

1897



HENRY NICKEY RICE.

Dr. H. N. Rice is a prominent citizen of Fairmont, Martin County, Minnesota. He is a native of Indiana. His father, D. B. Rice, was born in Oneida County, New York, on August 2, 1815, and lived in that state until 1840, when he came West and established a home in Indiana. He first took up a farm near Fort Wayne. It was in that locality that he married Miss Rosanna Nickey, who was a daughter of Daniel Nickey, a German, who had emigrated to Pennsylvania. In 1866 Mr. Rice came to Minnesota, but soon after moved to Eagle Grove, Iowa, where he is now living in robust health. He is a self-made man, and of that type which always achieves prominence and good will of his fellow citizens. His wife died in 1862. Of their family of eight children, two are now living, Dr. Rice and Ezra Rice, a banker in Luverne, Minnesota. Dr. Rice was born in Whitley County, Indiana, on September 2, 1843. He obtained his education in the country schools of Whitley County, and remained at home, giving his father the benefit of his services until he was eighteen years of age. Then, upon the breaking out of the war, young Rice responded to the President's call for troops and became a member of Company B, Seventy-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He continued with this command until the close of the war,

with the exception of one year of sickness after the battle of Perryville, Kentucky. During this year he was at Quincy, Illinois. When he rejoined his regiment it was under command of Gen. W. T. Sherman, then stationed at Ringgold, Georgia. Dr. Rice was just in time to participate in the famous march to the sea. During the war he was in many hard fought battles, but was never seriously wounded, although he was struck in the shoulder during the charge at Jonesboro, at the taking of Atlanta. At the close of the war Dr. Rice was honorably discharged, being mustered out on June 13, 1865, at Indianapolis. He at once returned to his Indiana home and entered the Commercial College at Fort Wayne. He spent a winter in teaching school, and in 1866 came to Minnesota and located a homestead near East Chain Lakes. At that time the vicinity was very sparsely settled, and the land on which he located was still in its primitive condition. After a few years he began the study of medicine with Dr. G. D. Winch in Blue Earth City, Minnesota, and in 1872 he entered the medical college at Keokuk, Iowa, where he continued his studies until fitted for practice. He then returned to Fairmont, where he engaged in practice for the next ten years. Finding an opportunity to further his studies, he entered Rush Medical College at Chicago and graduated from that institution in 1885. Since that year he has lived continuously in Fairmont. Aside from his professional duties, Dr. Rice has been connected with the business interests of his locality, and has for ten or twelve years been owner of a prosperous drug store at Fairmont. He is a noted owner of a large stock farm near the Silver Lake region. It contains five hundred acres bordering on Silver Lake, about ten miles south of Fairmont. It is beautifully located, and a part of it has been fitted up as a summer resort. In 1866 Dr. Rice was married to Miss Sarah E. Reed. Mrs. Rice is a woman of much ability, and has been a very prominent worker in the Woman's Relief Corps and in the Rebecca Lodge and the order of the Eastern Star. They have six children. Dr. Rice is a Republican and has been honored with many local positions as well as the election, in 1876, to represent his district in the State Legislature. For eight years he served as mayor of Fairmont. The interests of the city were ably conducted during his administration. In 1880 he was ap-

pointed surgeon of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, and still holds that position, as well as being pension examiner. He is very prominent in Masonic circles, and is a member of the I. O. O. F. and of the Phil Kearney Post, No. 18, G. A. R., at Fairmont.

JAMES A. PETERSON.

James A. Peterson, county attorney of Hennepin County, owes what measure of success he has achieved almost entirely to his own efforts. His father, Aslak Peterson, a farmer in ordinary circumstances in Dodge County, Wisconsin, is still living on the same farm which he patented from the government under the homestead law. Mr. Peterson's mother was Karen Marie Ostenson. Both father and mother were born near Skien, Telemarken, Norway. They belonged to the agricultural classes, and emigrated from that country in 1849. In that year they settled in Dodge County, Wisconsin, where they have lived ever since. The subject of this sketch was born near the village of Alderly, Dodge County, Wisconsin, January 18, 1859. He attended the country school until fourteen years of age when he went to school in the neighboring villages of Hartford and Oconomowoc. Mr. Peterson was ambitious to obtain a college education, and although his parents were unable to provide him with means to do so he did not hesitate to strike out, relying upon his own resources to get an education. He entered the sub-freshmen department of the University of Wisconsin and prepared for college. He entered the freshmen class in the classical course of the university in the fall of 1880, and graduated from that institution with a degree of A. B. in 1884. Mr. Peterson taught school a part of the time while he was in college in order to pay his expenses and earned the money to pay for his own education through the entire course, with the exception of the last year when he had help from his father. He had the legal profession in view and continued the study of law in the same institution, graduating from the law department in 1887, with the degree of LL. B. Mr. Peterson had commenced the study of law in 1885, after graduation from the university, with W. S. Field, of Viroqua, and while in the



law school studied in the office of J. L. Connor, of Madison. He came to Minneapolis August 18, 1887, and began the practice of his profession, and has been so engaged in this city ever since. January 1, 1893, he was appointed assistant county attorney of Hennepin County by Honorable Frank Nye, and was re-appointed to the same office January 1, 1895. Mr. Peterson was elected county attorney of Hennepin County in November, 1896. He is also connected in business with Robert S. Kolliner, the style of the firm being Peterson & Kolliner. Mr. Peterson has always been a Republican and has always taken an active part in politics. He stumped the State of Wisconsin for Blaine in 1884, the year of his graduation from college, and did a like service for Harrison in Minnesota in 1892. He was a member in college of the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, is a member now of the Masonic order, and belongs to the Knights of Pythias. In church relations he is an Episcopalian and a member of Gethsemane Church in Minneapolis. Mr. Peterson was married at Perry, Dane County, Wisconsin, November 19, 1889, to Marie Emilie Dahle. Mrs. Peterson is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, in the same class of which Mr. Peterson was a member, and where she took the degree of Bachelor of Letters, and is a lady of fine attainments. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have one child living, Amy Bell, born January 11, 1891.