



Hon. John J. Wamberg, Republican nominee for Railroad Commissioner, was born in Justedalen, Norway, February 14th, 1854. His father died when he was but two years of age, leaving his mother with five little children to support and almost penniless. John's grandparents took and raised him, giving him a good common school education. At the age of 14 years he, with the rest of the family emigrated to America, and settled in Vernon County, Wis., where he hired out at farm work for \$8 per month. Having borrowed money with which to pay his fare over to this country, at this meagre salary it took a long time to pay it back. He worked for farmers during the summer and attended public school in the winter months. During his early years he worked at farm labor, chopped wood and ties and worked on the railroad and when he got money enough ahead attended school, and spent every moment he had in study. In 1871 he went to Frankfort, Mich., to secure work. He worked there nearly two years—chopped wood in the winter and worked in a saw mill during the summer. He then came back to Wisconsin, securing a situation in a general store as clerk. After working there for a time he went to Decorah, Iowa, where he attended Breckenridge's Institute during one winter. In the spring he secured a situation in the drug store of Montgomery & Co., and by hard application soon mastered the profession of pharmacy, working seven years for the same firm. In 1881 he came to Dakota, and embarked in business in Valley City. Seeing a better opening in Steele county, he moved to Hope in the fall of 1882, where he has successfully conducted a general merchandise and drug store since that time. He has been quite actively engaged in politics since he came to the

territory, but did not seek after public office. He was chosen a delegate from Steele county to the first State convention, and was soon after selected as a member of the Republican State Central Committee. He was appointed member of the State Board of Equalization by Governor Miller, which position he filled to the credit of his county and State, and did some good work at the meeting of the Board for his constituents. He was elected chairman of the County Central Committee in 1890, and served faithfully and well in that capacity for two years. He was again selected as a member of the State Central Committee in 1892. He also received the nomination as one of the Presidential Electors for Harrison in 1892, and was the only one of the three Republicans elected as such. He received the nomination as one of the three Railroad Commissioners at the Grand Forks convention in June, meeting with no opposition whatever, his popularity and strength among the electors of the state being such that the place was unanimously conceded to him. He has a wide acquaintance all over the state, and his quiet, unassuming manner has won for him universal popularity. He is a business man in the strongest sense of that term, and if elected to the office of Railroad Commissioner will do all in his power to remedy the evils which exist in the state through the unjust discriminations of the railroads against the common people of the state. His election is an almost assured fact, and it will be but a just reward for his faithful work for the party, both in the county and state, and as well we will elect a man who will always be laboring in his official capacity for the betterment of the condition of the people of the state. He is the right man for the place, without doubt.