

Reuben Noble

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the Black Hawk war. It also reimbursed him for services while in South America.—*Major C. D. Ham in the Dubuque Herald.*

EDWIN N. CHAPIN was born in Monterey, Massachusetts, June 5, 1823, and died at his residence in Marshalltown, July 29, 1896. After receiving a common school education he attended an academy for a short time and for several years taught school. Never idle and always ready to engage in any honest avocation, he engaged in charcoal burning for a while, disposing of the product at the blast furnaces. In December, 1849, the gold fever having seized him he started for California by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and on account of difficulties with the officers of the ship on the Pacific side, helped to take possession of it, and after several months of voyaging arrived at San Francisco. For some four years he was engaged in mining and other pursuits in California, returning by way of Nicaragua, shipping for New York at Greytown. This was in 1854. The following year he removed to Iowa. In 1855 he bought *The Iowa Central Journal*, then located at Lafayette, (now Albion), Marshall county, of Messrs. Wilson, Dunn and Tripp. Associated with him in the conduct of the paper was Mr. R. H. Barnhart, who still resides at Marshalltown. The paper was a champion of Marietta, and as Mr. Chapin had declared that he would not take the paper to the new county seat, in case of removal, he sold out his interest to his partner, who removed the paper to the new county seat. During the year 1857 he settled in Marshalltown and started *The Marshall County News*, which was subsequently destroyed by fire. During several years following this loss he bought and sold *The Times* many times. In 1881 he was connected with *The Reflector*. An outspoken and fearless advocate, he was often in controversy, and on account of his aggressive and combative disposition came to be called "Old Grizzly." He was married in 1857 to Miss Elizabeth Moore Moon, and again in 1886 to Mrs. Nettie Sanford. Hon. O. B. Chapin, who represented Hardin county in the Legislature, in 1874-75, was his brother. He held several offices of trust and responsibility during his residence in Iowa. He was a member of the Board of Supervisors, and Post Master of Marshalltown under President Lincoln. In 1864 he was sent to Mississippi to take the vote of the Iowa soldiers, under appointment of Governor Stone. He was removed from the office of Post Master in 1865 by President Johnson, for alleged "offensive partisanship," Mr. Chapin having the honor to be the first official removed by President Andrew Johnson for political reasons. He was re-appointed Post Master by President Grant, in 1876. Mr. Chapin was a strong character, prominent as a pioneer, wide-awake and alert in business, a vigorous, out-spoken, independent editor, welcoming most heartily and standing by whatever promised to benefit his State, county or city. In the development of the railroad system of Iowa, he bore a leading part, and when improvements were under consideration in Marshalltown, or in the county, he could always be depended upon to take the progressive side. He will long be held in kindly remembrance in the community where he lived for more than forty years.

In the death of HON. REUBEN NOBLE, at his home in McGregor, on the 8th of August, our State has lost another of its most prominent pioneers, the bar and judiciary one of their brightest ornaments, and the community where he resided, one of its best known and most esteemed citizens. Judge Noble was born a farmer's boy, April 14, 1821, in Adams county, Mississippi, and was therefore a little over seventy-five years of age. He worked at farming until he was eighteen,

when he attended for a while a manual labor school at Columbus, in that State, pursuing meantime the study of the law. He settled at Fair Play, Wisconsin, in 1842, where he engaged in mining and the practice of the law. He removed to Garnaville, Clayton county, in 1843. June 19, 1844, he was married to Miss Harriett C. Douglas, who survives him. In 1857 he removed to McGregor, where he resided until his death. Judge Noble immediately upon settling in our State was recognized as a man of character and ability, a personality to be implicitly relied upon. He was elected on the Free Soil ticket a representative in the Fifth General Assembly, and though it was his first session, he was chosen Speaker. Before his death he was the last survivor of our legislative presiding officers before the war of the rebellion. As a presiding officer he proved to be singularly able and impartial, and has always been remembered by his surviving associates with great respect and affection. A kindly tribute to his memory appeared in *The McGregor News* of August 19, 1896, from the pen of his long-time friend, Hon. James O. Crosby, from which we copy the following paragraphs:

"In the practice of his profession he had a distinct individuality, discouraging all unnecessary litigation, and when possible to secure justice to all interested parties by means of a compromise, he was persistent in his efforts to effect settlements. He was self-reliant and believed in himself, in his ability to accomplish, and he pursued his object with untiring vigilance; of course he early became prominent in his profession; he could not help it.

"As a trial lawyer, his keen perception enabled him to grasp the strong points of his case and as the trial advanced to discover the trend of the testimony, and how it might be turned to strengthen his case or weaken his opponents. He was a man of the people and cultivated the acquaintance of all with whom he came in contact and studied their temperaments and dispositions, which served him well in impaneling juries and in summing up his case to them at the close."

He was elected Judge of the Tenth Judicial district in 1874, and re-elected in 1878, but he resigned shortly afterward, and returned to the practice of the law. Mr. and Mrs. Noble celebrated their golden wedding June 19, 1894. Judge Noble always attended the biennial reunions of the Pioneer Law Makers Association, of which he was a leading member.

KENDALL YOUNG, president of the First National Bank of Webster City, died at the Sanitarium at Battle Creek, Michigan, June 30, 1896. Mr. Young was born in the town of Eden, Hancock County, Maine, January 19, 1820, raised on a farm, inured to hard labor, acquiring only the meager education afforded in the country schools of that day. He left home at the age of nineteen to make his own way in life. When the dispute over the boundary between Maine and Canada seemed likely to lead to war he enlisted, and was out at the front two months. But the "Aroostook war" happily ended without bloodshed. For this service he received \$18 and a forty-acre land warrant. (With this warrant Mr. Young long afterwards entered forty acres of government land near Webster City.) He then hired out as a common sailor before the mast, visiting the West Indies, Labrador, England, and many ports along our coasts. Quitting the sea he engaged in merchandising in a small way in Maine, but emigrated to Wisconsin in 1847. In 1849 he crossed the plains to California. After acquiring enough money to start in business, he returned to Maine, but he had so good an idea of the West that he settled in Rockton, Illinois. Hoping, however, to do better in business, he removed to Kossuth county, Iowa, a newer

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