

## Samuel Merrill, Orlando C. Howe, J. D. Wells

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REV. J. D. WELLS was born on January 3, 1849, in Wheatland township, Hillsdale county, Michigan; he died at La Junta, Colorado, July 27, 1899. He remained on his father's farm and attended the country schools until his fifteenth year, when he went to Hillsdale college, teaching and studying alternately until he was nineteen years old, when his father gave each of his three older boys \$1,000 which they invested in a farm near Monmouth, Illinois, where he worked until he was twenty-two years of age. He then sold his share in the farm and went to Ann Arbor University where he graduated at the age of twenty-six. He next became principal of the Dubuque high school for two years. From Dubuque he went to New York City to attend the Union Theological Seminary. After graduating, he entered upon his first pastorate in Litchfield, Michigan, in 1878. After two years he accepted a call to Kokomo, Indiana, where he stayed but a few months, retiring because of poor health. His next pastorate was in Woodstock, Illinois, where he stayed two years; leaving there, he went to Webster City, Iowa, where he preached six years. His next pastorate was Ames, Iowa, for three years, from which place he went to Wilton as principal of the Wilton Academy for two years. He afterward accepted a call to Shellrock, Iowa, where he preached one year. His health meantime failing from a pulmonary affection, he came to Des Moines and engaged in the printing business until his death as above. Mr. Wells attained a wide acquaintance both as a minister of the gospel and a teacher, and his death elicited expressions of respect and sympathy throughout the State.

REV. W. F. COWLES was born in Cortland county, New York, May 11, 1819; he died at Burlington, Iowa, July 13, 1899. After obtaining such education as the common schools of his neighborhood afforded he attended the Academy at Cortland, though his education was largely self-acquired after reaching his majority. He became a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at the age of eighteen and at twenty-three was licensed to preach. He was promoted to be deacon, elder and presiding elder. He settled in Burlington in 1851. His pastorates included Burlington, Dubuque, South Burlington, Keokuk, Oskaloosa, Ottumwa, Eddyville, Muscatine, Grinnell, Albia and Knoxville. He served as Presiding Elder in the Burlington, Oskaloosa, Muscatine and Mt. Pleasant districts. He was four times elected delegate to the General Conference of his church, and was twice at the head of the Iowa delegation. In his early manhood he was an out-spoken abolitionist. It was unpopular and even dangerous in many localities in this State to avow sympathy with the slaves at the time Mr. Cowles crossed the Mississippi. He was four years Collector of Internal Revenue, by appointment of President Lincoln. He filled this office and the pastorate of his church at the same time. During all his life in this State he was especially active and influential in behalf of public education as well as in the cause of his church. Few men have passed more useful lives.

WILLIAM L. JOY was born at Townshend, Vermont, August 17, 1829; he died at Corona, California, July 1, 1899. He graduated from Amherst College, Massachusetts, in the early fifties, studied law, and in 1857 settled in Sioux City. He had at different times as law partners, N. C. Hudson, A. F. Call, his son, C. L. Joy, and Craig L. Wright. Mr. Joy became one of the most prominent personalities of northwestern Iowa, and thoroughly identified with the interests and growth of Sioux City. He stood at the head of his profession as a lawyer, and his service in the Iowa house of representatives (the sessions of 1864-66) made him known throughout the State. His name was often mentioned in connection with higher public honors, but his ambition did not seem to run in that direction. He was a hard worker in his profession, an earnest promoter of the cause of educa-

tion, distinguished for his wide charities, and the foremost member of the Baptist church of his city and county. "He was always at the front when there was giving or doing." At the time of his death he was in California, whither he had gone hoping to recover his health which had been for some time seriously impaired.

CHARLES CARROLL GILMAN was born at Frankfort, Maine, February 22, 1833; he died at Eldora, Iowa, July 31, 1899. He came to Eldora in 1866, as the projector of a short railroad which afterwards became a part of the Iowa Central line. Upon its organization—then known as the "Central Railroad of Iowa"—he became its first president. Mr. Gilman was a man of large ability, far-seeing, influential, active, energetic and persevering. He succeeded in extending his railroad in both directions, and it gradually grew into one of the most important north and south lines in the State. He was the originator of the coal and clay industries in the vicinity of Eldora, which have since grown into importance. Through his ingenious experiments and inventions our Iowa clays came into new uses, creating demands for the manufactured products throughout the country. Aside from his great business ability he was widely esteemed for his fine social qualities.

MRS. VICTORIA TOURNOT BRUGUIER was born in St. Louis, December 12, 1826; she died in Sioux City, Iowa, July 13, 1899. "Mrs. Bruguier," says the *Sioux City Journal*, "was one of the oldest and most remarkable pioneer women of the Northwest, and her history a very romantic one." She was of Creole-French descent, and the fourth wife of Theophile Bruguier, and he was her third husband. Bruguier's three other wives were daughters of War Eagle, a celebrated Yankton-Sioux Indian. Bruguier died on his farm near Salix, Woodbury county, Iowa, February 18, 1896. Mr. O. C. Treadway, at whose house Mrs. Bruguier died, says of her, "no white woman ever lived who knew as much of the Indian character and the history of the Northwest." She had travelled much in the far west many years ago, making several trips to Salt Lake City. The growth of Sioux City from its first settlement had almost wholly taken place during her residence in that vicinity. The family were well known throughout northwestern Iowa and eastern Nebraska.

JOHN SHANE was born in Jefferson county, Ohio, May 26, 1822; he died at Vinton, Iowa, September 18, 1899. He was educated at Jefferson College, Pennsylvania. After teaching some years he studied law in the office of Edwin M. Stanton, Lincoln's great war secretary. He removed to Vinton, Iowa, and had resided there some years before the civil war. Enlisting in Company G, Thirteenth Iowa Infantry, he was elected its captain, and shortly after promoted to major, afterwards to lieutenant-colonel, and when Crocker was made a brigadier-general, Shane was promoted to the colonelcy. He bore a distinguished part in the battles of Shiloh and before Atlanta. After his return, Governor Kirkwood appointed him district judge to fill the vacancy caused by the promotion of Rothrock to the supreme bench. He was nominated and elected district judge, but suffered from partial paralysis to such an extent as to necessitate his resignation. He had been an invalid from this cause for the past dozen years.

MRS. NARCISSA T. BEMIS was born at Alabama, Genesee county, New York, May 8, 1829; she died at the summer home of the family, at Okoboji, Iowa, August 9, 1899. She was married to Hon. George W. Bemis, of Independence, Iowa, April 11, 1855, and that place was thereafter their home. During the period of the civil war Mrs. Bemis became distinguished through her efficient services in behalf of the Sanitary Commission, and in

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