

(died in office) ; W. M. Ledwith, 1889 to (about) March, 1891 ; Joel D. Mead, 1891 to 1896 ; George P. Glen, 1897 to 1904 ; Frank Elzey, January to November, 1905 ; H. H. Palmer, November, 1905 to November, 1907 (died in office) ; James Q. Palmer, 1908 to November, 1913 ; Fons A. Hathaway, December, 1913 to 1924, inclusive.

Duval High School

In the fall of 1875, a public school, with a curriculum considerably higher than had previously been attempted in the State, was opened in Jacksonville in a small, two-story, wooden building, occupying the inside of the lot at the southwest corner of Laura and Monroe Streets, facing the park. Prof. M. F. Swaim was the principal and Miss Isabella Tredwell and Miss Anna Woods were his assistants. This school furnishing courses of study more advanced than any of the private schools of the city, many of the Southern residents, though greatly prejudiced against the system of public education as carried on at that time, sent their children to it. This was the beginning of Duval High School. Two terms were held in this building, 1875-6 and 1876-7. The first graduating class was that of 1877, and there were three graduates, all boys, namely, John C. Cooper, J. Murdoch Barrs, and Matthew Mahoney.^a

Early in 1877, A. J. Russell, who had just been appointed Superintendent of Public Instruction for Duval County, and L. I. Fleming, Chairman of the School Board, realizing the urgent need for a better High School building, quietly laid plans for one at the northwest corner of Liberty and Church Streets, next to the Graded School. Work was started in the spring and the building was completed in time for the fall term of 1877. No notice of its erection had been published and the building was completed before the public knew anything about it. Duval High School occupied the building in the fall of 1877, being the first, and for a number of years, the only high school in the State with a building and faculty its own. It was a small, two-story, brick school, providing two recitation rooms on the first floor, with one large room above, reached by covered stairways from the outside. This, with subsequent additions, was the home of Duval High School for nearly a quarter of a century. The first change was the partitioning off of the upper room to provide addi-