

V. Hon. Montgomery Morrison Cothren, of Scotch descent, son of Nathaniel Cothren, of Falmouth, Mass., and Clarissa Weed, was born at Jerusalem, Yates county, N. Y., Sept. 18th, 1819. His father removed, in 1830, to Lockport, N. Y., where he resided two years, and then migrated to Detroit; and after remaining there a couple of years he removed to Kalamazoo. Young Cothren studied law from 1836 to 1843, when he was admitted to the bar; and in the latter year he commenced practice at New Diggings, in then Iowa, now La Fayette county. In 1846, he removed to Mineral Point, and was the same year elected Clerk of the Board of Commissioners of Iowa County. He soon acquired a prominent position and in 1847 and '48 he represented Iowa county in the Legislative Assembly, and was an influential member of the Judiciary Committee, and took an active part in the proceedings preliminary to the calling of a State Convention for the formation of a State Constitution.

After the organization of the State, he served a term of two sessions in the Senate, in 1849-50, and held the important post of Chairman of the Judiciary Committee. In 1852, he was chosen one of the Presidential Electors of the State, and was, at the same time, elected Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit, for a term of six years, and is still serving on the bench. While absent from the State, he was nominated, in March, 1857, for Chief Justice of Wisconsin, but was unsuccessful in the canvass. Judge Cothren married Esther Maria, daughter of Dr. Schuyler Pulford, in 1848, and resides at Mineral Point.

VI. Hon. Mason C. Darling was born in Amherst, Hampshire county, Mass., May 18th, 1801, and resided in that region for thirty-six years. At the age of thirteen, he was left an orphan as poor as poverty could make him. He had no means but his hands and a resolute heart, of obtaining an education, or of establishing himself in the world. But he