

Iowa; George Norbert, a student in the Elma high school; Harriet E., also a high school pupil; and Catherine A., Arthur D. and Charles L., all in school.

Mr. O'Donnell and his family are members of the Catholic church and he belongs also to the Knights of Columbus and to the Catholic Order of Foresters and for several years has been chief ranger in the latter lodge. His political allegiance has always been given to the democratic party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He served as town clerk of Elma for five years, was a member of the city council six years, and in March, 1918, was elected mayor of Elma, so that he is the present chief executive of the city. He exercises his official prerogatives in behalf of progress and improvement along every line and while working toward high ideals he employs the most practical methods in their fulfillment. He brings the same keen discernment and unfaltering enterprise to bear in the discharge of his public duties that he displays in the conduct of his private business interests.

FRANCIS DANE.

There are few men who have improved their opportunities so wisely and well as did Francis Dane, who, handicapped in youth by poverty and a lack of liberal education, nevertheless made steady progress throughout his career and contributed not only to the development of his own fortunes but as well to the upbuilding of the district in which he lived. Chickasaw county numbered him for many years as one of its valued citizens who began his labors there in pioneer times. He was born in West Derby, Vermont, October 6, 1828, and came of English ancestry, although the family has been represented on American soil through many generations. The first of the name in the new world came from Hertfordshire, England, about the year 1640 and settled at Ipswich, Massachusetts. They took active part in shaping the history of that period and down to the present time members of the family have left the impress of their individuality and ability upon the development and upbuilding of various localities in which they have lived. One of the early ancestors of the family was John Dane, a man of considerable literary talent, who acted as a juror in the famous Salem witchcraft trials. Nathan Dane, a greatuncle of Francis Dane, served as a member of the Massachusetts general assembly and afterward represented his district in the lower house of the United States Congress. A notable feature of his congressional career was his placing the famous, clause in the ordinance which forever prohibited slavery in the Northwest Territory—a work that was of untold worth to that district. He displayed notable prescience as well as broad humanitarianism in this act, freeing the great district from that curse which later involved the entire country in civil war. He it was who founded the law school of Harvard University and his scholarly attainments and statesmanship thus caused his name to be written high on the roll of America's eminent citizens. Another well known member of the family was Major Henry C. Dane, traveler and lecturer, whose interest in the peoples and lands of the world finds a duplicate note in the life of Harry H. Dane, of New Hampton.

James Dane, the father of Francis Dane, came from the state of Vermont, to Chickasaw county, Iowa, about the year 1858. His last days were passed in Waterloo, Iowa, where his death occurred January 21, 1891, when he was in his ninety-third year. He was a man of inventive genius having taken out patents on brick molding machines and on grain harvesting machines.

Francis Dane was numbered among the earliest of the pioneer settlers of Chickasaw county. Making a trip to the west, he entered land from the government, becoming the owner of a tract in Jacksonville township upon which not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made. Later he returned to Vermont and there, on the 13th of March, 1853, wedded Jane Crane, removing with his bride to Iowa the following year. They took up their abode upon the land which he had entered