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MEN WHO WILL MANAGE THE EXPOSITION

LIST OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Substantial Character of the Men Behind the Project.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF THE LEADERS

Qualifications that Commend Them for the Work in Hand.

EACH STATE HAS ITS OWN VICE PRESIDENT

Officers Drawn from the Whole Transmississippi Region.

PORTRAITS OF ALL THE PRINCIPALS

All About the Men Chosen to Shape the Plans and Supervise the Work of the Great Transmississippi Exposition.

The active management of the affairs of the Transmississippi and International Exposition is in the hands of a president and an executive committee of seven members. Each member of the executive committee is the manager of one of the seven departments into which all the work of the exposition is divided. The articles of incorporation of the Exposition association also provide for a vice president for each of the twenty-four transmississippi states and territories to be appointed by the governors of the respective states. Acting in accordance with this feature of the exposition organization the governors of sixteen states and territories have appointed vice presidents and newly elected executives in the remaining states are expected to make similar appointments within a short time. Those who have thus far been appointed vice presidents are as follows:

For Iowa, George P. Wright, Council Bluffs; South Dakota, Thomas H. Wells, Hot Springs; Nebraska, William Neville, North Platte; Missouri, John Doniphan, St. Joseph; Kansas, C. A. Fellows, Topeka; Arizona, Charles R. Drake, Tucson; California, George W. Parsons, Los Angeles; Texas, Gustav Reymersshofer, Galveston; Oklahoma, Eugene Wallace, Oklahoma City; Idaho, B. P. Shavhan, Payette; Nevada, William J. Hitchcock, Reno; Utah, Lewis W. Shurtliff, Ogden City; Colorado, Henry P. Steele, Denver; New Mexico, L. Bradford Prince, Santa Fe; Oregon, B. S. Cook, Salem; Alaska, Governor James Shielley, Sitka.

The bill now pending before the Nebraska legislature provides for the appointment of twelve directors, two from each congressional district, to have co-ordinating powers with the directors of the Exposition association. Commissioners for the United States government will be named by the president at an early day and the states that make appropriations will doubtless appoint commissioners to direct the expenditure of such appropriations.

The officers of the exposition are: Gordon W. Wattles, president; Alvin Saunders, resident vice president; Herman Kountze, treasurer; John A. Wakefield, secretary. The executive committee is composed of the following: Zachary T. Lindsey, chairman and manager of the Department of Ways and Means; Edward Rosewater, manager of the Department of Publicity; Gilbert M. Hitchcock, manager of the Department of Promotions; Freeman P. Kirkendall, manager of the Department of Buildings and Grounds; Edward E. Bruce, manager of the Department of Exhibits; Albert L. Reed, manager of the Department of Concessions; W. N. Babcock, manager of the Department of Transportation.

President Gordon W. Wattles. Gordon W. Wattles, president of the Transmississippi and International Exposition association, has been one of the moving spirits in the exposition project since its inception. He is a typical western business man, full of energy and vigor. He was born at Richmond, Iowa county, N. Y., May 12, 1854, and lived there until he was 10 years old. In 1865 he removed with his parents to Iowa, and in 1867 settled on a farm in Carroll county near Gladwin. For nine years his summers were spent in the ordinary duties of farm work, and his winters in attending school and teaching. He commenced teaching at 17, and earned in this way the means to enter college. In 1873 he entered the Iowa agricultural college at Ames, Ia. He stood at the head of his class until his senior year, when, on account of sickness, he was obliged to give up the course. In 1879 he was elected county superintendent of schools of Carroll county, Iowa, and served two years. At the close of his term he entered a law office and completed his studies and was admitted to the bar in 1881. After practicing law a short time, he, with others, organized the Farmers' Bank of Carroll, and for several years was its cashier. In 1889 it was reorganized as the First National Bank of Carroll, and he was elected president, which position he held until 1892, when he sold his stock and removed to Omaha and became identified with the Union National bank as vice president, which position he has since held. For several years past he has also managed the western business of a large trust company located at Rochester, N. Y., and has, in connection with this, been in Iowa and Nebraska soliciting for this institution.

Vice President Alvin Saunders. Alvin Saunders, resident vice president of the Exposition association, has been a prominent figure in western history during more than half a century. He has taken a leading part in many of the events which have gone to make the history of the Transmississippi region and enjoys a national reputation. Alvin Saunders is a native of Kentucky. Where he was born July 12, 1817. When he was 5 years old his parents removed to Illinois locating near Springfield. At the age of 19 years Saunders left home and went to Iowa, attending at what is now Mount Pleasant. In 1846 he made his entrance into public life by being elected a member of the Iowa constitutional convention. In 1854 Mr. Saunders was elected to

the Iowa state senate and was re-elected in 1858. He was a delegate to the convention which nominated Abraham Lincoln for the presidency of the United States and was also active in the campaign following this nomination. March 26, 1861, Mr. Saunders was appointed by President Lincoln to the office of governor of the territory of Nebraska, and assumed the duties of the office the following May, remaining continuously in office until March 27, 1867, when Nebraska was admitted to the union of states. Governor Saunders took an active interest in the preliminary steps looking toward the building of the great Union Pacific railway and was one of the incorporators of the company formed to build the road. In 1877 Governor Saunders was elected to the United States senate and served the full term of six years. In 1890 he was appointed a member of the Utah commission, having in charge the registration and elections in the territory, and served in that capacity for about three years. Governor Saunders retained his position on the Utah commission and has devoted his time and attention to his private business. He has always taken a prominent part in all public movements and has been identified with all movements looking toward the development of the resources of Nebraska and its metropolis. He is at present engaged in the real estate business, being the president of the Omaha

promote the material welfare of the city and state. He is reputed to be the wealthiest citizen in Nebraska and the heaviest real estate owner in Omaha. He is prominently identified with several great corporations doing business in this section and has extensive investments in several of the transmississippi states.

Vice President L. B. Prince, N. M. L. Bradford Prince was born at Flushing, N. Y., in 1829. He is a lineal descendant on the maternal side of Governor William Bradford of Plymouth, one of the men of the Mayflower, and had for great-grandfather and grandfather respectively Governors Bradford and Collins of Rhode Island. His early life was passed in the south. As he came to maturity he engaged in agricultural pursuits on his father's place in Flushing, but after brief experience entered upon the study of law in Columbia college, graduating with high honor. He was admitted to the bar in 1852, and was elected a delegate to the national republican convention of 1868, which nominated Ulysses S. Grant for president. He has since been a successful lawyer in the New York assembly—1871, 1873 and 1874—and in 1885 was elected to the state senate. While in the legislature Governor Prince gave special attention to the

concerns the city's welfare and was one of the charter members of the Chamber of Commerce. He has also taken a prominent part in advancing the interests of the state and has been instrumental in calling at



GEORGE W. PARSONS.

tention to matters of advantage to the community. Mr. Parsons is a member of the executive committee of the Transmississippi Commercial congress and has taken an active part in the affairs of the congress and of the exposition since its first inception.

Vice President Col. John Doniphan. Colonel John Doniphan, vice president for Missouri, is a patriarch in the cause for the advancement of the interests of his fellow men. He traces his ancestry back to the shores of Spain, from whence they emigrated to Scotland, where the family intermarried with adherents of the Stuarts. In 1659 the Doniphans settled in Virginia and members of the family were engaged in the revolutionary war. The father of John Doniphan served from Virginia in the war of 1812 and afterward removed to Brown county, Ohio, where, July 12, 1826, John Doniphan was born. When John was quite young the family removed to Kentucky, where John learned the printer's trade. In 1848 young Doniphan graduated from the Louisville law school and engaged actively in the practice of law. The same year he removed to Missouri, located at Liberty and afterward removed to Weston, where he resided until 1872, when he removed to St. Joseph, where he now resides. In 1854 Colonel Doniphan was elected as a member of the Missouri legislature and served much of the time until the close of the war. In 1852 he was elected to the state senate and served four years. In 1857 he was elected to the house without opposition and was afterward elected judge of the court of common pleas. Colonel Doniphan was the first president of the Western & Atlantic Railroad company, the origin of the present Kansas City, St. Joseph & Council Bluffs Railway company. He was afterward an attorney general for ten years. In 1871 he was president of the Atchison branch of the Chicago & Southwestern railroad and built that branch. In 1872 he became attorney general for Joseph & Grand Island Railroad company and built the Hastings & Grand Island railroad in 1870 and aided in building other lines in Kansas and Nebraska. Colonel Doniphan has been a very successful criminal lawyer and is now quietly following his profession. He is ready at all times to give his time and services for the public good. He was a member of the Transmississippi Commercial congress which endorsed the idea of a great exposition of the public good. He was an effective speech in support of the movement, prophesying the great benefit the trans-



COLONEL JOHN DONIPHAN.

mississippi region would derive from such an exhibition.

Vice President George F. Wright. In Hon. George F. Wright, of Council Bluffs, Iowa, vice president of the state is well represented in the affairs of the exposition. His appointment by Governor Drake last winter was received with much satisfaction and he has shown his efficiency by his work in getting a liberal appropriation for the exposition from the legislature at Des Moines. Mr. Wright was born in Washington, D. C., in 1837. He was educated at the United States Military Academy at West Point, N. Y., and was discharged October 28, 1859, holding the rank of second sergeant, company H, One Hundred and Forty-second Illinois volunteers, and afterward received a personal letter from President Lincoln, thanking him for courage, honorable and patriotic services. After the close of the war he was an engineer on steamboats on the lower Mississippi. In this way he earned money enough to complete his studies. In 1872 he was elected a delegate to the na-

tional convention at Cincinnati, which nominated Greeley and Brown. In the fall of the same year he was elected to the lower house of the Iowa legislature and in the fall of 1881 they established a bank at Omaha and in 1876 was elected to the Nebraska legislature from Douglas county. In 1877 he removed to North Platte, where he now resides. In the fall of 1884 he was defeated for congress by G. W. E. Dorsey and in November, 1886, was appointed registrar in the land office at North Platte, which position he held until June, 1890. In 1891 he was elected judge of the Third judicial district of Nebraska and in the month of last year he was elected one of the provisional judges of the state supreme court.

Vice President George W. Parsons. George Winfield Parsons, vice president for California, is one of the moving spirits in all that concerns the interests of his adopted state. His home is at Los Angeles and he is identified with all of the public movements in the interest of the advancement of California, besides being prominently connected with numerous church and society organizations. He was born in Washington, D. C., August 26, 1850, of revolutionary stock, and received a business training in New York city. After a year or two spent among the adventurous spirits of the Florida reefs, Mr. Parsons sailed for California in 1876. He was in the employ of the National Gold Bank and Trust company until January, 1889, when he went to Tombstone, Arizona. For seven years he followed the adventurous life of the wild frontier and was prominent in the many encounters with the Indians, and in 1887, he located at Los Angeles, Cal., where he has since resided. He has taken a prominent part in all that

concerns the city's welfare and was one of the charter members of the Chamber of Commerce. He has also taken a prominent part in advancing the interests of the state and has been instrumental in calling at

1884, when William Shurtliff, the founder of the family in the colonies, landed at Plymouth, Mass.

Soon after his birth his parents became members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and in his early years his parents followed the movements of that church from place to place. Kirland, O., Farr West, Mo., Nauvoo and Council Bluffs, until 1851, when a move was made across the plains toward Utah. On September 23, 1851, the family reached Salt Lake City, L. W. being then 16 years of age. In a few months they moved to Weber county, where they at once began to build log cabins, lay out farms, construct irrigation ditches, make roads and improve the land. From that year until 1867 Mr. Shurtliff worked along, sharing the hardships and privations of those early days and taking an active part in the stirring events of the settlement of the territory. In 1867 Mr. Shurtliff was sent to Europe on a mission, remaining there three years, traveling in England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, France, Switzerland, Germany, Holland, Denmark, Sweden and Norway. In 1883 he was made president of the Weber Stake, a position which he holds up to the present.

In civil life he has been one of the most prominent men in Weber county, he having been honored with many positions of trust and responsibility. In 1883 he was appointed

county commissioner, remaining in that office until elected judge in 1888.

In that year he was a member of the constitutional convention that met in Salt Lake city. He was a member of the council of the territorial legislature in 1887 and was elected to the same place for the session of 1888. He was also re-elected probate judge in 1888 and remained in that office until 1889, when he was again elected county commissioner. In which office he served until the close of 1891.

In a business way Mr. Shurtliff has been equally prominent, being the vice president of the Utah Loan and Trust bank. He was president of the first street railway company in Ogden and in various ways has always been closely identified with the business advancement of the city and state. He was a delegate to the first two national irrigation congresses and affairs, which was held in Denver in 1894, he was appointed chairman of the irrigation commission of Utah. He was a delegate to the first session of the Transmississippi Commercial congress, held in Ogden in 1883, and at the second session in 1894 at San Francisco was made a member of the national committee.

Mr. Shurtliff is now the assistant general manager of the Pioneer Electric Power company. He is a public-spirited, progressive man and holds the respect and confidence of his fellow men.

Vice President Henry P. Steele. Henry Pemberton Steele, vice president for Colorado, is president of the Denver Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade and is one of the pushing, energetic men of the Mountain City. He was born in Malden, Ill., April 10, 1857, and lived there



HENRY P. STEELE.

until he was 10 years of age, when he removed to Denver, accompanied by his parents. During his residence in Colorado Mr. Steele has followed the business of stock grower, ranchman, surveyor and educator. The firm at one time took a leading rank and became one of the leading firms of the state.

This connection continued until Judge Baldwin was appointed by President Grant as one of the judges of the court of commissioners of Alabama claims. He then formed a partnership with Hon. John N. Baldwin, son of the late Judge Caleb Baldwin, which was continued down to the present time, the firm being known as Wright & Baldwin.

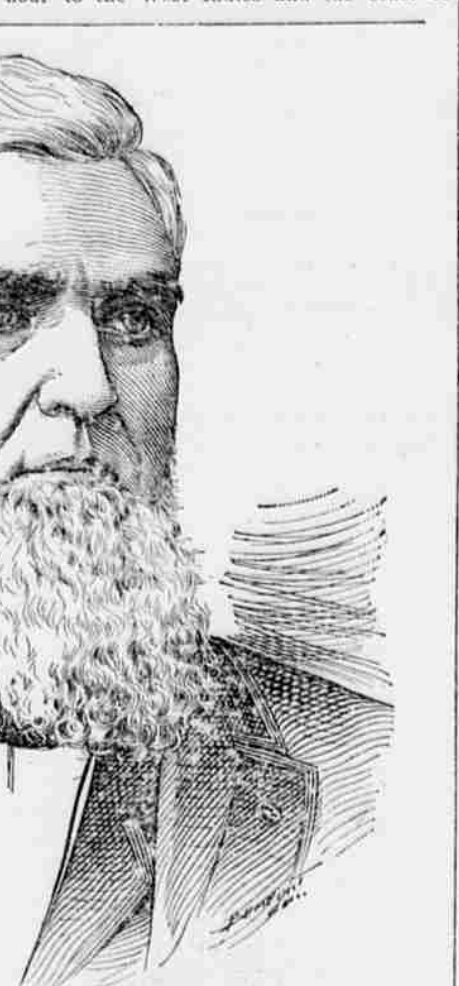
Mr. Wright has been prominently connected with the politics of the state, having served as senator in four general assemblies. Among the enterprises he has been connected with was the organization of new enterprises, Cedar Rapids and Sioux City in Iowa and at Elgin and Evanston, Ill. He has been president of the Council Bluffs company for over twenty years. In 1888 he and his associate, Judge Baldwin, built and operated the first street railway in the west. In 1890 he was elected secretary and treasurer of the Union Elevator company. In 1885, in connection with his associates, he organized the Omaha and Council Bluffs Railway and Bridge company and produced a railroad from congress for a combined wagon and railway bridge, which is now in operation. He was also instrumental in the organization of the first electric street railway company at Ottawa, Ill. It being the first line of the kind in that state.

Mr. Wright has always had a prominent part in every enterprise in Council Bluffs and is ranked among the leading men of the city and state.

Vice President L. W. Shurtliff, 1835, at Sullivan, Loran county, O., is of old Puritan stock, his ancestry dating back to the year

Westernfield's interest and participation in politics commenced and he has since taken an active part in such matters. In 1860 he removed to Nevada and continued his connection with the mining and milling business. In 1870 he was elected to the state senate and served continuously in that body through six sessions. He was chairman of the democratic state convention held at Winnemucca in 1892, which was famous for its disruption of the democratic party in that state, and he took a prominent part in organizing the silver party in Nevada. In 1894 he was elected state treasurer.

Vice President Gustav Reymersshofer. Gustav Reymersshofer, vice president for Texas, is a prosperous miller and one of the enterprising citizens of Galveston. He was born in Austria, August 1, 1847, and when he was 7 years of age his parents removed to America, locating at Galveston. In company with his brother, Mr. Reymersshofer established a flour mill at Galveston, and by good management their trade increased at a rapid rate, necessitating the erection of a much larger and better mill having a capacity of 1,000 barrels per day. The firm engaged in the export business and now has lines of steamers carrying its flour to the West Indies and the coast of



VICE PRESIDENT ALVIN SAUNDERS.

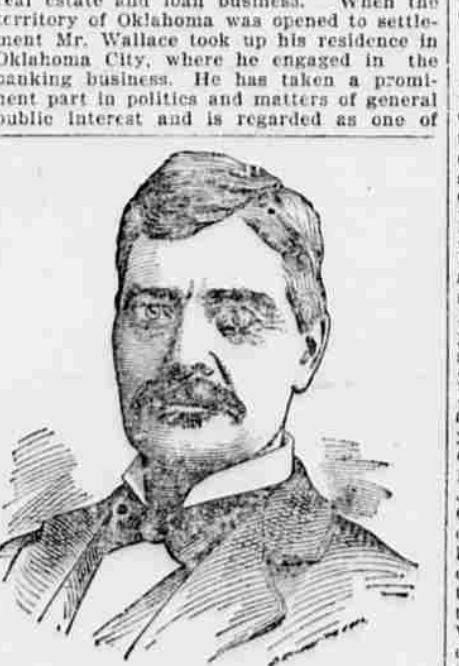
Mexico. Mr. Reymersshofer has kept aloof from public office, but has been prominently identified with various movements designed to promote the interests of the Gulf states, and particularly his adopted home. He is chairman of the Texas committee of the deep water utilization committee, which is



GUSTAV REYMERSHOFER.

now lending its aid toward building up the Gulf coast and giving western producers the advantage of the short haul to their natural seaports.

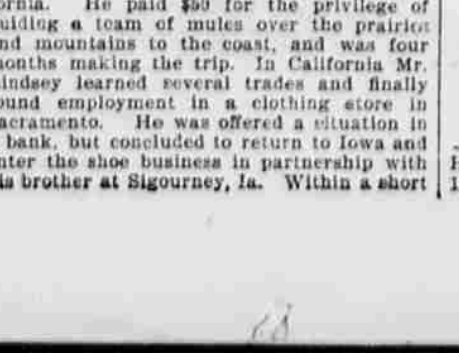
Vice President Eugene Wallace. Eugene Wallace, vice president for Oklahoma Territory, was born in Syracuse, N. Y., February 26, 1838. At the age of 3 years he removed with his parents to Hamburg, Mich., where they remained for about five years when they removed to Shawnee county, in the same state, engaging in the farming and stock raising business. In 1875 Mr. Wallace located at Council Bluffs, where he engaged in the real estate and loan business. When the territory of Oklahoma was opened to settlement Mr. Wallace took up his residence in Oklahoma City, where he engaged in the banking business. He has taken a prominent part in politics and matters of general public interest and is regarded as one of



EUGENE WALLACE.

the leading citizens of the flourishing southwest territory.

Manager Z. T. Lindsey. Zachary T. Lindsey, chairman of the executive committee and manager of the Department of Ways and Means is the proprietor and active manager of the largest exclusive rubber goods house in the United States. He was born in Cedar county, Iowa, in 1847, and lived there with his parents until 1868, when he removed with his family to Nevada, where he attended the common school and Washington college. At the early age of 16 years Mr. Lindsey enlisted in Company B, Forty-fifth Iowa infantry, and served until nearly the close of the war, when he returned to California and was employed in his brother's shoe store. A few years afterwards he was elected clerk of the Nevada legislature and as a teamster with a party enroute to California. He paid \$50 for the privilege of guiding a team of mules over the prairies and mountains to the coast, and was four months making the trip. In California Mr. Lindsey learned several trades and finally found employment in a clothing store in Sacramento. He was offered a situation in a bank, but concluded to return to Iowa and enter the shoe business in partnership with his brother at Sigourney, Ia. Within a short



time after his return the brother died and Mr. Lindsey became the sole proprietor of the concern. After doing business at Sigourney for seven years, he removed to Council Bluffs and opened a retail leather



ZACHARY T. LINDSEY.

store. To this was eventually added a wholesale rubber house. In 1886 Mr. Lindsey removed his wholesale rubber house to Omaha and soon succeeded in building up a very extensive business. Mr. Lindsey has taken a prominent part in all public enterprises which have been proposed in recent years and is regarded as an indefatigable worker.

Manager Edward Rosewater. Edward Rosewater, manager of the Department of Publicity, is a native of Bohemia, born January 28, 1841, in a village about fifty miles from Prague. At the age of 14 he was sent to Prague, where he attended the academy for about a year. In 1854 his parents removed to the United States and settled at Cleveland, O. During the succeeding three years he found employment in a wholesale tinware and stove store, as clerk in a grocery store, and in a dry goods store. In 1857 he took a commercial college course and secured employment as bookkeeper in a willowware establishment, which went down during the panic of that year. In the summer of 1858 Mr. Rosewater left Cleveland and went to Cincinnati, where he served his apprenticeship as telegraph operator on the Ohio & Mississippi railroad, and completed his course in practical telegraphy at Cleveland during the fall of that year. In April, 1859, he was commissioned as operator at Oberlin, O., whence he removed after three months to Murfreesboro, Tenn. During the succeeding three years he was employed as operator and office manager in Mississippi and Alabama, finally securing the position of commercial operator in the main office of the Southwestern Telegraph company at Nashville, Tenn., where he remained for ten months and until the city was captured by the union army. In April, 1862, Mr. Rosewater enlisted in the United States Military Telegraph corps and was assigned to the staff of General John C. Fremont in his West Virginia campaign. In July, 1862, he was transferred to duty at the navy yard at Washington, then commanded by Commodore Dabney. In August of that year he was attached to the staff of General John Pope in his famous "On to Richmond" campaign, which ended in the second battle of Bull Run. On September 1, 1862, Mr. Rosewater was assigned to the War Department Telegraph office, where he remained until the summer of 1863. In September of that year Mr. Rosewater came to Omaha and was installed as manager of the office of the Pacific Telegraph. In 1870 he was made manager of the Atlantic & Pacific and Great Western Telegraph lines, and it was while thus employed that he founded The Omaha Bee, June 19, 1871. During more than twenty-five years Mr. Rosewater has been a potential factor in public affairs and in the promotion of the material progress of Omaha and Nebraska. As founder and editor of one of the great newspapers of the west, he has achieved national reputation, augmented by the erection of that monumental structure, The Bee building, which ranks among the greatest newspaper buildings in the world. Mr. Rosewater is the president and chief proprietor of The Bee Publishing company, which controls the agency of the Associated press for Omaha,



EDWARD ROSEWATER.

and is also president of The Bee Building company.

Manager G. M. Hitchcock. Gilbert M. Hitchcock, manager of the Department of Promotions, is the president of the World Publishing company, and is the managing editor and business manager of the World-Herald, a daily newspaper issued by the company. He was born in Omaha, September 18, 1859, his father being Phineas W. Hitchcock, who represented Nebraska in the United States senate from 1871 to 1877. The subject of this sketch attended the public schools of Omaha for a short time, and in 1871 went to Baden-Baden, Germany, where he studied for two years, returning to Omaha in 1873 and studying under private tutors for several years. In 1879 he matriculated at the Ann Arbor, Mich., law school and graduated from that institution in 1881. The same year he was admitted to the bar of Douglas county, and practiced law until 1885. In 1885 Mr. Hitchcock was married to Miss Alice Crouse, daughter of Hon. Lewis Crouse, one of the most prominent residents of Nebraska. In 1885 the World Publishing company was formed, Mr. Hitchcock being the largest holder of stock in the company, and having full charge of the editorial department of the Evening World, a daily paper published by the company. The Morning Herald, an old established newspaper, was purchased by the World Publishing company in 1889, and a morning and evening edition of the World-



GILBERT M. HITCHCOCK.

Herald has been issued since that time. In 1892 Mr. Hitchcock was vested with full



PRESIDENT GORDON W. WATTLES.

Real Estate and Trust company, and is himself a large holder of Omaha realty.

Secretary John A. Wakefield. John A. Wakefield, secretary of the exposition, was born at Allegheny City, Pa., December 3, 1851. His boyhood was spent among the green hills of Beaver county in the Keystone state in the little town of New Brighton. In June, 1876, he removed to Illinois, taking up his residence at Rock Island, where he entered the lumber trade, in which he has since been continuously



JOHN A. WAKEFIELD.

engaged. In January, 1880, Mr. Wakefield came to Omaha, where he established a large lumber yard, continuing in that line of business until about five years ago, when he became a wholesale dealer in building materials. Mr. Wakefield is an energetic business man and has been a consistent worker in behalf of the exposition from the outset.

Treasurer Herman Kountze. Herman Kountze, treasurer of the exposition, is the president of the First National bank of Omaha and senior member of Kountze Bros., banking house, New York. He is also a director and one of the largest stockholders in the Colorado National bank of Denver, and ranks among the leading financiers of the great west. Born in Onaburg, Stark county, Ohio, in 1834, he was the second of three brothers, all of whom received a careful business training in a store owned and conducted by their father, Christian Kountze, who was a native of Saxony.

Herman Kountze came to Omaha in the fall of 1856 in company with his elder brother, Augustus. The two brothers interested quite largely in real estate and in the fall of 1857 they established a bank under the firm name of Kountze Bros. This bank was continued until August 26, 1883, when they organized the First National bank of Omaha, with a capital stock of



HERMAN KOUNTZE.

\$50,000. Herman Kountze was elected cashier and some years later became its president, which position he holds at the present time. The early quarters of the bank were in a building which was replaced several years ago by a handsome stone and brick structure, six stories high, which is one of the finest bank buildings in the west.

Mr. Kountze has been identified with the business interests and progress of Omaha and Nebraska from the pioneer days to the present time, and has taken an active part in every project or enterprise intended to