

Edward D. Chassell

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1896, and was a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1916. His contribution to the upbuilding and welfare of his city and state were important.

EDWARD D. CHASSELL was born at Holland Patent, Oneida County, New York, May 25, 1858, and died in Des Moines, Iowa, October 18, 1928. Burial was at Wyoming, Iowa. His parents, William and Frances Jones Chassell, removed with their family to a farm near Iowa Falls, Iowa, in 1867. Edward D. attended country school and began teaching in winters when he was in his teens, working on the farm in summers. He was graduated from the Iowa State Normal School, now the State Teachers College, in 1882, served as principal of schools at Staceyville and at St. Ansgar, Mitchell County, and in 1884 purchased an interest of A. C. Ross in the *Osage News* and became its editor. In 1888 he served the Senate of the Twenty-second General Assembly as second assistant secretary. In the same year he removed to LeMars, purchasing an interest of George H. Ragsdale in the *Le Mars Sentinel* and soon took over the editorship. In 1893 he was elected representative and served in the Twenty-fifth General Assembly. An extensive bindery business was built up in connection with the *Sentinel* and Mr. Chassell was on the road a considerable portion of his time, soliciting for it. In August, 1896, B. F. Ferguson purchased Mr. Ragsdale's interest in the firm. In 1903 Mr. Chassell was again elected representative and served in the Thirtieth and Thirty-first general assemblies. In 1906 the General Assembly elected him state binder and he served from 1907 to 1912. In December, 1916, Governor Clarke appointed him railroad commissioner in place of James H. Wilson, deceased. He served until November, 1917, when he resigned to accept the secretaryship of the Farm Mortgage Banks Association of America, which he held about ten years, when he resigned and gave his attention to his property interests, which were largely in Canada lands. He was a fine character, enterprising, progressive and successful.

BYRON ALLEN BEESON was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, February 26, 1838, and died in Des Moines, Iowa, January 5, 1929. Burial was at Marshalltown. His parents, Samuel and Martha Beeson, removed with their family to Jay County, Indiana, in 1850, to Springdale Township, Cedar County, Iowa, in 1854, and to near Liscomb, Marshall County, in 1855. Byron A. obtained his education in the rural schools that those times afforded, and at an early age began teaching. On July 30, 1861, he enlisted in Company B, Second Iowa Cavalry, re-enlisted March 1, 1864, was promoted to first lieutenant November 22, 1864, and was mustered out September 19, 1865, at Selma, Alabama. He then engaged in farming near Liscomb, but in 1870 entered mercantile business at Liscomb. In 1875 he was appointed county treasurer of Marshall County and by reason of elections served until January, 1884. By this time he had become prominent in the Iowa National Guard,

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