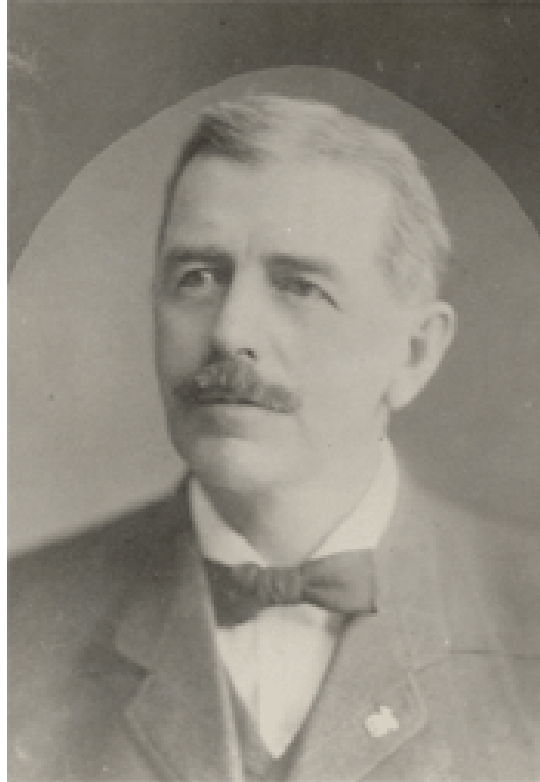


# **Trowbridge C. Egleston**

## **Mayor 1895**



Trowbridge Clark Egleston was born in Madison, Ohio on June 18, 1857. He was one of three children born to Russell Searle Egleston and Elizabeth Trowbridge Egleston. He married Sarah B. Mann of Ohio in 1878 and later had two daughters, Florence and Ethel.

In 1892 Trowbridge relocated to Caldwell where he established a mercantile store, Frank R. Coffin & Brother in 1884. He purchased the store in 1892 where he remained the sole proprietor. He was a wholesale and retail dealer in hardware, stoves, tinware, groceries, provisions, wagons and farm machinery. His store was 40 x 125 feet with a basement, and also had two large storehouses where he kept his supply stock.

He was educated at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York and learned the hardware business in Albion. He worked at Pratt & Company in Buffalo for quite some time. He then became a traveling salesman for the Cambia Iron Company of Johnstown, Pennsylvania and later traveled

for the Simmons Hardware Company of St. Louis. His travels and education led him to Caldwell, where he purchased the hardware store. He controlled a trade that was quite extensive in the area.

According to The Strangest Names In American Political History, dated September 28, 2014, in 1894 he became a Republican candidate for the Mayor of Caldwell. He won the election and served for one term in 1895, being noted as "having taken a considerable interest always in public affairs and looking ever to the welfare of the city and country."

In the years following his mayoralty Egleston continued to be active in Caldwell politics and business, and in 1903 was tapped by then Governor John Tracy Morrison to succeed Rees H. Davis as State Commissioner of Immigration, Labor and Statistics. During his term in office, Egleston compiled a state "irrigation census" for Idaho, noting in May 1904 that the "state has 2,422 miles of main irrigation canals" and that "the cost of construction of these canals was \$5,446,180."

Fraternally he was a Mason, having received the degrees of Blue Lodge and Chapter.