

with Judge Henry G. Hicks, to which firm Frank H. Carleton was afterwards admitted, and still later his son, Norton M. Cross. He has been connected with much important litigation, both for private individuals and corporations. In 1879 he urged in the local press the construction of the "Soo" railroad, an idea which was afterwards carried out by General Washburn. While City Attorney of Minneapolis in 1884 he framed the patrol limits ordinance and defended the same before the supreme court. He also inaugurated the litigation which resulted in the lowering of the railroad tracks on Fourth avenue North. Mr. Cross has always been a Republican. He was elected mayor of Lyons, Iowa, in 1871, and in 1883 city attorney of Minneapolis, and held the office until 1887. He was a member of the first park commission of Minneapolis, and in 1891 was appointed United States Immigration Commissioner to Europe. Captain Cross is a member of the George N. Morgan Post, G. A. R., of the Loyal Legion, the Loyal League, Commercial Club and of Plymouth Congregational church. He was married at Oberlin, Ohio, September 11, 1862, to Clara Steele Norton, of Pontiac, Michigan, a descendant of John Steele, first official of Connecticut. They have four children living, Kate Bird, wife of United States Engineer Francis C. Shenchon, at Sault Ste. Marie; Norton Murdock, Nellie Malura, wife of Theodore MacFarlane Knappen, and Clara Amelia.

#### GERSHOM BENNETT WARD.

Gershom Bennett Ward is cashier of the First National Bank of Alexandria, a position he has held since it was organized. Mr. Ward is the son of George Ward, a well-to-do farmer, and one of the first settlers of McHenry County, Illinois; also one of the proprietors of the Bank of Alexandria, Minnesota. Mr. Ward's great grandfather, John Ward, served throughout the Revolutionary War in a Connecticut regiment. George Ward's wife's maiden name was Betsy Bennett, a native of Onondaga County, New York. The subject of this sketch was born in McHenry County, Illinois, April 10, 1852. He attended the common schools of the village of Harvard. He then spent one year at Hedding Seminary, Abingdon, Illinois, and afterwards



three years at the Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois. In 1873 Mr. Ward took the Mann prize for oratory at the Northwestern University. In 1870 he came to Minnesota and was employed in teaching school during the winter of 1870-1871 near Alexandria, and received the first money of his own earning in that capacity. He then returned to college for three years, after which he again took up his residence at Alexandria. He was employed in the Bank of Alexandria from 1876 to 1883, when the First National Bank of Alexandria was organized. Mr. Ward became its cashier, which position he now holds. He has always been a Republican, and is a member of the board of directors of the state normal school, president of the board of education of Alexandria, of which body he has been a member for twelve years, and president of the public library board, of which he has been a member for fifteen years. Mr. Ward is a member of the Masonic Order, Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. He is chairman of the board of trustees of the Congregational society. He was married in 1877 to Miss Mary W. Westfield. They have three children, George W., Reba W. and Percy V. H. Mr. Ward was honored with appointment on the staff of Governor Nelson, with the rank of colonel, and holds the same position on Governor Clough's staff.