

R. T. Hodgeman

The subject of this sketch is a descendant of old New England stock, and was born at Beaver Dam Wisconsin, September, 26th, 1854. There he spent his boyhood days and attended school. In 1874, his father, who operated the S & N Hodgeman Lumber Yard, disposed of the business; and the family departed for Colorado.

They traveled on the U. P. Railroad to Cheyenne, there boarding a Kansas Pacific train for Denver. Mr. Hodgeman remembers that somewhere between these two points, the train was forced to a stop by a huge herd of buffalo crossing the tracks. The Hodgeman family went on to Colorado Springs, where our subject's uncle was engaged in the furniture and undertaking business, doing business under the name of Barton & Hodgeman. Mr. Hodgeman, our subject's father, then bought an interest in this firm.

Times were dull, and business conditions not favorable in Colorado Springs, so in November 1875, Mr. Hodgeman sold his share of the business, and, with his family, returned to Wisconsin.

Mr. Hodgeman was happily married to Miss Ella T Stevens, daughter of James Stevens of Marshall, Dane County, Wisconsin, on July, 13th, 1881. Later, Mrs Hodgeman's health began failing; seeking beneficial to her health, they came to Salida, arriving there on March 27th, 1885. Mrs Hodgeman, however, passed away March, 17, 1889; Mr. Hodgeman taking the remains to Wisconsin for burial.

Shortly after his arrival in Salida, or to be exact, on April 26th 1885, Mr. Hodgeman began an express and transfer business--the business in which he is engaged in now, forty eight years later.

On June 9th 1891, he was married again, this time to Mrs L.E. Densmore of Salida. At 79 years of age, Mr. Hodgeman, who has witnessed almost fifty years of Salida's growth and progress, is enjoying good health and is actively carrying on.

*R. J. Hodgeman*