

## John Joel Dunnegan

ISSN 0003-4827

No known copyright restrictions.

---

### Recommended Citation

"John Joel Dunnegan." *The Annals of Iowa* 16 (1929), 638-639.

Available at: <http://ir.uiowa.edu/annals-of-iowa/vol16/iss8/32>

Hosted by [Iowa Research Online](#)

Association, was a director in the Iowa State Horticultural Society from 1917 to 1921, and again in 1928, and was its president in 1923, and was chairman of the Farm Bureau Legislative Committee for several years. He was one of the organizers of the Square Deal Mutual Hail Insurance Association and was its president at the time of his death. In 1922 he was a candidate for the Republican nomination for Congressman from the Eleventh District, losing to the then incumbent, W. D. Boies, by only 618 in a total of over 36,000 votes cast.

---

LEVI FRANKLIN POTTER was born in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, March 27, 1855, and died in Harlan, Iowa, April 8, 1928. His parents were L. B. and Hitty (Wenzel) Potter. His education was obtained in the public schools of his native village and in the colleges of Ripon and Beloit, Wisconsin. He taught school several terms and in 1879 removed to Oakland, Iowa, and became a member of the firm of Caldwell & Potter, general merchants, which later became Potter & DeGraff. In 1884 he sold his interest in the store and bought an interest in the Citizens Bank of Oakland, becoming its cashier, and later its president. He was mayor of Oakland and in 1895 was elected representative, and was re-elected in 1897, serving in the Twenty-sixth, Twenty-sixth Extra, and Twenty-seventh general assemblies, being chairman of the Appropriations Committee of the House in the Twenty-seventh. In 1899 he removed to Harlan, established the First National Bank of Harlan, served as its president, and in 1906 when it was merged with the Shelby County State Bank acted as president of the merged institution until his resignation in 1911. He retained a directorship in both that and the Oakland bank. Besides his banking properties he had other extensive financial interests, one being the ownership of over one thousand acres of Shelby County land. He was a public spirited and progressive citizen, leading in many local enterprises and movements benefitting his community. He was an active Republican and, besides his membership in the General Assembly, was a Ninth District delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1908.

---

JOHN JOEL DUNNEGAN was born at Mount Nebo, Yadkin County, North Carolina, May 10, 1861, and died in Shenandoah, Iowa, February 7, 1929. Left an orphan when two years old he was bound out and was subjected to the rigors of poverty during his youth, receiving but little schooling. When twelve years old he began his own support, working for four dollars per month. In 1883 he removed to Appanoose County, Iowa, and worked as a section hand. In 1884 he went to Milford, Nebraska, and in 1891 removed to Shenandoah, Iowa. He began there digging wells, but soon engaged in plumbing. In 1893 he secured the contract for constructing waterworks for Shenandoah, after which his progress as a contractor was rapid. In later years he devoted himself to the construction of waterworks, sewers, and paving in cities in many states, having big jobs in Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and half a dozen

other states besides Iowa. He was a most useful citizen to his adopted city, leading in its enterprises and benefactions. He was a member of the Shenandoah City Council in 1894 and 1895. He had a rare faculty of making friends. A Democrat in a strong Republican district, he was elected senator in 1910, and gave useful service in the Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth general assemblies. He favored every bill introduced during his service which proposed larger cultural opportunity to the youth of Iowa.

---

JOSEPH A. MILLS was born near Streator, Illinois, December 4, 1855, and died in Nevada, Iowa, June 27, 1928. He was educated in rural schools, removed to Nevada when a young man and took employment first as deputy county auditor, and later as deputy county treasurer. In 1881 he was elected county treasurer and by reason of that and of re-elections, served in that position from January, 1882, until January, 1892. He then entered the Farmers Bank, Nevada, as cashier and served as such until 1928. In 1896 he was an alternate delegate from the Seventh Congressional District to the Republican National Convention in St. Louis. Owing to the absence of C. D. Bevington, who was Seventh District delegate, Mr. Mills acted in his place, and was one of five of the Iowa delegation who voted for the out-and-out gold plank that was finally adopted as part of the platform, the others being A. B. Cummins, James C. Davis, George W. French, and Frank H. Helsel.

---

ROLLIN J. WILSON was born in Fairfield, Iowa, October 18, 1853, and died in the same city October 23, 1928. His parents were James F. and Mary A. K. (Jewett) Wilson. He attended the public schools of Fairfield, was graduated from the State University of Iowa in 1875, studied law in the office of his father, was admitted to the bar in 1877 and followed the practice of law in his home city throughout his life. He was the first county attorney of Jefferson County under the law providing for such an official, being elected in 1886 and was re-elected in 1888, serving four years. He was for many years the local attorney for the Rock Island and the Burlington railroads. In his later years he was president of the Jefferson County Bar Association. Since 1906 he was president of the First National Bank of Fairfield. He was an ardent temperance man and helped rid his town of saloons, was for years a member of the Library Board, as well as of the School Board, and was a member of the Board of Trustees of Parsons College.

---

WILL M. NARVIS was born in Muscatine, Iowa, June 10, 1861, and died in that city December 30, 1928. His parents were John and Mary Reuling Narvis. He was early left an orphan, attended public school and in 1879 entered the office of the *Muscatine Journal* as "printers devil." He remained with the *Journal* until 1884 when he became city editor of the *Muscatine Tribune*. When it was sold in 1889 he went

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.