Contents

Preface xi

Prologue: A Desperado in McDonough County 1

1. The Maxwell Family Moves West 9
2. The Maxwells in Troubled Fulton County 19
3. The Maxwells in McDonough County 39
4. Law and Order, and Prison Life 60
5. The Maxwell Brothers Become Outlaws 76
6. The Great Escape—and Recapture 93
7. Prison Time and Justice Issues 109
8. Lon’s Struggle to Go Straight 124
9. The Wisconsin Desperadoes 138
10. The Gunfight at Durand 156
11. The Great Manhunt 173
12. Another Gunfight—and the Renewed Manhunt 190
13. Ed’s Capture and Lon’s Escape 205
14. The Desperado and the Public 219
15. The Lynching at Durand 238
16. The Lynching Controversy and Durand's Fate 256
17. The Mysterious Fate of Lon Maxwell 277
   Epilogue: The Story Life of the Maxwell Brothers 291
   Acknowledgments 311
   Notes 315
   Bibliography 367
   Index 381

Illustrations follow pages 108 and 218.