

ty, N.Y., Aug. 10, 1824. He came to Wisconsin in May, 1852. He resided in Watworth County during 1852-53, and attended Milton College during 1854-55. He settled in Appleton in 1856, where he still resides. In 1850-57 he was a successful student at Lawrence University. Studied law with Jewett and Hudd in 1858-59, and with the late Judge Cotton of Green Bay in 1863; and was admitted to the bar, where he has distinguished himself not less for his integrity than for his ability. He has held many positions of trust, and in 1873 was elected county judge for Outagamie County, for a term of four years. In politics he is a Liberal Republican.

REV. JOSEPH E. IRISH.—He was born, Aug. 7, 1833, in Paris, Oneida County, N.Y. He was the third son of Daniel and Edna Irish. His ancestors on both sides were among the first settlers in New England. In 1835 his parents removed to Westerville, Penn., where they remained until the summer of 1837, when they returned to New York, and settled at Perryville, Madison County. Here he passed his boyhood, regularly attending the district school; and in 1840-50 studied at the Oneida Conference Seminary at Cazenovia, ranking his fellow-students in the study of mathematics. In the winter of 1840-50, at the age of sixteen, he engaged in teaching at the head of Cazenovia Lake, and the following winter pursued the same employment near New Haven, Conn.

In May, 1851, he came to Wisconsin, and settled at Sextonville, Richland County, at that time a new and sparsely-settled region. Here he soon after became actively engaged in surveying, for which his previous studies had fitted him; and soon after he became of age, was elected county surveyor, holding, also, the office of town clerk of the town in which he resided. A very large proportion of the roads and villages in that part of the State were surveyed by him, and he was also actively connected with the survey of the railroad between Madison and Prairie du Chien. July 12, 1855, he was married to Miss Lucy E. Britton, at that time of Lacrosse, but formerly of Richland County, and by whom he has had six children, all of whom are living. His union with Miss Britton proved to be eminently satisfactory; and the mutual affection existing between them remained in brightness until the close of her life. In the summer of 1858, a

remarkable revival of religion broke out in Richland County; and Mr. Irish became one of the converts. The scepticism of his previous life gave way; and he embraced with ardor the faith of the gospel, and very soon after joined the Methodist-Episcopal Church, and began to preach. In the fall of 1859, at the session of the West Wisconsin Conference at Platteville, being urged thereto by the church and his own convictions, he was received on trial, and appointed to Varoua in Vernon County, as his first circuit.

The itinerant system of the Methodist Church has been the means of repeatedly changing the field of his labors from that time; so that he has been personally identified with the interests of many portions of the State.

He was appointed presiding elder of the St. Croix District, and removed to Hudson, and afterwards to New Richmond. In the fall of 1871, while actively engaged in serving his church in this capacity, he was approached by leading men of the district, and urged to accept the nomination of senator for the twenty-fourth district of the State. This large district, embracing eight counties, had such varied and important interests to subserve, that whoever represented it in the legislature required much versatility of talents, and keenness of observation, to satisfy his constituents. Believing that the call was in the line of Providence, Mr. Irish accepted the nomination in behalf of the Republican party, and was elected by the unprecedented majority of nearly two thousand votes. It was the first instance of a clergyman ever having been elected to the senate of Wisconsin; and Mr. Irish entered upon the discharge of his duties with a strong desire to advance the interests of the State by a faithful and judicious Christian course.

The famous Graham Temperance Bill found in him an ardent friend; and its passage has, by its friends, been often imputed largely to his activity and influence. Whatever conclusions may have been arrived at concerning the bearing of this law on the great issues of temperance, it was regarded at the time as an essential measure by temperance men, and was therefore pressed to a successful issue. During both years of Mr. Irish's service in the senate, he served also as its chaplain by the request of that body. In the fall of 1872 he was appointed by Gov. Washburn, chairman of the State