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## Daniel Kerr

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## ANNALS OF IOWA

and also to banks in Oklahoma and North Dakota. He was a partner in the real estate and abstract business of Moore & Crooks, and had extensive land holdings, was president of the Boone Blank Book Company, was interested in the Spurrier Lumber Company, the Boone Clay Works Company, and many other enterprises. Earlier in his career he was active in politics, was for a time city marshal of Boone, and was a member of the city council. In 1885 he was elected representative and served in the Twenty-first General Assembly. Mr. Moore never married and the hospital at Boone, largely built by him, is a memorial to his mother. In later life he became an extensive traveler, crossing the ocean several times and making world tours. He was active in helping promote all community welfare and patriotic movements.

JOHN C. COOK was born near Tiffin, Ohio, December 26, 1846, and died at Algona, Iowa, June 7, 1920. He was educated in common school and at Heidelberg College, Tiffin. For a while he acted as a railroad brakeman. He taught school for a time, studied law with Judge Lee at Tiffin, was admitted to the bar there in 1867, and the same year removed to Newton, Iowa, where he began practice. In 1876 he was the Democratic candidate for attorney-general of Iowa. In 1878 he was elected judge in the Sixth Judicial District and served four years. In 1880 he was the candidate of the Democratic and the National Greenback Labor parties for Congress, the Republican candidate being M. E. Cutts. The result was very close, Cutts was given the certificate of election, but Cook contested and won the seat. In 1882 Cutts was elected, winning over Mackey, Democrat, and Weaver, National Greenback Labor, but Cutts died during his term and Cook ran as an independent and was elected to the vacancy. After finishing his term in the Forty-eighth Congress ending in 1885, he retired from political life and entered the employment of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company as attorney for the north part of Iowa, with location at Webster City. In 1896 he was appointed solicitor for Iowa for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company with headquarters at Cedar Rapids. 'He held that position until 1915 when he retired at his own request. He became a large owner of land in northern Iowa. He was a very able lawyer, having few equals either before the court or jury.

DANIEL KERR was born June 18, 1836, in Ayrshire, Scotland, and died at his home in Grundy Center, Iowa, October 8, 1916. He came with his parents in 1841 to Madison County, Illinois. In 1858 he was graduated from McKendree College, Lebanon, Illinois, in 1859 and 1860 was a teacher in high school at Edwardsville, Illinois, and in 1862 was admitted to the bar, having read law with Governor French, at Springfield. In the same year he enlisted as a private in Company G, One Hundred and Seventeenth Illinois Infantry, and was mustered out at the end of the war as a first lieutenant. He then entered on the pracEDITORIAL

tice of law in Illinois and in 1868 was elected a member of the legislature. In 1870 he removed to Grundy Center, Iowa, and in 1871 became proprietor and editor of the *New Century*, a local newspaper. In 1877 he became Grundy Center's first mayor, from 1883 to 1888 was owner of the *Grundy Center Argus* and was its editor most of the time, and in 1883 was elected representative and served in the Twentieth General Assembly, being one of the fifty-two in the famous struggle for the enactment of prohibition. In 1884 he was elected a presidential elector on the Blaine and Logan ticket. In 1886 he was elected to Congress from the Fifth District and was re-elected in 1888. He was a Republican, an ardent temperance man, active and influential, and of unquestionable integrity. The later years of his life were spent in retirement at his home in Grundy Center.

JOHN H. PETERS was born in Kent, Connecticut, February 2, 1829, and died at Manchester, Iowa, July 19, 1921. In 1847 he went to Cuba in the hope of benefiting his health. While there he pursued the study of law. In 1849 he returned to Kent, finished his law studies, and in 1852 removed to Freeport, Illinois, and engaged in practice with Thomas J. Turner, then a member of Congress. Mr. Turner induced him to go to Delhi, Iowa, to defend a friend who was in trouble. Mr. Peters made the trip on horseback, liked the place, and located there in February, 1853. Delhi was then the county seat of Delaware County. In 1856 Mr. Peters was elected a member of the convention which was to meet in January of the next year, to revise the state constitution, and duly served in that famous body. When the Fourth Iowa Cavalry was being raised he was, on September 23, 1861, appointed captain of Company B, was promoted to major June 20, 1863, and to lieutenantcolonel September 2, 1863. The regiment was mustered out at Atlanta, Georgia, August 10, 1865. He was engaged in over forty battles and engagements and won the reputation of being one of the most brilliant and successful cavalry officers in the western army. On returning home to Delhi he resumed the practice of law, removed to Manchester with the removal of the county seat to that place, and finally retired from practice in 1900. He had traveled in every state of the Union, his mind remained active and clear, and when he died, at over ninety-two years of age, he was the oldest survivor of the convention that framed our present constitution.

FRANCIS MARION EPPERSON was born in Pulaski County, Kentucky, November 14, 1841, and died at Eddyville, Iowa, May 19, 1921. His education was obtained in the public and select schools of Mill Springs, Kentucky. In 1860 he removed to Iowa and settled on a farm in Marion County. In 1862 he enlisted at Eddyville in Company D, Thirty-sixth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and served to the end of the war. For ten months he was a military prisoner at Tyler, Texas. Returning to Iowa in 1865 he took a clerical position with the mercantile firm of Manning, 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.