History of Walworth County Wisconsin by Albert Clayton Beckwith, 1912, B. F. Bowden Co.

WALWORTH COUNTY, WISCONSIN.

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proven himself to be a faithful and trustworthy public servant. Fraternally, he belongs to the Free and Accepted Masons.

Mr. Williams was married on June 27, 1901, to Clara Saxton, a native of Merrillville, Indiana, where her people were prominent.

## J. J. HOLLISTER.

There could be no more comprehensive history written of a community or even of a state and its people, than that which deals with the life work of those who, by their own endeavor and indomitable energy, have placed themselves where they well deserve the title of "progressive," and in this sketch will be found the record of one who has outstripped the less active plodders on the highway of life, one who has not been subdued by the many obstacles and failures that come to everyone, but who has made them stepping-stones to higher things and at the same time that Mr. Hollister was winning his way to the front in agricultural affairs he has gained a reputation for uprightness and honor. He is one of the worthy native sons of Walworth county, who, having had the sagacity to foresee the great future of this locality, wisely decided to spend his life on his native soil, rather than seek uncertain fortune elsewhere, and he has thus been identified with the growth of the same and has played well his part in its development.

Job Jones Hollister was born October 9, 1854, in the town of Delavan, this county, being the representative of a sterling old pioneer family, the son of James H. and Elizabeth (Williams) Hollister, both natives of the state of New York, from which state they came to Wisconsin in their youth while yet single, the father in 1843 and the mother's arrival was in 1852, and they were married at Elkhorn. There they established a good home and to them three children were born, namely: J. J., of this review; Samuel J., of Elkhorn, Wisconsin; William H., now deceased. The father of these children devoted his life to farming, and became known as one of the best farmers of his vicinity. He was a man of many praiseworthy characteristics, his reputation being above reproach. His death occurred on March 8, 1899, his wife having preceded him to the grave on August 28, 1895. They both had a host of friends in the town of Delavan.

J. J. Hollister spent his youth on the home farm which he worked during the crop seasons and attended the public schools in the winter time. On September 22, 1878, he was married to Marinda Williams, daughter of



Jonathan and Mary Williams, and this union has been blessed with the birth of one child, Merrill Hollister. Merrill was born September 20, 1887. married Della Anderson and lives at Delavan.

Having devoted his life to agriculture pursuits, Mr. Hollister has, by hard work and good management, accumulated a competency and some of the county's choicest farming land. He formerly lived in section 16, Delavan township, where he owned a well improved and well kept farm of eighty-two and sixty-five one-hundredths acres. Some time ago he purchased seven acres in section 17, near the city limits of Delavan, and there he now resides, having a beautiful and commodious home in the midst of pleasant surroundings.

Politically, Mr. Hollister is a Republican and has been more or less active in forwarding the interests of his party locally. For nearly fifteen years he was a member of the school board, and for six years he was a member of the town board of Delavan. He has been continuously a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows since 1876.

## F. HENRY KISER.

In the history of Walworth county as applying to the professional interests, the name of F. Henry Kiser, of Whitewater, occupies a conspicuous place, for through a number of years he has been one of the representative men of affairs—progressive, enterprising and persevering. Such qualities always win success, sooner or later, and to Mr. Kiser they have brought a satisfactory reward for his well directed efforts, and while he has benefited himself and community in a material way he has also been an influential factor in the educational, political and moral uplift of the community. He is one of the best known lawyers of this locality.

Mr. Kiser was born in Whitewater, Wisconsin, on May 26, 1872, and is the son of Fernando C. Kiser, a well known citizen of this community, a complete sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this work. F. Henry Kiser was educated in the public schools, and was graduated from the Whitewater high school. Early in life he decided upon the law as his vocation, consequently he entered the law department of Columbia University, where he made an excellent record and from which institution he was graduated in 1893. He was employed for a time in the census office at Washington. He then took a course in the law department of the University of Wisconsin,