

clusively in this phase of his profession.

One of the cases which gave Mr. Townsend an admirable opportunity to become acquainted with railroad methods in his own state was that of the Michigan Central against the state auditor. Mr. Townsend was employed by the state, which was trying to collect the taxes levied against the contesting corporation. The railroad interests contended that the law under which they were taxed was unconstitutional, and they fought the state with all the forces they could summon. In order to show that the road had been assessed properly, Mr. Townsend made an inventory of its property in the state and had it appraised. The state triumphed and the railroad was forced to pay the taxes.

Mr. Townsend was elected to the legislature as a district representative. He is a native of his district and was educated at the University of Michigan.

Congressman John Jacob Esch, who in connection with Mr. Townsend had the distinction of furnishing a name for the most important measure introduced in a congress during the last session, is a native of Wisconsin. He was born in 1861, at Waukegan, Monroe county, and went to Germany, passing through the four the family removed to Sparta, where the boy attended the public schools. He was graduated from the high school in that town and later from the State University at Madison. Mr. Esch taught school for three years, afterward taking up the study of law. He finished the course at the university in 1882 and at once became an active politician, being elected to several local offices. Subsequently he served in Lacrosse, which is still his home. Mr. Esch is now serving his fourth term in the house of representatives, beginning with the Fifty-sixth congress. In Wisconsin the matter of regulating railroad rates has passed from the theoretical stage into actual practice. During the late was agitated in Wisconsin, Mr. Esch was elected Governor. La Follette's ablest supporters.

TRUMAN L. ELTON.