

Blue Earth County, Minnesota

Biographies

Note: Use CTRL- F to Search

H. J. Hughes is a native of Wales, and was born in 1846. He came to America, locating in Columbia County, Wisconsin, where he remained seven years, then removed to Blue Earth County, Minnesota. He came to this city in the fall of 1873, and worked in Symes' barrel factory for two years and has since then been in the coopering business. Since June, 1878, he has been with the Co-operative Barrel Company. He was married in 1878, to Miss Anna McCormick. They reside at 1225 Ninth Street South.

History of Hennepin County & City of Minneapolis, Minnesota
North Star Publishing Company, 1881 : Page 566



JOHN D. BAKER was born in New York in February, 1842, and is a son of Isaac and Abigail, who came to Minnesota in 1855 and settled in Fillmore County, where they took up a tract of government land and there remained engaged in farming for a period of ten years. They then disposed of their big farm to good advantage, and moved to Blue Earth County, Minnesota, where they took up a homestead and engaged in farming and stock-raising. In 1879 they again sold out and came to Pleasant Grove Township, Olmsted County, and here passed the remainder of their days. Both parents now sleep their last sleep in Evergreen Cemetery, Pleasant Grove Township. Their son, John D., spent his youth in assisting his parents on the farm and in getting an education at the near-by schools. In 1863 he rented a farm and ran it on shares one year. In 1864 he took up a tract of 160 acres of government land in Blue Earth County and farmed the same until 1873, when he came to Olmsted county, having sold out, and bought eighty acres in Pleasant Grove township, in section 24, and began to grub, clear and improve the same. Since then he has added to his landed possessions until he now owns 120 acres of excellent land, all covered with good modern improvements. In 1864 Mr. Baker married Miss Margaret Red-man, a native of Ohio, and to this union three children were born: James W., Isaac A. and Edith M., who married Mr. Edward Lowrie. In 1882 Mr. Baker had the misfortune to lose his wife; two years later he chose for his second wife Lucy A. Pick, a native of England, and the daughter of John and Mary Pick. After coming to this country she attended school in Rochester and elsewhere and afterward spent several years in teaching. To this marriage two children were born: Mildred A., who married Mr. Vernon Yates, and Ralph. The family worship with the Methodists of this town-ship. Mr. Baker is a Republican and the friend of education and progress. His wife is a woman of far more than ordinary education, culture and refinement.

History of Olmstead County, Minnesota
Leonard, Joseph A : Goodspeed Historical Association, Chicago, 1910 – Pages 566-567



JOHN LA BARE was born in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, January 14, 1876, and during the same year was brought to Viola Township, Olmsted county, by his parents, and here he has resided ever since. His father, Elihu La Bare, was born in Hinckley, Ohio, May 23, 1842, and came with his parents in the fall of 1864 to Viola Township, and with the exception of five or six years spent near St. James, Minnesota, resided here continuously until his death, November 13, 1907. The father was married in the state of Wisconsin to Miss Emma Jones, of Juneau, November 29, 1868. She was born March 8, 1852. To this union seven children were born, as follows : Mrs. Hattie Cunningham, of Vidia Township, born June 9, 1870; Miss Anna, born January 8, 1873; John, born January 14, 1876; Mrs. Susie Williams, of Viola township, born September 23, 1879 ; Dora, born June 1, 1885 ; Ralph, born September 28, 1890, died March 25, 1898; Clifford, born October 11, 1894. Four of the children, John, Anna, Dora and Clifford, remain on the old homestead in section 15, Viola Township. They own 425 acres here, besides 120 acres in Langlade County, Wisconsin. This family might have remained residents near St. James had it not been for the grasshoppers. When they went west they drove with an ox team, and by the time they had a shanty built they had to borrow money of a brother who lived near with which to start housekeeping. They bought some stock as soon as they could raise the means. When they came away they had a lot of cattle, which helped to sell the place. On account of the grasshoppers the land was not worth much at that time, for those pests had been through that part of the country three years in succession. When grasshoppers had been present twenty-four hours the crops were not worth anything. The family sold out for about \$1,200. When they returned from that point they purchased the place where four of the children now reside. John is a member of the Methodist church at Viola, and is a member of the Republican Party. He is prominent and public spirited, and takes interest in all things calculated to benefit the community. Their fine modern home tells of their thrift, intelligence and comfort.

History of Olmstead County, Minnesota

Leonard, Joseph A : Goodspeed Historical Association, Chicago, 1910 – Pages 584-585



D. B. BRAKKE was born in Blue Earth, Minnesota, December 9, 1870. His father, Lais K., was a native of Norway, his birth occurring in 1830. When a young man he came to this country and located in North Dakota, but later moved to Dane county, Wisconsin, where he resided for some time. He then came to Blue Earth County, Minnesota, but in 1879 moved to Olmsted County and settled in section 35, in Salem township. His wife, Christe, died in Chicago, Illinois, in 1900, but lies buried in East St. Olaf's cemetery, Rock Dell Township. D. B. Brakke was reared on a farm and has made that branch of industry his occupation through life. He received a meager education at the district schools, but when 15 years old attended the Lutheran College at Decorah, Iowa, where he spent three years and came out well equipped for the struggle of life so far as education was concerned. He then taught school until he was 20 years old, but about that time bought 210 acres in section 5, Rock Dell Township, and there he has resided until the present time, engaged in farming and stock raising. He keeps Poland China hogs and registered Durham cattle, and raises large quantities of grains and fruits. His farm is well provided with good buildings of all kinds. He is one of the leading farmers of the western half of the county. He is a member of East St. Olaf's Lutheran church, of which he was secretary for several years and at the present time is trustee. He has been quite prominent in politics, and has served as delegate to several county conventions, his politics being Republican.

He has served as a member of the town board for eleven years, of which he served as chairman for five years. He is up-to-date and progressive in his views and operations. On

August 5, 1894, he was joined in marriage with Miss Martha Lee, whose parents were pioneer settlers in this portion of the county. Eight children were born to this marriage : Cora A., born May 29, 1896 ; Leonard R., born March 13, 1898, died in infancy; Anna C., born January 14, 1900; Delia M., born October 8, 1901; Lillian L., born November 25, 1905; Louise, born November 18, 1907; Victor N., born October 19, 1909. This is one of the educated and refined homes of the county.

History of Olmstead County, Minnesota

Leonard, Joseph A : Goodspeed Historical Association, Chicago, 1910 – Pages 591-592



MARION J. ELLSWORTH (1903), of Magnolia, is the son of the late John A. and Laura (Fish) Ellsworth, pioneers of southwestern Minnesota. John A. Ellsworth was born in Utica, New York, October 14, 1828, and when a young man moved to Saranac, Ionia county, Michigan, where he lived until 1865, engaged in farming, school teaching and in the mercantile business. He became a resident of Minnesota in the year mentioned and until 1872 resided in Blue Earth County. He then went to Nobles County and was the first person to file a soldier's homestead claim in Westside Township, selecting as his allotment the northeast quarter of section 18. At that time there were only two houses on the road between Luverne and Worthington. Mr. Ellsworth retired from active work on the farm in 1896 and moved to Adrian, where his death occurred July 17, 1901. Laura Ellsworth, the mother of our subject, is a native of Whitehall, New York, and still resides at Adrian at the age of seventy-six.

During the residence of the family in Saranac, Michigan, Marion J. Ellsworth was born September 26, 1862. Three years later he moved with his parents to Blue Earth County, Minnesota, and then in May, 1872, to Nobles county. He attended the district schools of Westside Township and lived on the old homestead of his father until twenty years of age. Then he set his eyes toward the west. He pre-empted land in South Dakota, remained there five years, and then went to the state of Washington. In 1889 Marion returned to Nobles County and fanned for the next three years. When the Sisseton Indian reservation in South Dakota was opened for settlement on April 15, 1892, he was fortunate to secure his pick of the land and on the claim he remained for ten years. In 1903 he located in Magnolia, which has since been his home and where he is engaged in the butcher and retail meat business.

At the call for volunteers on the declaration of war with Spain, Marion Ellsworth enlisted at Browns Valley, Minnesota, on July 2, 1898, in company E, Fifteenth Minnesota regiment. His company was stationed at Fort Snelling, Camp Meade, Pennsylvania, and at Augusta, Georgia, being mustered out at the latter place in March, 1899.

Mr. Ellsworth was married at Adrian February 4, 1891, to Katherine McGee, a native of Illinois and a daughter of William and Katherine McGee, now residents of Magnolia. To these parents have been born the following three children: Katherine L., born November 25, 1891; William, born May 2, 1894; and Ruth, born August 4, 1896.

An Illustrated History of Pipestone & Rock Counties,, Minnesota

Northern Publishing Company, Luverne, Minnesota, 1911 : Pages 609 - 610



LUCIUS E. TOWN (1871), a farmer of Rock Lake Township, was born in Steele County, Minnesota. March 4, 1870, and is a son of Lucius and Mary (Clark) Town, pioneer resident of Lyon County. Lucius Town, Sr., in company with his three brothers, Julius, Ralph and Alvah S., came to this county in 1871, and each brother took a quarter section on 22, Rock Lake, as a homestead.

Lucius Town, Jr., accompanied his parents to Lyon county, where his boyhood days were spent. His early education was acquired in the country schools of the township and in Balaton. At the age of fifteen years he attended school for a time near Owatonna and later took a course in the Wilder Business College, graduating in 1895. Returning to Balaton, our subject followed the painting and paper hanging trades for eight years.

From 1903 until 1906 Mr. Town's residence was North Yakima, Washington, where he was engaged at the same work. Then he returned to Minnesota and has since been farming on the old Rock Lake homestead, working at the trade of painting in some of his spare time. Mr. Town has other business interests, being a stockholder of the Lyon County Co-operative Company and of the Current Lake Telephone Company. He is a member of the Presbyterian church of Balaton and belongs to the A. O. U. W. lodge.

Lucius E. Town was married to Lizzie Hughes, a resident of Blue Earth County, Minnesota. To them were born two children: Elbert, born December 28, 1899; and Leslie, born May 13, 1902. Mrs. Town died in North Yakima in 1903. Our subject's mother died in 1881 and his father is still living on the old homestead at the age of eighty-two years.

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Rose, Arthur P, Northern Historical Publishing Company, Marshall, MN : Page 265



JOHN J. GRIFFITH (1870) has been a resident of Lyon County since he was nine years of age. His parents, David E. Griffith and Mary J. Richards, were natives of Wales and Pennsylvania, respectively, and came to Wisconsin in an early day. John was born in Columbia county, Wisconsin, October 6, 1862, and when three years old his parents moved to Blue Earth county, Minnesota, which was their home six years.

In 1870 the Griffith family moved to Lyon County, Minnesota, and located on the east half of the east half of section 12, Custer Township to which the father had bought the homestead right. There John received his schooling and assisted his father until twenty-six years of age, at which time he bought eighty acres on section 7, Monroe Township, and commenced farming for himself. For five years our subject remained on that place, and then he sold his land and rented the northwest quarter of section 7, where he has since lived. He has a well improved piece of land and is prospering. He is giving much attention to the breeding of Percheron horses.

John J. Griffith and Katie Wunderlich were married July 4, 1891, in Custer. Mrs. Griffith was born in Wisconsin July 6, 1874, and is a daughter of George and Catherine (Young) Wunderlich, natives of Germany and France, respectively. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Griffith, as follows: Leon, born 1893; Fred, born 1895; Louise, born 1897; Irving, born 1898; Leslie, born 1900; Annie, born 1903; Morris, born 1905; and Merle, born 1908.

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JOHN SCOTT (1872) is a homesteader of Sodus Township and one of the oldest settlers of that precinct, having lived on the one place an even forty years. In common with other pioneers of Lyon County, Mr. Scott endured many hardships in the days when the festive grasshopper harvested the grain and the fierce winter storms swept the unbroken prairies.

Our subject was born in Wayne County, New York, March 27, 1852, and he descends from an old New York family. His parents were Charles and Delia (Shaw) Scott. The father died when John was three years old, and soon thereafter he accompanied his mother to Michigan, where he was educated and grew to manhood. In 1872 Mr. Scott came to Lyon County and took as a homestead the southeast quarter of section 24, Sodus township, on which farm he has ever since resided.

Mr. Scott was married in Marshall August 23, 1875, to Mary A. Lewis. She was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, August 12, 1853, and is a member of one of the pioneer families of Minnesota. Her parents, Lewis D. and Jane (Davis) Lewis, came from Wales in an early day and made their home at Pittsburgh. They settled in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, in 1857, and members of the family participated in the Sioux War of 1862. Mrs. Scott's father was wounded by the Indians, and an uncle, James Edwards, met his death at the hands of the redskins.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott have four children, all married. They are as follows: Lewis, of Custer Township; Jane, the wife of Henry Edwards; Irwin, of Sodus Township; Mabel, the wife of Charles Edwards, of Custer Township.

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ELLSWORTH EVANS (1873) is a successful Monroe township farmer' who has seen the country develop from a wild prairie to the prosperity of the present day. His father, Solomon Evans, was born in Newton, Wales, in 1818 and came to America about 1844, settling in Utica, New York and later moving to Wisconsin. In June, 1863, he settled in Blue Earth County, Minnesota. and ten years later took a homestead in Custer township, Lyon county, where he lived until his death on February 16, 1894. Solomon Evans' wife, Anna (Evans) Evans. was born in Newton, Wales, in 1818 and died June 26, 1896, in Lyon County.

At Oconomowoc, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, Ellsworth Evans was born December 19, 1861. When about one and one-half years of age he accompanied his parents to Blue Earth county, and later he came with them to Lyon County. He lived on the old homestead until six years after his marriage in 1891. Ellsworth acquired his education in the country schools and during his young manhood witnessed the trying experiences of the grasshopper days and the big blizzards. The family home in Custer was built of lumber hauled from New Ulm, and this rude cabin was covered with sod. The building still stands on the place.

Ellsworth Evans was married July 16, 1891, in Monroe Township, to Mary Edwards. She was born in Cambria, Blue Earth county, Minnesota, April 2, 1867, a daughter of William and Margaret (Davis) Edwards. To Mr. and Mrs. Evans have been born two children, Roger and Raymond, July 15, 1892, and January 1, 1894, being the respective dates of

their birth. Our subject farmed the old place for six years after his marriage and then moved to the west half of the northwest quarter of section 30 in Monroe Township, which has since been his home.

Mr. Evans raises considerable stock in addition to his general farming. He is a shareholder in the Garvin Co-operative Elevator Company and is a director and was for many years the president of the Garvin Creamery Company. For the last five years he has been chairman of the Board of Supervisors of the township, of which he was previously a member and he has served on the board of directors of school district No. 72. In addition to his eighty-acre farm on section 30, Mr. Evans owns the southwest quarter of section 24 and forty-six acres on section 19.

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BENJAMIN F. THOMAS (1871) is the proprietor of a confectionery, cigar and notion store at Garvin and is one of Lyon County's oldest settlers, having made settlement in Custer township forty-one years ago. In the early days he played an important part in the affairs of his community.

Mr. Thomas was born in Allegany County, Maryland, September 24, 1847, and spent the first thirteen years of his life in his native state. He came West with the family in 1860 and lived one year in Columbia county, Wisconsin. In 1861 he went with the family to La Crosse County, Wisconsin; in 1863 to Rock Island County, Illinois; in 1868 to Boone County, Iowa; in 1870 to Blue Earth county, Minnesota; and in 1871 to Lyon county.

The Thomas family made the trip to Lyon County with ox teams, and settlement was made on section 4, Custer Township. The father took as a homestead claim the northeast quarter of the section and our subject the southeast quarter. A log house, with shake roof and puncheon floor, was built on the place and in that the family lived for some time. No railroad had yet penetrated the county, and during the first winter Benjamin Thomas made five trips by ox team to Lake Crystal to bring in material and supplies.

Mr. Thomas farmed the homestead until 1884. Then he gave up farming and located at Minnesota Lake, where for two years he bought grain for Hodges & Hyde. He then located at Hankinson, North Dakota, and for many years was employed as a grain buyer. He returned to Lyon county in 1901 and for two years conducted his farm. Mr. Thomas then became a resident of Garvin. He managed the Sleepy Eye elevator at that Point a year and a half and then bought and shipped stock for a year or two. He established his present business in 1907.

In 1876 Mr. Thomas circulated a petition asking for the right to organize the township in which he lived, under the name of Reno, in honor of the general in charge of the forces against the Indians in Montana. Before the required permission was granted, however, the Custer massacre had occurred and the township was named in honor of General Custer, whose life had been sacrificed a few months before. Mr. Thomas was the first clerk of Custer Township and served several terms. He is a member of the Masonic lodge.

The parents of Benjamin Thomas were two of the best known residents of southern Lyon county. They were Benjamin and Catherine (Jones) Thomas, natives of Wales, who came to America at the ages of nineteen and twelve years, respectively. They were married in Allegany County, Maryland and there all their children, excepting Ruth, were born. Both parents died on the Custer homestead, the father in 1884, the mother in 1892. The children of the family are Mrs. William Hughes, of Garvin; Ann (Mrs. Richard Hughes), deceased; Benjamin, of this biography; James J., of Tracy; Ruth (Mrs. Rees Price), of Tracy; and Joseph B., of Garvin.

Our subject was married in Custer Township to Loretta Delong. She was born in St. Lawrence County, New York, and died March 7, 1897, at the age of thirty-eight years. Mr. Thomas has three children: Edgar, who is engaged in railroad work in the West; Harvey, of Wells, Minnesota; and Hattie, who attends school at Wells.

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THOMAS E. DAVIS (1877), mayor of Marshall and an attorney of that city, is one of the best known men of Lyon county—a man who has played an important part in the affairs of his community. Although born outside the county, his parents were residents of Lyon County at the time, and he has spent his entire life here.

Thomas E. Davis was born in Judson, Blue Earth County, Minnesota, February 18, 1877. He was brought to Lyon county by his parents when a babe. He was graduated from the Marshall High School in 1894 and during the next year he worked at various occupations. He was a student at Macalester College in 1895 and 1896, preparing himself for the ministry, but he changed his plans and decided to become a lawyer. In March, 1898, he entered the law office of M. E. Mathews, where he read law during the next three years. In March, 1901, he entered the office of Senator V. B. Seward, completed his studies, and the same year was admitted to the bar.

The law firm of Mathews & Davis was then formed and until April, 1902, our subject was engaged in practice with the older attorney. He then opened an office in a dingy little room containing no furniture except a kitchen table loaned by his mother. To purchase books he borrowed one hundred dollars from Col. A. R. Chace. In September, 1902, Mr. Davis received the Republican primary nomination for county attorney, defeating E. C. Patterson, the incumbent, with a majority of 276. At the general election he defeated E. B. Johnson, of Tracy, an independent candidate, by a majority of 540. He received the Republican nomination without opposition in 1904, but was defeated at the general election by B. B. Gislason, of Minnesota, by 214 votes. During his term as county attorney Mr. Davis was exceptionally successfully in the prosecution of criminal- cases, securing 140 convictions out of 143 cases, including minor and major offences. His law business has grown rapidly, and today he enjoys one of the largest law practices in Southwestern Minnesota. He devotes his time exclusively to the trial of cases and has a large practice in Redwood, Yellow Medicine, Lac qui Palle and Swift counties.

Mr. Davis has taken an active interest in politics and is an orator of state-wide reputation. In the campaigns of 1908 and 1910 he made speeches for the state and national tickets in many parts of the state, spending several weeks in Minneapolis, Duluth and other cities. He has been mentioned as a candidate for congress and is credited with the ambition to represent his district in the nation's law-making body. Locally he has held several offices

in addition to that of county attorney. In 1908 and 1909 he served as alderman from the second ward, and in April, 1910, he was elected mayor of the city, defeating H. P. Fulton by ninety-eight majority.

Mr. Davis is a man of family. He was married at Chetek, Wisconsin, June 26, 1906, to Mabel Emma Johnson. She is a native of that place, having been born May 17, 1884. She is the daughter of Ole and Mary Johnson, who were born in Norway. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Davis: Esther Mabel, born March 4, 1908, and Dona May, born June 23, 1910. Mr. Davis holds membership in the M. W. A., Royal Arcanum, Maccabees, Elks and Knights of Pythias lodges.

The subject of this biography is the son of Reese and Jane (Jones) Davis, the former a native of Wales and the latter of Ohio, she being of Welsh descent. Reese Davis came to the United States at the age of three years and located with his parents in Ohio. In 1861 he enlisted in Company C, of the Fifty-sixth Ohio Infantry, served the period of his enlistment, and then re-enlisted and served until the close of the war. Jane Jones located in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, with her parents in 1858. After the war Mr. Davis located in the same county where was a large Welsh settlement, and there the parents of our subject were married. They moved to Lyon County in 1873 and took a homestead claim in Monroe Township. They left the farm in 1882 and located in Tracy, and four years later moved to Marshall, where they have since resided. Mr. Davis is a trustee of the First Presbyterian Church and has been since the church was built.

Reese and Jane Davis have five children, all living and all graduates of the Marshall High School. Following are the names of the children: Esther, the wife of William Russell, an attorney at Moorhead; Mary Agnes, the wife of O. A. Krook, who is postmaster of Marshall; Elizabeth Ida, who was the assistant principal of the Laurel, Montana, schools and who is now the wife of Thomas Rigney, a merchant of Laurel; Thomas E., of this biography, and his twin brother, John I., who is an attorney at Benson, Minnesota.

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RICHARD R. BUMFORD (1878), who conducts a loan and real estate office in city of Marshall, has been a resident of Lyon county thirty-four years. He is a native of Racine county, Wisconsin, and was born October 26, 1856. He was educated in the district school and in the grammar school at Racine.

In 1876 Mr. Bumford moved to Blue Earth County, Minnesota, where he engaged in teaching district schools two years. He came to Lyon County in the spring of 1878, took a homestead claim in Monroe Township, and for a few years was engaged in teaching school. He was elected register of deeds in 1882 and held the office three terms, until the first of the year 1889. That year he engaged in his present business. Mr. Bumford makes a specialty of real estate loans and has built up a very large business along that line.

The subject of this review was married at Marshall in June, 1886, to Lucy Lewis, a native of New York State. Mr. and Mrs. Bumford have two children: Gladys E., a graduate of the Marshall High School and who for two years attended the Conservatory of Music of Oberlin, Ohio, and Truman Lewis, who was graduated from the Marshall High School in 1911 and who is now attending Carleton College. The family are members of the

Congregational church of Marshall, Mr. Bumford being one of the trustees of the church.

Richard R. Bumford is a son of the late David and Ellen (Roberts) Bumford. The parents were born in Wales, came to America when young, and were married in Racine, Wisconsin. David Bumford was a veteran of the Civil War, having served as a member of Company F, of the Twenty-second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He died at the home of his son, Abner G. Bumford, in Custer Township in December, 1889. The mother of our subject died in Wisconsin a number of years ago. There were only two children in the family—Abner G. and Richard R. Bumford.

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JOHN H. HUGHES (1876), one of the early settlers of Custer Township and a farmer who has prospered on his eighty-acre farm and been active in the affairs of the community, was born in New York State March 22, 1852. When a small child he accompanied his parents, Hugh R. and Ann (Pew) Hughes, to Wisconsin, where the family resided until John was ten years old; then the family moved to Blue Earth County, Minnesota.

Blue Earth County continued to be the home of the Hughes family until John was twenty-four years of age. He was brought up on a farm and attended school in the home district. He had been helping his father on the farm several years when, in 1876, the family came to Lyon County, the father and John each taking homesteads in Custer Township. The parents made their homestead their home until their deaths, and John has been a continuous resident on the west half of the northwest quarter of section 14 ever since taking it as a homestead in 1876. He is a stockholder of the Garvin Creamery Company.

John Hughes and Margaret J. Owens were united in marriage January 1, 1877. Mrs. Hughes was born in Waukesha, Wisconsin, March 25, 1856. To them have been born six children, named as follows: Hugh, Philip, Hannah, Mary, Margaret and

Elizabeth. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes are members of the Congregational Church of Custer Township.

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EDWARD V. BURT (1878) farms the west half of section 24, Coon Creek Township, and is a successful farmer of that precinct. He has resided in Lyon County since he was one year of age and is the son of the first settler of Coon Creek township. The farm is still owned by the pioneer resident.

Edward is a son of Dallas S. and Mary Burt. Dallas Burt was born in New York State September 11, 1845. He came to Lyon County in 1876 and took a claim in Amiret Township. Two years later he homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 24, Coon Creek Township. He now lives at Minetto, New York. The mother of our subject was born in Wisconsin September 11, 1856, and died February 5, 1911. There are five sons in the family, as follows: Edward and Mynard, of Russell; Benjamin, of Northcote, Minnesota;

Budd H., of Winnipeg, Canada; and Charles, of Russell.

The subject of this biography was born in Minetto, Oswego County, New York, July 23, 1877, and when one year of age came to Lyon county with his parents. For four years he attended the school of district No. 63, and then until nineteen years of age he was a student at the Russell school. Thereafter for a few years Mr. Burt worked out as a farm hand. He was married in 1901 and moved to Russell, where he spent two years working on the railroad. In 1903 he moved to the farm which he now operates.

Mr. Burt raises Durham cattle, Duroc Jersey hogs and Rhode Island Red and Plymouth Rock chickens. He has stock in the Lyon County Co-operative Store Company and the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company. He is a member of the Presbyterian church of Russell and is treasurer of the church society. He holds membership in the M. W. A. and Royal Neighbors lodges.

The marriage of Mr. Burt to Pearl May Clow occurred in Lyon county June 18, 1901. She was born in Iowa July 21, 1885, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Clow, of Winnebago City. Mr. Clow was born in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, in 1861. Mrs. Clow was born at Liscomb, Iowa, in 1866. Mr. and Mrs. Burt have four children: Earl Le Roy, Jessie May, Charles Edward and Marion Clare.

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CHARLES R. LAINGEN (1898) is the junior member of the firm of Grieve & Laingen, general merchants of Cottonwood. He was born in Blue Earth County, near Lake Crystal, May 26, 1872, and resided there until twenty-six years of age. When seventeen years of age he became a clerk in a general store at Lake Crystal and then worked six years for the Northwestern Railroad Company.

The parents of our subject are Peter K. and Ronaug (Loftsgaard) Laingen, natives of Norway. Peter K. Laingen came to the United States in 1860 and resided in California ten years. In 1870 he moved to Blue Earth county, Minnesota, where he bought land and was married. He resided in that county until his death on December 16, 1911. The mother died in 1873.

In 1898 our subject came to Lyon county and located at Cottonwood, where he entered the firm of Olson, Kelly & Laingen, general merchants. In 1902 he bought out John Michie, of the firm of Michie & Grieve, and the firm has since been Grieve & Laingen. Michie & Grieve were the successors of Dahl Brothers, the original owners of one of the first stores in Cottonwood. They occupied a little building, 25x40 feet, on the site of the present two-story brick building, which is 26x80 feet and which they erected that spring. Grieve & Laingen handle dry goods, groceries, furnishings, shoes and Crockery. They entered their present building in 1904. Mr. Laingen is a member of Equity Lodge No. 221, A. F. & A. M. He was village recorder two terms.

Mr. Laingen was married in Minneapolis May 14, 1908, to Anna Pettersen, a native of Blue Earth County.

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JOHN D. GRIFFITH (1891), a prosperous farmer of Custer Township, is a native of Wales and came to this country at the age of nineteen years, locating near Utica, New York, where he worked on a farm. Blue Earth County, Minnesota, was Mr. Griffith's next home, and there he lived until 1891, renting land and farming.

It was in 1891 that our subject moved from Blue Earth to Lyon County and bought his present land, the northeast quarter of section 25, Custer. Mr. Griffith has greatly improved his farm and has gone into the stock raising business quite extensively. He is a shareholder of the Garvin Creamery Company, the Garvin Independent Elevator Company and the Current Lake Telephone Company. The past ten years he has served as a director of school district No. 72.

December 6, 1893, occurred the marriage of John Griffith and Maggie Williams, in Custer Township. There are five children, as follows: Mary, born October 12, 1894; Hugh, born August 18, 1896; Milton, born July 6, 1898; Luther, born August '4, 1900; and Rachael, born July 23, 1907. Mrs. Griffith was born in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, December 25, 1868.

The subject of our sketch was born in Wales December 17, 1865. His parents, Thomas Griffith and Hannah (Jones) Griffith, are both dead. Thomas Griffith was a farmer in Wales, and he and his wife were the parents of eight children, four of whom are living and only one of whom, the subject of our sketch, is a resident of America.

Mr. Griffith is a member of the Welsh Methodist Church of Custer Township and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen lodge of Garvin.

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Rose, Arthur P, Northern Historical Publishing Company, Marshall, MN : Page 480-481



WILLIAM H. EDWARDS (1894) owns and operates 240 acres of land on section 29, Sodus Township. He was born in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, December 6, 1867. His parents are William and Margaret (Davis) Edwards, both natives of Wales. They came to the United States in an early day and settled in Blue Earth County, where our subject was born and grew to manhood. He assisted his father on the farm until 1894.

In the year last named our subject came to Lyon County and purchased eighty acres on section 29, Sodus Township. Later he purchased the northeast quarter of the same section. He operates the entire 240 acres. Mr. Edwards is a member of the Township Board of Supervisors.

On June 27, 1897, Mr. Edwards was married to Jane Scott, a native of Lyon County. She is a daughter of John and Mary Ann (Lewis) Scott, of Sodus Township. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards have three children: Edwin, Mary and Irene.

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Rose, Arthur P, Northern Historical Publishing Company, Marshall, MN : Page 499



EVAN M. JONES (1897) is the proprietor of a general merchandise store at Garvin, postmaster of that village, editor of the Garvin Leader, and interested in several other enterprises of his town. He has resided in the county fifteen years and has become prominently identified with Garvin's business and social interests. During the entire forty-five years of his life he has lived in Minnesota.

Our subject was born in Blue Earth county January 19, 1867, and spent his early years there. He was educated in the Mankato Normal School and at the age of seventeen years began teaching school, which he followed several years. He located in Murray County in 1890 and for seven years engaged in farming. Mr. Jones became a resident of Lyon County in 1897, when he located at Russell and established a general merchandise store. One year later he disposed of that and engaged in business in Garvin, being the third merchant to become established in that village. He erected at that time the building in which he has since conducted the business.

Mr. Jones has served as postmaster of Garvin since September, 1900, and he has edited the Garvin Leader since June, 1911. He is treasurer of the Garvin Creamery Company, secretary of the local Board of Education, and one of the directors of the Farmers State Bank of Garvin. Fraternally he is a Mason and a Woodman.

In Blue Earth County, on October 19, 1889, Mr. Jones was wedded to Maggie J. Williams. She was born in Wisconsin and died March 7, 1901, at the age of thirty-two years. As a result of this union three children were born, Allen, Benjamin and Margaret. The second marriage of Mr. Jones occurred May 30, 1902, when he wedded Clara Helleson, a native of Lyon County and a daughter of Clemet Helleson, an early settler. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have two children, Mabel and Vivian.

The subject of this biography is of Welsh descent. His father, William P. Jones, was born in Wales July 15, 1828, came to the United States in 1847, lived in Jackson County, Ohio, until 1856, and then became a resident of Blue Earth county, Minnesota. There he became a prominent citizen. He was a member of the Home Guards at the time of the Indian War, and in 1877 he served as a member of the Minnesota Legislature. He died at Lake Crystal May 28, 1908. Our subject's mother, Margaret (Walters) Jones, was born in Wales in 1831 and now resides at Lake Crystal. There were sixteen children in the family, of whom the following named thirteen are living: John, William, Ursula, Maggie, Ann, Mary, Stephen, Thomas, Elizabeth, Evan M., Walter, Samuel and Dorothy.

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Rose, Arthur P, Northern Historical Publishing Company, Marshall, MN : Page 536 - 537



JOHN B. FLINN (1911) is one of Clifton Township's farmers and resides on the northwest quarter of section 10. He was born in Lafayette county, Wisconsin, on October 4, 1881. His father and mother were Fred and Mattie (Severson) Flinn, natives of Wisconsin and Norway, respectively. When John was a child the family moved to Cerro Gordo County, Iowa. There the father bought land and for several years engaged in agricultural pursuits. Later he moved to Rockwell, a neighboring village, and the subject of this sketch grew to manhood in Rockwell and finished his education in the public school.

The elder Mr. Flinn opened a livery and feed stable in Rockwell and also conducted a barber shop. John learned the barber's trade and was with his father until 1899, in which year he moved to Minnesota, locating in Lac qui Parle County, where he rented land and

farmed until 1911. That year he came to Lyon County and bought the place where he now resides, one of the finest farms in the township. Mr. Flinn has already taken up stock raising in connection with his general farming, and with his good location and his industry seems assured of success.

The subject of this sketch was married in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, August 29, 1906. The young lady he chose for his wife was Carrie Guddal, a daughter of John and Rachel (Swenson) Guddal, natives of Norway and now residents of Blue Earth County. Mrs. Flinn was born June 18, 1882. To this union has been born one child, Erwood, on September 6, 1911. Mrs. Flinn taught school several years before her marriage, in her home county and in Lac qui Parle County.

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AUGUST C. PRECHEL (1904) rents the southeast quarter of section 10, Lucas township, farms very successfully 240 acres, and engages in the raising of grade cattle and hogs for marketing.

Christ and Bertha Prechel, parents of our subject, both now living in Posen township, Yellow Medicine county, were born in Germany and came to this country and located in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, in 1868, where they resided until 1900, moving to their present home that year. They had fifteen children, twelve of whom are living, as follows: Augusta (Mrs. Charles Meyer), of Blue Earth County; Paulina (Mrs. Herman Preuss), of Yellow Medicine county; Minnie (Mrs. Alfred Radke), of Crookston; Henry, of St. Paul; August C., of this review; and Fred, Rudolph, Ernest, Edward, Bertha, George and Freida, all of Posen township.

August Prechel was born in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, June 4, 1883. He received his education in the common schools and resided in his native county until seventeen years of age. During the last two years of his residence in Blue Earth County he worked for his father on the farm and for a neighbor, and after the family moved to Yellow Medicine County in 1900 August continued to live with his parents the next two years. At the end of that time young Prechel started out for himself and after working out two years he came to Lyon county and continued his work in Lucas township eighteen months, after which he rented the Eliason farm -and conducted it five years. Mr. Prechel then moved to the farm he now runs and where he has since resided-.

The subject of this sketch was married October 19, 1906, at Marshall to Constance Twedt, a native of Norway, born February 24, 1889. They are the parents of two children: Arvied, born February 4, 1908, and Esther, born November 19, 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Prechel are members of the English Lutheran church of Cottonwood.

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JOHN R. SWEARINGEN. The standard by which to judge a community is the character of its prominent citizens. Progress is rarely, if ever, the result of chance, but always the execution of well-laid plans based on a thorough comprehension of the laws of business. It is only by keeping in view the lives of men who are ever associated in the busy marts of commerce that we can judge of the importance of development and the possibilities of progress. Thus it is that from the commercial more than the literary or political side the most valuable lessons of life are to be extracted. In this connection, as a gentleman whose business qualifications have proven of the best, as indicated by the numerous enterprises he has brought to a successful issue, a brief biographical sketch is given of John R. Swearingen, president and manager of the Montana Sash and Door Company of Billings, Montana. Mr. Swearingen was born on his father's farm in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, February 1, 1861, and is a son of Abraham and Amy (Allen) Swearingen.

As a young man Abraham Swearingen moved to Blue Earth County, Minnesota, from his native state of Illinois, and took up a homestead among the pioneers of the state. At the outbreak of the Civil war he enlisted in a Minnesota regiment and went to the front, but at the time of the Indian uprising he returned to Minnesota and took an active part in subduing the hostilities. He stood in the third tier of soldiers when thirty-eight Indians were hung for their depredations in Mankato. On securing his honorable discharge from the service, after a brave and meritorious service, Mr. Swearingen returned to his farm and developed one of the valuable properties of his locality. Subsequently he became interested in the manufacture of brick and finally disposed of his farm and moved to West Union, Iowa, where he identified himself with the furniture business and later with the lumber business at Perry, Dallas county, Iowa, but about fifteen years ago retired from business activities. Mr. Swearingen, who is now in his eightieth year, is an honored member of Perry Post, Grand Army of the Republic. He was married in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, to Miss Amy Allen, a native of New York State, and she died in 1908, at the age of sixty-eight years, having been the mother of two children: Allie, who died at the age of six years, and John R.

John R. Swearingen attended the common schools of Blue Earth County, Minnesota, and West Union, Iowa, and at the latter place was also a student in Professor S. S. Ainsworth's private school. When only fifteen years of age, and while still pursuing his studies, the youth displayed marked business ability in the flour and feed line, and when he was sixteen years old he secured a position with the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railroad as bill clerk. While acting in this capacity he learned telegraphy, and at the age of eighteen was made operator and agent at Oelwein, Iowa, for the same railroad, being the youngest agent on the line at that time. Deciding that there was no future for him in the railroad business, after three years in the service Mr. Swearingen resigned and accepted a position with Burch & Kenyon, who were engaged in the lumber business, and with whom he continued for about three years. At the end of that time he decided that he had mastered the details of the business sufficiently to engage therein on his own account, and accordingly established himself as a lumber merchant at Perry, Iowa, where he continued to be located from 1883 until 1901. The latter year marked his selling out and the disposing of his string of yards through Iowa, and his next-connection was with the firm of the Huttig Manufacturing Company, of Muscatine, Iowa, who made sash, doors, etc., and Mr. Swearingen was made vice-president.

In 1906 a business was established in Billings, and on February 1, 1911, this latter business was reorganized under the firm name of the Montana Sash and Door Company, with a capital stock of \$500,000, Mr. Swearingen being president and manager and R. C. Cardell secretary. The Billings Company is doing a large and lucrative business throughout the Yellowstone valley and has handled numerous contracts of an extensive nature. Under Mr. Swearingen's able management the business has grown steadily, and

it is now considered one of the substantial industries of the city. In fraternal circles he is well known in Masonry, belonging to Ottley Lodge, No. 44, A. F. & A. M., of Perry, Iowa; and Gerard Commandery, K. T., No. 56, and Palmyra Chapter, R. A. M., also of that city, he being one of the organizers of the commandery, and he also belongs to Des Moines Consistory, S. R., and Za Ga Zig Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., of Des Moines. He is a member of Billings Lodge, No. 394, B. P. O. E., and is vice-president of the Billings Club. In political matters he is a Republican, but has not actively entered the political field.

While a resident of Oelwein, Iowa, in 1881, Mr. Swearingen was married (first) to Miss May Redfield, who died in February, 1883, leaving one daughter, Mabel, a graduate of St. Catherine Hall, an Episcopal school at Davenport, Iowa, and now the wife of Arthur Peddecard, of Perry, Iowa. Mr. Swearingen's second marriage occurred December 20, 1888, when he was united to Miss Florence Cardell, who was born at Malcolm, Iowa, daughter of Leander and Emma L. (Chapman) Cardell. Leander Cardell was born in Warren, Vermont, in 1835, was educated in Vermont, and during the gold excitement, went to California, making the trip around the Horn. After spending three years in California as a miner he returned to his native state, but subsequently removed to Iowa and became a pioneer farmer and stockraiser of Poweshiek County, There he resided until 1880. In that year he removed to Perry, Dallas County, where he engaged in the real estate and loan business until 1895 and then retired from business activity. A prominent Republican, he took an active interest in political matters, rose to a high position in the ranks of his party and served as a member of the Iowa state legislature. He was a faithful member of the Congregational church in the faith of which he died in 1907, when seventy-two years of age. He married Emma L. Chapman, a native of Ohio, who survives him, and they had a family of five children, three of whom died in infancy, while the survivors are: Robert C., secretary of the Montana Sash and Door Company of Billings, and Florence, who married Mr. Swearingen. Mr. and Mrs. Swearingen have one daughter, Irene, who in 1909 graduated from the National Cathedral, an Episcopal Institute of Washington, D. C., taking the highest honors ever secured by a student up to that date.

A History of Montana – Volume I: Helen Fitzgerald Sanders
The Lewis Publishing Company, Chicago and New York :1913, Pgs 1729-1730



BRUCE ANSON CUMMING. In the field of farm loans and real estate, a line of business which demands great ability and comprehensive knowledge of values, Bruce Anson Cumming has made a decided success of his operations at Lewistown. He has achieved an enviable position in business circles, not alone because of the brilliant success which he has achieved, but also on account of the honorable, straightforward business policy he has ever followed. He possesses untiring energy, is quick of perception, forms his plans readily and is determined in their execution, and his close application to business and his excellent management have brought to him the high degree of prosperity which is today his. He has demonstrated in his career the truth of the saying that success is not the result of genius, but the outcome of clear judgment and experience.

Mr. Cumming was born on his father's farm in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, September 24, 1879, a son of William and Isabella A (Treanor) Cumming, natives of Canada. William Cumming was born in 1834, and on first coming to the United States as a young married man settled at Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, but subsequently moved to Minnesota, where he became a pioneer of Blue Earth County. There he took up wild land, established his home, and in time developed a substantial and productive farm, upon which he died in 1909, at

the age of seventy-five years, after having completed a useful and honorable career. He was first a whig and later a republican in politics, but did not desire public office. Mrs. Cumming, who was born in 1840, survives her husband and resides on the old Minnesota homestead. Of the family of four sons and three daughters, six children are living. The parents were God-fearing people and church members, and the children were reared to lives of honesty and industry.

The fifth in order of birth of his parents' children. Bruce Anson Cumming attended the public schools of Blue Earth County, Minnesota, the Dixon Business College and the Illinois Normal School, and in 1860 secured his first employment, as assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Minnesota Lake, Minnesota. After about three and one-half years in that capacity he removed to Hope, North Dakota, where he was bookkeeper for the First National Bank of Hope, a position in which he also had charge of the bank's general insurance business. After about three years he went to Blabon, North Dakota, and became cashier of the Blabon State Bank. This position he also held for about three years, but in the spring of 1911 came to Lewistown, where he established himself in the farm loans and real estate business, in which he has since continued with much success. His office is situated at No. 305 Montana Building. Mr. Cumming is essentially a product of the growing, progressive Northwest, aggressive, enterprising and energetic, alive to the fast-appearing opportunities and strict in his conception of business ethics and principles. He is a republican in his political adherence, and while residing at Blabon served as school treasurer and township clerk. He first became a member of Occidental Lodge No. 27, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, at Hope, North Dakota, but after centering his activities at Lewistown demitted and became a member of Lewistown Lodge No. 37. He belongs also to Lewistown Lodge No. 456 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

On February 17, 1913, Mr. Cumming married Miss Edna M. Woodrum, and to this union there have been born two sons and one daughter: Mark Clinton, Donald William and the infant daughter.

Montana, Its Story and Biography
American Historical Society, Chicago, 1921, Pages 103-104



HARRY H. AUSTIN is a member of the Big Timber bar, and came to Montana after fifteen years of a successful practice in his native State of Minnesota. He was born in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, December 27, 188r. His paternal ancestors were from Scotland. His grandfather, Reuben Austin, was born in New York State in 1809, and when about middle age he moved west and became a pioneer farmer in Rock County, Wisconsin. During the '70s he went out to Minnesota, and again did pioneering as a farmer in Blue Earth County, where he died in 1900. Orville H. Austin, father of the Big Timber lawyer, was born in Oneida County, New York, in 1837. He spent his early life in Rock County, Wisconsin, where he married and where he followed the business of carpenter and builder. In 1876 he moved to Blue Earth County, Minnesota, followed his trade there, but since 1900 has lived retired at Minneapolis. He is a very staunch democrat in his political affiliations and a member of the Masonic fraternity. Orville H. Austin married Loretta Earl, who was born in Rock County, Wisconsin, in 1846. Charles, the oldest of their children, was a telegraph operator and died in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, in 1893. Viola, whose home is in Minneapolis, is the wife of Dr. E. C. Anderson, who is well known to the medical profession in Montana, having practiced at Billings, Anaconda and Missoula, and from the latter city joined the Medical corps of the

army, rose to the rank of major, and his last professional services with the army were rendered at New York City. Frank L. Austin is cashier of the Thompson State Bank at Thompson Falls. Sanders County, Montana. Della is the wife of John Costin, a mine operator in the Iron Range of Minnesota at Virginia. Joseph Earl is a graduate of the University of Minnesota Law Department and is practicing law at Chisholm, Minnesota. Winnie, the sixth of the family, died in infancy, and the youngest is Harry H.

Harry H. Austin acquired his early education in the -public schools of Good Thunder and Mankato, Minnesota, graduating from the Minneapolis High School in 1902 and then entered the law department of the University of Minnesota. He received his LL. B. degree in 1905. He is a member of the legal fraternity Delta Chi. Mr. Austin began his practice at Chisholm, Minnesota, in 1905, and developed a fine business as a lawyer there. He served as city attorney, also as a member of the school board, and still has property in Minnesota. He came to Big Timber in December, 1918, and is already busy with a general civil and criminal practice, his offices being in the Masonic Building. He helped organize the Sweetgrass County Good roads Association and is its secretary and treasurer. He is also a member of the Big Timber Chamber of Commerce and on the board of directors. He is a republican in politics, and a member of the State Bar Association of Minnesota, and is affiliated with Chisholm Lodge No. 1334, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

In 1909, at St. Paul, he married Miss Clyde Pennington, a daughter of Wellington and Bertha (Reed) Pennington. Her father, who was in the livery business, died at St. Paul in 1910. Her mother now lives in New York City. Mrs. Austin is a graduate of the St. Paul High School and the State Normal at Winona, Minnesota. To their marriage were born three children: Don, born August 23, 1910 ; Barbara, born April 5, 1913 ; and Joseph, born June 24, 1918.

Montana, Its Story and Biography
American Historical Society, Chicago, 1921, Page 117



JOHN R. SWEARINGEN. An influential and highly respected citizen of Yellowstone County, John R. Swearingen, of Billings, president of the Montana Sash & Door Company, has achieved distinction in the business life of the city, and by reason of his ability, tact and integrity has gained a leading position in industrial manufacturing and-mercantile circles of this section of the state. A son of Abraham T. Swearingen, he was born February 1, 1861, in Blue Earth County, Minnesota.

His paternal grandfather, John Swearingen. was a native of Illinois, and in the Prairie State grew to a vigorous manhood. Casting his lot early in life with the pioneers of Minnesota, he settled in Martin County, and there established the first flour mill erected west of Dubuque. He continued a resident of that county until his death at Fairmont at the venerable age of ninety-two years. On the paternal side he came of Dutch ancestry, the Swearingen's from whom he was descended having emigrated from Holland to America in colonial days.

He married a Miss Brown who was also a native of Illinois.

Abraham T. Swearingen, a native of Illinois, was born in Champaign County in 1829. He attended the pioneer schools of his day, and while yet a boy was initiated into the mysteries of farming as then carried on, very little machinery being then in use. Going to Blue Earth County, Minnesota, when a young man, he began life for himself as a farmer,

and in the pioneer task of putting his land under cultivation met with good success. In 1850 he removed to West Union, Iowa, where he started in an entirely different line of business, opening first a furniture store and later becoming a lumber dealer at Perry, Iowa. In the latter industry he met with good results, and continued a resident of Perry until his death in 1915. During the Civil war, almost immediately after its outbreak, he offered his services to his country, enlisting in the Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and with the exception of the time he returned to his home to defend his family from the last Indian outbreak in that locality served until the surrender of Lee on April 9, 1865. A republican in politics, he was ever loyal to the interests of his party. He married Amy Allen, who was born in New York State in 1834, and died at Perry, Iowa, in 1914, at the good old age of eighty years. They had but one child. John R., of whom we write.

After leaving the public schools of Blue Earth County, where he was born, John R. Swearingen continued his studies at West Union, Iowa, taking a preparatory course under the tuition of Prof. S. S. Ainsworth, head of a private school. When but sixteen years old he entered the service of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids and Northern Railroad Company, with which he remained six years as telegraph operator. In 1879, at Perry, Iowa, he embarked in the lumber business, beginning in a very humble position in the yard and gradually worked his way upward until he had managed the details of the business. In 1882 Mr. Swearingen bought the yard in which he had formerly been employed, and for twenty years carried on a substantial business as a dealer in lumber. Selling out in 1902, he was associated with the Hang Manufacturing Company at Muscatine, Iowa, for four years, serving as its vice president. In 1906, still retaining his connection with the company, he came to Billings, Montana, as manager of its branch house, a responsible position that he filled most ably and satisfactorily. He subsequently organized the Montana Sash & Door Company, which was incorporated January 20, 1911, with the following named officers: J. R. Swearingen, president, and R. C. Cardell, secretary and treasurer. This company is carrying on an extensive and remunerative business in sash, doors and interior finishing material, and does all kinds of mill work, either plain or decorative, its plant and offices being advantageously located at the corner of Fourth Avenue and Broadway. From this plant its products are shipped to all parts of Eastern Montana and Northern Wyoming, its trade being large and constantly growing. Mr. Swearingen has other property interests, of value, owning a commodious residence, 301 Clark Avenue, and at Judith Basin has an immense ranch, containing 1,350 acres of good land** He has been actively identified with various other enterprises, but his present business has reached such proportions that it requires his entire time and attention, and he has been forced to dispose of his other interests, although he is one of the directors of the Billings Gas Company. Politically Mr. Swearingen is a strong republican.

Fraternally he is a member of Perry, Iowa, Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Order of Masons; of Almyra Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; of Perry Commandery, Knights Templar; of Zagazig Temple, Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine; and of Des Moines, Iowa, Consistory, being a thirty-second degree Mason, Socially he belongs to the Billings Golf and Country Club.

Mr Swearingen married first, in 1881, at West Union, Iowa, Miss May Redfield, who was born in that town in 1861, and died at Oelwein, Iowa, in 1882, Their only child, Mabel, a graduate of Saint Catherine's Hall at Davenport, Iowa, married A Peddecord, a traveling salesman, residing in Perry Iowa. Mr Swearingen married for his second wife, at Perry, Iowa, in 1886, Miss Florence Cardell, a daughter of Leander and Emma Cardell, and of this union one child has been born. Irene, wife of George Arnott, Jr., of Billings, a well known attorney. Mrs Arnott is a woman of culture and refinement, who has had excellent educational advantages, having been graduated from the National Cathedral at Washington, District of Columbia.



ALBERT DALLUGE The subject of this sketch is one of the versatile and broad-minded citizens of Otter Tail county, where he has established his family in a comfortable home, the foundation of American happiness, the country which he, like many others of his native land, has adopted as his permanent home. Unlike many of our rural citizens, Mr. Dalluge has never allowed his methods and habits to become fixed, or his ideas to follow a rut. He keeps himself informed as to what is going on. in the outside world.

Albert Dalluge, farmer, Fergus Falls township, Otter Tail county, was born on August 3, 1869, in Germany, and is a son of Julius and Caroline (Oehlke) Dalluge. His education was received in Germany, coming alone to America in 1882. His first employment in this country was in a harvest field, after which he worked in the timber, and was later associated with his father on a farm. On March 18, 1914, Mr. Dalluge bought his present splendid farm, consisting of two hundred and forty-four acres, his special attention being directed to general farming and stock-raising. Prior to the purchase of his present homestead, he farmed with his father for nine years, and in 1903 he went to Brown County, Minnesota, where he owned one hundred and sixty acres, which he sold in 1913. Politically, Mr. Dalluge is a staunch Republican, while his religious sympathies are with the German Lutheran church.

Julius Dalluge, father of the subject of this sketch, was born on September 21, 1838, in Germany, and was united in marriage with Caroline Oehlke, who was also born in Germany. They came to America about 1883, locating in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, where they have since resided. .

Albert Dalluge was united in marriage with Minnie Lehman, by whom he has had the following children: Walter, Eleanor (who became the wife of John Sorensen), Mahala, Paul and Clarence.

By his upright principles and his interest in the welfare of his fellow man, Mr. Dalluge is regarded as one of the worthy and honorable citizens, whose character is beyond question.

History of Otter Tail County, Minnesota, Volume I: John W Mason, Ed
B F Bowen & Company, Inc, Indianapolis, Indiana, 1916, Page 139



BURTON H. MATHEWS. Born in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, June 1, 1874, Burton H. Mathews, a prosperous farmer of Maine Township, is the son of Washington and Ellen (Drake) Mathews, who were natives of Ohio and Wisconsin, respectively. Mr. Mathews' father was born in Ohio, March 10, 1832, and his mother in Wisconsin, February 4, 1844. Washington Mathews was a farmer all of his life. He farmed in Ohio and in Blue Earth County, Minnesota. Late in life he sold his farm and, for a time, operated a supply store in a small town. Washington Mathews came to Otter Tail County, Minnesota, in 1885, and purchased forty acres in Maine Township, where he lived for ten years. This farm was located in section 33, the same section in which his son's (Burton) farm is now situated. While visiting in Canada with his daughter, Mrs. Bessie Bunse, Mr. Mathews died in September, 1909. His wife had died more than two years previously, June 17, 1907. They

were the parents of four children, of whom one, Leroy, is deceased. The living children are: Burton H., the subject of this sketch; Blanche and Bessie.

Burton H. Mathews was educated in the graded schools of Maine Township after coming to Otter Tail county. Eleven years ago he purchased a farm of eighty acres, where he now lives, but the place is rented to Charles Turman. Mr. Mathews purchased this farm for six dollars an acre and, at the time, it was all wild land. Forty acres 'of the farm, however, has been cleared. Shortly after purchasing the farm, Mr. Mathews built a new house. The buildings are all new and well painted and reveal the thrift of the owner. Mr. Mathews is unmarried. He is well known throughout this section of the county and is well liked by all who know him.

History of Otter Tail County, Minnesota, Volume I: John W Mason, Ed
B F Bowen & Company, Inc, Indianapolis, Indiana, 1916, Pgs 406-407



WILLIAM J. HENDERSON. Born in Canada, April 13, 1864, William J. Henderson, a prosperous farmer of Inman Township, Otter Tail County, Minnesota, is the son of Frank and Sarah (McKnight) Henderson. Mr. Henderson's father was a native of Ireland and his mother of New York State, born at Albany. The former came to Canada from Ireland and after his marriage in Canada, moved to Blue Earth, Minnesota, in 1.865, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land. In 1879 he came to Otter Tail County and settled in Elmo Township, taking a homestead in section 30. He died on this old homestead farm in 1904, at the age of sixty-five. His wife died about 1900, at the age of fifty-five. They were the parents of eight children, all of whom are living, Jennie, William. Marietta and Marion (twins), Frank, Sarah, Anna and David.

William Henderson was reared on a farm in Blue Earth County. Minnesota. He was educated in the public schools of that county and accompanied his parents in 1879 to Otter Tail County, where he has since been engaged in farming. In 1896 Mr. Henderson purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 21, of Inman Township. He is a general farmer and stockman and has been very successful.

In 1891 William J. Henderson was married to Mrs. Elizabeth Mason, who was born in Wisconsin and who is the daughter of George and Harriet (Hodgson) Park. They came to Parkers Prairie, Minnesota, June 7, 1871. Mrs. Henderson's father died in 1900, but her mother is still living, at the age of seventy-two years. Mr. and Mrs. William J. Henderson have nine children, all of whom are living, Alice, Frank, William, John, Sidney, Olando, Reuben, Nellie and Guy.

Mr. Henderson has served as township clerk of Inman Township for nineteen years. He was also clerk of the school board for twenty years. The Henderson's are members of the Methodist church.

History of Otter Tail County, Minnesota, Volume I: John W Mason, Ed
B F Bowen & Company, Inc, Indianapolis, Indiana, 1916, Pgs 253-254



E. G. MARSTON, a pioneer of May, 1884, was born in Canada in 1861, but when only four years old was taken by his parents to Blue Earth County, Minnesota. He grew to manhood on a farm in that state, then came to Washington and took as a homestead one hundred and sixty acres of land on Pleasant prairie and also purchased a tract of railroad land. Since then he has been engaged in farming continuously—making a specialty of dairying. He has a fine farm, well improved and stocked with high-grade cattle and hogs. He also has a nice orchard of about eight acres. As a citizen, Mr. Marston has occupied a leading place in his community, having held the offices of justice of the peace and road supervisor and having always taken a lively and intelligent interest in the affairs of local concern in the neighborhood. He is well liked and highly respected by the people in his vicinity. He was married in Spokane county, in 1885, to Elizabeth Terry, of Minnesota, and they are parents of three children, W. Ray, Edson Leon and David Earl. Mr. and Mrs. Marston are members of the Pleasant Prairie Methodist church.

An Illustrated History of Spokane County, State of Washington : Rev. Jonathan Edwards
W H Lever, Publisher, 1900, Page 498



HERBERT W. DART, a pioneer of 1879, was born in Green Lake county, Wisconsin, in 1849. When he was quite young his family moved to Blue Earth County, Minnesota, where he learned the miller's trade and was employed in that line of work until 1877. He then went to the Black Hills, Dakota, was with the scouts and in the saw-milling business there for a year or more, after which he moved to California, then up to Seattle, thence to Walla Walla and from there to Spokane, traveling on horseback. He took a homestead on Pleasant prairie, but after making final proof moved to a point subsequently named Dartford in his honor, on the Little Spokane river, eight miles north of the city of Spokane. Here he erected a mill and operated it as a saw mill until 1895, then changed it to a flour mill, its present capacity being seventy-five barrels per day. He also owns a half interest in the Cable Roller Mills at Post Falls, Idaho, which have a capacity of one hundred and twenty-five barrels per day. Mr. Dart is one of the oldest mill men in this county and the first miller who ever worked for wages in Spokane. He has seen much of the early development of this region and has been a not inconsiderable factor in that development himself. He is, perhaps, one of the most widely known men in this county, especially among the older residents, and he is highly esteemed and respected by all. He was married in 1891 to Mila Sellye, a native of Minnesota.

An Illustrated History of Spokane County, State of Washington : Rev. Jonathan Edwards
W H Lever, Publisher, 1900, Page 516



JOHN B. McDONALD, deceased, a pioneer of 1882, was born in Green Lake County, Wisconsin, January 2, 1845. He was the first white child born in that county. His father was an officer in the United States army and in 1830 had been sent into Wisconsin to keep the Indians quiet. Mr. McDonald resided in the neighborhood in which he was born until nineteen years old, receiving a public school education, then started to do for himself. He visited New York state and Vermont, and finally entered the service of the United States government, his duty being to take horses to the front for the use of the army. He was present in Washington at the time of Lincoln's assassination, and was detailed for a short time to guard the city limits in order, if possible, to prevent the escape of the assassin.

A little later Mr. McDonald went to Baltimore, where he was taken sick with fever and ague, and practically laid up for two years, but at intervals he was able to do a little at the business he then followed, namely, putting in lightning rods for the protection of buildings. In 1867, he returned to his old home in Wisconsin and farmed a year, afterwards going to

Blue Earth County, Minnesota. He followed farming there one summer and in the fall purchased a threshing machine and engaged in that industry. A serious accident befell him, however. His foot was caught in the cogs of the power, laying him up for two years completely and making him permanently lame. In 1871 he bought railroad land, and for a while followed farming and teaming, but eventually sold out and engaged in selling farm implements, wagons, etc., for an eastern firm. Two years later, he was called home to take charge of his father's farm, and he was engaged in agricultural pursuits there and at Fond du Lac for the next four years, but in 1878 he removed to Petaluma, California.

After farming there also for a number of months Mr. McDonald started via Portland, for this valley, but, owing to the Indian outbreak, wintered on the Lewis River, where the next spring he engaged in the dairy business. Shortly afterwards, he moved to a place thirty miles from The Dalles, and here Mr. McDonald worked in a sawmill until 1882. He then tried farming again, but lost everything by grasshoppers.

In the fall of 1882 he reached Walla Walla, the point he had started for so many years before, and the next spring he took a homestead on Eureka flat. He was a farmer in that neighborhood until 1891, when he moved into the city of Walla Walla for the benefit of his children. He died on March 27, 1893.

Mr. McDonald was for many years one of the leading men in his part of the county serving in almost all the local offices and once refusing the nomination for county commissioner. He was married in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, February 27, 1873, to Miss Eliza L. Sharratt, a native of Wisconsin, who assisted her husband by teaching and in every way in her power to acquire the competency they enjoyed before his death. She is now the owner of one thousand one hundred and twenty acres of land in the county.

Mr. and Mrs. McDonald became parents of five children: John H., an attorney in Walla Walla, who has the honor of having served in the Philippine war as a member of the First Washingtons; Elsie M., now Mrs. Edward H. Bradbury; Jessie E., a student in the Washington Agricultural College, at Pullman; and Lila G., a student in the public schools, also William F., who died at the age of eighteen. The family affiliate with the First Presbyterian church of Walla Walla, and Mrs. McDonald also belongs to the Woody Glen Circle, Women of Woodcraft, and to the Order of Washington.

An Illustrated History of Walla Walla County, State of Washington : Professor W D Lyman
W H Lever, Publisher, 1901, Pgs 425-425



HENRY C. BEISE, D. M. D. Dr. Henry C. Beise, well-known dentist at Windom, former councilman and now a member of the school board of that city, who has been practicing his profession at Windom since 1896, is a native son of Minnesota, born on a farm in Medo township, Blue Earth county, this state, December 16, 1872, son of August and Sophia (Lader) Beise, the former a native of Germany, born on October 13, 1835, and the latter of New York City, born in 1842, both of whom later came West, locating in Wisconsin, where they were married, and thence to Minnesota, becoming pioneers of Blue Earth county, their last days being spent in the village of Mapleton, that county.

August Beise received his schooling in his native land and was fourteen years of age when his parents, Henry Beise and wife, came to the United States with their family in 1849, settling in Dodge county, Wisconsin. Henry Beise, the grandfather, homesteaded a farm in that county and there established his home; later he came to this state and bought a farm in Winona county in 1866, continuing, however, to hold his land in Wisconsin, and became a substantial pioneer of Winona county, where he spent the rest of his life, his last days being spent in the village of Lewistown; his widow later moved to Good Thunder, Blue Earth county, Minnesota, and resided there until her death. August Beise grew to manhood in Dodge county, Wisconsin, and there he homesteaded a tract of land, which he presently sold to advantage and bought another farm in that same county. He married there Sophia Lader in 1859, who was born in the city of New York, daughter of Jacob and Mena (Lutz) Lader, the former of whom was born in France on February 22, 1812, who came to this country, locating in New York City, but after about two years' residence there came West and homesteaded a farm in Dodge county, Wisconsin, later, in 1866, coming to Minnesota and settling in Blue Earth county, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Jacob Lader entered a homestead claim in Blue Earth county and there established his home, becoming a substantial pioneer farmer. His wife died in 1869, two years after settling in the new home, and he thereafter made his home with his daughter, Mrs. August Beise, in Medo Township, that same county, until his death, in 1899.

It was in 1866 also that August Beise and wife moved from Wisconsin to Blue Earth County. They first bought a quarter section in Lyra Township, where they lived for about three years, at the end of which time they moved over into Medo township and bought another quarter section, on which they lived for five years, when they bought an adjoining farm of three hundred and twenty acres, where they lived until 1900, in which year they retired from the farm and moved to the village of Mapleton, where their last days were spent, Mrs. August Beise dying on July 7, 1904, and August Beise, December 24, 1915. They were the parents of ten children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the seventh in order of birth, the others being as follow : Elizabeth, who died in infancy ; Amelia, wife of John, Frey, of Clear Lake, Iowa; Edward, who is living on and operating the old Beise home farm in Medo township, Blue Earth county; Ida, who lives at Mapleton, in that same county; Emma, wife of C. L. Sulrud, of Halstad, Norman county, this state; Dr. Charles J. Beise, who died at Mapleton, at the age of forty-two years; Judge George W. Beise, former county attorney of Stephens county; this state, and now municipal judge of Morris, that same county; Dr. Rudolph Beise, of Brainard, this state, and Minnie A., wife of O. Lovsines, of Halstad, Minnesota.

Henry C. Beise was reared on the home farm in Medo township, Blue Earth county, receiving his elementary education in the district school in the neighborhood of his home, supplementing the same by one year in the high school at Mapleton, after which he took a three-year course in the Mankato Normal School, after which he began teaching school, but after one year's experience in that vocation in Norman county, turned his attention to the study of dental surgery in the office of Dr. L. C. Cruttender, of Northfield, under whose preceptorship he was prepared for entrance into the dental department of the University of Minnesota, from which he was graduated in 1896. Thus admirably equipped for the

practice of his profession, Dr. Beise opened an office at Windom, June 15, 1896, and has ever since been very successfully engaged in practice there, being one of the best known members of his profession in this part of the state. The Doctor is a Republican and has given close attention to local political affairs, having served as a member of the city council, and is now a member of the city school board. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Modern Woodmen of America and in the affairs of these organizations takes a warm interest.

On December 22, 1897, the year following his arrival in Windom, Doctor Beise was united in marriage to Blanche Johnson, of that city, daughter of Seth S. and Margaret (Evans) Johnson, pioneers of Windom, the former of whom, for years engaged in the flour and feed business in that city and later in the agricultural-implement business, and who died in 1900, since which time his widow has made her home with her daughter, Mrs. Beise. To Doctor and Mrs. Beise three children have been born, Clark, born on October 13, 1898; Margaret, July 12, 1901, and Dorothy, April 22, 1905. Doctor and Mrs. Beise are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which the Doctor is a member of the official board and one of the trustees. He has taken much interest in the affairs of Methodism in Minnesota and was a delegate to the general conference of that church in Minneapolis in May, 1912.

History of Cottonwood and Watonwan Counties, Minnesota ,Volume II : John A Brown, Ed B F Bowen & Company, Inc. Indianapolis, Indiana, 1916, Pgs 146-148



EMERY HAYCRAFT. Emery Haycraft, a well-known and well-to-do retired farmer, living at Madelia, where for some years he was engaged as the local agent for the Standard Oil Company and where he is now engaged in the fuel business, is a native of Macoupin county, Illinois, born on March 9, 1858, son of Isaac and Sarah P. (Jolly) Haycraft, natives of Hardin county, Kentucky, who later came to Minnesota, locating in Blue Earth county, whence, later in life they moved to Madelia, where Isaac Haycraft spent his last days and where his widow is still living.

Isaac Haycraft, who was a veteran of the Civil War, was born in Hardin county, Kentucky, June 28, 1829, son of the Rev. Samuel J. and Elsie (Rhoades) Haycraft, the former of whom also was a native of that same county, son of James Haycraft, whose father also was James Hay-craft and whose father also was James Haycraft. The Haycrafts are said to have come from England to America about the year 1740, settling in Virginia and emigrating thence to Kentucky about 1775 or 1780, settling near Elizabethtown, Hardin county. In that county, as is well known, Abraham Lincoln's parents lived and there Abraham Lincoln was born. In some of the histories of Abraham Lincoln, the Haycraft family is mentioned as a family of more or less importance in the county. Samuel Haycraft, a cousin of the Rev. Samuel J. Haycraft, above mentioned, and who was clerk of Hardin county for fifty consecutive years, is mentioned in these histories as having issued the marriage license to Abraham Lincoln's father, Thomas Lincoln, for his second marriage to Sally Bush Johnson. Stephen P. Haycraft, a brother of Isaac Haycraft, settled in Madelia in 1865. He owned a large part of the townsite of Madelia and several additions to the village are known as Haycraft additions and one street is named Haycraft street. He died in 1913.

In 1837 the Rev. Samuel J. Haycraft and his family moved from Kentucky to Macoupin County, Illinois, where he continued in the gospel ministry the rest of his life. Isaac Haycraft was about eight years of age when his parents moved from Kentucky to Illinois

and he was reared to manhood in the latter state, as a young man beginning to farm for himself. On October 28, 1848, he married Sarah P. Jolly and in April, 1861, came to Minnesota and after a short residence in Dakota county moved to Blue Earth County, settling near Madelia. While there he enlisted for service during the Civil War as a member of the Second Minnesota Cavalry, with which command he served for about three years. In 1864, while he was in the army, his family moved to Madelia and eighteen months later, upon the completion of his military service, returned to Blue Earth County, where the family home was established on a homestead farm of eighty acres in Lincoln Township. In the fall of 1892 he and his wife retired from the farm and returned to Madelia, where Isaac Haycraft spent the rest of his life, his death occurring in 1914. His widow is still making her home in Madelia. They were members of the Baptist church and their children were reared in that faith. There were ten of these children, of whom four died in infancy, the survivors being as follow : Mrs. Hattie A. Rhoades, of Montevideo, this state; Emery, the subject of this biographical sketch; Mrs. Eugenia S. Rhoades, of Madelia; Isaac G., of Solway, this state; Mrs. Liva Dodge, of Truman, this state, and Julius E. Haycraft, of Fairmont. The last named was postmaster at Madelia for twelve years; was state senator from the district composed of Watonwan and Martin counties for the four-year term from January, 1911, to January 1, 1915, and is now practicing law at Fairmont, senior member of the law firm of Haycraft & Palmer.

Emery Haycraft was but a child when his parents came to Minnesota from Illinois and he was seven or eight years old when they located on the homestead farm in Blue Earth County. He completed his schooling in the Lincoln township schools in that county and as a young man, following his marriage in 1882, started farming on a farm nearby his father's place. There he made his home until 1892, in which year he retired from the active labors of the farm and moved to Madelia, where he ever since has made his home and where he and his wife are very pleasantly situated. From 1896 to September, 1915, Mr. Haycraft was engaged as local agent for the Standard Oil Company at Madelia and since the latter date has been engaged in the fuel business.

In September, 1882, Emery Haycraft was united in marriage to Jennie Sargent, who was born in Fon du Lac, Wisconsin, a daughter of William and Sophia (Matthewson) Sargent, who moved from Wisconsin to Minnesota and settled on a farm in Fieldon township, Watonwan county. Mrs. Haycraft was the third in order of birth of the six children born to her parents, the others being Mary, who married J. W. Pond, Randall, Mrs. Adelaide Hewett, Franklin and John. To Mr. and Mrs. Haycraft three children have been born, Edwin R., who married Sue M. Wedge and has two children, Berryl and Rollo; Harry, who married Anna Reese and has one child, a son, Gordon R., and Vernon, who married Emma Bargland and has one child, a daughter, Verna Emma. Mrs. Haycraft is a member of the Baptist church and she and her husband take an earnest interest in the general movements having to do with the betterment of the community at large.

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LAMONT HOWARD TACKELS. LaMont Howard Tackels, one of the prominent farmers of Antrim township, is a native of Watonwan County, having been born here on December 17, 1879. He is the son of Martin Van Buren and Frances H. (Zimmerman) Tackels. Martin Van Buren Tackels was born in Michigan on August 13, 1840, while Frances Tackels was a native of Waterloo, New York, having been born there on December 29, 1846. William Zibmnerman, the father of Mrs. Tackels, was born in Pennsylvania. He later moved to

Waterloo, New York, and then to Edgerton, Wisconsin, where he died in July, 1879. His life had been devoted to the cultivation of the soil.

Horace H. Tackels, the grandfather of LaMont Howard Tackels, was of English descent. He married Samantha Webster and they lived for a time on a farm in Michigan. They later moved to a farm near Edgerton, Wisconsin, and then to Blue Earth county, Minnesota, where he owned a farm in Pleasant Mounds township. He served for two years in the Civil War. Horace H. and Samantha Tackels were the parents of the following children : Minerva, deceased; Martin Van Buren, Hattie, Sylvia, deceased; Mart, and Charles, deceased.

Martin Van Buren Tackels was educated in the common and high schools of Michigan and Wisconsin. He and Mrs. Tackels are the parents of the following children: Kittie Eleanor, Mettie Grace, and LaMont Howard. Kittie Eleanor was born on March 7, 1866. She is the wife of W. D. Hadley, of Martin County, Minnesota. They have one child, Frances Gertrude. Mettie Grace was born on March 4, 1872. She is the wife of W. L. Hackney. They have two children, Harrold LaMont and Francis Martin. LaMont Howard, the subject of this sketch, married Helen Killmer, and to this union three children have been born, Mettie Eleanor, Edith Evelyn, deceased, and Marion Helen.

While in high school, LaMont Howard Tackels held positions on the Madelia Messenger and on the Times. He is progressive and well-informed.

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W. J. McCARTHY, M. D. Dr. W. J. McCarthy, of Madelia, one of the best-known physicians in this part of the state, is a native son of Watonwan county and has lived there practically all his life, being thus thoroughly conversant with the growth and development of this region since the days of the pioneers. He was born on a pioneer farm in Antrim township, Watonwan county, March 2, 1868, son of John and Margaret (Thompson) McCarthy, early settlers in that section of the county, who are now living comfortably retired in their pleasant home at Madelia.

John McCarthy was born near the city of Belfast, in the north of Ireland, August is, 1840, son of Edward and Esther (Casement) McCarthy, both natives of that same section of Ireland, the former of whom, a shoemaker, died when his son, John, the eldest of his four children, was six years old. When not yet twenty-two years of age, in May, 1862, John McCarthy left his native land and came to the New World, landing at Quebec. The next year he came into the Northwest and settled at Westfield, Wisconsin, where he married Margaret Thompson, and in 1864 came to Minnesota, locating in Wabasha county, whence, in 1866, he came over into this part of the state and pre-empted a homestead tract, at the same time taking a timber claim in section 12 of what presently became Antrim township, Watonwan county. That fall he assisted in the organization of his home township and secured for it the name of Antrim, in honor of the county in which he was born in Ireland. He took an active part in early civic affairs, was the first clerk of Antrim Township and later served for some time as supervisor. John McCarthy was a good farmer and his affairs prospered from the very start. He lived on his homestead farm for fourteen years, at the end of which time, in 1880, he sold his place to advantage and moved over into Lincoln township, Blue Earth county, where he bought a farm of four hundred and seventy-nine acres and there established his home, remaining there for

thirty-four years, or until 1914, in which year he and his wife retired from the farm and moved to Madelia, where they are now living and where they have a beautiful home. During his residence in Blue Earth County, Mr. McCarthy also was active in public affairs and for years was chairman of the local board in his home township. He took an earnest interest in the cause of the schools and his children were given every opportunity to acquire a good education, four of them being graduates of Carleton College. Mr. and Mrs. McCarthy are members of the Presbyterian Church and their children were reared in that faith. There are twelve of these children, all living, of whom Doctor McCarthy is the third in order of birth, the others being as follow : E. F., who is living on the old home farm in Blue Earth county; Robert H., who is living on his own farm; James N., also a farmer, who makes his home at Madelia; Garfield, on the old home farm; Oscar, also on the farm; Richard, who was graduated from Carleton College and is now engaged as an assayer in the mines at Butte, Montana; Esther, at home with her parents; Bessie, also at home; the Rev. Samuel McCarthy, a graduate of Carleton College, now pastor of the Congregational church at Chamberlain, South Dakota; Rachel, at home, and Margaret, a graduate of Carelton College, who is now a member of the faculty of the Normal School at Bellingham, Washington.

Dr. W. J. McCarthy is a student as well as a physician and is ever keeping abreast of the wonderful advancement that is being made in modern medical science. He was well equipped by preparatory study for the practice of his profession and from the days of his youth his studies were pursued with his ultimate profession in view. Upon completing the course in the public schools of Antrim Township, he entered Carleton College, from which he was graduated in 1894. In the fall of that same year he matriculated at the medical department of Northwestern University at Chicago and was graduated from that excellent institution, with the degree of Doctor of Medicine, in 1897. This admirably equipped for the practice of his chosen profession, Doctor McCarthy returned to his home state and located at Madelia, where he opened an office and where he has been practicing ever since, long having been regarded as one of the leading physicians of this part of the state. He is a member of the County Medical Association, the Minnesota State Medical Society and the American Medical Association and takes an earnest interest in the affairs of these several professional organizations. Doctor McCarthy is "independent" in his political views and gives a good citizen's attention to local political affairs. For two years he served as mayor of Madelia and in other ways has done his part in the civic life of the community. He was president of the school board for twelve years and a member of board for three years more.

Doctor McCarthy has a most competent and admirable helpmate in the labors of his exacting profession, Mrs. McCarthy, who, before her marriage, was Lella Clark, a daughter of John Clark, taking her part, together with the Doctor, in the various social and cultural activities of Madelia and ever interested in such measures as are designed to advance the common good hereabout. Doctor and Mrs. McCarthy have two sons, Donald and Richard. They are members of the Presbyterian Church and take a proper interest in the various beneficences of the same. Doctor McCarthy is a Royal Arch Mason and a Knight Templar, a member of the blue lodge at Madelia; of the chapter at St. James and of the Commandery at New Ulm. He also is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and in the affairs of these several organizations takes a warm interest.

History of Cottonwood and Watonwan Counties, Minnesota ,Volume II : John A Brown, Ed
B F Bowen & Company, Inc. Indianapolis, Indiana, 1916, Pgs 280-282

JOHN PEDVIN. It is not every man that can become a good locomotive engineer. Some lack the courage, the keen eye, the steady nerve and the prompt decision, as well as other characteristics, necessary to the successful engine driver. John Pedvin, of St. James, Watonwan county, seems to possess such attributes, for he has made good on the road.

John Pedvin was born in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, December 15, 1863, and is a son of Daniel and Jane (Moore) Pedvin. The father was a native of the Island of Guernsey in the English Channel, his birth having occurred on April 9, 1820, and the mother was born on February 24, 1828, in London, England. They were married in England in 1850, and they came to Minnesota in 1852, locating near St. Peter, later moved to Rapidan, Blue Earth County, and in 1868 to Watonwan county, where the father took up a homestead of eighty acres in Riverdale township, later buying eighty acres more. He developed a good farm and finally made a visit to his old home in Guernsey Island, where he married his second wife. Coming back to America he spent some time at St. James and at Beatrice, Nebraska, but went back to Guernsey Island, where his death occurred in 1906. His first wife, the mother of John Pedvin, died on June 27, 1878. Nine children were born, namely : Daniel, born in England, December 1, 1852, died on May 28, 1903; Jane, August 23, 1855; Thomas, July 19, 1857, died on February 25, 1895; Rachael, November 20, 1859; Elizabeth, October 7, 1861; John, subject of this sketch; Julia Ann, September 24, 1866, died on November 13, 1896; Frederick W., February 2, 1868, died on October 8, 1907; Evaline Carrie, September 18, 1870. Daniel Pedvin was a Republican, and he held a number of local offices. He was a member of the Episcopal Church.

John Pedvin was reared on the farm in Riverdale Township and he received his education in the district schools there, walking four miles daily to school. He began life as a farmer, owning a good place, which he finally sold, and entered the railroad service in 1882, in which he remained until 1885, when he farmed again for two years, returning to the road in 1887 and has worked continuously on the road ever since. He was fireman on the Omaha railroad until September 1, 1890, when he was promoted to engineer and he has had charge of an engine ever since. He lived eleven years at Sioux City, but the rest of the time since 1887 he has lived in St. James, returning here in 1897. He built a residence here, in which he lived until 1913, when he sold it and built an attractive modern residence, where he now lives.

On July 1, 1884, he married Carrie Olson, a native of Washington county, Minnesota, where she was born on August 16, 1866. She is a daughter of Adam and Isabel (Wright) Olson. He was born in Sweden, January 11, 1834; she was born in England, February 18, 1828. Adam Olson came to Minnesota when a young man. He served in the Union army during the Civil War. He was married in this state and lived in Washington County until 1878, when they moved to Riverdale Township, Watonwan County, where the father bought a farm of two hundred and forty acres, which is the amount of land he still owns. He purchased more land, but sold it later. He is now living retired in St. James. Mrs. Olson died on March 10, 1895. They were parents of four children, namely: Oliver Andrew, who lives in Noonan, North Dakota; Carrie, wife of the subject of this sketch; Adam, who died in March, 1888, when twenty years old; Eva Isabel lives in Noonan, North Dakota.

Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Pedvin, namely: Esta Luella, born in 1885, died in St. James in 1887; Laura Isabel, February 12, 1891, is a graduate of St. James high school.

The farm which is owned by the father of Mrs. Pedvin is the one on which the Younger brothers were captured after the famous Northfield bank robbery. Mr. Olson has been twice married, his second wife being known before marriage as Anna Nasman, and to this union one son, John, was born on January 2, 1900.

Politically, Mr. Pedvin is a Republican. He is a member of the Episcopal Church. Fraternally, he belongs to the Free Masons, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

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CHARLES LARKIN. Charles Larkin, a successful farmer of Fieldon township, was born on February 4, 1875, in Blue Earth County, the son of Timothy and Catherine (Heren) Larkin.

Peter Heren, the maternal grandfather of Charles Larkin, was a native of Ireland and came to America late in life, after the death of his wife. His daughter, Catherine, the mother of the subject of this sketch came with him. They located for a time in Jersey City, New Jersey, after which they moved to Wisconsin and later to Watonwan County.

Timothy Larkin was a native of Ireland and came to the United States when fifteen years of age. He lived for a number of years in the east and there married to Catherine Heren, whose father, Peter Heren, after this made his home with Mr. and Mrs. Larkin. The family moved first to a farm in Wisconsin and later came to Blue Earth County, Minnesota. Thirty-five years ago, they purchased the farm of one hundred and sixty acres, where Charles Larkin now lives. He and his family were members of the Catholic Church. Timothy Larkin died on September 19, 1901. Mrs. Larkin survived him until December 22, 1908.

To Timothy and Catherine Larkin were born the following children: John; Thomas; Edward; Gilbert and William, both deceased; Charles and Mary. Charles Larkin was married on February 4, 1914, to Edith Rooney, of Blue Earth county, and the daughter of Thomas Rooney and wife, pioneers of that section.

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JOHN BISBEE. From the rugged Pine Tree state has come John Bisbee, one of the leading citizens and successful agriculturists of Madelia, Watonwan County. He was born in Oxford county, Maine, April 16, 1839, and is a son of. Jones and Rebecca (Robinson) Bisbee, both natives of Oxford County, Maine. John and Sarah (Pilbrook) Bisbee, the paternal' grandparents, were also natives of that state, where they spent their lives on a farm. Charles Bisbee, the great-grandfather, was a native of Massachusetts and a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He devoted his life to farming. The founder of the American branch of the family was Thomas Bisbee, who came from England about 1635 and established his home in Massachusetts. He was a large landowner in England and he bequeathed his property to his grandchildren. He became a member of the Massachusetts Assembly. The maternal grandparents, Increase and Abbie (Parlin)

Robinson, were both natives of Maine. He was a farmer and mill-owner. He purchased large tracts of land in Maine. He was of Scotch-Irish descent. The parents of the subject of this sketch grew to maturity in their native locality, there attended school and were married. The father devoted his active life to general farming, becoming one of the wealthiest men of his community.

He was a man of influence and was highly respected. He was a Democrat all his life. His death occurred in 1875.

John Bisbee was reared on the home farm and educated in the common schools. He began teaching when eighteen years of age, continuing several terms. He went to Massachusetts, where he clerked in a store about one year, after which he spent the summer on a fishing expedition down the Gulf of St. Lawrence; then attended Auburn Academy, where he finished his education. He then accepted a position in a wholesale boot and shoe store in New York City, in which establishment he remained two and one-half years. Upon the outbreak of the Civil War he returned to his home in Maine, taught school and engaged in farming until 1865, when he came west and located at Garden City, Blue Earth County, Minnesota, where he bought land, also taught school for some time. He clerked in a general store four years, after which he came to Madelia, where he secured employment in the store of Boynton & Cheeney, for four and one-half years. He then associated himself with Mathias Olson and opened a large general store, which they continued for twenty-five years, Mr. Bisbee finally selling out to his partner in 1891.

The work that Mr. Bisbee considers the most important in his career is what he has done the past fifteen years, during which he has put forth his efforts to produce an apple especially adapted to Minnesota and the Northwest, and he has become a noted horticulturist. He has developed a valuable orchard of two thousand apple trees, well suited to this climate. Since leaving the store he has devoted his attention to horticulture and agriculture and has met with pronounced success all along the line. He has a commodious and modernly appointed home in the edge of the village of Madelia, where he owns a well-improved and valuable farm of two hundred acres. He also owns five hundred acres of valuable land about five miles from Madelia, all under excellent improvements. He has erected all the buildings on his home place, the land being entirely unimproved when he located on it about forty-two years ago.

Mr. Bisbee was married on May 23, 1863, to Ardelia Small, of Wilton, Maine. She is a daughter of Jeremiah and Mary (Merrill) Small, natives of Maine, in which state they spent their lives on a farm. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Bisbee, named as follows: Melvina F. married E. C. Warner, who is president of the Midland Linseed Oil Company of Minneapolis; J. Oscar, who married Annie Tierney, of Madelia, runs a livery business at Madelia; Samuel S., who married Margarette Turnem, has charge of refining and shipping in the Linseed Oil Company; Edgar C., who married Mattie Arnold, is vice-president of the Linseed Oil Company of Minneapolis; Albert J., who married Lulu Wiles, is head bookkeeper for a threshing machine company in Minneapolis; Mabel A. married J. W. Palmer, farmer, Madelia township; Arthur L., who married Ethel Patterson, is traffic manager for the Linseed Oil Company of Minneapolis; Frank J., who married Marie Englebrecht, is a superintendent in the Linseed Oil Company of Minneapolis; Maurice S. assists his father in the management of his farm; Elmer, who was graduated from the civil engineering department of the University of Minnesota, is developing an old mine in California; Everett H. is assisting his father in the management of his farms; Carroll E. is also with his father on the home farm, and Ardelia, who married J. M. Lowe, superintendent of the New York Mill, property of the Linseed Oil Company of Minneapolis.

Mr. Bisbee has lived to see and take part in the wonderful transformation of the country about Madelia, whose interests he has ever at heart and sought to promote in every legitimate way. He is one of the influential and highly esteemed men of the county. He is a Mason, at Madelia, and he and family belong to the Presbyterian- church.

History of Cottonwood and Watonwan Counties, Minnesota ,Volume II : John A Brown, Ed B F Bowen & Company, Inc. Indianapolis, Indiana, 1916, Pgs 400-402



GUSTAV MISSLING. Gustav Missling, a progressive, young farmer of Amboy Township, Cottonwood County, proprietor of a farm of nearly two hundred acres in the vicinity of Jeffers, is a native of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born on a farm in Rapidan township, Blue Earth County, January 14, 1881, son of Augustus and Augusta (Franz) Missling, the former a native of the state of Wisconsin and the latter of Germany, who are now living retired in the town of Good Thunder, in Blue Earth county, this state.

August Missling was reared on the farm on which he was born in Dodge county, Wisconsin, and when a young man came to Minnesota, settling on a farm in Rapidan Township, Blue Earth County, where he lived until his retirement from the active labors of the farm, he and his wife now living at Good Thunder, where they are very comfortably situated. They are members of the German Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There are five of these children, all living, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being Robert, Lena, now Mrs. Yeager; Otto and Edward.

Gustav Missling was reared on the paternal farm in Blue Earth County, receiving his schooling in the district school in the neighborhood of his home, and remained there until his marriage in 1907, when he started farming on his own account, renting the farm on which he now lives and where he ever since has made his home. In 1909, two years after taking that place, he bought one hundred acres of the farm and later bought the remainder, now being the owner of one hundred and ninety-six and seventy-five one-hundredths acres of fine land, which he has improved and brought under profitable cultivation. In addition to his general farming, Mr. Missling has given considerable attention to stock raising and has done very well, being recognized as one of the substantial farmers of that community. He is a Republican and takes a proper interest in local political affairs, but has not been an aspirant for public office.

It was in 1907 that Gustav Missling was united in marriage to Anna Graf, daughter of Fred Graf, of Blue Earth County, Minnesota, and to this union three children have been born, Harold, Earl and Valuria. Mr. and Mrs. Missling are members of the German Lutheran church and take a warm interest in church affairs as well as in all local good works.

History of Cottonwood and Watonwan Counties, Minnesota ,Volume II : John A Brown, Ed B F Bowen & Company, Inc. Indianapolis, Indiana, 1916, Pgs 409-410



HARRIS MITCHELL. The history of the past decades proves that the agriculture of the United States, if not actually on the decline has not made the strides forward that it should have, and the result of this affects the producer and consumer alike in one respect—a rapid increase in the high cost of living. One of the wide-awake farmers of Madelia Township, Watonwan County, is Harris Mitchell, who was born in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, March 27, 1863, and is a son of T. J. and Anna C. (Harris) Mitchell. The father was born and reared in the northern part of Scotland, from which country he came to America when a young man, locating in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, where he bought a farm. He was the son of John Mitchell, a farmer, who spent his life in Scotland. T. J. Mitchell married after coming to Minnesota. He spent his last days in retirement near Los Angeles, California, where his death occurred in September, 1910. His widow is now living in Potterville, California. To these parents the following children were born: W. J., Anna C., Harris, Luella and Cyril.

Harris Mitchell grew up on the farm where he worked when a boy during the crop seasons, and he received his education in the public schools in Blue Earth county, also attended the Curtis College, or Minneapolis Academy, for some time, after which he returned to the farm and lived at home until he was twenty-nine years of age, when he married Fannie Estes, to which union three children have been born, Harold, Eldon and Cyril. He became owner of a good farm of about two hundred acres in Blue Earth County, where he farmed until he sold out and moved to Watonwan county, locating in Madelia, engaging in the ice business for two years, then moved to the country, buying the cherry farm, which he sold a few years later and purchased the place which he now owns. In 1913 his barn burned, containing a large quantity of hay and grain, but he rebuilt a large substantial barn the following year. His place consists of one hundred and sixty acres, on which he has placed all the improvements, including the planting of many box-elder and soft maple trees. He built a good residence in 1913. He believes in modern methods and pumps his water with a gasoline engine; has a large silo and other up-to-date improvements. In connection with general farming he handles annually from six hundred to twelve hundred Western sheep, and large numbers of hogs, especially Duroc-Jerseys.

Mr. Mitchell belongs to the Masonic Order and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, in which he was reared, his father having been quite active in the work of the same during his life time.

History of Cottonwood and Watonwan Counties, Minnesota ,Volume II : John A Brown, Ed B F Bowen & Company, Inc. Indianapolis, Indiana, 1916, Pgs 473-474



Walter H Johnston. Among the honored and respected citizens of Calistoga, Napa County, is numbered Walter H. Johnston, well known druggist at that place. Particular interest is attached to his record from the fact that he now owns and lives in the house in which he was born and that he also owns the business establishment in which he started to work twenty-five years ago. Mr. Johnston was born in Calistoga on the 22d of October, 1885, and is a son of Richard P. and Helen V. (Lovejoy) Johnston.

Richard P. Johnston was born at Flushing, Long Island, New York, June 18, 1853, and was there reared to the age of thirteen years. The family then moved to Garden City, Blue Earth County, Minnesota, where they remained for two years, going from there to Madelia, Watonwan County, that state. Mr. Johnston had received a fair public school education, and he was subsequently engaged with his brother-in-law, B. G. Yates, working for three

years in the latter's store. At the end of that time he returned to his father's farm, where he worked for two years, and in the spring of 1874 he went to Colorado and engaged in the stock business in association with his brother, Robert A. In the fall of that year he came to California, locating in Calistoga, where he found employment in the dry goods store of H. Getleson & Company, but in the autumn of 1876 he returned to his old home in the east. Soon afterward, how-ever, he again came to Calistoga and became head salesman for the Getleson Company. He served as recorder for the Calistoga mining district and in the spring of 1881 was elected school trustee of the Calistoga district. On July 24, 1879, he was married to Miss Helen V. Lovejoy, who was born in Columbus, Michigan, February 1, 1860. Of the children born to this union, the following are living: Frank H., now of Fresno, California; Walter H., the immediate subject of this sketch; and Mrs. Grover Hill, of Fresno.

Walter H. Johnston secured his education in the public schools of Calistoga, and when he was fifteen years of age he entered the employ of the Armstrong Drug Company, beginning in an humble capacity, keeping the store clean and doing all the work that usually falls to the apprentice. Subsequently he began clerking, and he took up the study of pharmacy in his leisure hours, so that in the course of time he was able to pass the state examination, becoming a registered pharmacist. He has continued his identification with the same store to the present time. In 1921 he bought the business and is now conducting it under his own name. He carries a large and complete line of drugs and medicines and also carries the usual line of accessories and sundries to be found in an up-to-date drug store. By reason of his unfailing courtesy and accommodating man-ner, and the high quality of his goods, he has enjoyed a splendid trade and is numbered among the substantial and progressive merchants of Calistoga.

Mr. Johnston is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and is a charter member of the Calistoga Rotary Club. On December 31, 1912, he was married to Miss Myrtle Irene Decker, who was born and reared in Yountville, Napa County, and they are the parents of three children : Helen, aged ten years; Marie, aged eight years ; and Robert, one year old.

History of Solano County, California

Hunt, Marguerite, S J Clarke Pub. Co., Chicago, 1926, Pgs 357-3.58



Christopher Mertens was born in South Germany, February 13th, 1843. He came to the United States of America in 1867 and located at Dunkirk, in the state of New York, where he engaged in the manufacturing of boots and shoes for one year, he then removed to Two Rivers, Wisconsin, where he carried on the same business. Two years later he removed to Algona, Kossuth county, Iowa, and engaged in farming and remained six years. He then came to Minnesota and located in Blue Earth county and engaged in the insurance business.

He was united in marriage with Miss Genevieve Geiger, July 29th, 1868, and to this union was born five children, viz: John, born July 16th, 1869; he graduated from Hamline University, Minneapolis, Minnesota in 1903, married Miss Alberta Galispia, came to South Dakota and commenced the practice of medicine at Lebanon, Potter County, the same year, where he now resides and enjoys a successful practice; Elizabeth, born December 22nd, 1870, died August 24th, 1871; Clara, born July 18th, 1872, she married Samuel Brown of Faulk County, November 6th, 1889, and died January 7th, 1903, leaving three children; Emma, born March 26th, 1874, she married John Gallagher, June 4th, 1902,

they now reside at San Antonio, Texas; Louisa, born February 22nd; 1877, she was united in marriage in Minneapolis, Minnesota, August 26th, 1906, to William Simon, who was born February 16th, 1869, at St. Charles, Minnesota, and came to Faulk county in 1889 and located at Faulkton, where he has been employed in the meat market up to the present time.

Mr. Mertens continued in office and representing some of the most reliable insurance companies and collecting agencies in the United States, until his removal to Faulkton in 1888. After Mr. Mertens came to this county he continued to work at his trade as a boot and shoe maker for two years, at which time he was elected to the office he filled in Minnesota, that of justice of the peace, and to which he continued to be re-elected until the time of his death, at his home in Faulkton, South Dakota, on Sunday morning, October 20th, 1905 aged sixty-two. years, eight months and sixteen days. Mr. Mertens was educated in Germany, graduating from a military school and serving for a time in the German army. After completing his service in the army he was educated for the ministry of the Catholic Church, but on account of doctrinal difficulties he never entered the church. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, holding his membership at Gettysburg, in Potter County, and has represented his lodge at the grand lodge meetings of the state. He was a lover of art, music, and philosophy and had read and thought much upon these subjects. He was a kind and loving husband and father, a good neighbor and an honest man,, and the entire community sympathized with the family in their loss. The funeral service was conducted from the Methodist Episcopal Church, Rev. McBeth preaching the sermon and the Odd Fellows having charge of the burial service. The burial was in the Faulkton cemetery.

History of Faulk County, South Dakota

Ellis, Captain C H - North Plains Press, Aberdeen, S D, 1909, Pgs 443-445



Henry Gray Morris, M D - One of Jamestown's leading physicians, Dr. Henry Gray Morris, is a specialist in X-ray work and physiotherapy. Dr. Morris was born October 19, 1895, in Jamestown, New York, son of Dr. Josiah William and Mary (Gray) Morris. His paternal grandparents were James and Christina (Harrison) Morris, his grandfather having been a farmer in the vicinity of Sterling Township, Blue Earth County, Minnesota. On the farm there Dr. Josiah William Morris was born on July 6, 1859; and he married in 1889. On the maternal side of his house, Dr. Henry Gray Morris' grandparents were Dr. Henry and Sarah Ann (Kinnie) Gray, old and highly respected residents of Bloom-field, Connecticut. Doctor Henry Gray graduated from Dartmouth College in 1847. The three children of Dr. Josiah William and Mary (Gray) Morris were: 1. Dorothy Clift Morris, born September 7, 1892, attended the Jamestown schools and Mount Holyoke College and later studied nursing in Syracuse, New York. 2. Dr. Henry Gray Morris of further mention. 3. Sidney Elderkin Morris, born August 1, 1898, studied in the Jamestown schools, entered the United States Marine Corps on September 30, 1917, and served in that branch of the country's defense forces until he received his honorable discharge in June, 1919.

Both Josiah William Morris and his son, Henry Gray Morris, as well as other members of this distinguished family, were physicians. The father, Dr. Josiah William Morris, attended Minnesota schools and the State Normal School at Mankato, Minnesota, also going to Carleton College in Northfield, that State, for the first and second years of his course of studies. In 1885 he was graduated at Amherst College, Bachelor of Arts, and in 1889 he took the degree of Doctor of Medicine at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University, New York City. In that same year he came to Jamestown to practice

medicine, beginning his work July 6, 1889. To a large extent he specialized in obstetrics, and he was an avowed leader in the affairs of his profession and his community. Twice he was president of the Fourth District branch of the New York State Medical Association, before its merger in 1906 with the Medical Society of the State of New York. For eleven years he was secretary of the Chautauqua County Medical Society, and he was a delegate to the New York State Medical Society and a member of the American Medical Association. Politically he is an independent Republican.

The son, Dr. Henry Gray Morris, attended the public schools of Jamestown, being graduated from high school here in 1914. He then studied at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, where he received his degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1918 and the Doctor of Medicine degree at Cornell Medical College, New York City, 11 1921. In 1922 he was at New York City Hospital, Welfare Island, New York City. as an interne. He started his formal practice in Jamestown in the same year carrying on a predominantly general practice until 1928, when he began specializing in X-ray work and physiotherapy. He has been situated in the same offices, at No. 15 East Fourth Street: Jamestown, since August, 1924.

In addition to his other activities, Dr. Henry Gray Morris is a member of a number of medical organizations, including the Chautauqua County Medical Society and the Jamestown Medical Society. In 1917 and 1918. during the World War period, he was a member of the Medical Reserve Corps of the United States Army. He was early a member of the Congregational Church and still worships in this faith. In addition to these affiliations, he is a member of the American Medical Association, the Jamestown Skeet and Trap Club, the Celeron Rod and Gun Club, the Lakewood Rod and Gun Club, the Falconer Rod and Gun Club, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and several branches of the Free and Accepted Masons, including Mount Moriah Lodge, the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Consistory and the Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.

Dr. Henry Gray Morris married (first), in New York City, April 21, 1922, Theo Brennan. Two children were born of this marriage: 1. Mary Carol Morris, on June 12. 1924. 2. Althea Morris on May 30, 1927. Dr. Morris married (second), in Buffalo. New York, January 6, 1934. Ruth Strance, daughter of William and Katherine Strance.

The Historic Annals of Southwestern New York

Doty, William J Ed : Lewis Historical Publishing Company, Inc, NY, Pgs 240-241



Henry S. Bassett was born April 21, 1841, in Ingersoll, Oxford, Canada West. His father, Gilbert Bingham Oscar Bassett, was born in Middlebury, Vermont, February 19, 1817, and died June 8, 1878, in Carimona, Fillmore county Minnesota. He was a citizen and subject of the United States at the time of his son's birth. Gilbert Bassett's parents, Elnathan Bassett and Lydia Bassett, were both born in New England of colonial and revolutionary stock. Elnathan's father was a soldier in the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War and himself a soldier in the United States Army in the War of 1812. Lydia Bassett was the daughter of Daniel A. Buck, of Vermont, who when a mere boy in the Continental Army at the battle of Bennington lost his arm. He was afterwards for many years congressman from that state.

Alary Smith Bassett, the mother of the subject of this sketch, was born in Ancaster, Canada West, August 1, 1816, and died July 29, 1911, at Washtucna, Wash. Her father,

Samuel Smith, was born in New Hampshire and was a soldier in the regular army during the War of 1812. Her mother, Luvia Graves Smith, was born in the state of New York. The family of Gilbert and Mary Bassett consisted of six boys and four girls, of whom Henry was the third eldest child. Only four of this family are now living, who in the order of their ages are Henry S. Bassett, of Preston, Minn.; George W. Bassett, of Washtucna, Wash.; Gilbert B. O. Bassett, of Helena, Mont., and Samuel S. Bassett, of Spokane, Wash. George married Alice C. Lancaster; Gilbert, Sarah Andrews, and Samuel, Kate Hopp. Caroline A. Bassett, one of the daughters of the family, married John B. Palmer. She died in Carimona, February 9, 1893, leaving surviving her husband and four children, C. H. Palmer, of Benchland, Mont., E. L. Palmer, of Preston, Minn.; Virginia Palmer, of Ostrander, Minn., and Fannie Vailer, of Fresno, Cal. Mr. J. B. Palmer and his daughter are now residing in Ostrander, Minn. Mary Bassett, the youngest daughter, married William Harkness, of Walla Walla, Wash. She died in 1900 at Spokane in that state, leaving surviving her husband and four children, William, Charles, Mary and Marjorie Harkness.

Gilbert and Mary Bassett, with their family, then consisting of Henry and two daughters, moved from Canada West in 1844 and settled in Scott County in the territory of Iowa. At that time there was no railway westward out of Chicago and from that point the family made the journey to Rock Island, Ill., by stage and team. The country at that time was new, and few white inhabitants, and these as a general thing cultivated but a few acres, made their own clothing and depended for a living principally upon the wild game, of which there was an abundance. Many Indians were still in the country. There was a trading post or so but no real stores, or mills, or roads in the country and no schools or churches. It was then the western frontier of the States. Though Gilbert Bassett was a printer by trade, he never worked at that business while living in Iowa, but during that time was principally engaged in farming and in mercantile business and a portion of the time in operating a daily line of four and six horse stages from Dubuque west to Independence in that state, for at that time, 1850-52, there was no railway running west from Dubuque. In 1853 he with his son Henry and a daughter came to Minnesota, then a territory, to look up a location. Late in December of that year the family started in teams from Delhi, Iowa, for Forestville, in Fillmore County, Minnesota, the place selected for the new home. The family was delayed in their journey by cold weather and snow storms for some time in Burr Oak, Iowa, but finally arrived in Forestville on January 4, 1854, where a dwelling had been purchased and a store opened by Mr. Bassett. His son, Henry, then thirteen years old, walked and drove the cows on this journey. Forestville was not then platted as a village. Winona and Brownsville in Minnesota and Decorah, Lansing and McGregor in Iowa, were their nearest market places. After the family settled in Minnesota, Mr. Bassett continued in the mercantile and farming business. A district school was established in Forestville in 1855 and maintained about half of the time which Henry attended most of the time until December, 1858, when he went to Crawfordsville, Ind., to attend Wabash College, located at that place. Prior to his going to Minnesota he had attended private and district schools to a very limited extent, so when he entered upon his college course his education it may be said was mostly acquired by his study outside of the schools. He had a good knowledge of frontier life, farming and mercantile business as carried on in a new country, and managing and caring for horses and other stock and was physically strong, active and able to undergo great fatigue and exposure. Desiring to obtain a collegiate education, as above stated, he went to Wabash College, where he took up a regular classical course and studied from January, 1859, to early in May, 1861, when, on account of the Civil War then just under way, he returned to his home in Minnesota, in order that he might obtain his father's consent to enlist in the army. He had tried to enlist in Indiana, but being under age and not having his father's consent, the authorities would not accept him. During the time he was a student at Wabash College he supported himself by his manual labor, cutting cord-wood, digging ditch, sawing wood, or doing whatever other work came to hand. After his return home he was obliged to delay entering the army until

August 4, 1862. But in the meantime he aided his father in his business and taught a school of seventy scholars during the winter of 1861 and 1862 in the village of Fillmore. Having helped to raise men enough to form a company he entered the army August 4, 1862. About half of the members of the company were from Fillmore county and half from Houston county. The men rendezvoused at Fort Snelling, where they were organized as Company K in Sixth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, with W. H. Woodward as captain, W. W. Braden, first lieutenant, and H. S. Bassett, second lieutenant. Within a few days after the company was organized and before the different companies composing the regiment could unite, the Indian outbreak on the frontier and the massacre of the white settlers in the western part of the state occurred. Mr. Bassett served with his company in the campaign under General Sibley against the Indians for the relief of Fort Ridgley, the release of the white prisoners and protection of the frontier that year. In 1863 he was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant and took part that year in the second campaign against the Indians. During that year he was for some time adjutant at Fort Snelling under Colonel Morgan. In the spring of 1864 the regiment was sent south to Helena, Ark., where during most of the summer of that year, Lieutenant Bassett served as assistant provost-marshal of the district of eastern Arkansas. In the winter of 1864 and 1865 his—regiment was sent to St. Louis, Mo., where, until February, 1865, it was on duty. In that month it was sent to New Orleans and placed in the Second Brigade of the Second Division of the Sixteenth Army Corps, commanded by Gen. A. J. Smith. Company K, with the regiment in this corps, formed a part of the forces under General Canby in the capture of Spanish Forts, Blakeley and Mobile, and in the campaign against Montgomery, in the spring of 1865. During these campaigns Lieutenant Bassett was in command of his company, its captain being absent on detached service. The company under the command of Lieutenant Bassett returned to the state after the war closed and was mustered out at Fort Snelling, August 19, 1865. Mr. Bassett, after his more than three years' service in the army, was still unwilling to give up his college course. After resting at home for about three months, in January, 1866, he entered the University of Wisconsin and again took up his studies. In May he returned to his home in Minnesota to assist his parents to fit out for their journey to the territory of Montana. His parents and five of their children that month set out from Forestville in teams for Helena, Mont., where they arrived in September, 1866. Henry taught school in the village of Carimona during the fall and winter of 1866 and 1867. In the fall of 1867 he returned to the University of Wisconsin and resumed his studies. A military department had been established in the university, and at the request of the authorities of that institution he organized the students subject to military drill into companies, drew arms and equipments for them from the state and superintended their drilling and training during the four years he remained in the university thereafter. He not only took up and continued his regular classical course of studies in the university at this time, but also the studies of the civil and military engineering departments, and graduated on June 21, 1871, receiving his diploma and degree from each of the three departments.

He returned to his home in Fillmore County and in the fall of 1871, upon the Republican ticket, he was elected probate judge of that county. He continued to hold that office by election from January 1, 1872, to January 1, 1882, when he voluntarily declined to be a candidate for re-election and gave his attention wholly to the practice of law, having been admitted to practice at the bar in 1874. July 12, 1882, he married Mrs. Georgiana A. Smith, at the home of her parents, in Blue Earth County, Minnesota. Mrs. Smith, at the time of her marriage with Mr. Bassett, had one son, Everett R. Smith, who continued to live with them until his marriage to Mae O'Brien some years ago, since when he and his wife have lived in their own home adjacent.

Mrs. Georgiana A. Bassett, daughter of Rev. R. S. Armstrong, a Congregational minister, was born at Lisbon, St. Lawrence county, N. Y., in 1843, and received her education in the Academy of Potsdam, in that state. She engaged in teaching at the age of seventeen and followed that profession principally until she married Mr. Bassett in 1882. She spent some years in California, crossing the Isthmus of Panama on a pack horse in going to and returning from that country in the early sixties with her husband, Mr. Smith. She and her parents and family came from the state of New York and settled in Minnesota in 1868, where she has resided ever since. Her home has been in Preston in Fillmore County since 1879. She was an able and successful teacher, enterprising and public spirited and has taken an active part in all educational enterprises of her village, and other matters for the social and moral betterment of her village and the community. For the last fifteen years and more she has given much of her time to horticulture on the home farm, where she lives adjacent to the village of Preston, where she has a fine fruit orchard.

Mr. Bassett was appointed by Governor Johnson judge of probate of Fillmore County, in April, 1907, to fill out the unexpired term of Judge Farrington, who died while holding that office, and served as such probate judge until January 1, 1909.

During his residence in Preston he was for ten years a member of the board of education of the high school. He has also served the village as mayor and village attorney. Since December, 1872, he has been engaged in the study and practice of his profession, the law, in the village of Preston.

History of Fillmore County, Minnesota City of Publication: Chicago : 1912
Curtiss-Wedge, Franklyn, Authors, Pgs 534-538



Frank Oachs – Of the well known and successful farmers, of Macsville township, Grant County, is Frank Oachs, who was born in Mountain Lake, Cottonwood County, Minnesota, on October 7, 1873, the son of Peter and Elizabeth (Stopelman) Oachs, natives of Wisconsin, who left the state of their nativity and came to Minnesota, locating at Mountain Lake, Cottonwood county, where they lived until 1875, when they moved to Blue Earth county, and there purchased forty acres of land, which they later increased to two hundred and twenty acres. That farm was developed and improved by Mr. Oachs and there he engaged in general farming and stock raising until the time of his death, which occurred on August 12, 1914, at the age of sixty-seven years. His widow is still living, at the age of sixty-seven years. They were the parents of eight children: Frank and Emma (twins), John, Ida, Annie, Willie, Edward and Milton, all of whom are living. Mr. Oachs was a man who took much interest in local affairs, and always used his influence for the advancement and the growth of the township and the county. He was a man who was universally honored and respected and his death was mourned by his many friends and neighbors.

Frank Oachs received his education in the public schools of Blue Earth County and there grew to manhood on the home farm, assisting his father with the duties of the farm. As a young man he engaged in farming for himself and owned forty acres .of land in Blue Earth county, which he sold in. 1899 and came to Grant county, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 16 of Macsville township. The farm at that time was for the most part wild prairie and required much labor to place it under its present high state of cultivation.. Mr. Oachs set out a beautiful grove and erected substantial buildings, and there, became successfully engaged, in general farming and stock raising. On June 1, 1914, his house burned and in August of the same year he and his family

moved into their present beautiful home, which is one of the most attractive in the community. Mr. Oachs is Republican, has always taken an active interest in local affairs and has been a member of the school board for a number of years. He is progressive in his views, believes in the support of the best possible schools and has had much to do with the perfection of the present system in his district.

In 1899 Frank Oachs was united in marriage to Jeannette E. Little, who was born in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, May 25, 1873, the daughter of Andrew and Euphemia (Hislop) Little, who were born in Scotland, and in Janesville, Rock County, Wisconsin, respectively. - Mr. Little received his education in the public schools of his native country, where he lived until he was eighteen years of age, when he came to the United States and located in Wisconsin. There he was married on June 7, 1865, to Euphemia Hislop, of Janesville. For one year after their marriage -they lived at Red Wing, Goodhue County,, Minnesota, after which they removed to Blue Earth County, where they purchased one hundred and sixty acres, to which they later added forty acres. That farm they -developed and improved and there Mr. Little has since engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which- he has been quite successful. Mr. Little was born on November 6, 1838, and his wife, December 3. 1842, and are both living on their home farm in Blue Earth county. They are the parents of the following children : John I.), Thomas W., Grace I., Euphemia J., Jeannette E. and Agnes C., all of whom are living. Mr. Little has always taken much interest in local affairs and is a man of much influence in his home community. He is the only survivor of six sons born to his parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Oachs are the parents of six children, Andrew P., Walter J., Bessie L., Dessie L., Alexander W., and Euphemia. The family have long been prominent in the social activities of the community and are held in the highest regard by all who know them. Mr. Oachs is recognized as one of the most progressive farmers and stockmen in the county, and though he has been in the county but seventeen years he has won the confidence and the respect of all. He has ever used his influence to further the better and more substantial development of the county.

History of Douglas and Grant Counties, Minnesota : their people, industries, and institutions
Indianapolis, Ind.: B.F. Bowen & Co., 1916, Pgs 601-603



Frank Haegle, of Lismore Township, is one of the pioneer settlers of that township, having made his home there nearly thirty years. He is a native of Germany, having been born at Grafenhausen, Baden, on Dec. 14, 1863. He is the son of Joseph and Augusta (Mutschler) Haegle. The father was born in Germany April 27, 1832, and now makes his home with his son in Lismore Township. In the fall of 1907 he visited his old home in Germany, returning the next spring well satisfied with the farming conditions of this country. He enjoys good health and assists in the farm work. The mother was born in Germany in March, 1833, and died in Nobles County Oct. 18, 1896.

The Haegle family emigrated to the United States in 1872 and located at Mankato, where they arrived October 16, with only \$80 in their possession. The head of the family rented land near that city and engaged in farming on it four years, working hard during the time he could spare from the farm in the hardwood timber. At the end of the four years he bought an eighty acre tract eight and one-half miles from Mankato, put twenty acres of it into crop, and farmed it two years. Grain and wood were then very cheap on that market, and he concluded that the place was too small and that, as his two boys and one

daughter were growing up, he would look for land in some new country.

Early in the spring of 1878 Joseph Haegle, accompanied by two other early settlers of Blue Earth County, William Kemach and Robert Heidwinkle, came to Nobles County to look the country over with a view to investing. They traveled over a large part of western Nobles County on foot, as there were no livery rigs to hire. On the first noon out they took lunch by the side of a huge boulder, which stands opposite the farm of Rufus Doe, on the line between Olney and Westside townships. This was the third day of March, 1878. The prairie grass of the year before had just burned off and the country along the Kanaranzi creek looked very rough and bluffy, and Mr. Haegle's companions decided that they would not locate in the country. Twenty-eight years later these two gentlemen again visited the country and expressed their surprise at the wonderful development.

Joseph Haegle was not discouraged by the looks of the country, he being a hard working man, and decided to locate. He purchased from Peter Thompson for \$300 that gentleman's tree claim to the northwest quarter of section 24, Lismore Township, then nothing but wild prairie land with no improvements. He broke forty acres of land that spring with two horses that he had brought with him and erected the old claim shanty that can be seen today standing in the middle of the yard of the home place. During the months of June and July he erected a frame dwelling house, and in October, of the same year, the family came down from Mankato, locating on the farm which has ever since been the family home.

The family was poor when they came to the county, and for some time suffered all the hardships of pioneer life. Forty acres of wheat were planted in the spring of 1879, and when the hoppers came that year they ate it almost to the ground for five rods around the whole forty acres. This was a severe blow to the new arrivals, and for the first few months in 1879 they lived on starvation fare. Their condition was relieved on July 28, 1879, by the arrival of \$303, Mrs. Haegle's share of her father's estate. The family continued to battle with the hardships and in time came upon prosperous days. There were some well to do homesteaders in the Haegle neighborhood who lost several thousand dollars during the unfortunate time in Nobles county's history. They were discouraged on account of the dry weather and the ravages of the grasshoppers and left the country, and today some of them are in very poor circumstances.

Frank Haegle secured three years' schooling in Germany and three years in the schools of Mankato. Until he was twenty-one years old he lived with his parents. At that age he rented the home farm- and has been engaged in farming since. In 1885 he bought eighty acres of his present farm in section. 13, Lismore, and two years later he bought the other eighty of the quarter.

Mr. Haegle was married at Adrian March 10, 1890, to Miss Ida Sieren, who was born eight miles east of Mankato on March 23, 1864. Her father, John Sieren, settled in Blue Earth County in 1856, and resided there until 1902, when he moved to St. James, where he now lives. Mrs. Haegle's mother was Margaret (Wagner) Sieren, who died June 2, 1906. To Mr. and Mrs. Haegle have been born the following children: Mary M., born Oct. 18, 1891; Appalona A., born Nov. 30, 1892; Joseph H., born March 28, 1894; John M., born May 4, 1896; Susan B., born Sept. 12, 1898, died June 2, 1899; Anna K., born April 15, 1900; Rosen% A., born Sept. 10, 1901; Edward M., born Nov. 9, 1903; Francis K., born Sept. 8, 1905. The family are members of the Catholic church of Lismore.

An illustrated history of Nobles County, Minnesota
Rose, Arthur P : City of Publication: Worthington, Minn. :1908, Pgs 456-457



REV. H. F. C. Mueller was born in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, and is one of seven living children born to Rev. Henry Julius and Dora (Dagefoerde) Mueller, the father being one of the pioneer ministers of southwestern Minnesota. On August 7, 1910, the father celebrated the anniversary of his fortieth year in the ministry, at the age of seventy-three, while at Brewster, Minnesota. There was a large attendance of friends and brother clergymen, all of whom marveled at his unusual freshness, youthfulness and vigor. Rev. Henry Fred. Charles Mueller in his early age determined to devote his life to the Master's work. He accordingly was given every opportunity to secure the education necessary for this important labor. He received seven years' parochial school training at Lester Prairie, Minnesota; three years at Concordia College, St. Paul, Minnesota; three years in Concordia College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and three years in Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri. In 1904 he was duly ordained to the ministry, and at once took charge of the Lutheran congregation near Kimswick, Jefferson County, Missouri. This he held for three years with much credit to himself and with much benefit to the congregation. At a financial loss to himself he finally gave up this field and accepted the urgent call to come to Stewartville, Minnesota, where there was a broader field of labor and usefulness. Here he has pursued his holy calling ever since and has continued to grow in the hearts of the people. He is a member of the German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and other States. On July 6, 1904, he wedded Miss Matilda Hagamann, of Minneapolis, and they have three children: Henry F. W., born December 19, 1905; Renatus T. P., born July 16, 1907; Adelbert C. E., born December 21, 1909.

History of Olmstead County, Minnesota

Leonard, Joseph A : Goodspeed Historical Association, Chicago, 1910, Page 487



DR. Elmer H. Argetsinger (1898), a prominent dentist of Pipestone, has been engaged in the practice of his profession in that city since 1898. A native of New York State, Dr. Argetsinger was born the thirteenth of May, 1873. Early in life he accompanied his parents in their removal to Minnesota, the family first settling in the city of Faribault and later establishing themselves at Mapleton, Blue Earth County. Graduating from the dental department of the University of Michigan with the class of 1896, our subject immediately thereafter located in his home town, Mapleton. Two years later Dr. Argetsinger commenced his residence in Pipestone. In 1903 a partnership was formed between Dr. Elmer H. Argetsinger and his brother, Dr. Ernest E. Argetsinger, in the conduct of their profession. Their offices are located over the State Bank of Pipestone.

G. W. and Mary Jane (Maricle) Argetsinger, the parents of Dr. Argetsinger, were natives of the Empire state and descended from early colonial stock. The mother died in September, 1907, and since that time G. W. Argetsinger has resided with his daughter at Mapleton, Minnesota. There are ten children in the Argetsinger family, all living. They are George F., of Pipestone; Mrs. John Burgett, of Faribault; Albert H., of Willets, California; Mrs. Joseph Stevens, of Mapleton; Ulysses G., of Mapleton; Norman E., of Oakes, North Dakota; Edward A., of Missoula, Montana; Elmer H., of Pipestone; Ernest E., of Pipestone; and Mrs. E. E. Newcomer, of Minneapolis.

On June 29, 1898, Dr. Argetsinger was joined in marriage to Carrie Lawrence, and to this union three children have been born: Genevieve, Elmer Erland and Alfred Glenn. The doctor holds membership in five different branches of the Masonic order, the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Eastern Star, Scottish Right and Shrine, in the Modern Woodmen and the

Modern Brotherhood of America. He is a member of the Pipestone Library board.
An Illustrated History of Rock & Pipestone Counties, MN
Rose, Arthur P : Northern Publishing Co., Luverne, MN : 1911, Page 747



George F Argetsinger (1901), a Pipestone contractor and builder, is a native of the Empire state. He was born in Steuben County, New York, January 24, 1860, the son of George W. and Mary J. (Maricle) Argetsinger, both of whom were also New Yorkers by birth.

Our subject was fourteen years of age when he moved west with his parents. The family located near Faribault, Rice County, Minnesota, where the father bought land and engaged in farming. After eight years Mr. Argetsinger went to Mapleton, Blue Earth County, where he was destined to reside nineteen years. He followed the building trade and. also was employed in a lumber yard in that town prior to 1901, when he selected Pipestone for his future home and built a residence in which he has since lived.. Our subject is a member of the Baptist church and of three fraternal orders, the Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen and Sons of Veterans.

George F. Argetsinger was married at Mapleton, Blue Earth County, on October 14, 1884, to Ella Bowman, a native of that town.. Mrs. Argetsinger is the daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Dezell) Bowman, natives of New York, and she was born October 14, 1865. The following five children have blessed this union: Elsie E., born October 14, 1885; George Leslie, born March 7, 1887; Mary J., born August 21, 1890; G. Winnifred, born February 20, 1893; and Francis M., born May 9, 1898.

An Illustrated History of Rock & Pipestone Counties, MN
Rose, Arthur P : Northern Publishing Co., Luverne, MN : 1911, Pgs 754-755



Charles J. Sigmond (1899), veterinary surgeon of Pipestone, was born in Cook County, Illinois, on the third of February, 1867. His father, Charles Sigmond, was born in Lorraine, Germany, which at the time was French territory. He came as a boy to the United States and settled in Cook County, Illinois, his home until called by death in June, 1869. Mr. Sigmond, Sr., served for three years and ten months in the civil war with company A, Sixteenth Illinois regiment. He married Louisa Goebel, a native of Cook County. To these parents were born three children: Emma (Mrs. Frank Hawkins), of Aberdeen, South Dakota; Charles J., of this sketch; and George A., of Minneapolis. Frank Horton, of Minneapolis, is a half-brother of our subject.

Charles was not yet three years of age when he was left fatherless. Several years later the family moved to Minnesota, residing two years in Stearns County, and then went to Hennepin County. He finished his grammar school education in Minneapolis and for a number of years was employed in drug stores of that city. He was graduated from the Ontario Veterinary college of Toronto in March, 1893. Immediately thereafter he located in Duluth for the practice of his profession. A year later he moved to Austin, Minnesota, and remained there until 1899, when he established his present residence in Pipestone.

Dr. Sigmond was united in marriage at Mapleton, Blue Earth County, on November 29, 1898, to Anna L. Brooks, a native of Waseca County. Our subject holds membership in the Masonic, Yeomen and Modern Brotherhood of America.



David Will, a successful farmer of Huntsville Township, is a native of Wisconsin and came to Polk County in 1882. He was born in Waukesha County, Wisconsin, July 29, 1862, and at an early age removed with his parents to Blue Earth County, Minnesota, where he grew to manhood. On coming to Polk County, he worked at whatever livelihood the country afforded, at Fisher for a time and for several years on the farm of Mr. Gilmour in Nesbit Township. After six years of steady labor he had accumulated a small capital which enabled him to finance a farming enterprise on rented land, where he remained for three years and then bought the quarter section in section two of Huntsville Township, which is his present home. This tract contained no buildings and but a few acres of cultivated land and Mr. Will entered upon his operations under the handicap of debt. He erected buildings and began the development of his property and has worked his way to success through determination and unflinching industry, energetically overcoming failure and discouragement. In the first year he suffered the loss of his crops and for a number of years was able to make but little progress toward prosperity but able management and hard work have brought him to the goal of the successful agriculturist. He later bought eighty acres of railroad land and for many years has rented land and operates two hundred and forty acres aside from the home quarter. He engages principally in grain farming, harvesting some 8,500 bushels in 1915 and also is interested in stock and dairy farming, and selling dairy products to private customers in Grand Forks. Mr. Will is interested in all matters of public moment and community welfare and is a township supervisor. His marriage to Mary Ferguson occurred in 1892. She is the daughter of Donald Ferguson, a farmer in Winona County, Minnesota.

Compendium of history and biography of Polk County, Minnesota
Minneapolis: W.H. Bingham & Co., 1916, Page 314



Hughes, Thomas, is one of the leading lawyers of Southern Minnesota, and has been practicing his profession in Mankato since 1882. He is a native of Ohio, and was born in Minersville, Meigs County, September 23, 1854. His father, Henry Hughes, was born in Monmouthshire, South Wales, in 1833, and came to this country in 1851, settling at Minersville, where, two years later, he was married to Eliza Davis, a native of Cardiganshire, Wales, who had emigrated to this country the same year as her husband. Mr. Hughes moved with his family to Minnesota in October, 1855, and settled on a farm in the present town of Cambria, Blue Earth County, and was one of the first settlers in that section of the state. He retired from his farm in 1889, removing to Mankato, where he now resides in fairly good circumstances. He always took an active interest in all matters of a public nature, has been a leader in local affairs, and held a number of town and school offices. The subject of our sketch enjoyed the best educational advantages the country schools afforded, and when twenty years of age went to Northfield and entered the preparatory department of Carleton College, graduating in the regular classical course in 1880; with first honors. He then took up the study of law in the office of the late Judge F. H. Waite, of Mankato, Minn., and was admitted to the bar in 1882. He farmed a partnership with Mr. M. Z. Willard in 1884 under the firm name of Willard Hughes, which continued until 1887. For the past ten years his brother, Evan Hughes, has been associated with him, but the firm name has been "Thomas Hughes." He enjoys an extensive practice and

has the respect of his clients and fellow-members of the bar in a high degree. He has been attorney for the First National Bank of Mankato, the Mankato Mutual Building and Loan Association, and several other corporations, for a number of years. During his practice he has handled a large number of important cases, and with very good success. In 1896 he was elected county attorney of Blue Earth County and was re-elected by a large majority in 1898. His record in that office is acknowledged to have been second to none in the state. In politics he has always been a Republican and a consistent supporter of Republican principles, taking an active interest in the party's welfare. He has been identified with every public enterprise tending to build up and promote the best interests of his adopted city, and has been a director of the Mankato Mutual Building and Loan Association for a number of years. He is also a member of and on the board of directors of the Mankato Board of Trade, is a director of the Y. M. C. A. of that city, and is connected with a number of other associations. The only fraternal organization with which he is connected is the Knights of Pythias. He is a member of the Congregational Church of Mankato, a trustee and deacon, and superintendent of the Sunday school. November 25, 1885, he was married to Miss Alice O. Hills, daughter of Amos B. and Sybil Hills, of Faribault, Minn. Their union has been blessed with two children, Burton E. and Evan Raymond. Mrs. Hughes is a graduate of Carleton College in the class of 1881.

History of the great Northwest and its men of progress
Minneapolis: Minneapolis Journal, 1901, Pgs 162-163



Clark Puffer - In the afternoon of one's life no greater compensation can be afforded than the sense of having at all times exemplified high and honorable principles, and of having aided to the best of one's ability in the struggle for the betterment of mankind in general. Able to enjoy this consolation, by virtue of a well spent and useful life, Clark Puffer found peace and comfort in his well appointed home at Riverside during the last days of his career. He was born in Tioga county, N. Y., February 6, 1834, into the family home of Timothy and Catherine (Howe) Puffer. He spent his boyhood on his father's farm and attended the common school during the winter months, and later worked as a farm hand on the various farms in his neighborhood. At the age of twenty he went to La Crosse County, Wis., and purchasing eighty acres of land, carried on general farming for some years. After disposing of this land he moved to Blue Earth County, Minn., and four years later we find him in Otoe county, Neb., where he improved a farm and continued farming until 1893, when he disposed of his holdings and moved to Riverside County, Cal., to enjoy the comforts and prosperity of a favored location of which he had heard naught but the highest praise. He purchased twenty acres on the corner of Victoria Avenue and Mary Street, and from that date began its improvement from sage brush and greasewood. He erected a modern house a little later and planted his place to the finest qualities of oranges, which yielded him a handsome profit as they began to come in bearing. He also threw himself into the civic development of his adopted home city and county and never was found to be backward about lending support to every movement brought to his attention that had for its ultimate object the best interests of the citizens and the upbuilding of the city he called home. His one pride was the beautifying of Victoria Avenue and he labored unceasingly towards that end, as all who knew him willingly testify.

Mr. Puffer was thrice married. His first wife, Miss Polly A. Gillespie, to whom he was united on May 16, 1857, passed away leaving one son, Jesse C., a well-known resident of Riverside. His second marriage, with Lucy McManus, resulted in the birth of two children: Carroll A., now a resident of Redlands; and Ira J., who died at the age of

twenty-four years. Mrs. Lucy Puffer died in Riverside and left to mourn her passing a large circle of friends who had been drawn to her for her many kindnesses shown during her residence in the city. In April, 1899, in San Bernardino, occurred the last marriage of Mr. Puffer and united him with Mrs. Mary (McAlpin) Krahl. Together they labored to make a happy and comfortable home in their declining years. Mr. Puffer passed away after a short illness, April 21, 1912, leaving to mourn his death his widow and his two sons, Jesse C. and Carroll A. Never robust, yet he was possessed of an energy and courage that were displayed many times, a kindly consideration for others was always uppermost in his mind and he never neglected the opportunity to assist his more unfortunate fellowman. At all times he enjoyed the confidence and esteem of all with whom he came in contact. He was a Republican in political belief and gave his hearty support to the party at all times. As a member of the Christian Church of Riverside his religious life was both serene and practical.

History of Riverside County, California

Holmes, Elmer Wallace : Los Angeles, Calif.: Historic Record Co., 1912, Pgs 423-424



Paul Riedel (1898) established the first meat market in the village of Magnolia. At present he is engaged in farming and lives on the southeast quarter of section 12, Magnolia Township. Germany is his native land, and it was in Zechin on the tenth of February, 1867, that he was born. He is the son of William and Emelia (Zimmerman) Riedel. The father was a prominent merchant and trader in his hometown.

The first eighteen years of Paul Riedel's life were spent as a subject of the Kaiser, and in the fatherland he secured his education. In 1885 he crossed the Atlantic and made his first home in the new world at Mapleton, Minnesota, with an uncle. For a number of years he hired out on different farms in that vicinity, and in 1890 he entered the employ of a butcher, from whom he learned the trade. In 1892 he removed to St. Clair, Blue Earth County, where for two years he managed a shop for Charles Dumbeck. Abandoning the meat business for a while, he worked as a carpenter until 1898, the date of his arrival to Rock County. He made Magnolia his home, and there he conducted a meat market for the next four years. At the end of that time he disposed of his business and moved to the farm where, he still resides.

At St. Clair, Minnesota, Mr. Riedel was united in marriage to Eda Kohler. Two sons and one daughter have blessed this union. The children were born as follows: Willie, on December 17, 1895 (died the following September); Flossie M., on September 27, 1897; and Otto W., on Independence day, 1898 (died at the age of eight years). Mr. Riedel is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

An Illustrated History of Rock & Pipestone Counties, MN

Rose, Arthur P : Northern Publishing Co., Luverne, MN : 1911, Pgs 578-579



Hoerr, John, was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, February 6, 1850, and is the son of William and Elizabeth Hoerr. After graduating from the Polytechnical School at Karlsruhe, Germany, at the age of eighteen, he immigrated to the United States in 1868, landing in New York City, and later locating in Mankato, Minnesota. There he was first employed as clerk in the county treasurer's office of Blue Earth County, where he remained two years. In 1871 he located in New Ulm, Minnesota, and engaged in business on his own account

as manufacturer of and wholesale dealer in mineral waters. In September, 1872, he located in Denison, Texas, and engaged in similar business also in Dallas, Hempstead and Austin, which he conducted ten years. In 1882 he disposed of his mineral water interests in Texas and located in St. Louis, Missouri, and engaged in the manufacture of a proprietary article known as Phosphatic Lemon Rye, Which business he conducted five years. In 1887 he engaged, in St. Louis, in the manufacture and sale of what is known as Condensed Phosphorus Water, with branch stores in Boston, Massachusetts, New York City, Altoona, Erie and Williamsport, Pennsylvania ; Corning and Rochester, New York ; Chillicothe and Springfield, Ohio ; Thomaston, Connecticut, and other cities. Condensed Phosphorus Water is a specific for rheumatism, gout, indigestion, liver and kidney disorders. Mr. Hoerr is a Republican in politics and independent in religious views. He is a Mason and an Odd Fellow. He married Miss Mary Bergman, of New Ulm, Minnesota, January 9, 1875. They have six living children—Louis A. Hoerr, Henry W. Hoerr, Esther Hoerr, John Hoerr, Jr., Arthur. Hoerr, and Roland Milton Hoerr.

Encyclopedia of the history of St. Louis

New York: Southern History Co., Haldeman, Conard & Co., Proprietors, 1899, Page 1035

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