



CHARLES HOLDER EASLEY
1868-1935

Charles Easley came to the Colorado Territory in 1872 and five years later his family settled the homestead northeast of Golden in an area now bisected by Easley Road. It was here in 1901 that he brought his bride, Alice Bryant, and over the next 16 years four boys and four girls were born to that union. Charles intended to enter the ministry and to that end received his BA from the Divinity School of the University of Colorado and did graduate work at the University of Chicago. However, family obligations forced him to abandon this goal and return home to manage the family farm.

Easley spent his life pioneering new agricultural methods on the Jefferson County farm. He planted the first commercial cherry orchard in Colorado, and from what may have been the first greenhouse in Colorado, he began selling vegetables in the area throughout the year. In 1904 he brought national attention to Jefferson County when he was named Pioneer Fruit Man of Colorado at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis.

Easley further promoted agriculture in the area as a charter member of the Loch Lomand Grange where his leadership included two terms as Master. He was an organizer of the Denver Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association and President of the Colorado Horticultural Society for four years.

Charles' contributions to Golden and Jefferson County were not limited to agriculture. He spent many years as President of the Fairmont Grade School Board where he took pride in encouraging students to pursue their education. He served as Jefferson County Clerk and Recorder for four years. Of all that he did, Charles probably considered his service to God to be the most important. As a member of the Golden Baptist Church, he assisted many young ministers in launching the career he was not able to enter himself.