Sidney B. Clark, M. D. The medical fraternity has many able representatives in Cass County, North Dakota, and one who occupies a prominent position in this number is Sidney B. Clark. He has been engaged in the practice of his professor in Buffalo, Clark County, comparatively few years, but has gained a remunerative patronage and the confidence of the people among whom he labors. He is a skillful practitioner, intelligent and possessed of untiring perseverance and energetic character.

Our subject was horn in Fox County, Wisconsin, July 10, 1870, and was a son of Silas and Susan F. (Cooper) Clark, natives respectively of New York and Wisconsin. His father was a merchant and went to Wisconsin in an early day and engaged there in merchandising many years. He enlisted in 1861 in the Eighteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served with the regiment until the battle of Shiloh, where he was wounded in the thigh, and was later discharged front the service on account of disability. He re-enlisted about one year later, and was commissioned captain, but had only gone as far as Milwaukee, Wisconsin, when the war closed. He went to Fargo, North Dakota, in 1895, and founded the Clark Produce Company, of which he was the head until his death, June 25, 1899, aged fifty-three years. He was among the leading business men of Fargo, and was a member of the Masonic fraternity and G. A. R. Our subject has two brothers, Clifford and Silas W., who now conduct the business of the Clark Produce Company at Fargo.

Our subject was reared and educated in St. Paul, Minnesota, in the high school and the State University, and began the study of medicine in Chicago in 1891, and the following year entered the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Chicago. He was graduated from that institution in 1895, and then spent one rear in hospital work in Chicago. He went to Buffalo, North Dakota, in the spring of 1896, since which time he has conducted a general practice successfully. He is a member of the North Dakota State Medical Society, and was a member of the Cook County Medical Society, of Illinois. He is assistant county physician for his district.

Our subject was married, in 1897, to Miss Helen A. Young, a native of Vermont. Mr. Clark is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and Brotherhood of American Yeomen. He is one of the rising young men of North Dakota and is deservedly held in high esteem throughout Cass County.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 226

Samuel G. Roberts. a prominent attorney of Fargo, North Dakota, who has borne an important part in the development and up-building that city, was born in Brooks, Maine, March 10, 1843. and was reared and educated in that state, supplementing the knowledge he acquired in the common schools by an academic course, In 1861, at the opening of the Civil war, he enlisted in Company B, Seventeenth Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, and was in active service with that regiment until August 10, 1864, when he was mustered out. Coming to Stillwater, Minnesota, he again enlisted, in 1863, in Company A, Ninth United States Veteran Volunteers, known as Hancock's corps, and was with that command on guard duty at Washington, D. C., and Indianapolis, Indiana, for one year. During his previous service he took part in the battles fought in North and South Carolina, mostly small engagements, and was wounded at three different times. He rose to the rank of first lieutenant.

After his final discharge, Mr. Roberts remained in Indianapolis for over a year, and then returned to Minneapolis, where he studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1870. He was engaged in practice there for two years, and then, in January, 1872, came to Fargo, North Dakota, taking up a quarter-section of land on which the city now stands. Forming a partnership with S. G. Comstock, he engaged in the practice of law at Moorhead, Minnesota, for some time, and then returned to Fargo, where he has followed his chosen profession almost continuously since. He was interested in the founding of the First National Bank, and was one of its stockholders for years. He also assisted in starting the Fargo foundry and the Republican Newspaper Company, which have since gone out of existence.

In October, 1872, Mr. Roberts married Mrs. Jennie Baldwin, a native of Canada, and they have one daughter, Ruth, now attending the State University. In his political views Mr. Roberts has been a life-long Republican, and he assisted in organizing the party in this state. He has ever taken an active and prominent part in public affairs, serving as a member of the territorial council in 1879 and 1883, a member of the territorial committee on emigration in 1875 and 1876, states attorney for Cass County in 1877 and 1878, and county superintendent of schools for some time in the early '70’s. He also served as municipal judge during the existence of that office in 1896, and has been a member of the city council three terms and city attorney three terms. He is one of the most public-spirited and enterprising men of Fargo, and has proved a very popular official.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 227

HERMAN O. FJELDE, M. D. Although a man in his profession, and a resident of Abercrombie comparatively few years, this gentleman has gained a reputation which places him among the foremost practitioners of the county. He is a foreign-born citizen, but has become thoroughly identified with American customs and progress, and has made a success in his adopted land.

Mr. Fjelde was born in Aalesund, Norway, April 13. 1866, and was reared in his native city and educated in the Latin school, going from thence to Christiania in the fall of 1887 where he completed a philosophical course in the Royal University of that city. He graduated after a two years' course in 1889 and in May of that year came to America. He at once proceeded to Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he took up the study of medicine in the medical department of the State University, graduating with the class of 1893. He practiced with Dr. Knut Hoegh prior to his graduation and soon afterward went to Martell, Wisconsin, where he practiced his profession until June, 1891. Since that time he has been a resident practitioner of Abercrombie, Richland County, and enjoys an ever-increasing and remunerative practice.

Our subject was married at Minneapolis, Minnesota, April 18, 1896, to Miss Fredrikke Andersen, a native of Norway, who was born in Christiania. Mrs. Fjelde took a course in her native land in massage treatment and is a graduate from Christiania in Swedish movements and massage. She also belongs to the National Order of the Red Cross in the old country. She is the originator and owner of the Abercrombie Hospital, which is a credit to Richland County. She is also an adept on the piano and has no superior in North Dakota.

One child has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Fjelde, who bears the name of Jakob H. Mr. Fjelde is prominent in social circles of the village and vicinity and is highly esteemed as a physician and citizen.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 227

MARSHALL BRINTON, county judge of Wells County, North Dakota, is a gentleman of exemplary character, and is widely and favorably known. He is the owner of one of the finest farms in the vicinity of Fessenden, and until recently resided thereon and engaged extensively in general farming and sheep culture. He is a man of intelligence and active public spirit, and has been a potent factor in promoting the political and social welfare of that region. A portrait of Judge Brinton is presented on another page.

Our subject was born on a farm near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1839, and represents the eighth generation descended from William Brinton, who went to Pennsylvania with 'William Penn in 1682. William Brinton participated in the battle of Brandywine. The father of our subject, Joseph E. Brinton, was a farmer by occupation, and the mother of our subject, who bore the maiden name of Mary Marshall, came from England in 1816, at the age of three years, and settled in Pennsylvania. The paternal grandmother of our subject was of Irish descent.

Marshall Brinton was the eldest in a family of seven children, and was raised on a farm and attended the common schools and the high schools and received a liberal education. After leaving home he first worked in the milling business, and manufactured flour for the city of Wilmington; then drifted westward and north and located in the copper mines of Michigan, and was connected with mining properties there several years. He taught school several terms in Michigan, and clerked in the office of the mining company, and then assumed charge of the surface work and later furnished lumber, wood and fuel, under contract, for the mining company. He was in Michigan from 1872-83, except nine months spent in the Black Hills, in 1879, and spent two thousand dollars prospecting and made nothing. He was postmaster at Delaware Mine, Michigan, several years, and was elected township superintendent of schools, and later made a member of the board of county school superintendents, or school examiners, as they are known in that state. He settled in Wells County, North Dakota, in township 146, range 69, in 1884, and his farm was one and a half miles from Sykeston. He took a pre-emption in 1883 and built a claim shanty and began farming, and the following year located permanently on the place. His buildings were the best in the county at the time and were destroyed by fire in 1890, the fire starting by accident. He then removed to the homestead on section 32 in the same township and range, where he continued farming until 1896, and then removed to Fessenden, He was employed as clerk in the county offices there, and in May, 1897, was appointed county judge to fill a vacancy, and in 1898 he was elected to the same office, which he is now filling. He has three hundred and twenty acres of land in Wells County, on which he has arrangements for the operation of general farming, and his barn is a substantial, commodious structure, 64 x 92 feet, while the land is equal to any in the county.

Mr. Brinton was one of the organizers of Wells County, and was the first public officer in the county, being appointed county commissioner by Governor Ordway. He was the first acting county superintendent of schools, and organized the first seven schools of the county, and was elected a second time as superintendent. He is a member of the Congregational church, and is active in church work and organized Sunday-schools in northern Michigan while a resident of that state. He is prominent in secret society circles, has held all the chairs in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Is a Master Mason, and a member of the Knights of the Maccabees, and is record-keeper for the local lodge of the last trained order. In politics he is a Republican, and during the 1896 campaign and since, he has taken a leading and active part in the affairs and interests of the Republican party of Wells County.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 228

ALPHEUS F. NEYHART, one of the pioneer settlers of Cass County, living in retirement in Casselton, is well known and highly esteemed by all. He has various financial interests, including mining property in Idaho, and at the time this sketch was written he, with two of his sons, Frank and Ralph, are at Cape Nome prospecting for gold. He also owns a farm in Seneca County, New York. He is an ex-soldier and can review a brave and loyal service in defense of the Union, and his entire career has been well spent and he now enjoys a comfortable competence.

Our subject was born in Tompkins County, New York, October 19, 1840, and was a son of Henry and Anna C. (Snyder) Neyhart. His father was a native of Monroe County, Pennsylvania, and his mother was born in the state of New York. The father was a carpenter by trade and passed most of his life in New York state, where his death occurred. Our subject had one brother and two sisters and one half-brother.

Mr. Neyhart was reared and educated in New York and enlisted in 1864 in Company F, One Hundred and eighty-eight New York Regiment, and served until the close of the war. His service was mostly before Richmond and he participated in the battle of Hatches Run and some minor engagements. After his discharge from the service he went to the oil regions of Pennsylvania and remained there thirteen years engaged in the oil business. He went to California in 1874 and spent two years mining in the southern part of that state and then returned to Pennsylvania. He went to Cass County, North Dakota, in 1878 and purchased land adjoining the town of Casselton, and in about one year his family joined him there. He was interested in the hardware trade there for some years and also followed farming.

Our subject was married in New York, in 1869, to Mary E. Eager, a native of New York City. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Neyhart, as follows: Charles H.; Arthur R., who served with the Thirteenth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry in the Philippines as sergeant; Frank A., who is also a member of the Thirteenth Minnesota, in Company L; as quartermaster-sergeant; Ralph, Edith M. and Stanley. Mr. Neyhart is a member of the Masonic fraternity and in political sentiment is a Republican, but does not take an interest in political matters. He is a man of practical ideas, keeps pace with the times, and has made a success of his calling and merits his high standing.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 228

JAMES H. JOHNSON, M. D. The profession to which this gentleman belongs is well represented in Ransom County and a prominent position among the members is accorded Mr. Johnson. He has been a practitioner in North Dakota for the past fifteen years and is widely known as a skilled physician and surgeon. He is established in Lisbon and is also surgeon of the Soldiers' Home.

Our subject was born in Niagara County, New York, December 20, 1839, and was the eldest in a family of five sons born to Richard and Laura (Cole) Johnson. His father was a blacksmith by trade and prospered in his business and afforded our subject an excellent education.

James H. Johnson was reared in Wilson, on the banks of Lake Ontario, and sailed several seasons on the Great Lakes. He enlisted in Company G, Seventh New York Cavalry, September 9, 1861, and the following spring the regiment was mustered out without active service. He entered the Buffalo Medical University in 1862 and left his studies in October, 1864, when he was appointed surgeon steward and took service on the sloop of war, San Jacinto, where the service consisted mostly in chasing blockade runners. On New Year's morning, 1865, while engaged in that service off Bahama Isles, they ran on a reef, and were in peril for two days, a landing being effected on Noname Cay, where they remained sixteen days, when the government sent ships for their release. Returning to his home after the expiration of his service, our subject resumed his studies and graduated with the class of 1860. He located in Kalamo, Michigan, in 1868, and went from thence to Whitehall, Michigan. He went to North Dakota in 1885 and soon afterward established his practice in Lisbon.

Our subject was married, in 1869, to Miss Cynthia Herring, a native of Michigan. Two sons have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson: R. Roy and Burt. The elder son is a dentist of Lisbon and a graduate of the dental department of the Northwestern University. Our subject is president of the board of pension examiners and has served on the county and city boards of health. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, G. A. R., Sons of the Revolution and Masonic fraternity, having passed the degrees of the Knights Templar and Mystic Shrine in the last named order. Politically he is a Democrat.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 231

William C. Resser, a member of the law firm of Mills, Resser & Mills, of Fargo, North Dakota, is a man who thoroughly loves his profession and is eminently gifted with the capabilities of mind which are indispensable at the bar. In preparing a case for trial, every fact, however insignificant, is carefully studied and its possible relevancy to the merits of the case weighed and considered. He is thoroughly familiar with authority and never at a loss for a precedent.

A native of Illinois, Mr. Resser was born in Cleveland, Henry County, October 6, 1859, and is a son of Charles and Catherine (Sutch) Resser, who were born in Pennsylvania and in 1848 removed to Illinois, where both died. By occupation the father was a farmer. Our subject passed his boyhood and youth in Illinois and is indebted to its public schools for his educational privileges. In 1878 he commenced the study of law with Sheppard & Marston, of Cambridge, Illinois, and was admitted to the bar in Illinois in 1881. In March, of that year, Mr. Resser came to Fargo, North Dakota, where he opened an office and began practice alone. In 1888 he formed a partnership with V. S. Stone and Seth Newman, under the firm name of Stone, Newman & Resser. On the death of Mr. Stone, in 1891, the name was changed to Newman & Resser. That connection continued until 1893, when Mr. Resser entered into partnership with H. F. Miller, and was engaged in practice with him until February, 1897. He was then alone until January 20, 1899, when the firm of Mills, Green & Resser was organized, and in July, 1899, this firm was succeeded by Mills, Resser & Mills. They enjoy a large and lucrative practice and are numbered among the leading law firms of the city.

Mr. Resser was married, in 1881, to Miss Alice T. Dimick, also a native of Illinois, and to them have been horn three children: Duane C., Helen and William C. The Republican party finds in Mr. Resser a stanch supporter of its principles; he has been a member of the county central committee and does all in his power to insure the party's success. In 1887 he served as city attorney of Fargo and was a member of the city council in 1885 and 1886. He drew up the city charter which was passed by the legislature in 1887 and takes an active and commendable interest in all enterprises calculated to advance the interests of city, county or state.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 231

James Kneen, one of the most successful and energetic business men of La Moure County, has been a resident of La Moure for the past fifteen years and enjoys an ever increasing patronage. He is a man of practical nature and broad mind and every enterprise for the welfare of his community meets with his hearty support and he is highly esteemed throughout that locality.

Our subject was born in Liverpool, England, January 25, 1852, and was a son of Thomas and Mary (Cheshire) Kneen. His parents were married in England and came to America a few years later. They were the parents of twelve children, our subject being the second in order of birth, and his father was a maker of nautical instruments in England and also in America for some time. He died in Shelton, Connecticut, in 1884, and the mother survives him and is now living in Shelton.

Our subject came to America with his parents when a child of sixteen months and from New York the family went to Derby, Connecticut, where he attended school and after completing his education secured a position with Wallace & Company, machinists, where he learned the trade and also tool making, and during the last years in which he was employed thus he held contracts in the bolt works. He continued thus until 1885, when he went to La Moure, North Dakota, and engaged in the hardware business, which line he handled for some time, afterward establishing a general merchandise store. He has been eminently successful since taking up his residence there.

Our subject was married, in Derby, Connecticut, in 1874, to Miss Sarah Allice, a native of New York, who was born July 4, 1852. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kneen: Evangeline, who died in infancy, and Robert R., who is now attending the La Moure high school. Mr. Kneen is a member of the Masonic fraternity and Independent Order, of Odd Fellows. He takes all active part in public affairs and has held numerous offices of trust in Dakota. Politically he is a Republican and is a man who is strong in his convictions for right.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 232

Asmund K. Tweto, who is extensively engaged in business in Abercrombie, Richland County, is a striking example of what may be accomplished by energetic effort, supplemented by honest dealings. He has gained a comfortable competence by dint of his own efforts and has placed himself among the substantial men of Richland County. Aside from his business interests in Abercrombie, he is the owner of eight hundred acres of land in Abercrombie and Eagle townships and makes his home in the town.

Our subject was born in Norway May 6, 1859. He resided in his native land until about fourteen years of age, when he came to America with his parents, Knudt and Anna (Flaaten) Tweto. The family settled in Dakota County, Minnesota, where they remained two years and then removed to Worth County, Iowa. After six years in Iowa, they located in Richland County, North Dakota, in 1879, and made their home in Eagle Township, where the father died in the fall of 1888.

Our subject engaged in farming and in addition to that line engaged in the hotel and saloon business in company with I. A. Johnson for three years, when he sold his interests. He organized the Farmers Mercantile Company, of Abercrombie, and was president of the organization two years. He became engaged in the farming implement business in 1888, and has since added flour, feed, grain, livestock and lumber, and handles an extensive and remunerative business.

Our subject was married, in Abercrombie Township, Richland County, November 18, 1887, to Miss Nellie Erickson, of Willmar, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Tweto are the parents of four children, as follows: Alma, Oscar, Mabel and Alvina. Mr. Tweto is an active member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and assisted largely in the erection of the church edifice in Abercrombie. He is liberal and public-spirited and is highly esteemed for his energy and integrity.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 232

Charles A. Lowell, a pioneer settler of Cass County, resides at Casselton and is now retired from active farm life. He is interested in two sections of land in Cass County and has made a success of the pursuit of agriculture, now enjoying the result of his efforts and esteemed by Isis fellowmen.

Our subject was born in Washington County, Minnesota. November 24, 1858, and was a son of Albert and Abbie B. (Read) Lowell, both of whom were natives of Maine. His father was a farmer by occupation and went to Minnesota in 1852 or 1853 and settled in Washington County, where he engaged in farming and lumbering and later in the hotel business until his death in 1888. The mother died in 1890, leaving, three sons and one daughter. Our subject and one brother in Stillwater, Minnesota, are the only ones of the family now living.

Mr. Lowell was reared and educated in Washington County, Minnesota, and remained there until 1876, when he went to Fargo, North Dakota, and made his home near his uncle, Jacob Lowell. He entered claim to land in Maple River Township, as a homestead, in 1878, and resided thereon for some years, and in 1894 went to Casselton, where he has since lived. He conducts general farming on two sections of land in that vicinity and has met with remarkable success in his vocation.

Our subject was married in 1881, to Sarah Ross. Mrs. Lowell died in 1886, leaving two children, Abbie and Lilly. Mr. Lowell was married to Maud Whitman, a native of Wisconsin, in 1894. Three children have been born to this union, as follows: Maude. Elinor, and Margaret. Mr. Lowell is a member of the Masonic fraternity and Modern Woodmen of America and in the first named is a Mystic Shriner. He is interested in the welfare of his community and keeps abreast of the times, but does not take part in political affairs and has never sought public preferment. He is a gentleman of the best of character and well merits his success.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 232

Hon. George S. Churchill, a prominent real-estate dealer of Casselton, is an early settler of Cass County and is entitled to special mention as a citizen of true worth. He is also interested in operating several sections of land in Cass County, and has met with success in general farming.

Our subject was born in Erie County, Pennsylvania, April 23, 1863, and was a son of George T. and Sarah C. (Lawrence) Churchill, natives of Connecticut. His father was a banker and general merchant and was vice-president of the old Keystone National Bank, of Erie, Pennsylvania, and still resides in that city. The great-great-grandfather of our subject, Captain Charles Churchill, was a native of New England, Parish Weathers-field, Connecticut, and was born December 31, 1723. He was appointed captain of militia in 1762 by the general assembly of Connecticut. He enlisted as captain in one of the militia companies who turned out to repel the invasion of New Haven, July 5, 1779, and he also enlisted as captain of the Sixth Militia, probably the same regiment in which he first enlisted, and was appointed captain by the general assembly. He was a son of Ensign Samuel Churchill of the English navy. The great grandfather of our subject, Samuel Churchill, was also a native of Connecticut. The grandfather of our subject, Josiah Churchill, was a native of Connecticut, and was a minister of the Presbyterian denomination and died in Pennsylvania. The father of our subject is a prominent citizen of his community and has served as a member of the city council and as county commissioner.

Our subject was one of a family of three children, two sons and one daughter, all of whom are now living. Mr. Churchill was reared and educated in Erie, Pennsylvania, and in 1880 purchased land in Cass County, and the following year went to Erie, Cass County, and followed farming there until 1899, when he moved to Casselton and established his present business. He followed general merchandising and real estate business in Erie, Cass County, while a resident of that place and has been successful in every enterprise in which he has engaged. He now operates and owns three sections of land in Cass County.

Our subject was married in 1884 to Miss Lulu Knapp, a native of Wisconsin. Mrs. Churchill's parents, Nathan and Angelina (Green) Knapp, were natives respectively of Canada and Wisconsin. Her father served four years in the Civil war with the Eleventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry in Company 11, and participated in the battles of Bull Run and Shiloh in 1862. He now resides in Washington. Mrs. Churchill is a great-great-granddaughter of Abraham Lighthall, who served as a sergeant, corporal and captain in the Revolutionary war, enlisting front Albany, New York, in the Fourth Tryon Company Regiment of New York, in 1780. He was born in Jefferson County, New York. He was appointed by General Washington as captain of a company of three hundred friendly Indians, and was captured by the Indians, escaped and returned to Washington, and served as aide to General Washington during the remainder of Washington's life. He was six feet seven inches in height, and was of powerful physique. Mr. and Mrs. Churchill are the parents of one son, George E. Mr. Churchill served as a member of the lower house in 1893, and was chairman of the insurance committee, and a member of other important committees including the ways and means committee. He has been identified with the movements of the Republican party throughout his career, and is stanch in his political faith. He is intelligent and progressive and well merits his success and high standing.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 233

John S. Watson; a leading and successful attorney of Fargo, North Dakota, and a member of the well-known firm of Ball, Watson & McClay, was born in Fountain County, Indiana, February 20, 1837. His parents, Samuel E. and Elizabeth M. (Brown) Watson, were natives of Kentucky and Virginia, respectively, but for many years have been residents of Indiana. The father is a merchant.

Our subject was educated in Wabash College, from which he was graduated in 1878. Later, for two years, he was employed as a teacher in that institution and the following year was spent as a strident in the law office of Hon. P. S. Kennedy, of Crawfordsville, Indiana. In May, 1881, he was admitted to the bar and the same month came to Jamestown, North Dakota, where he at once opened an office and engaged in practice until coming to Fargo, in 1892. With W. F. Ball he formed a partnership, which still exists, and they are now at the head of a large and lucrative practice. Mr. Watson was prosecuting attorney for Stutsman County, North Dakota, in 1883 and 1884, and in 1887 was made attorney for the Northern Pacific Railroad in the James River Valley, in which position he continued until 1892. Since then he and Mr. Ball have controlled all the business of the company in North Dakota and western Minnesota and also that of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway in this state. Mr. Watson is not only a good lawyer, but is a good business man as well, and has served as vice-president of the James River National Bank, of Jamestown, for some years. His powers as an advocate have been demonstrated by his success on many occasions, and he is an able lawyer of large and varied experience in all the courts. He has met with most excellent success during his professional career and stands high at the bar of this state. He takes no active part in political affairs, but is always willing to support any enterprise for the public good. Socially he is a Knight Templar Mason.

In 1884 Mr. Watson was united in marriage with Miss Lizzie E. Wells, a native of Wisconsin, and to them has been born one child, Constance.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 233

Robert M. Pollock. Not by gift, purchase or influence can one rise at the bar, but solely by merit must he gain his reputation, his ability winning him greatness and enabling him to pass on the highway of life many who had accomplished a part of the journey ere he started out. Through his own well-directed efforts Mr. Pollock has become one of the prominent lawyers of Fargo and has become a leader in public affairs.

He was born in Racine County, Wisconsin, December 16, 1854, a son of James H. and Eveline (Halstead) Pollock, of New York. The father, whose life was devoted to farming, removed to Wisconsin in 1848 and there made his home until his death. He had nine children, four sons and five daughters, seven of whom are now living, and five are now residents of North Dakota.

During his boyhood and youth our subject attended the public schools of his native state, and then taught school for three years, during which time he also read law. Subsequently he entered the law office of Judge Elbert O. Hand, of Racine, and in 1879 was admitted to practice at the bar of Wisconsin. In 1880 he came to Casselton, North Dakota, and opened an office, being engaged in practice there for seventeen years. While there he was city attorney, mayor, a member of the board of education, was a member of the constitutional convention in 1889, and in 1891 was appointed by Governor Burke as a member of the compilation commission to compile the laws of the state. He also served as state's attorney for Cass County for four years from January, 1893. He removed from Casselton to Fargo in January, 1897, and here he has since successfully engaged in practice. In 1891 he formed a partnership with H. G. Scott which still exists, and they retain a clientage of so representative a character as to alone stand as evidence of their professional ability and personal popularity.

Mr. Pollock was married, in December, 1881, to Miss Christine Corse, at Racine, Wisconsin, and their family consists of seven children, namely: Evelyn H., Mina, James W., John C., Hal., Robert B. and Hew. In his political affiliations Mr. Pollock is a pronounced Republican and has taken an active part in the campaigns of the state. Socially he belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 234

Henry J. Oberman, who is filling the office of county auditor of Dickey County, North Dakota, in an efficient and public-spirited manner, is one of the rising young men of that region. He is possessor of one of the most valuable tracts of land in the northern part of the county, consisting, of one section, on which he conducted farming for many years, and from a limited start has acquired a comfortable competence, mainly by his own efforts and honest dealings.

Mr. Oberman was born in Joliet, Illinois, June 1, 1864, and was the ninth in a family of ten children born to John F. and Wilhelmina (Brinkman) Oberman. Both parents were natives of Germany, and the father was a quarryman by occupation. The mother of our subject died when he was but five years of age.

Our subject finished his education in the schools of Joliet and in 1882 went to Ellendale, Dickey County, Dakota, and filed claim to land thirteen miles north of the county seat, but at present owns one section of land in Porter Township.

Our subject was married in Monango, Dickey County, North Dakota, in 1891, to Miss Francis E. Scott, a native of Iowa, who was born in 1872. One son has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Oberman, whom they have named Frederick S. Mr. Oberman is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen of America. He has served his township in many of the offices of importance, and his present position is gaining for him the confidence of the people among whom he has resided for so many years. Personal matters are at all times cast aside for the more important issues of his community and county, and he labors for the general welfare of the people with a oneness of purpose which places him foremost in the rank of esteemed citizens.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 234

Hon. George N. Smith, one of the wealthiest and most influential citizens of Cass County, resides on section 17, in Rush River Township, and in company with his brother, operates an extensive tract of land. He went to Dakota with limited means, and by dint of energy and perseverance, supplemented by the strictest integrity, he has accumulated a fortune and an enviable reputation. A portrait of Mr. Smith is shown on another page.

Our subject was born in Wyoming County, New York, April 1, 1849. When quite young, he removed to Kalamazoo County, Michigan, with his parents, in 1854, and settled near Schoolcraft, Michigan, where he was reared to manhood, He was educated at the Kalamazoo Baptist College, later at Parson's Business College in that city, and remained in Kalamazoo County till the spring of 1879, when he went to Dakota and located in Cass County, in what is now Rush River Township, where he has since been a resident. He assisted in the organization of the township, and named it. He purchased, in company with his brother, Forrester H. Smith, one section of land, section 17, township 141, range 51. They have steadily increased their acreage, and are now the owners of five sections of land in Cass County, and our subject is also interested in a large tract of land in South Dakota. He and his brother have erected a set of fine farm buildings on the home farm in sections 17, and enjoy all the comforts of rural life. In the spring of 1872 they shipped from Michigan twenty-two cars of stock and emigrant movables, and at that time sixty-three men, women and children, went to settle in North Dakota with them. The first year our subject and brother with the aid of five men and fifteen head of horses and mules, seeded six hundred acres of wheat and oats, and broke six hundred and forty acres of land, put up seventy-five tons of hay, harvested twelve thousand three hundred bushels of wheat, and five thousand bushels of oats and back-set six hundred and forty acres of prairie. Only during harvest time were more men employed. They have been possessed of untiring energy and a capacity for well-directed labor that has placed them at the front as agriculturists.

George N. Smith was elected to the legislature in the fall of 1890, and served one term, giving very efficient service for his community. He has held many of the township offices in Rush River Township and is thoroughly identified with the up-building and general welfare of that locality. He is liberal and contributes to the various religious denominations, and no charitable cause worthy of support, or needy person, is refused aid when it is asked. He has gained his fortune steadily and well merits his success.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 234

James D. McKechnie. An honorable position as a worthy citizen and public official of Foster County is due the gentleman above named. He is the present sheriff of that county and is a young man in whom the people repose confidence.

Our subject was born in Bristol, Quebec. Canada, March 29, 1864. His father, Archibald A. McKechnie, was born in Scotland and was a farmer throughout his career. He came to America when eighteen years of age with his parents. The mother of our subject, who bore the maiden name of Matilda Walker, was born in Ireland.

Mr. McKechnie was the fourteenth in order of birth in a family of sixteen children, and is now the smallest of the elevens sons, and he weighs over two hundred pounds. He was reared on a farm in Pontiac County and received educational advantages, and at the age of eighteen years began working for others and followed railroad clerking five years. He went to Carrington, North Dakota, in 1884, and hired out at different employments, and concluded a dray line in Carrington from 1893 to 1898. He also conducted farming for nearly nine years, but did not meet with success and gave up the project in 1893. He clerked in a general store in 1898, and in the fall of that year was elected to his present position.

Our subject was married November 29, 1887, to Miss Agnes Williams, who was born and raised in Kentucky. Mrs. McKechnie's father, William Williams, was of American and Canadian descent, and was a farmer by occupation. One daughter has been born to Mr. and Mrs. McKechnie, upon whom they have bestowed the name of Clara B. Mr. McKechnie holds membership in the Knights of Pythias, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Ancient Order of United Workmen, and the Woodmen of the World. He takes great interest in affairs generally and is deservedly popular with the people. Politically he supports the principles of the Republican party.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 237

John Dinnie, widely known as a worthy citizen of Grand Forks, North Dakota, is the present mayor of that city and is identified with its advancement in social and financial affairs. He is one of the leading business men of the place and has won his way to the front steadily and now stands as a man of public spirit and commendable character.

Our subject was born near the St. Lawrence River in Dundas County, Ontario, Canada, August 24, 1853. His parents, John and Mary (Gow) Dinnie, were born in Scotland and emigrated to Canada in 1849 and settled in Dundas County and engaged in farming. They still reside on the old home place. Three sons and six daughters were born to them, and the sons now reside in North Dakota.

Mr. Dinnie received his early training in Canada and then learned the trade of a brick and stone mason, and in 1881 went to Grand Forks County, North Dakota and followed his trade there for some years. He engaged in the manufacture of brick in 1889 and the following year his brother, James A. Dinnie, became a partner in the business, and the firm took the name of Dianne Brothers and still exists and follows brick manufacturing. The Grand Forks Brick Company was organized in 1894, and our subject is the director of the same. They also conduct an extensive business in contracting and building, and also farming.

Mr. Dinnie was married in 1876 to Miss Ellen Schwerdfegar, a native of Canada. Eight children, two sons and six daughters, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dinnie. Mr. Dinnie served as alderman from the fifth ward in Grand Forks four years, and in 1896 he was elected mayor of the city. His popularity is evidenced by the fact that he was returned to the office in 1898, and had no opposition to meet in his election. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, and Elks. He is loyal and determined in his adherence to the right and to his friends and occupies a prominent place among the leaders of affairs of Grand Forks, North Dakota.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 237

Donald C. Ross. The motto "merit always commands its reward" is well exemplified in the career of Mr. Ross, the present efficient and popular county treasurer of Cass County, North Dakota, whose home is now in Fargo. He came to this state in limited circumstances, but through his own well-directed and energetic efforts has acquired a comfortable competence. He is a native of Canada, born in Bayfield, Ontario, November 28, 1860. His parents were Peter and Mary (Campbell) Ross, the former a native of Nova Scotia, the latter of Scotland. The mother died in Canada, and in 1880 the father came to Cass County, North Dakota, where he passed away in August, 1898. To this worthy couple were born six children, three sons and three daughters.

Donald C. Ross passed his boyhood and youth in Canada, where he attended the common schools and later followed teaching for some years. On coming to the United States in 1879 he first located in Michigan, but the following year came to Dakota and was employed in the Grafton schools for two years. For twelve years he was engaged in the grain and lumber trade at Wild Rice, and meeting with marked success in business he has become the owner of seven hundred acres of fine farming land in this state, besides property in Clay County, Minnesota.

Politically he has been an ardent Republican during his entire residence in this country, and on his party ticket was elected, in 1898, to the office of County treasurer of Cass County. He entered upon the duties of the position January 1, 1899, and is now discharging them in a most creditable and satisfactory manner. Fraternally he affiliates with the Masonic order and the Knights of Pythias. He is well known and highly respected and has made many friends during his residence in this state.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 238

Simon Nelson, one of the earliest pioneer settlers of Eddy County, is a man of intelligence and active public spirit, and has made a success of his career in Dakota as a farmer and business man. He is now living in retirement in his comfortable home in Sheyenne, and is widely known and highly esteemed.

Our subject was born in Telemarken, Norway, in 1834, and was a son of Nels Oleson, who was a farmer and merchant in Norway, and died in his native laud, while our subject was still at home. The mother and children came to America when our subject was about sixteen years of age, after he had completed a common-school education, and the family settled in Dakota County, Minnesota. The mother purchased land and our subject and brother operated the farm, and he remained at home until 1878, when in the spring of that year he went to Dakota and was employed at farm work twelve miles west of Fargo about three years, and in 1881 went to Nelson County, and there took land as a preemption, and built thereon a shanty and lived there alone one winter. He went to Eddy County in the fall of 1883 and took land as a tree-claim in township 150, range 67, and built a sod shanty and followed farming there and lived alone several years. He made his start at farm work with a yoke of oxen, a wagon and plow, and engaged in wheat raising and prospered in that line. He remained on the farm till the spring of 1893, when he purchased a stock of general merchandise from J. W. Rickter, and conducted the store six years. He built a store building in the best business location in Sheyenne, in 1897, and conducted business therein two years afterward, and in the spring of 1899 disposed of his mercantile interests, since which time he has lived retired from active labors in the city of Sheyenne, where in 1899 he erected a comfortable and modern residence. He also owns his business property in Sheyenne, and also his farm of two hundred and forty acres. He has rented his farm since 1893, and the entire tract is under cultivation and well improved. When Mr. Nelson located in Dakota, Sheyenne had not been started, and the railroad through his section of Eddy County was in course of construction.

Our subject was married in 1897 to Miss Christena Ofstedal, a native of Minnesota, and a daughter of Christian Ofstedal, a farmer by occupation. One child has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Nelson, upon whom they have bestowed the name of Alma. Mr. Nelson takes an active part in public affairs, and is well known as a man of energetic spirit and good judgment. He is a Republican in political faith.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 238

Milo M. Clough, editor and proprietor of the Abercrombie "Herald," is a gentleman of true worth and wide influence for good. He is intelligent, progressive, and has a knowledge of men and the world which makes him a man who holds the confidence of the people among whom he labors. His life has been devoted to the higher pursuits of man, and he has spent many years as an instructor in public schools.

Our subject was born in Carlisle, Iowa, July 13, 1862. He was reared on his father's farm three miles west of that place, and was educated in the common schools until eleven years of age, and then attended the University of Des Moines, Iowa, for nine years, completing the classical and scientific courses. He graduated from that institution in June, 1881, and from a class of twenty-one was chosen as valedictorian. He was then engaged in teaching three years and was principal of the Carlisle schools, and then elected principal of the East Des Moines high school where he remained until 1891. He went to Minneapolis, Minnesota, in March, of that year, and spent six months with the Johns Publishing Company, when he was chosen principal of the Hankinson, North Dakota school and remained there two years. He established the Hankinson "News" in March, 1891, under the firm name of FaIley & Clough, and tbey operated the paper two years, when they sold the same. While a resident of Hankinson, our subject taught school in Fairmount, where he was principal. He had previously been elected chairman of the Richland County Teachers' Association, and served one year. He continued his residence in Hankinson until June, 1894, when he went to Abercrombie and established the Abercrombie "Herald." The first issue was dated June 21, 1894, and the paper has steadily increased in circulation since that time and is now one of the first sheets of that regions. Mr. Clough was elected principal of the Abercrombie high school in 1894 and held that position one year. Since living in Abercrombie he has taken an interest in bee culture and now has an apiary of fifty-four colonies. Mr. Clough is a man of inventive mind, and when fourteen years of age began working on a check rower, on which he obtained a patent in 1883, which five years later he disposed of at a good figure.

Our subject was married at Abercrombie, Richland County, August 4. 1894, to Miss Tilda Sime, who was born near Decorah, Winneshiek County, Iowa. Mrs. Clough was a teacher in the schools of Abercrombie for seven years. She died in that village March 27, 1896, leaving two daughters, twins, named Matilda Mary and Tillie Marie. The daughters died in September, 1896. Mr. Clough married Lou Johnson, in Abercrombie, April 5, 1897. Mrs. Clough was born in St. Croix County, Wisconsin. Mr. Clough is a man of genial nature and has a host of friends.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 238

William Strehlow. The business and social interests of Cass County have been carefully guarded and provided for by the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this article. He is one of the pioneers of that region, and since taking up his residence there he has labored with untiring perseverance for the up-building of the better interests of his community, and is held in a high position in the minds of his associates. He is engaged in the farming implement business in the city of Casselton, and has been identified with the various enterprises of that city, including the First National Bank, ins which he was formerly a director, stockholder and vice-president.

Our subject is a native of Germany, and was born in the city of Berlin, April 30, 1844 and was a son of Frederick and Elizabeth (Menge) Strehlow, both of whom were natives of Germany. His father was a farmer by occupation and came to America in 1849, and settled at Watertown, Wisconsin, where he purchased land and resided until 1864, when he moved to Winona County, Minnesota and later to DeForest, Wisconsin, and there made his house until his death in 1894. The mother of our subject died in 1892. They had four sons and three daughters: three sons and two daughters are now living, and our subject and one sister reside in North Dakota.

Strehlow was reared and educated in Wisconsin and October 1, 1861, enlisted in Company K, Third Wisconsin Cavalry, and served until February 14, 1865. He was with the Third Army Corps most of the time under General Scofield, and was engaged at Cane Hill, Prairie Grove, Fort Smith, and Van Buren, and the raid in Texas, and was wounded twice during the service, once receiving a bayonet wound in his elbow and being once shot through the left leg, but he lost little time from active service and remained until the close of the war. After his discharge from the service he returned to Minnesota, and spent some years at farming and various business pursuits in Minnesota and Wisconsin until 1877. In that year he went to Cass County, North Dakota, and entered claim to land as a homestead and tree claim in Addison township, built the first shanty and was the first settler in that township, and was the founder of the large German settlement of that vicinity. He remained on his claim the first year alone and was then joined by his family. He removed to Casselton in the fall of 1879, where he has since resided, and is engaged in the handling of farm implements. He has met with eminent success in his business and is regarded as one of the solid men of Cass County.

The subject of this sketch was married in Wisconsin, in 1869, to Mary Buckholz, a native of Germany. Three sons and four daughters have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Strehlow all of whom, with the exception of one daughter, reside in Casselton. Mr. Strehlow is actively Interested in the government of his township and town and has served as mayor of Casselton, and twice as county commissioner of Cass County. He is a stanch advocate of the principles of the Democratic Party, with which party be has affiliated throughout his career. His name is closely linked with the history of that region and much credit is due him for his energetic efforts in furthering its interests.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 239

Oluf Hagen, county auditor of Traill county, is one of the rising voting men of North Dakota. He is a gentleman of exemplary character and the people repose confidence in him. He is ably discharging the duties of his position as a public officer, and is among the public-spirited men of the county.

Our subject remained at home until seventeen years of age, when he emigrated to America, and at once went to Wisconsin, where an uncle lived. He engaged in farm work and also in the mills in St. Croix County, and in the spring of 1885 went to Dakota and worked at farm labor, making his home at Clifford, Traill County. He entered Bruflat Academy at Portland, in 1888, and spent two winters in the business course, completing the same in Curtiss Commercial College, graduating with the class of 1891. He returned to Traill County and taught school one term, and then went to Grand Forks University to perfect himself in the English language. His education was obtained by his own efforts, and he has acquired a thorough business training since taking up his residence in North Dakota.

Mr. Hagen is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and Modern Woodmen of America. He was appointed deputy treasurer of Traill County in 1894, and served one year, followed by four years as deputy county auditor, and in 1898 he was elected to his present office as county auditor. He was well qualified for the position, having become familiar with the duties while deputy auditor, and is recognized as a gentleman of true citizenship.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 239

John W. Von Nieda, a worthy representative of the moneyed interests of Fargo, North Dakota, is now president of the Red River Valley National Bank, one of the most solid financial institutions of the state. It was founded in 1881 with a capital stock of $100,000, and its first officers were L S. Fallett, president; W. A. Kindred, vice-president and L. W. Fallett, cashier. When L. S. Fallett resigned the presidency in 1891 he was succeeded by J. W. Von Nieda, who had served as vice-president for six months previous. Stephen Gardner had succeeded Mr. Kindred as vice-president, and R. S. Lewis had succeeded L. W. Fallett as cashier, but is now serving as vice-president, while J. E. Hyde is the present cashier. The present board of directors consists of the following: W. B. Hancock, R. S. Lewis, James E. Hyde, E. A. Perry, J. E. Montgomery, F. A. Irish, J. H. Lewis and J. W. Von Nieda. They do a general banking business; have over seven hundred thousand dollars in deposits and a surplus of fifty thousand dollars, the largest in the state.

Mr. Von Nieda, of whom a portrait will be found in connection with this sketch, was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, October 3, 1844, a son of George and Elizabeth C. (Carling) Von Nieda, also natives of Pennsylvania. He was reared in his native city and educated in its public schools. At the age of sixteen he commenced clerking in a wholesale store, and later learned the drug trade, which he followed for twenty-two years, twelve years in Pennsylvania and ten years in Fargo, North Dakota. In 1877 he removed to Minneapolis, Minnesota, and for five years represented the firm of Anthony Kelley & Company on the road, traveling all over North Dakota and northern Minnesota, and driving over much of the territory. Coming to Fargo in 1882, be opened a wholesale drug house, and for five years was associated in business with J. B. Raboteau. In 1892 he sold that business and has since given his entire time to his banking interests. He is a wide-awake, energetic business man of keen discrimination and sound judgment.

In Pennsylvania, Mr. Von Nieda was married in 1865, to Miss Florence Hughes, a native of that state, and to them have been born three children: Charles K., Maggie E., and George, now in Ann Arbor Michigan. During the Civil war Mr. Von Nieda enlisted in Company K, First Philadelphia Gray Reserves, and was in active service about two months. In his political views he is a stanch Democrat, and has taken an active part in the campaigns of this state. Fraternally he is a member of the Mystic Shrine of the Masonic order and the United Commercial Travelers. He is now serving as treasurer of the Agricultural College. In business affairs he has prospered, and fortune has certainly dealt kindly with him. His life is a living illustration of what ability, energy and force of character can accomplish, and the city and state have been enriched by his example. It is to such men that the West owes its prosperity, its rapid progress and advancement.

Source: Compendium and History of North Dakota 1900 Page 240