

William C. Evans

ISSN 0003-4827

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Recommended Citation

"William C. Evans." *The Annals of Iowa* 7 (2009), 156-157.

Available at: <http://ir.uiowa.edu/annals-of-iowa/vol7/iss2/21>

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father had been for some time employed as a laborer in a flouring mill owned and operated by Governor Samuel J. Kirkwood. The family removed to Webster City and settled on a farm where James grew up to about the age of fourteen. In December, 1859, he came to Des Moines as a candidate for messenger or page in the State senate. Appealing to Governor Kirkwood on the ground that he wished to earn money for the purpose of attending school, the governor took his case in hand and largely through his influence James was elected. He appeared to be such a studious, excellent boy that he won the hearty friendship of George W. McCrary, a State Senator from Keokuk, who afterwards became a federal judge and Secretary of War. Mr. McCrary took James home with him at the end of the session, and the young man studied law in his office. He was a bright student and became a very successful lawyer. He was also connected with several railroads in the west. He practiced law some years in Ft. Dodge, finally removing to Chicago. His career was a brilliant one. To native ability of a high order, he united great industry, and a genial, kindly nature. He was to a great degree self-educated, and all things considered his success was remarkable.

JOSEPH BENSON HARRIS was born in Belmont county, Ohio, July 14, 1859; he died at Boone, Iowa, April 29, 1905. When he had reached the age of nine years, his mother having become a widow, removed to Chariton, Iowa, with her two sons and a daughter. Five years later he entered the employ of the C., B. & Q. R. R. Co., as a messenger. While so occupied he learned telegraphing, working in several towns along that line. At the age of twenty-one he resigned and entered Simpson College, at Indianola, to prepare himself for the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He spent three years in this institution before entering upon his life work. He was at various times pastor of churches in Lewis, Audubon, Denison, Indianola, Des Moines and Boone. He was for one year President of Simpson College. His services were highly acceptable to his various congregations and to the students. His loss was deeply deplored by his people wherever he had been known. Among those who attended his funeral were Hon. Messrs. L. M. Shaw, Secretary of the U. S. Treasury, and Ex-Senator W. H. Berry, of Indianola, who paid eloquent tributes to his memory.

JAMES J. DOLLIVER was born Nov. 28, 1816, in Saratoga co., N. Y.; he died in Washington, D. C., April 28, 1905. His parents removed to New Jersey when he was a boy. He was educated in the country schools, paying his way by teaching as soon as he was qualified. He migrated to Ohio in 1836. A few years later he was converted, joining the Methodists, and bending all his energies towards becoming a preacher. In 1844 he went to West Virginia, residing in Kingwood and Morgantown. He became a typical circuit rider, traveling thousands of miles on horseback, and participating like others of his class in the usual round of conferences, quarterly meetings and revivals. He was especially distinguished by his war on slavery and intemperance. In 1881 he came to Iowa, settling in Fort Dodge. He spent much time in Washington, D. C., where he was an especial favorite of Presidents Harrison, Cleveland, McKinley and Roosevelt. He was the father of Hon. J. P. Dolliver, the present junior U. S. Senator from Iowa.

WILLIAM C. EVANS was born in Delaware county, N. Y., June 24, 1822; he died in West Liberty, Iowa, April 11, 1905. In 1834 he removed with his father's family to Ohio and assisted in making a home in what was then the far west. He afterwards worked for a time in Illinois and the lumber camps of Wisconsin and with a portion of the earnings thus ob-

tained he attended for two terms the seminary at Kirtland, Ohio. In 1852 he purchased a fourth interest in the site of the town of West Liberty, Iowa. In 1856 he located in that place and has ever since been identified with its interests. For years he was a member of the board of supervisors. He was a member of the 13th and 14th general assemblies. During the war Governor Kirkwood appointed him one of the commissioners to superintend the drafting of soldiers in Muscatine county. He was for six years a trustee of the hospital for the insane at Mt. Pleasant.

HENRY H. WRIGHT was born in Wayne county, Indiana, February 26, 1840; he died in Centerville, Iowa, April 28, 1905. He located in Appanoose county in 1861. He served through the civil war in Co. D, 6th Iowa Infantry, as corporal, sergeant, and finally second lieutenant. From 1866 to 1874 he was sheriff of Appanoose county. His National Guard record was notable; he enlisted in 1878 and was elected 1st sergeant of Co. E, 2d regiment. He was successively promoted and finally commissioned brigadier general 1st brigade, Co. E of Centerville and what is now the 55th Iowa, owe their organization and success to him. He was appointed adjutant general of Iowa in 1896 by Governor F. M. Drake, with the rank of major general. At the time of his death he had ready for the press a history of the 6th Iowa infantry. Gen. Wright is represented in portraiture on the Iowa Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument.

LORENZO D. TRACY was born in Knox, Albany county, N. Y., July 5, 1829; he died in Jessup, Iowa, April 13, 1905. In 1859 he was ordained an elder in the Methodist church but poor health obliged him to abandon the work of the ministry. He came to Iowa in 1861 and in 1862 located in Grundy Center. He held the offices of county treasurer; county recorder, county judge, coroner, county superintendent of schools; was a member of the board of supervisors, justice of the peace, and was three times elected mayor of Grundy Center. He was a member of the 11th and 15th general assemblies. For many years he was editor of *The Grundy County Atlas* and afterward of *The Argus*; later he edited *The Cedar Falls Gazette* and *The Iowa Falls Sentinel*.

DELANO T. SMITH was born in Litchfield, N. Y., November 6, 1830; he died in Marshalltown, Iowa, May 10, 1905. He was admitted to the bar in Albany, N. Y., in 1852. After practising for a time in Dixon, Ill., he removed in 1855 to Minneapolis, Minn. He was a member of the House in the 8th Minnesota territorial legislature, and a member of the senate in the 1st State legislature. In 1861 he was appointed to a clerkship in the treasury department at Washington; in 1863 he became U. S. tax commissioner for Tennessee. From 1865 until 1869 he resided in New York and with his brother promoted the first subway in that city. In 1869 he again removed to the west, in search of health, and located in Marshalltown, where he had since resided.

MRS. RACHEL J. WILSON ALBRIGHT was born in Philadelphia, June 16, 1812; she died in Ft. Madison, Iowa, April 18, 1905, at the advanced age of ninety-two years. She came with her husband to Ft. Madison in the spring of 1841 and had since resided there. She was a granddaughter of Betsy Ross, who made the first United States flag. Mrs. Albright herself devoted her time to making copies of that first national flag, for which she found ready sale. The Historical Department of Iowa purchased one of these beautiful mementoes of our early days which she had made but a few weeks before her death. Her descent from Betsy Ross no less than her own fine social qualities, had made her widely known and highly esteemed.

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