

ELAM J. HADLEY.

Elam J. Hadley, a prominent and leading resident of Grinnell, has contributed in large measure to the substantial upbuilding and development of the city as a promoter and builder, having laid out three subdivisions. He was born of Quaker parentage, in Richland, Iowa, his grandfather, Riley Hadley, having come to Iowa while it was still a territory. His birth occurred on the 5th of December, 1870, his parents being Irvee S. and Julia (Jessup) Hadley, the former a native of Keokuk county, Iowa, and the latter of North Carolina. Mrs. Hadley was three years of age when taken by her parents to Marshall

county, Iowa, in 1851. Irvee S. Hadley attended Iowa College during the years 1864, 1865 and 1866 and remained in Keokuk county, Iowa, until 1873, when he removed to Hardin county, where he purchased a farm, continuing to reside thereon for about twenty years. On the expiration of that period he removed to Nebraska and subsequently took up his abode in Whittier, California. In the spring of 1904 he returned to Iowa, undecided as to whether he would remain here or go back to California, as his health was greatly impaired. It was soon after his arrival here that he passed away, having survived his wife for about two years.

Elam J. Hadley was the eldest of five children. He was reared under the parental roof and in the acquirement of an education attended the common schools and the Friends Academy at LeGrand, Iowa, while subsequently he pursued a commercial course in Eastman's Business College at Poughkeepsie, New York. After putting aside his text-books he began farming in Redwillow county, Nebraska, where his parents were then living, following general agricultural pursuits in that state for two years or until he removed to Gilman, Iowa, in 1896. His wife owned a farm across the county line in Tama county and thereon they took up their abode. In the spring of 1901 Mr. Hadley took a trip to California, where his parents were living, for the purpose of looking up a location for a home. He spent the summer in different parts of the west but on his return to Iowa in the fall decided to remain here. He brought his family to Grinnell and this town has remained his place of residence continuously since. On his arrival here he purchased the Hobart tract of eighty acres, forty acres of which lay within the corporate limits of Grinnell, while the following winter he bought the Stewart tract of forty acres, adjoining the Hobart tract. In the spring of 1902 he laid out the first Hadley subdivision, comprising twenty-three acres, which sold rapidly and which he improved with good buildings. In the fall of 1902 he laid out the second subdivision, comprising forty acres, and in 1904 the third subdivision, embracing seventeen acres, was laid out. His undertakings in this connection have been very successful, for his additions are in the most desirable residence section, being in the highest part of the town as regards altitude. Mr. Hadley has also built up a great part of the section, erecting and selling the homes. He is likewise the owner of two farms in Jasper county and has another farm on the county line, lying partly in Poweshiek and partly in Jasper county.

In 1893 Mr. Hadley was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Boyd, a daughter of Douglas Boyd. Her mother died when she was small and she was reared by her grandfather, Jacob Korns, a well known and wealthy agriculturist of Tama county. Unto our subject and his wife have been born seven children, namely: Edmund E., Gladys E., Grace A., Donald B., Dwight E., Dorothy J. and Harold.

In politics Mr. Hadley is a stanch republican, while fraternally he is identified with the Knights of Pythias, belonging to Grinnell Lodge, No. 175. Both he and his wife are consistent and devoted members of the Congregational church. Though still a comparatively young man and a resident of Grinnell for but nine years, he has done much toward the upbuilding and extension of the city and has erected buildings which will be a credit to a greater Grinnell. He is

POP 606

alert and enterprising, possessing the progressive spirit of the times and accomplishing what he undertakes, while his geniality and deference for the opinions of others have made his circle of friends almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances.