

Francis A. J. Gray

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EDWARD J. GAULT was born near Belfast, Ireland, June 1, 1828; he died at his home near Cincinnati, Iowa, August 24, 1904. The family emigrated to America in 1839, making their first home in Philadelphia. In the spring of 1853, Mr. Gault removed to Appanoose county, walking the entire distance from Keokuk, and settled near Cincinnati, where he has since lived and where he owned a large stock farm. He was prominent in county and State affairs. He served as a member of the House in the 9th General Assembly, and as State senator in the 14th, 15th, 20th and 21st.

JAMES F. BRENNAN was born in county Kilkenny, Muchalee, Ireland, in 1851; he died in Fonda, Iowa, November 21, 1904, as the result of an accident while driving. In 1878 he was ordained in his native county as a priest of the Roman Catholic church and the following year came to the United States. Father Brennan was for some years a "Cathedral Priest" at Dubuque, but Bishop Hennessey sent him to Webster City to take the place of Father O'Keefe. After a service of fourteen years with that congregation he went to Fonda, where his career was so suddenly ended.

FRANCIS A. J. GRAY was born at Graysville, Green county, Pa., Feb. 11, 1831; he died in Wilton township, Muscatine county, Iowa, March 3, 1905. He was married to Miss Adeline Palmer, at Wellsburg, West Virginia, May 31, 1854. When the war broke out he enlisted as a member of Co. C, 18th Pennsylvania Cavalry, serving until 1863. In 1864 he removed to Iowa and settled in Muscatine county, on the farm which has since been the family home. He was closely identified with the financial interests of Wilton. He was a member of the 16th and 17th General Assemblies.

MRS. ELIZA ANN MELVIN SHRADER was born in Plymouth, N. H., Jan. 7, 1808; she died at the home of her daughter in Iowa City, March 1, 1905. She occupied an honored position as a Daughter of the Revolution, as her father, Isaac Melvin, served in the Revolutionary War under Gen. Washington, was taken prisoner, transported to London, and confined for three years in the Tower prison. She was a member of both the State and National societies. In 1813 her parents removed to Washington county, Ohio, where in 1828 she was married to John Shrader.

THOMAS HARRIS was born in Barnstable, Massachusetts, October 14, 1832; he died in Montezuma, Iowa, October 5, 1904. In 1850, when a young man, he took the voyage around Cape Horn to California, where he remained for two years. In 1856 he left his native state and removed to Iowa, walking the entire distance from Iowa City to Poweshiek county, where he entered land. He gradually acquired large business interests in several western states. Since 1882 his home had been in Montezuma. He was a member of the 30th General Assembly.

FLETCHER HOWARD was born in Leeds, Maine, Oct. 5, 1853; he died in Colorado, where he had gone in search of health, March 3, 1905. He graduated from Bates College, Lewiston, Maine, in 1879. In 1880 he came to Iowa and for a time engaged in teaching school. He then entered the drug business at Onawa, Iowa. After several years he removed to Sheldon, where he continued in the same business for eleven years. From April, 1903, he was a member of the State Pharmacy Board, serving several years as its president.

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