

RANSOM JAMES BIXBY,

Representative from Delaware county, was born March 29, 1854, on a farm in Clayton county, three miles from the present town of Edgewood, Iowa. His parents were Rev. N. W. and Ruby (Knapp) Bixby, natives of Vermont, early pioneers of Iowa, coming to this State in 1847. The early years of his life were spent on the farm and in attending district school. He commenced teaching early in life, closing a winter term of school before he was seventeen years of age. He then entered Wilton College. After leaving college he took up teaching as a profession and achieved success as a teacher in the common schools and later as principal of graded schools. On May 22, 1879, he was married to Flora R. Blanchard, a daughter of Dr. L. Blanchard, a native of New York. They have a family of four children. Soon after his marriage he engaged in mercantile business in Edgewood, conducting the same for nineteen years. He acquired considerable landed interests, among which is the old homestead his father entered from the government. At present he is engaged in superintending farming operations and in the breeding of registered cattle and sheep. He was a member of the school board for many years and also held office of township clerk for several years. Elected Representative in 1903 and re-elected in 1906. Served during the Thirtieth, Thirty-first, and Thirty-second General Assemblies. A Republican in politics.