

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative _____ **Senator** Mc Jenkins

John Ferguson - Represented Washington County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 23 Sept 1830 Washington County, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

Eliza J. Bowland 25 May 1864 Washington, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business He was admitted to the bar in August 1850; he was the attorney for the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad at Washington, Iowa

B. Civic responsibilities Mason; Odd Fellows

C. Profession Lawyer; Iowa Attorney General; teacher

4. Church membership Presbyterian

5. Sessions served 10th, 11th General Assemblies 1864, 1866

6. Public Offices

A. Local _____

B. State In 1876 he was elected Attorney General of Iowa for 2 terms 1877-1881

C. National _____

7. Death 1 January 1883 Washington, Iowa; Buried Elm Grove Cemetery, Washington, Iowa

8. Children Sarah; John Howard; Mary

9. Names of parents John and Catherine (Cryder) McJunkin

McJunkin, John Ferguson

10. Education He attended school in a log schoolhouse in this section
in Richland County, Ohio

11. Degrees Attended Georgetown, Richland County, Ohio; Martinsburg Academy in
Knox County, Ohio

12. Other applicable information Republican

- In 1835 he moved with his parents to Richland County, Ohio, where he
helped with the farm work in the summer and attended school in
the winter.

- In 1851 he taught a term of common school to pay for expenses to
further his education. While in college he taught mathematics in spring 1857.

- He again taught school in Bucyrus, Ohio and Martinsburg, Iowa

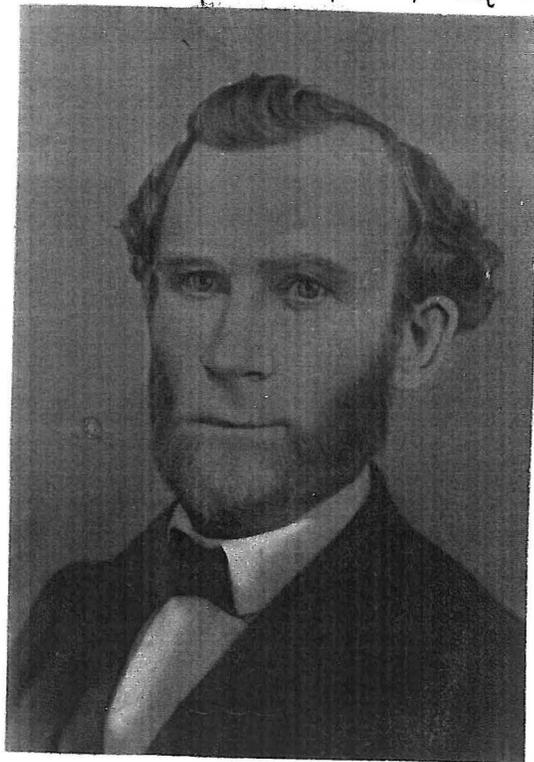
- He read law with Judge Ward of Mount Vernon, Ohio

- He moved to Washington, Iowa in 1859 where he lived until his death.

- He engaged in practicing law, first alone and later associated with J. J.
Stenderon, Esq.

- While in the 10th General Assembly, he prepared and authored a
resolution, adopted by both houses for the complete abolition of
slavery

John H. McJunkin
Pathy-gen. 1867-81
courtesy Le Roy Pratt, May '69



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Sudden Death of Ex-Attorney General J. F. McJunkin.

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WASHINGTON, Iowa., Jan. 2.—Hon J. F. McJunkin, ex-Attorney General of Iowa, both well-known and highly respected throughout the State, died suddenly at his home in this city early yesterday (New Year's) morning, aged 52 years. For many years Mr. McJunkin has been subject to pulmonary complaints, and was never of strong physique; but for over a dozen years he has by indomitable will-power and sheer grit fought off the advance of disease. Saturday last he was about on the streets, apparently enjoying his usual health. Sunday night he was suddenly seized with severe pains in the region of the heart, and early the following morning breathed his last, as before stated. His death cast a gloom over society in this place, notwithstanding the otherwise joyful opening of the New Year. The *Washington Press* of to-morrow will give the following facts concerning the deceased: He was born in Washington County, Pa., Sept. 30th, 1830; was graduated at the Academy in Martinsburg, O., read law with Judge Hurd, of Mt. Vernon, O., and came here about 1859. He was married to Miss Eliza J. Bowland May 25, 1864, and she and three bright children survive him, as well as two sisters in Nevada, O. Mr. McJunkin's ambition lay within the profession of the law. In 1876 he was elected Attorney General of Iowa, and held the office with ability and to the popular acceptance for four years, or two terms.

It may be added that while a member of the State Senate, Mr. McJunkin introduced a resolution, which the General Assembly of Iowa was the first legislative body in the Union to pass, instructing our Representatives and Senators in Congress to use their influence for the passage of an amendment to the Constitution for the entire abolition of slavery.

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THE UNITED STATES
BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY

AND

PORTRAIT GALLERY

OF

EMINENT AND SELF-MADE MEN.

IOWA VOLUME.

CHICAGO AND NEW YORK:
AMERICAN BIOGRAPHICAL PUBLISHING COMPANY.

1878.

farm near Webster City, where he has since lived. For a few months in 1875 he was enabled to gratify his taste for investigation in the natural sciences by becoming connected with the Hayden expedition. During his connection with these explorations his letters to the "Chicago Inter-Ocean" and other journals were a mine of practical thought respecting the resources of the country he traversed, its inhabitants of bygone ages, as well as the roaming tribes that now inhabit it, and its animal, vegetable and mineral productions. These letters, with the exhibition of his tastes in his home life on his farm, show that if his early education had thrown him in the line of natural history he would have excelled in it as discoverer and author, and that he would have stood among leading scientists in his chosen specialty.

As a writer, his style is smooth, clear and vigorous. He never travels out of his way for ornamentation, and yet he never offends the taste by a harsh or awkward sentence. He is especially happy and graphic in his descriptions of scenery, and in his estimates of men, and he expresses himself with clearness and force upon scientific principles. When editing a country newspaper, its local columns were noted for their raciness, and the interest and instruction of every item.

Socially, Mr. Aldrich is one of the most agreeable and interesting men the writer ever met. His kindly manners and sympathetic voice, in connection with a vast fund of information always at his command, tend to make him a most pleasing conversationalist. His knowledge of books, his observations in the line of natural history, his acquaintance

with men, and especially those of scientific and literary tastes in accord with his own, all afford him topics of interesting conversation which he possesses the power to use in a most agreeable manner.

As a business man, he is prompt, accurate and responsible. Whilst in business he exacts an equivalent for what he gives, no man was ever more careful to give a full equivalent for what he receives. With all his employes, whether apprentices and compositors, or laborers on the farm, he is not only just but generous. No worthy boy ever worked for Mr. Aldrich who has not been followed in all his subsequent life by the active interest and generous sympathy of his old employer. More than one young man owes the results of successful life to the advice and instruction of Mr. Aldrich while in his employment.

He is one of the most versatile men the writer ever knew. A majority of men can do one thing well if they apply themselves to a single purpose; but few men, however, can turn their hands and minds in quick succession to different and widely diversified employments, and succeed in all of them. Mr. Aldrich was a very successful newspaper man. He has never been excelled in his duties as clerk of the house of representatives. When appointed commissioner to represent to congress the condition and hardships of the river land settlers, although the position required a knowledge of the principles of law and the power to analyze and unravel a vast confusion of facts, he soon mastered the situation. And later, as an agriculturist, he evinces a practical grasp of the subject which will no doubt bring him that reasonable measure of success to which he aspires.

HON. JOHN F. McJUNKIN,

WASHINGTON.

JOHN FERGUSON McJUNKIN, attorney general of Iowa, was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, on the 23d of September, 1830. His parents were John McJunkin and Catherine *née* Snyder, the former a native of the north of Ireland and the latter of German origin. His father came from Ireland in his infancy with his parents, who settled in eastern Pennsylvania, where he was brought up to agricultural pursuits, and in 1835 removed with his family to Richland county, Ohio, where he opened a farm in the woods and spent the remainder of his life. He died in 1856 in the seventieth year of his age. He was a quiet, plodding, unostentatious man, rather positive in his character, decided in his convictions and resolute in carrying them out. He was an old-line abolitionist, an Old School Presbyterian, a man of probity and the sternest integrity. He never had but one lawsuit in his life, and that was quite an event in his history.

His mother was a meek, mild, gentle and amiable woman, who loved to dwell at home, and who had not a thought with reference to this world that was not centered in her husband and children. Her life was purely unselfish and devoted to others. She

died in early life, when our subject was but fifteen years of age.

John F. McJunkin was the youngest of a family of eight children, all of whom lived to maturity, and but two of whom, besides our subject, sisters, survive. His eldest brother, Daniel, was a man of some note in Richland county, Ohio, where he held a magistrate's commission for over twenty years. His brother William was a prominent business man in Wyandot county, Ohio, being for many years connected with the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad Company. He died at his home in Nevada, Ohio, in the spring of 1874, leaving surviving him one son, E. W. McJunkin, Esq., a prominent member of the bar of Iowa, now practicing at Sigourney. John F. was raised like the generality of country boys of that day, attending the log school-house a few weeks during winter months and working on the farm in summer. He was a bright, ambitious youth, fond of books and study, and early resolved to obtain an education if within the bounds of his power. In the winter of 1850-51 he taught a common school at twelve dollars a month, and "boarded round" with the pupils. With the money earned in

this way he defrayed the expenses of a five months' tuition at the Hayesville Academy, Ashland county, Ohio. During the winter following, 1851-2, he taught again, at the rate of sixteen dollars per month, and spent the following summer at the Martinsburg Academy, Knox county, Ohio. The next winter he taught the grammar school in Bucyrus, Ohio, and spent the following summer again at Martinsburg. The winter following he taught a public school in Martinsburg, and recited Latin with a class in the academy, under the direction of the president, Dr. Hervey. He continued in this way until 1856, teaching public schools in winter and attending the academy in summer. In the last named year he was appointed to the chair of mathematics in the institution, which unexpectedly became vacant, and for six months taught a class of seventy-five students in algebra and the higher mathematics. In the spring following he returned to Richland county, Ohio, and commenced the study of law, receiving books and also some directions from the late Hon. William Johnston, of Mansfield, Ohio. He spent the following winter at the Martinsburg Academy, partly as student and partly as teacher. This ended his academic studies, and in the summer of 1858 he entered, as student, the law office of Hon. R. C. Hurd, of Mount Vernon, Ohio, and was admitted to the bar in August of the same year. In the winter of 1859 he removed to Washington, Iowa, where he has since resided and practiced his profession. He soon took a leading position in his western home, and had abundant patronage from the very outset.

In 1863 he was elected to represent his county in the senate of the state legislature, and served through the tenth and eleventh general assemblies, being chairman of the committee on constitutional amendments and of the committee on corporations and elections, and serving on the committee on federal relations, and others, and was one of the most active and useful members of that body.

Early in the tenth assembly Mr. McJunkin had the honor and privilege of introducing the following preamble and resolutions, which deserve to be held in everlasting remembrance, and which should transmit his name to posterity in the brightest characters:

WHEREAS, The constitution of the United States does not confer on congress the power to abolish and prohibit slavery in the States of the Union; and

WHEREAS, Slavery is incompatible with a republican government, and while it exists in any portion of our country it must endanger her peace and prosperity and retard her progress; therefore, be it

Resolved, By the general assembly of the State of Iowa,

that our representatives in congress be requested, and our senators instructed, to use their utmost endeavors to procure the adoption by congress of the initiatory measures whereby the constitution of the United States may be so amended as to forever prohibit slavery in the United States, or any portion of the same, and so as to authorize congress, by appropriate legislation, to carry into effect the provisions of such amendments.

In commenting upon the completed work, of which this was the initiatory step, the Washington (Iowa) "Press," in its issue of the 17th of January, 1866, employs the following language:

It will be remembered that our senator, J. F. McJunkin, during the last session of the general assembly, introduced a joint resolution requesting our representatives and instructing our senators in congress to use their influence for the passage of an amendment to the federal constitution for the entire abolition of slavery. Our general assembly was the first legislative body in the Union which passed such a resolution. . . . Although until now Iowa has had no opportunity to record its indorsement of this great measure of national justice, the people of the state may pride themselves in no small degree that their legislature was the first to move in the matter; and the people of Washington county may also feel proud that it was their senator who first proposed this great measure which has made the nation free.

With the close of the eleventh general assembly the legislative services of our subject terminated, he refusing to be again a candidate, to the no small disappointment of his constituents. He did not, however, relinquish his interest in politics and in political questions, as he has stumped the county, and sometimes the surrounding counties, in every political campaign since.

In 1868 he was tendered in convention the nomination of the judgeship of the sixth judicial district of Iowa, but declined.

In 1876 he was nominated by the state republican convention for the position of attorney-general of the state, to which he was elected in the autumn of the same year by a majority of sixty thousand votes. He is now the incumbent of that office.

For the past sixteen years he has held the position of attorney for the Rock Island and Pacific Railroad Company, at Washington. He was also the first attorney of the old Mississippi and Missouri Railroad Company, which in 1863 was merged into the Rock Island road.

He is a Mason and an Odd-Fellow, a distinguished and prominent member of the Old School Presbyterian church, and has been a republican and an abolitionist all his lifetime.

Mr. McJunkin is a gentleman of very fine literary attainments, a superior classical scholar and an elegant and effective public speaker, with pleasant

and agreeable manners and address, very genial and friendly, and a general favorite among the people of his county and state. In the practice of his profession he is very zealous, as, indeed, he is in everything which he undertakes. As a jury lawyer, he has few, if any, equals in the county or district in which he resides; while, as a common-law practitioner, he is second to none in the state. In short, he has made the law his sole study for the last twenty years, and in criminal practice, being generally employed on the defense, he is without a superior in the valley of the Mississippi, his practice in this department extending not only over his own state, but into several of the states west of Iowa.

The secret of his success with juries is to be found in the courteous and gentlemanly manner in which he treats the opposing party and the witnesses, and impartiality with which he presents his case.

During his brief experience as attorney-general he has given the utmost satisfaction to the authorities of the state, bringing to bear upon the questions submitted for his opinion or decision a ripe

acquaintance with the law and equity governing the same, as well as a close familiarity with precedents drawn from former court decisions in analogous cases.

In his business transactions he is peculiarly transparent and honorable, and hence has the unlimited confidence of every one with whom he has any intercourse. For the last twelve years he has been associated in the practice of law with J. F. Henderson, Esq., and during that period there has never been the slightest disagreement or misunderstanding between them; and it is the testimony of Mr. Henderson that in all his acquaintance through life he has never met a man possessing more of the true instincts and characteristics of the gentleman than John F. McJunker.

He was married on the 25th of May, 1864, to Miss Eliza Jane, daughter of James M. Boland, Esq., of Martinsburg, Ohio; a lady of refined tastes and domestic habits, whose life is devoted to making home happy and attractive. They have three children living, Sarah, John Howard and Mary, all being trained for lives of honor and usefulness.

HON. JOSEPH C. KNAPP,

KEOSAUQUA.

AMONG the older lawyers and eminent jurists of Iowa is Joseph Curtis Knapp, who settled here three years before the territory became a state. Through nearly all its history as a commonwealth he has been conspicuous in its politics, as well as its jurisprudence. His name is thoroughly woven into its annals, in all cases in a highly creditable manner.

Judge Knapp, a native of the Green Mountain State, and a son of Ebenezer and Irene (Curtis) Knapp, was born on the 27th of June, 1813, in Berlin, Washington county. The Knapps were early settlers in Massachusetts; the Curtises, in Hanover, New Hampshire. Ebenezer Knapp was a farmer, a hard working man himself, and reared his children in habits of industry.

Joseph received a good academic education in Montpelier; left his native state in 1833; came as far west as Racine, Wisconsin, then a part of Michigan territory; read law at first with Hon. Marshall M. Strong, and afterward with Hon. E. G. Ryan, late chief justice of Wisconsin; practiced a few years in Racine, and in 1843 pushed westward across the

Mississippi river, locating permanently at Keosauqua, Van Buren county, in the southeastern part of the state. He was for nearly a dozen years in the noted firm of Wright, Knapp and Coldwell, his partners being George G. Wright, late of the United States senate, and H. C. Coldwell, now judge of the United States district court, of Arkansas. Senator Wright is an uncle, by marriage, of Judge Knapp, and Judge Coldwell is a brother-in-law. It is not often that the three members of a law firm rise to such distinction; a more conspicuous example, however, was found in Buffalo, New York, many years ago in the firm of Fillmore, Hall and Haven. Mr. Fillmore became President of the United States, Mr. Hall was his postmaster-general, and Mr. Haven went to congress.

Judge Knapp was appointed prosecuting attorney by Governor Clark, in 1846, and judge of the third judicial district by Governor Hempstead, in 1850. He was appointed, by President Pierce United States attorney for the district of Iowa in 1853; reappointed by President Buchanan, and held the office eight con-

PORTRAIT AND
BIOGRAPHICAL

ALBUM

— OF —

WASHINGTON COUNTY, IOWA,

CONTAINING

Full Page Portraits and Biographical Sketches of Prominent
and Representative Citizens of the County,

TOGETHER WITH

PORTRAITS AND BIOGRAPHIES OF ALL THE GOVERNORS OF IOWA, AND
OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

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CHICAGO:
ACME PUBLISHING COMPANY,
1887.

went cheerfully to work, and before many years had one of the best farms in Oregon Township. The farm consists of 200 acres of wild land, all of which is well improved and under a high state of cultivation. When they settled upon their farm the country for miles around was still in a wild state, few persons having the courage to settle upon the prairie. Now all is changed, there being not an acre of land but what is under fence, and in the great change that has been made our subject has borne his part. He has lived to see the country well settled in every part, and the citizens of Washington County as prosperous as those of any other county in the State. Mrs. Carson has been a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for thirty-one years.



HON JOHN F. McJUNKIN, deceased, was at one time one of the best known citizens of Washington County, Iowa. He was born in Washington County, Pa., on the 23d of September, 1830. His parents were John and Catherine (Snyder) McJunkin, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of German origin. His father came from Ireland in his infancy, with his parents, and settled in Eastern Pennsylvania, where he was brought up to agricultural pursuits, and in 1835 removed with his family to Richland County, Ohio, where he opened a farm in the woods and spent the remainder of his life.

John F. was the youngest of a family of eight children, all living to maturity. He was raised like the generality of farmer boys at that day, attending the log school-house a few weeks in winter, and working on the farm in summer. He was a bright, ambitious youth, fond of books and study, and early resolved to obtain an education if within his power. In the winter of 1851 he taught a term of common school at \$12 per month, and boarded around with his pupils. With the money earned in this way he defrayed the expenses of five months' tuition at Hayesville Academy, Ashland Co., Ohio. During the following winter he taught again at the rate of \$16 per month, and spent the following

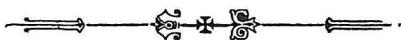
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Our subject continued in this way until 1856, teaching public schools in winter, and attending the academy in summer. In the fall of 1856 the Chair of Mathematics in the academy unexpectedly became vacant, and he was appointed to fill the vacancy, and for six months taught a class of seventy-five students in algebra and higher mathematics. In the spring of 1857 he returned to Richland County, Ohio, and commenced the study of law, receiving some books and also some information from the Hon. William Johnson, of Mansfield, Ohio. The winter of 1857-58 he spent in the Martinsburg Academy, partly as student and partly as teacher. This ended his academic studies, and in the summer of 1858 he entered as a student the law office of R. C. Hurd, of Mt. Vernon, Ohio, and was admitted to the bar in August of the same year.

In the winter of 1858-59 Mr. McJunkin removed to Washington, Iowa, where he resided until his death, engaged in the practice of his profession. He soon took a leading position in his western home, and had abundance of patronage from the outset. In 1863 he was elected to represent his county in the State Legislature and served in the Tenth and Eleventh General Assemblies, being the Chairman of the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, and of the Committee on Corporations and Elections, and serving on the Committee on Federal Relations. He was one of the most active and useful members of that body. At the close of the Eleventh General Assembly, his legislative services terminated, he refusing again to be a candidate, to the disappointment of his constituents. In 1868 Mr. McJunkin was tendered the nomination for Judge of the Sixth Judicial District of Iowa, but declined. In 1876 he was nominated by the State Republican Convention for the position of Attorney General of the State, to which he was elected in the autumn of the same year, by a majority of 60,000 votes. For many years he

held the position of attorney for the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad at Washington. He was also the first attorney for the old Mississippi & Missouri Railroad Co.

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WILLIAM M. SHERWOOD, farmer, was born in Ross County, Ohio, May 11, 1824, and is the son of Joseph and Mary (Braden) Sherwood. Joseph and his wife were born in Washington County, Pa., and emigrated to Ohio about 1813. He owned land in Northern Ohio, but after living several years in Washington and Logan Counties, emigrated in 1837 to Buchanan County, Mo., being one of the first families to go there. They moved into the "Platte Purchase," where Indians were plentiful, and for many months, as our subject expresses it, they lived on "hog and hominy." Five children were born in Ohio, who afterward resided in Missouri: John B., who wedded Polly Ray; Samuel, the husband of Eliza Rice; Lettie, the wife of John Estis; Caroline, the wife of William Johnston, and our subject.

The parents remained during their lifetime in Missouri, the wife dying in 1854, and her husband being killed by Quantrell's guerrillas during the great raid in 1862. Joseph Sherwood was an avowed Abolitionist, and was both zealous and bold in expressing his sentiments. After Quantrell had taken his stock and everything of value, he then deliberately shot to death that aged man, then in his eighty-seventh year. At the same time an aunt of our subject, Letty Braden, who for years had been an invalid, was dragged from her bed and killed by the same marauders, and her body was

found upon the floor, the miscreants having even taken the bedding upon which her emaciated form had lain.

In 1860 William Sherwood went to Des Moines County, and engaged in farming. When the cry "to arms" was sounded, he was one of the first to enlist in Co. K, 14th Iowa Vol. Inf., and in all the bloody engagements participated in by his regiment he was found at the front. The thunder of the guns at Fts. Henry and Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, and at Island No. 10, made the hot blood of our brave soldier boil with enthusiasm, and where bullets flew fast and thickest at the siege of Vicksburg he stood in the front. He seemed to lead a charmed life; his comrades fell about him, but he was spared to see the victory of the Union soldiers, which forever settled the issues for which they fought and fell. His eldest brother, John Sherwood, served in the Confederate army three years and three months under Gen. Price, and in the same bloody conflict did the brothers wage merciless war against each other. Both escaped unharmed. Samuel was also a Union soldier, and after fighting valiantly for the preservation of the Union, was assassinated by a squad of bushwhackers while standing in his own door. Thus were men treated during the dark and bloody days of the war for daring to speak their sentiments.

Since his return from the army, Mr. Sherwood has never regained his usual good health. Exposure brought with it disease, which yet manifests itself, leaving him the wreck of a once perfect typical manhood. In 1865, his marriage to Miss Catherine, daughter of Mrs. Margaret Gray, of Des Moines, was celebrated. Samuel Gray, her husband, was during his life a farmer, and the father of Catherine; Martha, who wedded William Rankin; Sarah, the wife of Newton Ray; William B., who was a soldier in the same company with our subject, and who is now a resident of Lompock, Cal. He was for fifteen months in a rebel prison at Camp Tyler, Tex.

The vocation of William Sherwood was always a farmer. Only three years ago he became a resident of this county, but nevertheless, he is a most welcome one. He is honored not only as a man, but as a soldier and a gentleman of whom none speak

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Recollections and Sketches of Notable Lawyers and Public Men of Early Iowa

Belonging to the First and Second
Generations, with Anecdotes and
Incidents Illustrative of the Times

By

EDWARD H. STILES

For many years a member of the Iowa Bar; member of its House of Representatives, 1863-1864; member of its Senate, 1865-1866; Reporter of its Supreme Court, 1867-1875; author of Complete Digest of its Decisions from the earliest Territorial period to the 56th Iowa Reports.

"In old age alone we are masters of a treasure of which we cannot be deprived, the only treasure we can call our own. The pleasures of memory and the retrospect of the varied images which in an active life have floated before the mind, compensate, and more than compensate, for the alternate pleasures and cares of active life."—SIR ARCHIBALD ALLISON.

"Personal anecdotes, when characteristic, greatly enliven the pages of a biography."—SAMUEL SMILES.

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DES MOINES
THE HOMESTEAD PUBLISHING CO.
1916

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and in the attack and capture of Mobile, where he and his brigade were conspicuous for their bravery. He was subsequently breveted Brigadier-General. He served with distinction until the very end of the War.

Returning from the army, he resumed the practice at Washington in connection with his brother, William Schofield, who was also one of the early and able lawyers of Washington County. Their names frequently appear in connection with cases contained in the Reports of the Supreme Court of that period.

Mr. Schofield was originally a Democrat, but on the outbreak of the Rebellion, allied himself with the Republican Party, though he favored the election of Horace Greeley in the presidential campaign of 1872. In 1868 he was a presidential elector on the Republican ticket and voted for General Grant. He was not what might be called an active politician, and in the latter part of his life his political garments hung loosely upon his shoulders. He had a decided literary taste, was a wide reader, a collector of old and curious books and had one of the best private libraries in the State. He died at Seattle, Washington, in 1906.

John F. McJunkin was stricken with death in the prime of life, and in the midst of a useful career. He had attained prominence as a lawyer and noted man throughout the State. His death occurred near the close of his second term as Attorney-General of the State. I became acquainted with him when we were both young men, in January, 1864, while we were members of the Tenth General Assembly—he of the Senate, and I of the House. We again met as fellow members of the Senate in January, 1866. We became intimately acquainted, and for him I cherished a great respect and affection. While in the Senate of the Tenth General Assembly, he prepared and was the author of the joint resolution, adopted by both Houses, instructing our senators and representatives in Congress to report an amendment to the Federal Constitution for the complete abolition of slavery. It was the first action taken by any state in that behalf.

In 1876 he was elected Attorney-General of the State, and at the end of that term was re-elected for another. He served through both periods with marked ability and general satisfaction. He gained a high reputation in that office as a sound lawyer and prudent adviser. It was a source of long sustained sorrow that his earthly career was brought so soon to an end. He was far from being rugged physically, and the arduous duties of his office, combined with his other professional labors, completely wore him out. He died in the hard-worked harness. Nothing will better exemplify this than the following remarks of Smith McPherson, who succeeded him as Attorney-General:*

When his term of office here expired and my own began, I went to his office to receive from him certain effects. But he was not there. I found him in an armchair

* Memorial Proceedings in the Supreme Court of Iowa, on the death of Attorney-General McJunkin.

at his home physically unable to support himself, and as it seemed to me already with more than one foot in the grave. But he did not complain. He was cheerful, smiling, and as courageous and possessed of as much will power as any member of the bar now within my hearing. In that interview, lasting several hours, he gave me much information as to the details of the office and much advice as to the important trusts committed to my care. I will do well to heed and follow that advice.

Upon the occasion of his death feeling memorial proceedings were held not only by the Washington County Bar, but by that of Polk County. The latter presented appropriate resolutions to the court, which were seconded by Ex-Attorney-General Nourse, with a tribute from him and other lawyers. The following excerpt from the remarks of Chief Justice James G. Day, in response indicates the high esteem in which Mr. McJunkin was held:

The court heartily concurs in the sentiments so feelingly expressed respecting our departed brother. For four years Mr. McJunkin was associated with us in the estimable relation of Attorney-General. During that time we learned to admire him for his qualities of mind and heart. He was during all that time a great invalid, and at many times a great sufferer. We never parted with him at the close of a term of court without grave apprehensions that we might never meet him again. And yet, notwithstanding his infirmities he discharged the duties of his position with an ability and a fidelity that never gave us occasion for complaint. He was a lawyer of ability and an advocate of rare power. In his forensic efforts he employed the closed fist of logic, rather than the open palm of rhetoric, and he plied his arguments in a manner that never failed to instruct.

He was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, in 1820, and received there his education. He was admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar in 1858, and the following year came West, locating at Washington, Washington County, Iowa, where he immediately entered upon the practice, and as has been indicated, pursued it with marked success. He was a Republican in politics, and as such elected to the offices before referred to. I have several letters I received from him in the course of our friendly correspondence, but none the publication of which would add any particular interest to this sketch.

Granville G. Bennett was one of the brilliant young lawyers of Washington County, and of the State, when I became acquainted with him. It was while we were members of the Eleventh General Assembly. As I recollect him then, he was a tall, well and strongly proportioned young man with large, black eyes, abundance of hair of the same color adorning a well-shaped head and expressive countenance. He was active in movements and execution and was an influential member of the legislature. After the expiration of his term in the House of the Eleventh General Assembly, he was in the fall of 1867, elected to the State Senate from Washington County, and served in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth General Assemblies. He was subsequently appointed United States Judge of Dakota Territory, and after the close of that service, was elected a delegate from that Territory to Congress. After this he practiced with eminent success in Deadwood, South Dakota. As already indicated, he was a man of talents, and had already made an excellent mark in his



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MCJUNKIN, Eliza Jane

Born:
Died:
Cemetery: ELM GROVE
Location: WASHINGTON
County: WASHINGTON CO. - IOWA
Record Notes: WIFE OF J.F. - MAIDEN NAME BOWLAND

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