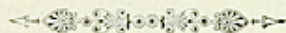


which he resigned to accept the post of cashier for W. S. Nichols & Company, at No. 33 Wall street, which position he held two years. At the end of that time, in 1890, he came to Tacoma, representing heavy financial interests, to become connected with the Tacoma Building Association and Savings Bank. He first acted as cashier in that institution, and in 1892 was elected its president. In 1893, this bank was re-organized on a broader and more comprehensive basis, under its present title, and he has ever since continued to be its president, his known ability and business integrity contributing in no small measure to its prosperity, by insuring the confidence of the people and incidentally a large patronage.

As financier, official and citizen, Mr. Caesar is conspicuous for honor, ability, energy and progress, and justly enjoys a high position in the regard of his community.

In April, 1890, Mr. Caesar was married to Miss Fanny L. Little, daughter of Judge John W. Little, of New York city, and they have one son.



CHARLES PROSCH, Seattle, Washington, was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, June 25, 1820.

His parents, William and Christiana (Dotter) Prosch, were natives of Germany, but were reared and educated in the United States. In 1821 they removed to New York city, where Mr. Prosch engaged in street contracting, which he continued in that city and Brooklyn for many years, ultimately removing to Newark, New Jersey, where he and his wife both died, each at about the age of eighty-five years.

Charles Prosch was educated in the public schools of New York city. In 1836 he became an apprentice in the Daily Express office, in Wall street, and there remained for a period of seventeen years. In 1853 he came West to San Francisco, under engagement on the Alta Californian, of which paper he subsequently became part proprietor. Having sold his interest therein, in the winter of 1857-'58 he came to Washington Territory, and started the Puget Sound Herald in March, 1858, in Steilacoom. Fort Nisqually, near that town, being headquarters of the Hudson's Bay traders of the Northwest, was in frequent communication by water with Victoria and other British Columbia

trading stations. By one of the sailing vessels thus employed, Mr. Prosch learned of the discovery of gold on Fraser river, and his paper was the medium for spreading broadcast along the Pacific coast the news which created one of the wildest mining excitements of the Northwest. Thousands flocked to Whatcom to seek ingress to the promised country by the mountain trail. Finding it inaccessible, they dispersed to Victoria and other points to make the journey by water. Though the "diggings" were rich, the people outnumbered the prospects. This rush of gold hunters, however, was instrumental in developing the Cariboo mines and the mines of Montana and Idaho.

The town of Steilcoom and the Herald having declined to a condition that no longer afforded support, in 1868 Mr. Prosch removed to Olympia to perform the Territorial printing, under the auspices of E. L. Smith, Secretary of the Territory. To comply with the requirements, Mr. Prosch purchased the Pacific Tribune, which he thereafter continued to publish, and during the session of Legislature of 1869 he published the first daily ever printed in the Territory. Subsequently returning to the weekly edition, he continued it until 1872, when he turned it over to his son, Thomas W., who ran the paper there until 1873. Then, removing the plant to Tacoma, they published a weekly and daily till July, 1875, when they moved to Seattle and continued the publication until the plant and business were sold. Thomas W. then purchased an interest in the Intelligencer, subsequently became sole proprietor, and continued the publication until 1887, when he sold out and retired from business.

After selling his paper in Olympia, Charles Prosch, who was one of the members of St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church, during the absence of the clergyman became lay reader and discharged the duties of that office for twelve months. Then, removing with his son to Tacoma, he was called upon to perform at St. Peter's Chapel the same service, which he continued about eighteen months, and, when leaving, was presented with a handsome watch and chain, the watch being appropriately inscribed as coming from a grateful people. Mr. Prosch also worked upon the Tribune, and in 1875 removed with his son to Seattle, continuing his connection with the Tribune and Intelligencer until his son finally sold out and retired. Since then, Mr. Prosch has been engaged in writing

reminiscences of pioneer days and early interests connected with press matters.

He was married in Dey street, New York city, January 16, 1846, to Miss Susan Conklin, a native of New York State. They have had five children, only two of whom are living: Frederick and Thomas W.



HON. EUGENE SEMPLE, ex-Governor of Washington, was born at Bogota, New Grenada, South America, June 12, 1840, a son of James and Mary S. (Mizner) Semple, of Illinois. The father served as Attorney General, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Senator in Congress and Colonel in the Black Hawk war in his adopted State. But at the time of his son's birth he was United States Minister to New Grenada. He served two terms in that position, first under Van Buren, and then under Tyler.

The Semple family have long been prominently connected with the affairs of the Pacific coast. James Semple, father of our subject, made speeches in the Mississippi Valley, as early as 1842, in favor of the claim of the United States to the line of 54° 40' north latitude. January 8, 1844, he introduced into the United States Senate a resolution requesting the President to give notice to his Britannic Majesty of the desire of the Government of the United States to abrogate the treaty of joint occupancy of the Oregon country. His brother, Robert Semple, was editor of the first American newspaper printed in California; was president of the Constitutional Convention of that State; and founded the city of Benicia. A half brother of our subject, Hon. Lansing B. Mizner, was a California pioneer of 1849, held many official positions, including that of Collector of the Port of San Francisco; President of State Senate, and Presidential Elector and Minister to Central America. A cousin of the subject of this sketch, Will Semple Green, was one of the founders of the city of Colusa, California, and for thirty-five years has been editor of the Colusa Sun, in which capacity he has yielded a potent influence in public affairs. Another uncle, Colonel Charles Donald Semple, of Colusa, was one of the most prominent members of the California bar.