cooper give?" The Griggs County Court House was built in and stands today as a monument, to the foresightedness of Cooper Bros. and the early settlers.

The Cooper group are permanent settlers in Griggs County.

Dr. Kerr was the first Co. Supt. in Griggs; Edward Stair is publisher of The Detroit (Mich.

Will H. Carleton is Judge of Griggs County.

*Free Press, one of world's
outstanding newspapers.*

Bibliography :

W.H. Carleton
Cooperstown, N.D.

John Hogenson, pioneer
Cooperstown, N.D.

Mrs. Myrtle Porterville, M.A.
Cooperstown, N.D.

Claus Jackson, pioneer
Hannaford, N.D.

Rollen C. Cooper

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Rollen C. Cooper was born in Wash~~new~~ county, Michigan, September 30, 1845. In 1858 he moved to Goodhue, Minnesota, where he remained until 1861. In that year he went to Colorado, where he and his brother T. J. Cooper, engaged in mining for twenty years. Mr. Cooper came to Dakota October 5, 1880. He outfitted at Fargo and drove to his present location by way of Sanborn. He bought about 27,000 acres of railroad land, and in the spring of 1881 began breaking. He employed a large number of men and teams in conducting these farming operations. In 1881 he raised a crop of oats, and in 1882 his first wheat crop.

Mr. Cooper was chiefly instrumental in getting the railroad to come to Cooperstown. The road is a branch of the Northern Pacific, but it was built under the name of the Sanborn, Cooperstown & Turtle Mountain railway. About sixty-five friends and acquaintances of Mr. Cooper's from St. Clair county, Michigan, came in 1881 and 1882 and formed the Cooper settlement, which later became the town of Cooperstown. Of these settlers Mr. Cooper remembers that the families of Brown, Washburn, Barnard, Glass, Langford, Williams, Houghton, Bathie, Hunter, Crane, K. Thompson, Smart, Pinkerton, Stevens, Enger, E. Steir, Dr. Newell and Dr. Kerr came in 1881.

Mr. Cooper was active in the movement to make Cooperstown the county seat. As a vote of the people would be taken on this question on November 7, 1882, the townsite was surveyed in October of that year (On June 16, 1882, the county seat was located at Hope by the county commissioners appointed by the governor, Allen Breed, R. C. Cooper and Wm. A. Glines. On November 7, 1882, Cooperstown was made the county seat, and on June 13, 1883, the county was divided). Mr. Cooper says that the following winter representatives of both the Cooperstown and the Hope interests lobbied at the legislature for the division of the county.

Of late years Mr. Cooper has been selling his land and breaking his large estate into the usual farms. He has now only about 5,000 acres remaining unsold. He still is actively engaged in business in Cooperstown, where he is more contented than anywhere else.

Hon. Rollin C. Cooper, who has represented his district in the house of representatives and in the state senate and who has for more than a third of a century been closely and prominently associated with the agricultural development of Griggs county, his home being now at Cooperstown, was born September 30, 1845, in Washtenaw county, Michigan, a son of Thomas and Caroline Cooper, who were natives of Vermont. Their marriage was celebrated in the Green Mountain state and in 1832 they removed westward to Michigan, casting in their lot with the pioneer settlers, after which the father devoted his attention to farming for many years, contributing in substantial measure to the development of his district. There he reared his family of eleven children.

Rollin C. Cooper, the ninth in order of birth, was a lad of thirteen years when he went to Minnesota, in which state he resided for a few years, but removed to Colorado in 1861. There he engaged in mining and also was successful as an agriculturist. In 1880 he arrived in Griggs county, North Dakota, and the following year settled upon the present site of Cooperstown, which he platted and which was named in honor of himself and his brother, T. J. Cooper. On removing to Griggs county Rollin C. Cooper at once began farming and grain buying and as his intelligently directed labors brought to him success he added to his acreage until he became one of the most extensive landowners and grain buyers of the state, having in all fourteen thousand acres, of which nine thousand acres were under cultivation, mostly devoted to the production of wheat.

In Colorado, in 1870, Mr. Cooper was married to Miss Emma C. Hutchins, a native of Ohio and a daughter of Henry and Ella Hutchins. They had two children who died in infancy and they adopted a daughter, Florence, who passed away at the age of twenty-seven years.

Mr. Cooper is an exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity and has taken the degrees of the Lodge of Perfection of the Scottish Rite. During territorial days he was appointed by Governor Ordway a member of the board of county commissioners of Griggs county and so continued to serve by successive reelections until 1898, doing splendid work in that connection. It is well known that he stood by the state most loyally in the darkest hours of its history, assisting the commonwealth in passing over a period which threatened bankruptcy. He never lost faith, however, and he passed by no opportunity that would enable him to further the best interests of North Dakota. He is an extremely modest man, entirely free from ostentation and display, but the specific office of biography is not to give voice to a man's modest estimate of himself and his accomplishments but rather to leave a perpetual record establishing his position by the consensus of public opinion on the part of his fellows. This opinion was expressed in 1894, when Mr. Cooper was chosen to represent his district in the state legislature, and again four years later, when he was elected a member of the state senate. In the house he was a member of the committee on railroads and several other important committees. His colleagues at that period and his acquaintances through all the long years of his residence in the state have nothing but good to say of Rollin C. Cooper.

Mrs. Porter's copy

Rollin C. Cooper

1845

Rollin C. Cooper was born in Lima Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan on a farm where he remained until 13 years of age when he joined his brother, Thomas J. Cooper in Red Wing, Goodhue County, Minnesota where he attended school. His parents, Thomas and Caroline (Baker) Cooper were married in Vermont and in 1838 moved to Washtenaw County, Michigan. In 1861, the two brothers left by mule team to Colorado, then known only as "Pike's Peak"--stopped at Canon City and from there went into the mining sections of Park County, Colorado where they remained two years.

In the autumn of 1863 they bought some oxen and went to Omaha, Nebraska, returning 3 months later with supplies for ^{the} mining section. In 1864 he returned to the valley and with another brother Henry H. Cooper engaged in small farming operations in El Paso County, Colorado until '66 or '68 at which time the brothers went into the hardware and tin business in Pueblo, Colorado. In 1870, R. C. Cooper married Emma C. Hutchin in El Paso County, Colorado where her father was a merchant. A few years later he and his brother, T. J. Cooper returned to the business of mining and freighting at Leadville, Colorado where there was a "Mining Rush". They struck ¹pay gravel in "Little Chief" and other mines and became rich quick. The two brothers transferred their business interests to Chicago. Oct. 5, 1880, R. C. Cooper came to Dakota Territory. He out-fitted at Fargo, North Dakota and drove to Griggs County by way of Banborn. He and his brother bought 27000 acres of railroad land ^{and} in the spring of 1881 began breaking. He employed a large number of men and teams in conducting these farming operations on his ^{sonanza} farm as it was later called. In 1881 he raised a crop of oats and in 1882 his first wheat crop.

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While R. C. Cooper was the manager of the great wheat farming operations, T. J. Cooper took an active interest in the business and though living in Chicago, visited Cooperstown as often as he could.

R. C. Cooper was appointed by Gov. Ordway to serve on the first board of County Commissioners in Griggs County. R. C. Cooper served in 1894 as a Representative and in 1898 as a Senator. Mr. Cooper was chiefly instrumental in getting the railroad (Sanborn, Cooperstown and Turtle Mountain Railroad) which later was purchased by the Northern Pacific R. R.) to Cooperstown and to make Cooperstown the county seat. (The ranch house on the Cooper ranch can be seen from N. D. I between Hannaford and Cooperstown about miles North of Hannaford) R. C. Cooper platted Cooperstown and became a "bonanza" farmer.

The two brothers, Rollin C. Cooper and Thomas J. Cooper were the founders of Cooperstown and were prominently associated with every venture in the early history of Griggs County.

After some years, T. J. Cooper withdrew from the business and went into the Alaskan gold fields while Rollin C. Cooper continued in the farming business of Griggs County until 1913 when he sold practically all his holdings and retired from active business. Since that time he has maintained a winter home in St. Petersburg, Florida and during the past four years has spent all his time in Florida. (He is 91 years old now.)

To the forceful character and dynamic personality of R. C. Cooper. Griggs County and Cooperstown are indebted to their prosperity.

When his magnificent outfit camped in Griggs County, there was not a settler on its prairie and but four men living in the timber upon the river. No settler ever left the Cooper ranch empty-handed.

R.C. COOPER

The Cooper families in 1890-1891 became active in the establishment of church, school and social life in the community. An active W.C.T.U. organization was organized in March 1893, mainly by the efforts of Mrs. R.C. Cooper. (This organization is still active at Cooperstown.

Mrs. R.C. Cooper died at Cooperstown in October 1929. An adopted daughter passed away in 1911 at the age of 27 years.

As far as possible Mr. Cooper hired other settlers, who were struggling to get along, on his ranch. Many of the settlers still say after fifty years, with pride, "I worked on the Cooper ranch."

The city of Cooperstown is located on part of the holdings of the Cooper Bros.

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Charles Cooper, nephew of R.C. Cooper
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John Hoganson, pioneer of Horness Tp.
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T. J. COOPER

From Compendium of N.D.

T. J. Cooper, now retired from active labors, is the possessor of extensive farm lands in the vicinity of Cooperstown, and makes his home in that city amid pleasant surroundings that are the result of a well-spent career. He was one of the pioneers of that region, and was associated with his brother many years in business enterprises, but for the past ten or twelve years has conducted his business alone, and is enjoying his declining years in retirement, although he personally oversees his land interests.

Our subject was born in Vermont, September 3, 1830, and was a son of Thomas and Caroline (Baker) Cooper. His father was a native of Vermont, and was a farmer by occupation, and was one of the pioneer settlers of Michigan, where he removed with his family when our subject was but two years of age. They resided there for a number of years, and then located in Minnesota.

T. J. Cooper was the third in a family of eleven children, and was reared in Michigan, and later engaged in farming in Minnesota. He went from there to Colorado and followed mining a number of years in company with his brother, R.C. Cooper, and they continued in business together till 1889, when the partnership was dissolved. Our subject owns two thousand acres of land in the vicinity of Cooperstown, on which he has valuable improvements.

Our subject was married in Red Wing, Minnesota, in 1858, to Miss Mary Washburn, a native of Illinois. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Cooper, as follows: Charles L., now a mining engineer of Victor, Colorado; and Julia L., now Mrs. Merriell, of Fruita, Colorado. Her husband is engaged in fruit growing and lumbering. Mr. Cooper is a member of the Masonic fraternity. He is a Republican in political sentiment, and is a man who keeps pace with the times, but does not seek public preferment.

During the cold winter Charles became snowblind and was forced to stay in a dark room for many days in order to recover his eye-sight.

When the snow melted in the spring, the snow road was several feet above the prairie. When it came time for field work, Millard Washborn and Chas. Cooper located in Washborn Township 146-58 where they owned and worked about four sections. The first year they lived in a tent until a suitable frame house had been erected. Al Wonderlick was their first one who proved most successful in the domestic science. However, later, Dr. and Mrs. Kerr came to live with them. She took on the household responsibilities. Their nearest neighbor was George Barnard and family.

All the wood they used was taken from the Sheyenne river, Section 34.

On July 2, 1883, Millard Washborn married Mary M. Husel. Her sister Laura, who came out for the wedding, married Charles the following year in October 22, 1884. Upon taking Millard Washborn and his bride to catch the train from Sanborn that night, an accident befell the bridal party. The road that ran along the slough near Sanborn had been somewhat elevated and a turn had been made in it. The night was very dark and Charles had just gotten through saying, "If I didn't know this road so well, I'd stop right here." All of a sudden there was a crash! bang! One mule was down, hats, coats, suitcases and boxes were flying everywhere. However, they finally reached Sanborn, but during the night someone had put up a railing to ward off further accidents.

The first winter Charles and his wife lived on the old R. C. Cooper homestead. The following spring they lived on the Washborn Cooper farm until the seeding was done. Then they moved to Cooperstown where Mr. Cooper had charge of the old Cooper Bros. round elevator. Then, there were only two elevators, the Cargill run by George N. Stark and the Cooper elevator. Teams from all directions came for many miles, hauling load after load of wheat to Cooperstown. Sometimes as many as 25 teams would be waiting to be unloaded. All wheat had to be sacked at that time; so it had to be dumped by hand. It kept one busy weighing, figuring dockage, (No percent system then) making out checks and loading cars.

Then T. J. Cooper called his son west to Colorado to install the machinery and hoist in a mine he had bought. Charles had charge of this mine for five years, after which he moved to Victor, Colorado in the Cripple Creek district. Here he was engineer of another hoisting engine for about ten years. During this time he prospected some for himself. He lived in Victor during two strikes, known as the Cripple Creek War. The state militia was called out to guard property. His mine, like many others, was closed. During the first strike, Charles Cooper, being classed as one of the mine owners, was ordered or asked by the leaders of the union miners to leave camp, which he did without protest. There were many of the old Cauerd'Alene miners in the camp who proved to be desperate characters.

Leaving Victor they went to California for a year. From California they returned to North Dakota's prairie lands. Five years Chas. Cooper farmed successfully although he had little knowledge of agriculture.

After these five years of strenuous farm labor, which caused the breakdown of Mr. Cooper, they rented their farm and took up residence in Cooperstown not far from their farm where at the time of this writing they are now living.

Biography of Charles Ladue Cooper
--Beatrice Edmondson

Thomas Jefferson Cooper and Mary Elizabeth Washborn were married at Red Wing, Minnesota. They had two children, Charles Ladue born in June 29, 1858, and Julia Leila born in September 20, 1860. Both were born at Red Wing in Goodhue County, Minnesota.

Mr. T. J. Cooper was a hardware merchant at Red Wing for many years. From Red Wing he took his family west to Denver, Colorado. On this journey, T. J. Cooper was the spokesman for the train. Upon reaching a river valley they planned to descend and camp at the valley bottom for the night. However, by the intuition of Mr. Cooper, who had talked much with the sly Indian chief who advised them to descend, they camped on the plain. Both the train that went before this one, and the one following were massacred. Their train passed through safely. This incident happened when Charles was still a young boy.

From Denver, the Coopers moved to Helena, Montana where they stayed only a short time. At St. Joe, Missouri, Charles received his schooling until he entered high school. Then the family moved to Chicago in 1871 after the great fire which swept over practically the whole city. Here he attended the Bryant and Stratton Business College.

About 1879 there was a mining rush to Leadville, Colorado. Charles, accompanied by his father left for the mining district, leaving his mother and sister in Chicago. At Leadville they were joined by Charles' uncle Rollin Cooper who drove one of the six mule teams used in hauling freight from the end of the railroad to Leadville.

Mr. T. J. Cooper and Charles were suddenly called back to Chicago because of the illness of his mother. Charles stayed with his mother until her death in 1880. In the same year T. J. Cooper and Rollin Cooper sold their interests in Leadville, cleaning up what was then considered a large fortune.

In the fall of 1880, Charles, his father and Rollin Cooper came to North Dakota in search of farm lands. They located in what is now known as Griggs County. They bought railroad land, secured some soldiers script for some, took preemptions, homesteads, and tree claims for themselves and others. So all together they controlled about two townships of land which was at that time known as the Cooper Brothers' land.

In late winter or very early spring, T. J., Rollin and Charles Cooper went to St. Louis for five carloads of mules. Charles and some other men had charge of these mules, and when they reached Tower City they were delayed for two days by a severe blizzard. They had to board up the box cars with canvas and boards to keep the cold and wind off the mules, unaccustomed to the severe cold. T. J. Cooper and his brother, Rollin, had gone ahead of the freight on to Sanborn where they waited for Charles. Everything had to be hauled from Sanborn to the farm in 1880. Things were hauled to the half-way house near Walum.

Millard Washborn (brother of Mrs. T. J. Cooper) and Bill Murdock did the teaming from the half-way-house to the ranch or homestead of Thos. J. Cooper which belongs to his Charles at the present writing.

T.J. COOPER

near Helena, Mont. After a few years he engaged in the hardware business at St. Joe, Mo. and with his profits ventured in the cattle business on the plains of Colo. After accumulating a small fortune he went to Chicago shortly after the great fire had swept practically over the whole city.

In 1878 there was a mining rush to Leadville, Colo. T.J. Cooper was one of the pioneers in the Leadville mining boom. Together with John F. Well and others of Chicago he developed several mines, including Little Chief mine which they later sold. T.J. Cooper's profit in this venture was \$150,000.

In company with J.V. Farwell, R. Oviatt and others of Chicago, T.J. Cooper went to Idaho in 1879 and purchased the Hayflower mine near Hale, Idaho, which was worked for many seasons with good results.

In the spring of 1880, T.J. Cooper and his brother, Hollin C. Cooper came to Dakota Territory and purchased many thousands of acres of land in what is now Griggs County. They founded and platted the town of Cooperstown, the county seat of Griggs Co. After some years, T.J. Cooper moved to Chicago but retained his interests in Griggs County.

In 1887-1888 he left Chicago and with his son Charles and his son-in-law, Wallace A. Merriell again returned to mining in Colo. After a few years he followed mining in the Alaskan gold fields for many seasons.

T.J. Cooper died (following an accident on a hunting trip) at the home of his daughter Mrs. W.A. Merriell in Fruita, Mesa Co. Colo., Jan 1, 1900. Mr Cooper's remains were interred in the family lot in Chicago.

His descendants are his son, Charles Indus Cooper, of Cooperstown; his daughter, Mrs. W.A. Merriell of Fruita, Colo. and a grandson, Frank C. Cooper Merriell an engineer in the U.S. Reclamation service at Grand Junction, Colorado.

Obituary

June 11, 1897.

James B. Cooper, eldest brother of T. J. And R. C. Cooper, died in Colorado Springs, Colorado after an illness of some months, Monday, May 31, 1897. Mr. Cooper was born in Addison County, Vermont, near Shoreham, September 30, 1828.

In 1832, his parents, endowed with the sterling qualities of successful pioneers, sought with their family a home in the reluctant wilds of Michigan. Here his boyhood days were spent. When the father no longer needed the older boys, he and his brother, T. J. in 1856 started out for themselves, first in Northern Michigan, then in Minnesota. Four years later they found themselves in Colorado.

Seven years later J. B. went to California where he has remained chiefly since that time, having a beautiful home in Alameda, where his son still resides. A few months ago, Mr. Cooper returned to Colorado to see if the climate would do, once more, what it had done for him before. But, nature and the ministrations of relatives were unavailing. He was laid away in the beautiful Evergreen Cemetery at Colorado Springs, June 3, 1897 by his sisters, Mrs. Parmentier, Mrs. Geo. W. Barnard (once an esteemed resident of Griggs County) and his brother, H. H. Cooper.

Death of a pioneer, T.J. Cooper
at Fruita, Colorado after several weeks illness.

1904

Born at Shoreham, Vermont, Sept. 3, 1830 and was 74 years old. His parents moved to Michigan when he was two years old, remaining there a few years and then moved to Minnesota. T.J. Cooper came to Griggs County in the summer of 1880 with his brother, Rollin C. and the big Cooper farm was opened up, the first crop being taken off in 1880. ^{- 1884} The deceased was a man of strong physique. Speaking of his last illness, Mrs. George W. Barnard in a letter says, "It began with a serious accident when on his annual hunting trip in the hills out from Grand Junction and Fruita. His horse threw him and it is believed some serious internal injury occurred. Typhoid fever set in." Three weeks ago he was a little better so that his son Charles was able to shave him. He then thought he would recover, so dictated a letter to his brother Rollin, saying, "Well, brother Rollin, it looks now as though we might have one more chicken hunt together. Get well and keep well, and don't run into smallpox down in Mexico."

ROLLIN C. COOPER *From Compendium of N.D.*

One of the most highly reputed citizens of Griggs county bears the foregoing name. Mr. Cooper is a man of broad ideas, integrity and business uprightness, and being a man of abundant financial strength, has aided materially in the upbuilding of every public enterprise throughout that region. He has been a resident of Cooperstown for the past twenty years and was the founder of the city, and the city was named in honor of the Cooper Brothers. Since its earliest settlement he has watched its needs, and has worked earnestly for its better interests. He is conducting extensive enterprises in that locality, and aside from operating his farm lands, consisting of seven thousand acres, he also owns and operates a grain elevator and deals extensively in grain.

Mr. Cooper is a native of Washtenaw county, Michigan, and was born September 30, 1845. He was the ninth in order of birth in a family of eleven children born to Thomas and Caroline (Baker) Cooper, both of whom were natives of Vermont. His parents were married in their native state and removed to Michigan in 1832, where the father of our subject engaged in farming, and was one of the pioneer settlers of the state.

Our subject left the home farm when thirteen years of age and went to Minnesota, where he remained a few years, and then went to Colorado, and there engaged in mining several years. He went to Griggs county, North Dakota, in the fall of 1880, and the following year settled at Cooperstown. He platted the town which bears his name, and at once engaged in farming and grain buying. He has added to his acreage from time to time and is now one of the most extensive land owners of the state, and engages in grain raising.

Mr. Cooper was married in Colorado, in 1870, to Miss Emma C. Hutchin, a native of Ohio and a daughter of Henry and Ella Hutchin. Mr. Cooper has served his community in various important positions, and has always been found standing firmly for right and justice, and performing his duties faithfully and with commendable public spirit. He was elected to the house of representatives in 1894, and to the senate in 1898, and served one term in each office. In the house he was chairman of the railroad committee, and was also a member of the first board of county commissioners of Griggs county, being appointed in that capacity by Governor Ordway during territorial days. He continued to serve on that body until 1898. Mr. Cooper is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and in political sentiment is a Republican.

~~Sen~~ Courier - Sept 16, 1920 - G. P. Nye Editor
Celebrated the Golden Wedding.

~~Sen~~ Mr. + Mrs. R.C. Cooper Entertain Many
Friends Tuesday Night at Very Enjoyable
Event - Splendid Program of very fine numbers
was rendered.

Long Time Resident Here -

"One of the most pleasant and enjoyable events
of many days in this community was that at
the house of Mr. + Mrs. R.C. Cooper on Tuesday
night of this week. Mr. + Mrs. Cooper had
issued invitations to a great many friends
far and near to help them at the time, enjoy
celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

Fully 75 guests were present and
enjoyed most thoroughly the program and
informal social time. The program was a
most fitting one, one which those present
will not soon forget, least of all Mr. + Mrs. Cooper
who have enjoyed so many years of life
together, the greater part in this community.

The Cooper home had been most beautifully
decorated in gold and white, and as soon as
the guests arrived Mr. + Mrs. Cooper were
made to receive many warm congratulations
and well wishes.

The program consisted of a speech of
presentation and greeting, which was
made by H. H. Butler, in presenting a
over

basket of beautiful roses and another of chrysanthemums. Two vocal solos by Miss Hattie Smith were splendidly rendered, and greatly enjoyed, as was the reading of "That Old Sweetheart of Mine" by Mildred Haggard. Mrs. J. N. Brown was praised for her splendid number on the program in recalling incidents from the lives of Mr. + Mrs. Cooper.

Mr. + Mrs. Cooper indeed have enjoyed many years. And their enjoyment has been greatly shared by this entire community which has long loved and honored the Coopers, a community that earnestly hopes that Mr. + Mrs. Cooper may live to enjoy many more years among us."

Times - Record - Sept. 16, 19~~55~~²⁰

Golden Wedding Anniversary

" Mr. + Mrs. Trubshaw had the pleasure of attending on Tuesday evening the golden wedding anniversary of Mr. + Mrs R. C. Cooper of Cooperstown North Dakota. There were present at this notable party about 60 of the old time friends and former neighbors of the Coopers — people who, through the early pioneer days of this little city had much to do together as neighbors and friends in all walks of life. The occasion was staged at the splendid home of Mr and Mrs. Cooper and consisted of a finely carried out program of music etc., together with a most appetizing luncheon, but the best thing on the whole program was the fact that so many of old time friends were present to extend to these worthy people hearty congratulations for arriving at the golden milepost in their married life.

Mr. + Mrs. Cooper are pioneers in that region, going there before there was scarcely a settler on those broad prairies. Mr. Cooper was the leading promoter of the Sanborn, Cooperstown and Turtle Mountain railway, now the Northern Pacific, which opened up the country North of here. This

(over)

was built in 1883 and since that time the country has filled up and developed.

In the social and church life of Cooperstown and Griggs County the Coopers have played a large part - giving of their support to church work and most liberally and for all work that needed help and financial support along all lines they have aided most liberally and cheerfully.

" In the building of the beautiful Masonic Temple which is not only the pride of the people of the city of Cooperstown, but masons all over the state, Mr. + Mrs. Cooper constituted the major part of the finances to build this wonderful building which stands today as a monument of their progressiveness and love for the little progressive city that bears the name of the founder of Cooperstown.

" In the pioneer days when the Coopers lived on their ranch and the country was new, that home was the stopping place for many a weary traveller, who had taken a couple of days to reach that point by team from Sanborn before the iron horse arrived with the modern mode of conveyance.

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and each and every one received that genuine and openhearted welcome that characterized these good friends whose golden wedding we helped celebrate Tuesday night.

"Large hearted and generous to a fault, that is the record of P. C. Cooper. A splendid home building lady, helpful lady in all walks of life, seeking to do good all the time, has been the record of Mrs. Cooper. May they both live long in the golden days of their lives to enjoy many more years of peace and happiness among their friends."

~~Mrs~~