



JAMES THOMAS WYMAN.

James Thomas Wyman may be described as one of the makers of Minneapolis. No one is more active in every good work for the advancement of the interests of this city than he. Like many of the leading citizens of Minneapolis, Mr. Wyman is a native of Maine. He was born at Millbridge, October 15th, 1849, the son of John Wyman, a dealer in building materials and a merchant who, though not accounted wealthy, was in comfortable financial circumstances. Mr. Wyman is of old Puritan stock, his ancestry having come from England about 1640, and settled in Woburn, Massachusetts. He attended the public schools of his native town, but enjoyed no further educational advantages until he came to Minnesota in 1868 when he located at Northfield and attended Carleton College for one year. In 1869 he went into business in that town with his brother, operating a sash, door and blind factory and saw mill. This establishment was burned March 12th, 1871, without insurance. Mr. Wyman had already established such a reputation for integrity and straight-forward business methods that he was able to borrow money to pay off his debts. He then came to Minneapolis and was made superintendent of a sash, door and blind factory, operated by Jothan G. Smith and L. D. Parker, where he demonstrated the possession of such business capacity that in 1874 he became a

partner, under the firm name of Smith, Parker & Co. This same business is now conducted under the firm name of Smith & Wyman, the partners being H. Alden Smith and James T. Wyman. From this it appears that Mr. Wyman has been a manufacturer in Minneapolis for upwards of twenty-five years, and a very extensive employer of labor, having on his pay rolls at different times from two hundred to two hundred and fifty men, and during all that time the most cordial and friendly relations have been maintained between employes and employer. Mr. Wyman helped to organize the Metropolitan Bank in 1889, and has been the president of that institution since 1890. He was president of the Board of Trade in 1888 and 1889 and was one of the organizers of the Business Union in 1889 and a member of its board of directors. He is president of the Clearing House Association of the associated banks of Minneapolis, and an active promoter of every enterprise for the benefit of the city. Politically he is a Republican, and was honored by his party with election to the lower house of the legislature in 1893, and to the senate in 1895, in both of which bodies he has been recognized as a leader. He was the author of the Minnesota factory inspection act, of the university tax act, of the new Minnesota banking law, and many other important measures. He is a member of the Minneapolis Club, of the Commercial Club, and also vice-president of the Associated Charities, to which splendid organization he has given the benefit of his business experience and wise counsel. He is a member of the Hennepin Avenue M. E. church, which counts him one of its most active and faithful supporters, and he serves the church as one of its trustees. He is also a trustee of Hamline University, the leading Methodist educational institution in the Northwest. Mr. Wyman, in spite of all his numerous interests and activities, is a man who is well known in Minneapolis society, always in demand and accounted one of the most pleasing after dinner speakers of the state. He is now in his prime and enjoys the esteem and confidence of his fellow citizens in a remarkable degree. He was married September 3d, 1873, to Rosa Lamberson, daughter of a Methodist Episcopal clergyman at Northfield. They have seven children, Roy L., Guy A., Grace Alice, James C., Maud E., Earle F., and Ruth.