

Hawley, James H.  
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HISTORY  
OF  
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*The Gem of the Mountains*

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ILLUSTRATED

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VOLUME III

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CHICAGO  
THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING COMPANY  
1920

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WILLIAM A. STONE.

William A. Stone, attorney at law in Caldwell, practicing as senior partner in the firm of Stone & Jackson, was born at Knoxville, near Des Moines, Iowa, December 3, 1862. His father, William M. Stone, was a native of Jefferson county, New York, and he, too, was a lawyer by profession. He served for five years on the bench and then resigned his judicial position in order to give his services to his country during the Civil war. He organized the Third Iowa Infantry and became its captain before leaving for service. In his first day's battle at Shiloh he was captured and sent to prison at Selma, Alabama. His release was effected within sixty days through the exchange of prisoners and he returned to his home, where the Twenty-second Infantry was being formed, of which he was made colonel, then returning to active service. Previous to his capture he had been in command of the Second Iowa Regiment. After participating in several hotly contested engagements he was seriously wounded at the battle of Vicksburg and was forced to return home. Soon afterward he was nominated for governor in June, 1863, and was elected Iowa's chief executive, while in 1865 he was reelected to that position, his administration fully meeting the needs of the common-

wealth and the country in that critical hour of America's history. On leaving office he practically retired from political life and resumed the practice of law, in which he continued until his appointment as commissioner of the general land office. His death in Oklahoma City in 1896 closed a long and successful career which had largely been devoted to the welfare of his country. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Caroline Mathews, was born July 19, 1835, at Coshocton, Ohio, and died in Caldwell, Idaho, January 7, 1910, having removed to the northwest subsequent to the death of her husband.

At Knoxville, Iowa, William A. Stone acquired his early education, which was supplemented by five years' study at Iowa College in Grinnell, and for a brief period he was a student in Lombard University at Galesburg, Illinois. He completed his education in 1882, and, taking up the study of law, was admitted to the bar in 1887, after which he entered upon active practice in Hutchinson, Kansas. In 1889, in order that he might be near his father, who was appointed commissioner general of the land office at Washington, D. C., under President Harrison's administration, he removed to the national capital, where he practiced law for four years, or until July, 1893. Owing to his father's ill health they then removed to Oklahoma and William A. Stone resumed law practice in the Cherokee Strip, where he remained until 1896, when his father died. He then returned to his old home and practiced at Knoxville, Iowa, until the spring of 1901, when he came to Caldwell, Idaho, where he has since successfully followed his profession. In 1902 he was elected prosecuting attorney of the county and during his residence in Iowa he had also served as prosecuting attorney of Marion county. In Caldwell he was associated with Haley, Borah & Van Durn in the prosecution of the well known murder case of Governor Steunenberg and in fact has been associated with most important cases of this nature in the state. He is a member of the well known firm of Stone & Jackson, one of the most prominent firms connected with the Idaho bar, and he is the attorney for the Boise Valley Traction Company and the Idaho Power Company.

On the 9th of June, 1890, Mr. Stone was married to Miss Emma Engle, daughter of Mrs. Adelaide Engle, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and they have one daughter, Helen Engle Stone, who received her degree in literature from the College of Idaho at Caldwell in 1919. Mr. Stone is fortunate in having back of him an ancestry honorable and distinguished—one characterized by keen mentality, and his lines of life have been cast in harmony therewith. In person, talents and character he is a worthy scion of his race and the utilization of the powers with which nature endowed him has brought him to a foremost position in the ranks of the legal fraternity of Idaho. There is, however, no profession in which advancement must depend more surely upon individual merit and ability, and it has been through close application and earnest study that Mr. Stone has reached his present position of leadership.

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