



HENRY J. GJERTSEN.

Henry J. Gjertsen is a native of Tromsøe, Norway. His father was born in Bergen, Norway, and comes from the well-known Gjertsen family of that city. At an early age he removed to the northern part of Norway, Tromsøe County, where he married Albertina, daughter of the Wulf family, and engaged in agriculture and shipping until about twenty-eight years ago, when he brought his family to this country and settled in Hennepin County. The subject of this sketch was born October 8, 1861, and was six years of age when his parents came to this country. Mr. Gjertsen's early education was obtained in the district school in the town of Richfield, Hennepin County, Minnesota, where his father was engaged in farming. He grew up on the farm until he was twenty years of age, working on the farm during the summer season and attending school in the winter. In this way he prepared for the Minneapolis high school which he also attended for a time. Subsequently he took a six years' term in the collegiate department of the Red Wing seminary, a theological institution. His parents had destined him for the ministry, but after completing his collegiate course he took up the study of law in Minneapolis, and at the age of twenty-three was ad-

mitted to practice by the district court of Hennepin County. While yet a student of law he became interested in some important and fiercely contested litigation which finally landed in the supreme court and almost before he was regularly admitted to practice he was recognized as an attorney of record in the supreme court of Minnesota. He has also been admitted to practice in the supreme court of the United States. Mr. Gjertsen has always been a student and speaks fluently the Scandinavian and German languages. While very successful in his professional work he retains a love for agriculture and prides himself on being a practical and thorough farmer. He has made no specialty of any particular branch of law but has been engaged in general practice and enjoys a reputation of a successful practitioner, in both lower and higher courts. During the last two years he has been engaged a greater part of the time in prosecuting insolvency cases growing out of the failures of the local banks. Mr. Gjertsen is a Republican and takes an active interest in local and national politics. He has served at different times on county and congressional committees, and takes an active part in the work of the Republican League; was a delegate to the last national convention of the Republican League; has stumped the state in every direction for the last ten years in the interest of the Republican ticket; has been a delegate to several state conventions, but has never held any political office. He is recognized as one of the leading Scandinavians of the state, and his name has been frequently mentioned for judicial honors. He is a member of the A. F. and A. M., and several other fraternal societies, local clubs and organizations. He has taken an active interest in the promotion of every enterprise inaugurated for the benefit of the city. In his church connections he is an Episcopalian and an active member of that denomination. Mr. Gjertsen was married January 4, 1883, to Gretchen Goebel, daughter of a prominent German family from Hanau, near Frankfort-on-the-Main. He has one daughter living and is thoroughly devoted to his family. He has resided in Minneapolis ever since he was married, and is in every way loyally identified with the interests of the city.

*Marion Daniel Shutter, 1897*