

**JAMES MERCER,**

Representative from Pocahontas county, was born at Galt, Ontario, Canada, April 26, 1847, of Scotch parentage. In 1855 he moved with his parents to Cascade, Dubuque county, Iowa, where he remained until twenty years of age. After attending the public school he spent two years in the academy. On October 24, 1864, he became a member of Company M, Sixth Iowa Cavalry. After his return from the army he found employment in the furniture business. In the spring of 1875 he moved to a farm in Cedar township, Pocahontas county, where he now resides. He served as township clerk from 1879 to 1883 and 1887 to 1889 and has been secretary of the school board since 1889. Was a member of the board of county supervisors from 1883 to 1886. In 1889 he was elected Representative on the Republican ticket to the Twenty-third General Assembly of Iowa from the Seventy-seventh district, composed of Clay and Pocahontas counties, and again elected November 6, 1906. A Republican in politics.