

**JAMES W. ELLIS,**



Representative from Jackson county, was born in Hendricks county, Indiana, November 25, 1848, of Revolutionary stock, his parents were born in Kentucky and his grandparents on both sides were born in old Virginia and were of English descent. His ancestors served in the French and Indian and the Revolutionary Wars and the War of 1812. Came to Jackson county, Iowa, in 1852, received a common school education and grew up on the farm which was his home until 1907, when he moved to Maquoketa. Served his country three years as a private in Company H, Fifth United States Infantry on the frontiers. Served as Justice of the Peace four years, member of Soldiers' Relief Commission eight years and president of his township school board twenty years. Has been commander of A. W. Drips Post G. A. R., commander of R. M. Anderson Command No. 5 Union Veterans' Union, commander of the Department of Iowa, Union Veterans' Union, and deputy commander-in-chief of the national command of that order. Has been secretary and treasurer of the Maquoketa Pioneer and Old Settler's Society for twelve years, and in 1903 organized the Jackson County Historical Society, which is incorporated, and is secretary and curator of the same. He is the author of several books and papers on historical subjects. Since 1889 he has been actively engaged in writing fire insurance. On October 16, 1870, was married to Miss Mary M. Forbes, who was also of Revolutionary ancestry; she died in March, 1907. They had five children who lived to grow to manhood and womanhood, two sons and three daughters. Elected Representative in 1908 and re-elected in 1910. A Democrat in politics.

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