

JOSEPH A. FITCHPATRICK,



Senator from the Thirty-first District, composed of the counties of Boone and Story, was born near Abingdon, Washington county, Virginia, October 17, 1840, son of William H. and Sarah V. (Hagy) Fitchpatrick. His parents were natives, but his ancestors on his father's side were Scotch, Irish and French, who settled in the Valley of Virginia just prior to the commencement of the French and Indian war, and those on his mother's side were Dutch, who first settled about Hagertown, Maryland. Removed with his parents to Clinton county, Indiana, in 1843, and to Boone county, Iowa, in 1854, thence to Story county in 1857. Attended rural schools intermittently. "Kept" school a few terms, 1859 to 1861. Enlisted May 22, 1861, in Company "E," Third Iowa Infantry and served until the close of the war. Elected clerk of the court to fill vacancy October, 1865, served until January, 1877, and upon retiring therefrom was admitted to the bar. During his term of office engaged in the abstract and loan business and has continued therein ever since. In 1900 was elected State Senator and served in the Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth General Assemblies and by reason of reciprocal relations long existing between the two counties composing the district was not a candidate for re-election. Again elected in 1908, receiving 6,771 votes to 2,660 received by his Democratic opponent. He was married to Harriet V. Pierce in 1866; she died in 1906. In religion he is a Presbyterian. A Republican in politics.

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