

The McConachy Clan

Robert McConochie

TOWN OF SCOTT

Source: The History of Columbia County, Wisconsin, An Account of Its Settlement, Growth, Development and Resources (1880) transcribed by Mary Saggio.

ROBERT McCONOCHIE, farmer, Sec. 35; P. O. Cambria; was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, March 7, 1821, in the parish of Dalrymple; son of Robert McConochie, who emigrated to Canada in 1831 or 1832; located in the township of Pickering, Canada West, and followed farming till his death.

Robert, Jr., remained on his father's farm till April 28, 1847, then came to Wisconsin in company with George Lang and James Allison, young men about his own age, to look at the country and visit his two brothers, Samuel and John, who came to Wisconsin two years before, and located in the town of Scott, Columbia Co., and kept what was known as the "*Blue Tavern*" soon after his arrival, he located 80 acres of the farm on which he now lives, and loaned money to Allison to locate another 80 near his; Lang returned to Canada, and never came back; Mr. McConochie broke 10 acres on his 80, and bought another 80 adjoining his, of John Dodge, for which he paid \$3 per acre; he also located another 120 nearby; he then returned to Canada and worked through harvest, coming back to Wisconsin in September, 1847; he boarded with his brothers about two years and worked his own land; has resided in the town of Scott ever since, but made several visits to Canada during the time.

Feb. 8, 1856, he was married in Portage City to Margaret Robinson, a native of Ayrshire, Scotland. She was born March 21, 1832, daughter of Robert Robinson, who now lives in Canada; Mr. McConochie has six children - Elizabeth (*now Mrs. Stewart Pasley, of Ontario, Canada*), Margaret, John, Marian, William and Hugh; lost one, Robert - was born Oct. 11, 1862, and died when 4 years and 2 weeks old.

He has 600 acres of land, in three farms; once sold the home farm for \$50 per acre, and travelled through Iowa, Illinois, Kansas and Canada, and being unable to suit himself, returned to Wisconsin, bought back his old farm at \$10 per acre more than he got for it, and since that has been satisfied with his first love; he raises grain principally, but keeps some stock; has been successful in business; is now 59 years old; has never had a lawsuit.

Is a Democrat, but not a politician, preferring to devote his time and energies to his own personal affairs, and never accepting office except in the school district, when he considered it his duty; has been Clerk of District No. 3 for the last ten years.

Both members of the Presbyterian Church.