

BIOGRAPHY OF CONNECTICUT.

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with no desire to kill or catch. He is president of the New Britain Scientific Association, and an occasional writer on scientific subjects, botany, mineralogy, archæology, and conchology being the branches to which he has paid most attention. Valuable contributions have been made by him to the Peabody Museum of Yale College, and to the National Museum of the Smithsonian Institution, for which he has received special public acknowledgment. He is also an enthusiastic amateur photographer, and within the last six years has carried a camera over twenty thousand miles.

HON. DAVID M. READ, BRIDGEPORT: Manufacturer and Merchant.

Hon. David M. Read of Bridgeport, at present democratic state senator from the fourteenth district, is one of the leading manufacturers and merchants of New England.

He was born in Hoosic Falls, N. Y., October 12, 1832. After the ordinary educational advantages of the district school, he attended Drury academy at North Adams, Mass. In 1855, he married Helen Augusta Barnum, daughter of Philo F. Barnum of Bridgeport. They have two sons and one daughter. Mr. Read was chosen a representative



D. M. READ.

from Bridgeport to the general assembly of 1881, and served upon the committee on military affairs. He was a delegate to the National convention in Chicago in 1884. He has been councilman and first alderman of Bridgeport, and is vice-president of the Savings Bank and a director of the National Bank. He is a prominent member of the board of trade and was for fifteen years its president. His superior business training is shown in the success he has achieved. He is president of the D. M. Read Company, and treasurer and selling agent of the Read Carpet Company, the New York office of which is at 934 Broadway. He served for several years as commissary of our Connecticut brigade of the National Guard, and under Governor Ingersoll, in 1876, the centennial year, he was induced to accept the position of acting commissary-general. Senator Read has always exercised great influence in matters legislative. He was elected to the senate of 1889, returned to that body in 1891; was president *pro tempore* of the senate of 1891, and performed with signal ability the difficult duties devolving upon him

during that remarkable session. Has been prominently mentioned as an available candidate for governor.

HON. ALLAN WALLACE PAIGE, HUNTINGTON: Attorney-at-Law.

Allan W. Paige was born in the town of Sherman, February 28, 1854; graduated from the Yale Law School in 1881; and subsequently became the partner of the late David B. Booth of Danbury. His classmates in the law school included Messrs. Frank E. Hyde of Hartford, John C. Gallagher of New Haven, ex-senate clerks Charles P. Woodbury and Clinton Spencer, and Sidney E. Clarke of Hartford. Mr. Paige pursued a preparatory college course at General Russell's Military School and the Hopkins Grammar School in New Haven, being a student at the former institution with Mr. John Addison Porter of the *Hartford Post*. In 1882, Mr. Paige was elected a member of the house from Sherman, and was assigned to the chairmanship of the state prison committee by Speaker John M. Hall. In that position he performed excellent service for the state. In 1883, he was elected assistant clerk of the house, clerk in 1884, and senate clerk in 1885. For several years Mr. Paige was a member of the republican state committee, and in 1884 was its secretary. In addition to his law practice in Connecticut, Mr. Paige is associated with the firm of Duncan & Paige of 120 Broadway, New York. At the November election in 1890, Mr. Paige was elected a member of the house from the town of Huntington, receiving a majority of 228, the largest majority ever given to any candidate in the town, and on the assembling of the legislature in January received the unanimous nomination for the speakership from the republicans. He was elected January 7, receiving the total vote of his party in the house. With one exception, that of Hon. Augustus Brandegee of New London, he is the youngest speaker the house has ever had, and the third republican speaker in continuous succession from Fairfield county,—Col. H. W. R. Hoyt of Greenwich being speaker in 1887, and Judge John H. Perry of Fairfield in 1889. His unanimous selection, in spite of geographical objection, was due to his large legislative experience, and knowledge of parliamentary law, both essential accomplishments for the speakership. And it is generally conceded that at no time within the history of



A. W. PAIGE.

the state, not even during the war, have party lines been so closely drawn, and the duties of the speaker so difficult of successful execution as during the session of the house for the winter of 1891. Mr. Paige proved himself fully equal to the occasion, fertile in parliamentary knowledge and resources, quick in execution and firm in decisions. His position was a most difficult and trying one, but his administration of the office was such as to win for him the unwavering and enthusiastic support of every member of his party in the house, and the admiration and plaudits of the republican press and his party in the state. Speaker Paige is a gentleman of interesting and attractive personal qualities, and has met with marked success in Connecticut politics. His career has been the result of his own efforts and energy, and shows what a man of spirit and perseverance can accomplish.

The wife of Speaker Paige is the daughter of the late Nelson Downs, who previous to his death was a prominent manufacturer in Birmingham, and one of the leading citizens of the Naugatuck valley.

CHARLES E. OSBORNE, STEPNEY (MONROE):
Merchant.

Charles Edward Osborne represented the town of Monroe in the general assembly of 1887, and was appointed a member of the special committee, of



C. E. OSBORNE.

which Senator Coffin was the chairman, to erect a memorial tablet in the main hall of the capitol in honor of John Fitch of Connecticut, the first to apply steam power in navigation. Representatives Higgins and Wood were associate members of the committee from the house. Mr. Osborne has been a member of the board of relief, collector of taxes, and is at

present a justice of the peace, secretary of the board of school visitors, and acting school visitor. He is a member of the democratic party, and is an active participant in its management locally. He was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., June 5, 1849, and was educated at the Connecticut Literary Institute in Suffield, and Wesleyan University, entering but not continuing the college course. He has resided at Southport, Bridgeport, Bethel, Watertown, and Southbury. In 1876 he was married to Miss Martha E. Burritt. There are three children, all daughters. Mr. Osborne is engaged in mercantile pursuits, being a dealer in pianos, organs, and sewing-machines at Stepney, which is located in the town of Monroe.

REV. FREDERICK DELLMAR CHANDLER,
EASTFORD: Congregational Clergyman.

The subject of this sketch was born in Pawlet, Rutland County, Vermont, June 21, 1842. His father, Thomas Jefferson Chandler, of English



F. D. CHANDLER.

lineage, was a stalwart abolitionist, and a man highly respected for his sterling Christian character. Noted for his attitude toward slavery, he was thoroughly identified with the noble band of men whose lives formed a part of that thrillingly interesting historic period, and to whose conscientious efforts are indirectly attributable the fate which American negro

slavery met at the hands of this government through the emancipation proclamation of President Lincoln in 1863. The son inherited largely the traits of character which distinguished the father. Himself a strong anti-slavery man, it is related of him that the first money he ever possessed (forty-nine cents) was invested by him when he was nine years of age in a pocket Bible; the next money, earned and owned by him, was expended for a copy of "Helper's Impending Crisis." Mr. Chandler inherited from his mother,—a noble Christian woman,—a strong character and an intensely religious nature, his religious convictions, manifested at a very early age, showing the trend of his mind toward the calling which in after years he chose for his life work. Like many another ambitious son of a kind but poor father, he had to fight a very unequal battle with poverty in his attempt to gain an education in the common and select schools of his native town. In early life he was noted for his studious habits and unconquerable energy, always standing at the head of his class; and never,—but once, and then unjustly,—losing a prize, if one was offered, in any competition in which he had the opportunity to join. He attended several terms at Castleton Seminary, then under the wise management of Dr. S. N. Knowlton. Finally he established a high school in the town of Middletown, but was induced to go to another seemingly more advantageous opening at Poultney. From thence, under the auspices of the M. E. Church, he went to one of their theological seminaries, which was then located at Concord, N. H., but about that time became a part of Boston University. It should be stated here that before entering the university, and while engaged in teaching, Mr. Chandler began the study of law, thinking it would be his life avocation; but under