

Notable Deaths

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THEODORE F. GATCHEL was born in Chester, Pa., April 16, 1845; he died in Des Moines, Nov. 7, 1901. Mr. Gatchel's early life was spent in Maryland and Washington, D. C. He enlisted at the age of 14, in a Maryland regiment, and served throughout the war. He was a personal friend of Gen. Grant, and during his administration was president of the police board in Washington. Since 1879 Mr. Gatchel has resided in Des Moines, and has been engaged in the insurance business. He was a prominent member of the Methodist church and active in its benevolent work. From the start he was identified with the building of the Iowa Methodist Hospital, and officially connected with its management. His sudden death occurred at one of the business meetings of the board of directors.

STANFIELD P. McNEILL was born in Mason county, Ky., February 14, 1827; he died at his home in Garden Grove, Iowa, February 20, 1902. His early years were spent on a farm; he afterwards worked for a time at the carpenter's trade. He served one year in the Mexican war, in Capt. Morgan's company of mounted dragoons. In 1857 he removed to Wayne county, where he remained for three years. In 1861 he settled in Decatur county, where he eventually acquired about 800 acres of land. He was at one time justice of the peace. During the period of the civil war he was a member of the Board of Supervisors and was instrumental in expending for public improvements the swamp land money recovered by the county. He was a member of the House of Representatives of the 15th and 16th General Assemblies.

JAMES H. KNOX was born in Baltimore, Md., August 11, 1821; he died in Des Moines, March 13, 1902. At the age of 14 he entered a printing office in Cadiz, Ohio. In 1852 he published a paper at Mt. Vernon, Ohio. Two years later he removed to Iowa, and in 1855 became associated with Lt.-Gov. Needham in publishing *The Oskaloosa Herald*. In 1857 he removed to Indianola and entered upon the publication of *The Weekly Iowa Visitor*. When the civil war broke out he went into the army as Captain of Co. D, 34th Iowa Infantry, but was soon obliged to resign on account of ill health. Returning to Indianola he again engaged in newspaper work and became known throughout central Iowa as a brilliant writer and able politician. He was twice appointed postmaster of Indianola. The evening of his life was spent quietly in Des Moines. He is one of the last of the "old guard" of Iowa publishers to pass away.

HUITT ROSS was born at Bridgeville, Del., December 19, 1819; he died near Luni, Iowa, October 16, 1901. He was a pioneer settler on a farm which is now a part of the plat of Stratford, Hamilton county. He served in the Mexican war and as deputy provost marshal during the civil war. He was chairman of the first Board of Supervisors of Hamilton county in 1861. Mr. Ross was a prominent and well-known citizen of that county. In the days when there were no hotels in that section he was known far and wide for his unbounded hospitality. Hundreds who knew him then bear him in most kindly remembrance.

ERRATA.

Rev. Dr. William Salter of Burlington, calls our attention to an error in the article on Lieut. George Wilson, which was written by his son, Mr. George Wilson of Lexington, Missouri. This error appears on pages 566-67, Vol. IV, 3d series of THE ANNALS, where the Blackhawk War is referred to as "campaigning and fighting in the terrible cold of a Wisconsin winter." Soldiers are spoken of as "often freezing" and "squaws with their paposes trying to swim its (Mississippi) wintry waters." The facts are that the Blackhawk War was a summer affair. It began in April and ended in August, 1832.

In the notice of the death of Dr. Michael Garst in THE ANNALS for January, 1902, second line from the top of page 318, for "1891," read 1901.

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