

Oscar D. Purinton.

Oscar D. Purinton, son of Orphius and Maria Call Purinton, was born in Cortland County New York, on July 5th 1843. At the age of nine years, he with his parents removed to Preston County Virginia ( Now West Virginia ). In March 1863 he enlisted as a private soldier in Company K. of the Sixth Regiment, West Virginia, Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the Civil War, being discharged in June 1865.

Upon his discharge from the army he returned to Courtland N.Y. and resumed his studies in the Courtland Academy, at the completion of which he engaged for a time as salesman in the store of James S. Squires.

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On May 13th 1868, he was married to Miss Sara Ann Russell, and soon after engaged in business on his own account, in Courtland, where he and his wife continued to reside until March 1882, when they, with their two children, removed to Dakota Territory, and settled at Tower City, Cass County

Mr. Purinton was ordained to the ministry in the Baptist Church at Courtland New York, on March 6th 1882, and while living at Tower City, preached as opportunity offered until Nov. 1883, when he was called to, and accepted, the pastorate of the newly organized Baptist Church in Page in Cass County. After serving that church for two and one half years, he accepted the pastorate of the Baptist Church in Cooperstown in March 1886, where he has continuously to reside, although not continuously pastor of the church.

During his work in the Ministry, he organized the Baptist Church at Aneta., Nelson County, and the Baptist Church at Bald Hill in Griggs County. In the year 1889 he was elected to the office of Clerk of the District Court for Griggs County which he held for seventeen successive years. He became a member of the Old Settlers Association at the time of its organization in 1906, and was appointed Secretary in 1909

He has also served several years as Clerk of the Board of Education, and held other positions of trust.

Biblog.: Old Settlers Association records.

Mr. Purinton died March 28, 1918 at Cooperstown N.D.