

ALONZO THOMAS STEBBINS.

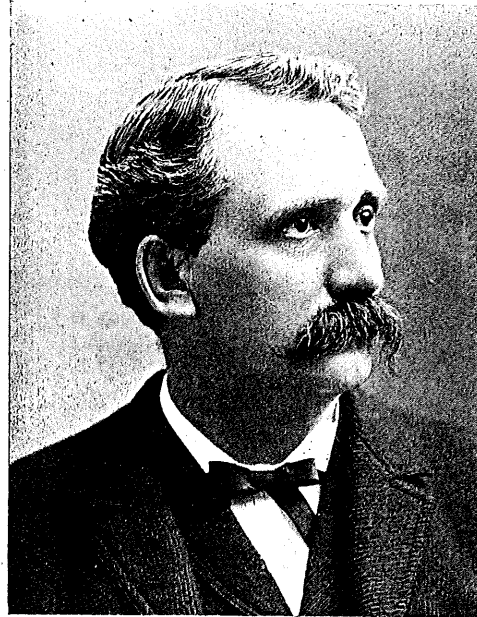
A. T. Stebbins, member of the state senate from Olmsted County, and one of the prosperous merchants of Southern Minnesota, is a native of Massachusetts, and was born at Mansfield, in that state, September 21, 1847. His father, Thomas Warren Stebbins, now in his eighty-first year, for a number of years has been associated with him in business at Rochester. The elder Stebbins came from French Huguenot ancestors, who emigrated to America in 1734. His father and grandfather served in the War of the Revolution, and his father in the War of 1812. His wife was Harriet Blandon, and when the subject of this sketch was one year old she died. In 1850 the family moved to Keene, New Hampshire, where young Stebbins fitted himself for high school. When he was ten years of age the family came West, locating on a farm in Winona County, Minnesota. The son promptly resumed his studies, working on the farm during the summer and attending the Winona high school during the winter. After finishing the course, he went to Boston where he attended the Bryant & Stratton Commercial College, from which he graduated in 1865. From 1865 to 1867 he was a clerk in a

hardware store in Winona. This was his first work away from home. Subsequent to that period he was bookkeeper for a prominent grain firm in Winona, which position he held until 1871, when he went to Rochester, and with his father bought the hardware store of H. A. Brown of that place. The new firm was named Stebbins & Co., and it has been prosperous from the beginning. In 1892 Stebbins & Co. bought the hardware store of the A. Ozmun estate in Rochester. Mr. Stebbins has always been a Republican in politics, and cast his first presidential vote in 1868 for Grant. From 1883 to 1885 he was a member of the city council of Rochester. In 1889 he represented Olmsted County in the lower house of the legislature, and in 1894 was elected to the state senate. During his service in the lower house Mr. Stebbins was chairman of the committee on insane hospitals, and did much to promote the building of the hospital at Fergus Falls. For the last two sessions of the legislature he has been chairman of the insane hospitals committee of the senate, in that capacity displaying sound judgment, marked business ability, and an intelligent and painstaking interest in the management of these institutions. At present he is at the head of three prominent business associations in Southern Minnesota, namely, the Rochester Board of Trade, the Southern Minnesota Fair Association, and the Southern Minnesota Mutual Fire Insurance Company. Mr. Stebbins is an enthusiastic Mason. He is a member of Rochester Lodge, No. 21, A. F. & A. M.; Halcyon Royal Arch Chapter No. 8; Home Commandery, No. 5, Knights Templar, and Osman Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. He has served as presiding officer in the blue lodge, chapter and commandery. He is past captain general of the Minnesota Grand Commandery, Knights Templar, and at present is serving as deputy grand master of the Minnesota Grand Lodge, A. F. & A. M. In addition to belonging to the above named Masonic bodies, Mr. Stebbins is a member of the Knights of Pythias, A. O. U. W., Knights of Honor and Sons of the American Revolution. He attends the Congregational church but is not a member of it. September 26, 1871, Mr. Stebbins was married to Miss Adelaide L. Stebbins, in Brookline, Vermont. Two children have blessed

the union, Mabelle C., born July 26, 1873, and George M., born July 25, 1875. The latter is a student in the law department of the State University.

ALBERT WILLIAM STOCKTON.

The subject of this sketch is a member of the state senate from the Twentieth District, serving his second term. He is the son of John C. Stockton and Martha J. Sippy (Stockton). His father was a farmer in comfortable circumstances in Wisconsin, living a very quiet life, but honored and respected by his neighbors. Albert William Stockton was born in Kosciusko County, Indiana, March 30, 1844. He removed with his parents to Richland County, Wisconsin, in the fall of 1855. He lived on the farm with his parents until the outbreak of the war, receiving a common school education. On August 22, 1862, he enlisted in Company B, 25th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, going into camp at La Crosse. In September the regiment was ordered to Ft. Snelling to participate in the Indian war then raging, where the regiment was divided, the right wing going up the Minnesota river and the left going up the Mississippi, the companies being located at different points. The company in which Mr. Stockton was enlisted was stationed at Alexandria. In December it was ordered to report at Ft. Snelling, and from there went to Camp Randall, Madison, Wisconsin. In February, the following year, the company went South, the first stop being made at Columbus, Kentucky. Mr. Stockton has an honorable war record. He served with his company continuously, not losing a day from sickness or otherwise, participating in all the battles in which the company was engaged until June 14, 1864, when he was severely wounded by a gun shot wound in the right thigh, at the battle of Peach Tree Orchard, in front of the Kennesaw Mountains, Georgia. Mr. Stockton, like thousands of others, experienced quite a serious time in various hospitals at Resaca, Georgia; Chattanooga and Nashville Tennessee; Madison and Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. In June, 1865, he was discharged with his regiment at Madison, Wisconsin.



He then returned home and for several years was engaged as a clerk in a general store. In August, 1872, he removed to Faribault, Minnesota, where he has since resided. Mr. Stockton has occupied many positions of public trust. He served as deputy county auditor of Rice County for twelve years. He then held the position of assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Faribault for two years. In 1886 he formed a partnership and has been engaged in the manufacture of flour and furniture ever since that time. He has, however, always taken an active interest in all enterprises tending to build up and promote the best interests of his city and county generally. For ten years Mr. Stockton has acted as chairman of the board of county commissioners of Rice County. In 1890 he was honored by the people of his district with an election to the state senate, and was re-elected in 1894. He has been active in promoting legislation for the good of the community, having served on various committees and occupied a position on the finance committee each term. In the session of 1895 he was chairman of the railroad commission. Mr. Stockton is held in general esteem by all who know him for his public spirit as well as for his admirable personal character.