

ness, also handling pumps and windmills and in the latter line probably did a larger business than any other dealer in northeastern Iowa. As he prospered in business he built a number of residences and business blocks on Main street and the two largest brick business buildings in Fredericksburg stand as monuments to his enterprise and progressive spirit. In 1900, in company with Shaffer Brothers of New Hampton, he purchased the banking business of Charles A. Moody, which they then conducted as a private bank until 1905, when it was incorporated as the First State Bank of Fredericksburg and Mr. Padden became its first president. He was preeminently a business man, alert and energetic, ready for any emergency and at all times displaying keen discernment in recognizing opportunities that others passed heedlessly by. He may well be termed one of Fredericksburg's foremost citizens. He was a true friend and good neighbor, who ever held friendship inviolable. He counted character as far more valuable than wealth or fame and he would never sacrifice the interests of public concern or his friends in the slightest degree. He was most loyal in citizenship and the many splendid traits of character which he displayed caused him to be esteemed and loved by all who knew him.

On the 1st of August, 1874, Mr. Padden was married to Miss Clara Tisdale, a daughter of Gilbert J. Tisdale, who came to Chickasaw county about 1857. He served throughout the Civil war, enlisting as a member of Company B, Seventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry, on the 21st of July, 1861. He was wounded at the battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, and after recovering from his injuries he rejoined the regiment, with which he remained until honorably discharged in 1864. The following year he was chosen to represent his district in the state legislature and proved an able member of the general assembly of Iowa. His widow is now living, in her eighty-fourth year, and is a well preserved woman, retaining her mental faculties as well as many women twenty years her junior. She makes her home with her daughter Mrs. Padden. The latter became the mother of seven children: Cora, who died August 8, 1880; John, a prominent farmer of Fredericksburg township, Chickasaw county; Nellie, the widow of James Eckenrod and a resident of Springfield, Missouri; Harry, an automobile dealer of Waterloo, Iowa; Lillie, the wife of James McCook, of Pendleton, Oregon; Edith, the wife of Howard Fuller, of Mason City, Iowa, who is state bank examiner and whose father filled the office of attorney general under President Roosevelt; and Marjorie, at home.

At the time of his death Mr. Padden owned extensive and valuable property in Fredericksburg and had excellent farm holdings. He was not a fraternity man; his home served as his lodge and his club. His tastes were simple and he preferred above all else to spend his time with his family, to whom he was a most loving and devoted husband and father. He felt that the greatest blessing in life was the companionship of a true wife and a family of happy children, who always had a warm welcome for the master of the house. Mr. Padden passed away November 8, 1910, his death being the occasion of deep regret not only to the members of his immediate household but to all who knew him and recognized in him the possessor of many sterling traits of character.

#### ROBERT HERD FAIRBAIRN.

Robert Herd Fairbairn was born in Napanee, Ontario, Canada, October 9, 1842, and with his parents removed to St. Mary, in Perth county, Ontario, where he resided until 1848, when they crossed the border into the United States, establishing their home in Winnebago county, Wisconsin. They afterward removed to Waushara county in the same state, and there, in 1867, Mr. Fairbairn's health became so impaired that his physicians ordered him to try the west coast, and he went to California, where he remained for more than two years. He then returned to the east and for a brief period resided in Stratford, Canada. In 1872 he came to Chickasaw county, Iowa, where he has since resided with the exception of a year spent in Minneapolis, Minnesota. For several years he engaged in the practice of law at Nashua, Iowa, but became imbued with an unconquerable desire to enter upon newspaper work, having previously been correspondent for