

## Cyrus Clay Carpenter, David Nelson Richardson, Landon Hamilton

ISSN 0003-4827



Material in the public domain. No restrictions on use.

This work has been identified with a [Creative Commons Public Domain Mark 1.0](#).

---

### Recommended Citation

"Cyrus Clay Carpenter, David Nelson Richardson, Landon Hamilton." *The Annals of Iowa* 3 (1898), 572-576.

Available at: <http://ir.uiowa.edu/annals-of-iowa/vol3/iss7/17>

Hosted by [Iowa Research Online](#)

## NOTABLE DEATHS.

CYRUS CLAY CARPENTER came to Iowa a poor young man, literally without a dollar. He was self-educated and made his own way in the world. He arrived at Fort Dodge, where he spent the years of his mature life, in 1854. His connection with the Spirit Lake Expedition as set forth by himself is given elsewhere in our pages. He also served as captain and commissary of subsistence through the civil war. Aside from filling many lesser places of honor and trust, he easily and quite by a natural succession of events rose to the Governorship of the State, serving also four years in Congress. Of modest and retiring manners, and never given to pushing aggressively his own interests in the direction of public office, his various honors came to him because of the thorough confidence of the people in his integrity. Aside from a personality which at once commanded confidence and affectionate regard, which he never lost, he was a man of genuine ability, of large information and a philosophic thinker. His limited facilities for acquiring an education, which, however, he had improved to the utmost, had been supplemented by wide and excellent reading. He always kept abreast with the ideas and knowledge of his time. If, in coming years, some patient historian shall make careful study of the development and progress of our laws and institutions he will learn that few if any of our statesmen have originally presented so many ideas which have become crystalized in the statutes of our State. He also originated much excellent legislation while in congress. He doubtless appears at his best in his two inaugural addresses, wherein he outlines his own theories and suggests new departures from what had gone before. These documents are excellent reading even yet, showing as they do the trend of his thought, his grasp of great principles and his courage in meeting grave and unexpected emergencies. His political life had closed some years before his death, but he still retained a keen interest in public affairs. Our pages have contained abundant evidence of his ability and versatility as a writer. In this field of usefulness he expected to do much more work. There were several men, especially some soldiers of the civil war, of whose patriotic and heroic services he wished to make a permanent record. He knew much relating to early Iowa, and in this direction his writings possessed great value. What he might and doubtless would have accomplished in these directions can not now be done by any other hand. It is a sad loss when the recollections and experience of such a man fade into oblivion. It only remains for those who knew and appreciated this illustrious citizen to perpetuate his memory and profit by his example. There was nothing in his career to which his friends can now look with regret, unless it be that a man so pure and able, and whose life was so wholly blameless and unselfish, was not even more highly honored. It is probable that THE ANNALS will hereafter contain a sketch of his life which may in some measure do justice to his memory and public services. Gov. Carpenter was born at Harford, Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, November 24, 1829. He died at Fort Dodge, Iowa, May 29, 1898.

DAVID NELSON RICHARDSON was born at Orange, Orange county, Vermont, March 10, 1832; he died at his summer cottage in Groton, Vermont, July 4, 1898. In this death our State loses another distinguished citizen of the same noble type as Gov. Carpenter. Much the same characteristics shone brightly in both of these men. Mr. Richardson and his surviving brother were widely regarded as the most successful newspaper publishers in Iowa. They were for the most part with the minority in politics, and their success was due to their untiring energy, honorable dealing, sound judgment and excellent business management, the result of which was that they ac-

Copyright of Annals of Iowa is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.