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Thomas Parsons

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FRANCES MARIA (FIELD) PARROTT was born in Ypsilanti, Michigan, September 19, 1841, and died in Waterloo, Iowa, December 27, 1927. With her parents, she removed to Davenport, Iowa, in 1856. There on October 25, 1859, she was married to Matthias Parrott, a printer who then, as part owner of the Anamosa Eureka, was engaged in helping publish it. In 1862 Mr. and Mrs. Parrott removed to Morris, Illinois, but in 1869 they went to Waterloo where Mr. Parrott purchased the Iowa State Reporter, afterward the Waterloo Daily Reporter, became successful in business and prominent in public life-was state binder, mayor of Waterloo, state senator, lieutenant governor, and president of the National Editorial Association. Mrs. Parrott, besides her duties as devoted mother, was the helpful wife and companion of her husband in these activities. She was prominent in church, club, and literary circles of Waterloo for many years. She was a great traveler, having with her husband visited practically all parts of the United States and many other parts of the world. She was a gifted writer, having written for the papers for many years under the caption of "Aunt Lucy's Talks." Stories of her travels both written and spoken were in much demand. She was a member of the Waterloo Library Board for several years.

Thomas Parsons was born in Reigate, England, February 18, 1855, and died in a hospital in Fort Dodge, Iowa, April 1, 1928. Burial was in Reading Cemetery, near Farnhamville. When twelve years old he was brought by his parents in their removal to this country. Their home was made on a farm in Lee County, Illinois. Thomas attended common school, and later, Rock River Seminary, Dixon, Illinois. He removed to a farm in Calhoun County, Iowa, in 1878, and followed farming and stock raising. In 1898 he removed to Farnhamville. He held several township offices, was mayor of Farnhamville fourteen years, and was a member of the Calhoun County Board of Supervisors from January, 1906, to January, 1912. In 1918 he was elected representative and was re-elected in 1920 and 1922, and served in the Thirty-eighth, Thirty-ninth, Fortieth, and Fortieth Extra general assemblies.

Andrew Jackson Shinn was born in Pottawattamie County, Iowa, November 7, 1866, and died near Woodbine April 8, 1928. He was with his parents, George and Martha Buckner Shinn, when they removed to Harrison County in 1889. His education was received in rural schools of his neighborhood. Farming was his vocation. In 1901 he was elected sheriff and was re-elected in 1903, and served until January, 1907. In 1922 he was elected senator, and was re-elected in 1926, serving in the Fortieth, Fortieth Extra, Forty-first and Forty-second general assemblies. He was opposed to issuing bonds for the building of roads, contending against it with vigor. He had a reputation for honesty and courage.

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