

John C. Bills

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HON. JOHN D. FLANAGAN, who represented Webster county in the 24th General Assembly, died at his home in Fort Dodge, Thursday, August 26, 1897, from a dose of strychnine taken with suicidal intent, while laboring under a fit of despondency. Mr. Flanagan was born in Rothfreedah, New Castle West, Ireland, in 1852. He received a good education, and came to the United States at the age of 22. He entered the retail grocery business in Chicago and was successful. In 1884 he bought a section of land near Fort Dodge and made his home upon it. In 1892 he was elected to the General Assembly, and in 1893 served as assistant director of the agricultural department of the World's Fair at Chicago.

MAJOR W. R. ENGLISH was born in Philadelphia, January 15, 1815; he died at his home in Glenwood, Iowa, May 29, 1897. He had a most creditable record in the military service. He entered the 1st regiment of U. S. dragoons, under Col. S. W. Kearney in 1840, serving three years as private, corporal and sergeant. In the war of the rebellion he was first a private in Co. A., 4th Iowa Infantry, rising to the rank of Major. This was General G. M. Dodge's old regiment. He held many important offices in civil life, standing high in the confidence of the people of his section of the State.

HON. JOHN C. BILLS was born in the State of New York in 1833; he died in Davenport, Iowa, August 23, 1897. Mr. Bills was one of the foremost lawyers in the State. He also attained a high position in the councils of the Democratic party, as well as in the estimation of all who knew him. He was three times elected mayor of Davenport, and served four years as State senator from Scott county.

DR. JESSE OREN, a pioneer resident of the State, died in La Porte City August 25, 1897. He was born in York county, Pennsylvania, in 1824, and removed to Iowa in 1856. He settled in La Porte in 1858 and soon after taught the first school in that town. He was in the Russian medical service during the Crimean war, and was handsomely rewarded by the Emperor for his valuable services.

DENNIS TUNGATE, who came to the site of Des Moines with the Mormons in 1847, died on the 2d day of August, 1897, at the advanced age of 84 years. He left the party of emigrants which was enroute for Salt Lake, Utah, on reaching the Des Moines river, and had resided in the capital city since it was founded.

MICHAEL FOSTER, was born in Germany, May 5, 1819; he died in Cass township, Hamilton county, Iowa, August 29, 1897. He came to Iowa in 1857, and settled on the farm where he lived until his death. Mr. and Mrs. Foster were foremost among the founders of the Catholic church at Webster City.

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