

Fawcett Block [No. 123 & No. 127]

1874 – Rev. John Fawcett

After rebuilding, Fawcett rented the north side to J.W. **Johnston Grocery**. Johnston remained through 1877 to be replaced by **Boettcher's General Store**. The **Evers Bros. Drug Store** then opened in 1882. The brothers, John and Will, had financial difficulties and closed their doors only two years later. In 1885, T.M. **Hunt** set up a “depot” where customers could purchase buggies and wagons imported from major manufacturers.

George A. **Steinmetz** who had been put out of business twice by both the 1873 and the 1874 fires, re-opened his shoe store in the south side of the new block in 1874. He soon returned to 1st Street making way for **Coghlan & Sons Furniture**. Thomas Coghlan

stayed through 1881 when he also secured a location on 1st Street. **Poure & Slack** then opened a music store but failed to make a go of it. Next up was D. **Morton** of Hazleton who ran a restaurant for several years. By 1890, James A. Wells had re-located **Wells' Gloves, Mittens & Whips** along with his baking powder company to the south side of the block.

In 1891, Charles W. Williams bought the block and made the north side the home of his new harness racing magazine, ***The American Trotter***. Offices were on the 1st floor with printing presses on the 2nd. Williams' finances suffered in the panic of 1893 and, in 1894, the block was sold again, this time to banker Richard A. Campbell. The ***Independence Bulletin-Journal*** moved into the storefront that

Williams had used for his magazine, remaining through 1914. **The Rookery**, a bicycle shop owned by C.F. Frank, opened to the south. Later, N.C. Knudson ran **Knudson's Restaurant** from this site.

After the building was purchased by S.A. Wilson and L.B. Young in 1914, the **Scott & Brady Land Co.** moved to this location to be followed by C.M. Arthur's **Thrifty Food Shop** in 1919.