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Commemorative Biographical Record of the Counties of Rock, Green, Grant, Iowa and Lafayette, Wisconsin, Containing Biographical Sketches c

COMMEMORATIVE

BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD

OF THE COUNTIES OF

ROCK, GREEN, GRANT, IOWA AND LAFAYETTE

WISCONSIN,

CONTAINING

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF PROMINENT AND REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS,

AND OF MANY OF THE EARLY SETTLED FAMILIES.

ILLUSTRATED.

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son died July 21, 1875. He was a most estimable and public spirited citizen, and highly respected. Notwithstanding his bodily ailments he was always cheerful, and possessed a most genial nature. He was a great reader, and was active in the promotion of the educational interests of the community in which he lived. His last work was to help locate the new school house, and to make a contract with the builders. He was especially fond of music, playing the violin well, and he encouraged and promoted the musical talents of his children. He and his wife joined the M. E. Church in 1849, being members of the first class of that church in the vicinity. This couple were blessed with ten children, eight of whom grew to mature years, and six are living at this time (1901). The children were as follows: Ella Hortense, wife of John J. Hughes, of Dodgeville, Wis.; Lydia Louise, wife of H. M. Levatie, of Wyoming; Jesse T., residing on the old homestead of his grandfather; Albert D., of Wyoming; George Irving, on his father's homestead in the town of Wyoming; Rosa May, wife of Solon R. Knickerbocker, of the town of Wyoming. Two reached maturity before their decease: Carrie Malinda, who died in 1880, at the age of twenty-three years; Eddie Leonidas, who died in 1878, at the age of nineteen years. The others deceased were Elmore Eugene, the oldest son, who died at the age of six, and Willie Jerome, who died in babyhood.

Of the family born to Jerome and Lydia (Coolidge) Woodbury, five were living when this was written (1901): Mrs. Elizabeth W. Richardson, of Wyoming; Mrs. Sylvia H. Anderson, of Iowa Falls, Iowa; Alfred Coolidge, of Darlington, Wis.; Mrs. Mary Cline, in the town of Fayette, Lafayette county; and Albert Morris, formerly of Lone Rock, Wis., now of Dakota, who served throughout the war of the Rebellion; Nathan, who died in the hospital at St. Louis at the close of the war; and John, who also served through the war, and died soon after its close near Faribault, Minn. While living in New York Jerome Woodbury joined the volunteers for the "Patriot War" in Canada, but returned to his home upon learning that the United States government had not authorized any hostile movements. Upon coming to Wisconsin he settled at Fayette, Lafayette Co., where he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. He was one of the first temperance advocates in the county, and always active in that cause. His wife was a daughter of Daniel Coolidge, who served three months in the war of 1812, enlisting from Madison county, New York.

Mrs. Leonidas Richardson, from whom was obtained much information contained in this sketch, is one of the oldest citizens of Wyoming. She has led a very industrious life. Several of her children were quite young when her husband passed away and a great responsibility was placed upon her, but she has been faithful to her trust, and her children are all well settled, happy and useful members of society. She has ever been held in high esteem by her acquaintances. The family are all members of the M. E. Church.

WILLIAM WEBB. From tillers of the soil have arisen some of the most influential and celebrated men of this and other lands, and even cursory reading will demonstrate the truth of the assertion that agriculture is the surest path to affluence. Among the substantial farmer-citizens of Albany, Green county, is William Webb, who was born in Oneida county, N. Y., May 16, 1819, a son of James and Anna (Scott) Webb, both of whom were natives of New York. They had born to them a family of eight sons and five daughters, but time has made sad inroads, and but three of that large number still survive: William, who is our subject; Lois, who married Harrison Chase, resides near Utica, N. Y.; and Anna, who married a gentleman of Vernon, New York.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was James Webb, a native of New York, of English descent, who followed a sea-faring life and at death left one son and one daughter. The maternal grandfather was Enos Scott, a native of New York, born in the neighborhood of Black river, where he engaged in farming, lived to an advanced age, and was the father of three sons and two daughters.

William Webb, the subject of this sketch, was reared on a farm in Oneida county, N. Y., and was early taught lessons of industry and honesty, which have been of advantage to him in later life. The educational advantages were those of a settled locality, and in his youth our subject was well grounded in the primary principles. At the age of fifteen he accompanied his father to

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Ohio, where the latter settled on a good farm in Geauga county, where he died in 1841, aged sixty-one years. The mother of our subject survived him some ten years, being seventy-two years old at the time of her death. She had all her life been a devoted member of the Methodist Church, while Mr. Webb had accepted the Universalist faith. During the war of 1812 he had been a teamster, and during his residence in Oneida county served a long time as supervisor of his town, and was a well-known and respected citizen.

About 1860 William Webb removed to Wisconsin, taking up 160 acres of government land, which he improved and lived upon for some years, but advantageously sold and then located in Green county, where he bought 312 acres, which he improved, this farm being in Section 25, Albany township. In 1882 his two sons, Charles and William, bought this farm, and our subject retired to the village of Albany, where he built a substantial and comfortable residence, with twelve acres of land, and now resides there, enjoying the fruits of a well-spent life.

Mr. Webb was married April 26, 1842, to Miss Fannie Rice, a daughter of Roswell and Sarah Rice, six children being born of this union: Albert, who married Mary Kibbie, lives in Evansville, with four children, Arthur, Frank, Nellie and May; Jane, who married Hiram Brown, who died a number of years ago, leaving six children, Clara, Myrtie, William, Helen, and a pair of twins (who died in Nebraska), and Mrs. Brown then married O. C. Healy, and resides at Mapleton, Minn.; Mary E., who married Samuel Harn, is deceased, leaving one daughter, Emma, who is now the wife of F. L. Holiday, of Janesville; William R., who married Dell Bump, and resides in Albany, with five children, William, Rufus, Homer, Fern, and Hazel; Charles E., who married Eva Harte, and resides in Evansville, with one son, Mark; and Emma, who married Benjamin Sutherland, but is now deceased, leaving one daughter, Jessie. The mother of these children died on May 26, 1889, aged sixty-nine years, having been a devoted member of the United Brethren Church. On June 5, 1890, Mr. Webb wedded Mrs. Sarah A. Hubbard, the widow of Henry Hubbard, and her death occurred in March, 1897.

An active and prominent member of the Democratic party, Mr. Webb has been called upon to serve in many of the local offices for some years, being supervisor and a justice of the peace for many terms, displaying judgment and discretion in managing the township affairs that made him a valuable officer. Ever since locating in Green county he has engaged in farming and stockraising, but has found time to be interested in all progressive movements in his neighborhood, and willingly assisting when he was convinced they were for the best interests of all concerned. Much respected, he is one of the representative citizens of Albany.

HORACE J. LORD. Among the remaining pioneers of Grant county, Wis., who has been one of the leading citizens of Bloomington for more than fifty years is Horace J. Lord, who came to this locality on May 16, 1846. Mr. Lord was born near Burlington, Chittenden Co., Vt., Dec. 15, 1822. His father, Austin Lord, and his mother, Mary Ann (Chapin) Lord, were natives of Connecticut, the maternal grandmother having been born in Hartford and the original ancestry in Colonial times came from Great Britain. As an interesting bit of family history, the following incident may be related: At the battle of Lake Champlain, the mother of Mr. Lord, with another young lady, became frightened watchers of the great struggle and sought safety in the belfry of the church, where they saw the final victory.

Austin Lord and wife were married in Vermont and there their three children were born. When Horace was nine years old the family removed to Chautauqua county, N. Y., and there the father purchased 150 acres of land on what was known as the Holland purchase, which he cleared up and made there a very pleasant home, which would probably have been a permanent one if he had not felt that his boys would need a larger patrimony. The great Northwest offered farms for all, and thither the family, consisting then of the parents, three sons and an adopted daughter, turned their faces. The eldest son, Homer Lord, came first to Wisconsin, in 1845, and in the fall of the same year, the youngest, Henry, came also, in order that some preparation might be made for a family settlement.

In the spring of 1846 Horace J. Lord and his wife (whom he had but recently married), his parents, and his adopted sister started with teams, with the intention of driving all the way