

A. F. Brown, James R. Hartsock, James W. McDill

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pamphlets, circulars or broadsides, while going through the press, he is nothing less than an adept. In the selection of types, paper and bindings, he has opinions of his own and always manifests excellent taste. It is palpable to the most casual observation that in these lines of usefulness our State does not possess his superior. Then, in addition to the ability to clothe all this interesting and useful reading, each item in its appropriate and attractive garb, the Bishop is most generous in his distribution of copies to libraries, reading rooms and appreciative, thoughtful people. The consequence is, that there is abundant data for the Iowa History of the Protestant Episcopal Church. These documents can be found in many places throughout our State. And now, that a better feeling exists in regard to the preservation of the data for Iowa History, it is the greatest of pities that there is not just such a plodding, patient, scholarly worker in every one of the religious bodies. There are men enough who are fully competent in every one of the churches, but they do not seem to have found opportunity or acquired that aptitude which finds expression in useful works of this nature. The subject is one which ought to elicit a half-hour's attention in every conference, synod, presbytery, or other general assembly of religious bodies. Competent men should be selected and encouraged to work in this domain of high usefulness.

NOTABLE DEATHS.

HON. A. F. BROWN, who died at Waverly on the 25th of January, was one of the pioneer editors of Cedar county, one of the early lawyers of Scott county, and a Senator from Black Hawk county from 1860 to 1864. He was born near Zanesville, Ohio, Dec. 8th, 1828, graduated at Granville College, and was admitted to the bar in 1848. In 1850 he came to Scott county, Iowa, to practice his profession, and soon after became editor of the *Cedar County News*, a paper published at Rochester. Upon the removal of the county seat to Tipton, he transferred his office to Cedar Falls and named his paper the "*Cedar Falls Banner*." In 1855 Mr. Brown was elected prosecuting attorney and served with ability in that position for several years. In 1859 he was elected State Senator for the 36th District, composed of the counties of Grundy, Black Hawk, Butler and Franklin. He became a prominent member of the Senate, serving

four years. In 1860 Mr. Brown was chosen a delegate to the Republican National Convention which nominated Abraham Lincoln for President. In 1879 he moved to Waverly in Bremer county where he acquired a large law practice, and remained up to the time of his death. The *Waverly Democrat* says of him: "He was exceptionally free from jealousy and vindictiveness in professional and political life. It is true, he fought hard in the forum and on the rostrum, and necessarily gave and received many hard blows, but all the asperity died with the occasion; and when the curtain fell upon the last act of his life, every heart in the large circle of his acquaintance felt a genuine pang of sadness and regret as some deed of courtesy or kindness of the departed lawyer was recalled to memory."

JAMES R. HARTSOCK, of Iowa City, died suddenly of heart-disease on the 10th of March after one day's illness. He was one of the early pioneers of Iowa, having come to the Territory in May, 1838, before its separation from Wisconsin. He was then a young man, just starting out for himself, and soon after his arrival at the "Flint Hills," (now Burlington), he opened the first school established in that city. Among his pupils were Geo. W. and John W. Jones, who years after became prominent public officials of the State. In 1841 Mr. Hartsock moved to Iowa City, which had recently become the Capital of the Territory. In 1846 he was a subordinate officer of the Senate of which Stephen Hempstead (who afterwards became Governor of the State) was President. He was a delegate to the Democratic State Convention which nominated Ansel Briggs for Governor. Mr. Hartsock became a warm friend of Samuel J. Kirkwood, and when the anti-slavery agitation disrupted the Democratic party these two young Democrats helped to organize the Republican party. In 1858 Mr. Hartsock was chosen Sergeant-at-Arms of the State Senate at the first session of the Legislature held in the then new Capitol at Des Moines. In 1861 President Lincoln appointed Mr. Hartsock postmaster at Iowa City; he was removed in 1865 by Andrew Johnson, and re-appointed in 1869 by President Grant. For more than thirty-five years he had been a prominent Republican and was widely known throughout the State. He was seventy-six years of age at the time of his death.

JUDGE JAMES W. MCDILL died at his home at Creston on the 28th of February, of typhoid fever, after an illness of several weeks. He was born in Butler County, Ohio, March 4th, 1834. He was a graduate of Miami University, and came to Iowa in 1857, settling at Afton to enter upon the practice of law. He was elected Superintendent of Schools in 1858, and was County Judge in 1859. In 1870 he was chosen District Judge, and in 1872 he was elected to Congress from the Eighth District, serving with distinction two terms. In 1878 he was appointed Railroad Commissioner, and in 1881 was appointed by Gov. Gear to fill a vacancy in the United States Senate, occasioned by the resignation of Gov. Kirkwood, who had become a member of President Garfield's cabinet. He was appointed by President Harrison, a member of the Inter-State Commerce Commission, which office he held at the time of his death. Judge McDill was a man of fine literary attainments, his specialty being philology. He was a lawyer of ability, and a public official of the strictest integrity. He was widely known throughout the State, and everywhere esteemed as one of its best citizens.

• HON. JAMES L. WILLIAMS, of Marshalltown, died suddenly on the 30th of January, 1894. He was born in Cattaraugus County, New York, May 3rd, 1831, and came to Iowa in September, 1854. He settled at Marietta, then the county seat of Marshall county. He was soon after appointed Clerk of the District Court, which position he held until 1868, when he declined to serve longer. He practiced law from that time until 1873, when he helped to organize the City National Bank of which he became president. In 1872 he was elected to the lower branch of the Legislature, serving with ability. When the county seat was

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