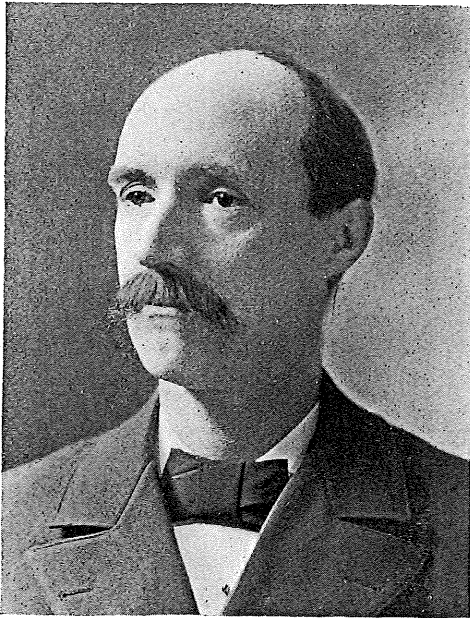


*ed. by Marion Shetter**mpls: mpls journal, 1897*

ROBERT CAMPBELL DUNN.

Robert Campbell Dunn is the state auditor of Minnesota. He was elected to represent a principle, that of fair and honest administration of that important office, and devotes his every energy to the best interests of the state. Mr. Dunn was born February 14, 1855, at Plumb Bridge, County Tyrone, Ireland. His father, Robert Dunn, owned his own land, about two hundred and fifty acres, and, besides carrying on agriculture quite extensively for that country, was a storekeeper. He is still living, a hale and hearty old gentleman of seventy-seven. He is an Episcopalian and a liberal Protestant, but never affiliated with the Orangemen. Robert's mother's maiden name was Jane Campbell. She is descended from an old Scotch family of strict Presbyterians. Two of her uncles, Col. Robert Campbell and Hugh Campbell, were among the best known residents of St. Louis, the former settling there when it was only a small village of two hundred people. Mr. Dunn's eldest brother, Samuel, is a magistrate in Ireland, and his youngest brother, William, is a graduate of the Glasgow medical college, and a successful physician in London. Two of Mr. Dunn's uncles, Andrew and Samuel, were among the first white settlers of Columbia County, Wisconsin. Mr. Dunn, when a lad, in Ireland, attended the common national school from the time he was old enough to be admitted until he was fourteen. This

school was conducted continuously throughout the year, with the exception of one month. That was all the schooling he received. At the age of fourteen he was apprenticed to a dry goods merchant at Londonderry, about twenty miles from home. To him it seemed like five hundred miles. He was bound for five years, but the man to whom he was apprenticed proved to be a hard task master, very strict in his requirements, and young Robert found his situation very uncomfortable. After six months, by the aid of a brother at home, he succeeded in raising money enough to pay for a second cabin passage across the Atlantic, and before his parents knew he had left Londonderry he was with his uncle, Samuel Dunn, in Wisconsin. He remained on his uncle's farm for nearly a year, then went to St. Louis in search of his fortune, and from there to Mississippi, where he was employed in a store in the Yazoo Valley for six or eight months. He then returned to St. Louis and learned the printer's trade. He remained there till 1876, when he came to Minnesota and settled in Princeton, where he commenced the publication of the Princeton Union, in the fall of that year. He has been the editor and publisher of that paper ever since, and it is in a flourishing condition. In 1878 Mr. Dunn was elected town clerk of Princeton, the fees of which office amounted to the princely sum of three hundred dollars a year. This amount, however, was valuable to the publisher of a country weekly, and Mr. Dunn held the office for eleven years. In the meantime he was elected county attorney of Mille Lacs County in 1884, and was re-elected in 1886. In 1888 he was elected to the lower house of the legislature from the districts composed of the counties of Todd, Crow Wing, Morrison and Mille Lacs. He was elected again in 1890, but his seat was contested and he was thrown out. He was renominated by the Republicans in 1892 and was elected. Mr. Dunn was a member of the Republican National Convention in 1892 from the Sixth Congressional district of Minnesota; was a member of the committee on credentials, and worked and voted for James G. Blaine. In his second term in the legislature Mr. Dunn led a movement for reform in the administration of the land interests of the state, and was so successful in protecting the state and so completely demonstrated the

necessity of reform in that particular that the people elected him to the office of state auditor in 1894, and committed the land interests of the state to his charge. He has fully justified the confidence which was reposed in him, and has administered the office to which he was elected with distinguished ability. Mr. Dunn was married to Lydia McKenzie, of Spencer Brook, Isanti County, February 14, 1887, and they have two children, George R., and Grace. He is thoroughly devoted to his little family, and when not engaged in his official duties, can always be found with them in their present home at Hamline, where he resides during his term of office.

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#### FRANK MELLEN NYE.

Frank Mellen Nye is county attorney of Hennepin County. His parents were both natives of Maine. His father, Franklin Nye, was formerly a lumberman in that state, but removed to Wisconsin in 1853 and engaged in farming. His mother was Eliza M. Loring. Frank M. Nye was born in Shirley, Maine, March 7, 1852, and came with his parents to Wisconsin and settled near River Falls. He grew up on a farm and commenced his education in the common schools, afterwards attending the academy at River Falls. He followed the course often pursued by young men of limited means and larger ambition, teaching school several terms while he pursued the study of law. In 1878 he was admitted to practice at Hudson, Wisconsin, and soon afterward located in Polk County, the same state, for the practice of his profession. He was elected district attorney and held that office two terms. He was also chosen by the people of Polk County to the lower house of the legislature. In the spring of 1886 he removed to Minneapolis, where his talents soon attracted attention. He took an active part in politics and made an enviable reputation as a speaker. When Robert Jamison was elected county attorney he appointed Mr. Nye as his assistant. In the fall of 1892 he was elected to succeed Mr. Jamison, and was re-elected in the fall of 1894, and is now serving his second term in that office. Mr. Nye's legal practice has been largely in the department of criminal law, where he has met with remarkable success. Among the



important cases prosecuted by him was that of the Harris murderers, where under peculiar difficulties he succeeded in unraveling the mysterious plot and in procuring the conviction of the criminals. He also prosecuted the famous Hayward case, and won new laurels as a criminal lawyer. This was one of the most famous trials in the history of criminal prosecutions in this country, and the ability with which the case was conducted attracted general attention. His reputation as a prosecutor is not confined to his own state, and he has been called upon to assist in important cases in other courts. A notable instance was that of the prosecution of Myron Kent, in North Dakota, for the murder of his wife. Mr. Nye made the principal address to the jury, and the trial resulted in the conviction of the accused. He has also rendered important services to the county in the conduct of its civil business, and is regarded as one of the most capable men who has ever served it in that capacity. He has secured the esteem and confidence of his fellow citizens to such a degree that he has been urged to accept higher preferment in the public service, but has thus far chosen to confine himself to the practice of his profession. Mr. Nye was married in the spring of 1876 to Carrie M. Wilson, of River Falls, Wisconsin, and has a family of four children.