

David Secor

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promised to make him wealthy, but upon the outbreak of the civil war, he opposed the policy of the Government in putting down the rebellion. So bitter was he in his opposition that he refused to pay any taxes that went to the support of the war, thereby losing his immense property, which promised such abundant returns. He was a life long abstainer from all intoxicating drinks and denounced the saloon on all occasions as a curse to humanity a breeder of crime, as a corrupter of morals and unworthy to be tolerated by a Christian community, always advocating its utter extinction. *The Iowa City Daily Press* of Nov. 27th, has a lengthy and highly appreciative article on Mr. Byington, which deserves permanent preservation among the historical memoranda of the State. This sketch concludes as follows: "In brief resume it may be said that Le Grand Byington was a man of brilliant and original mind, of inflexible will and of tireless energy. His sincere but erroneous convictions concerning a great crisis in public affairs turned into the channels of disaster and defeat a career of remarkable promise. A radical of radicals, a hater of shams, of irreproachable private life, of kindly heart through all his bitter experiences, one cannot refrain from the thought: What might have been his career had Fate mingled with his radicalism a moderate measure of conservatism?"

EPHRAIM ADAMS was born at New Ipswich, N. H., in 1818; he died at Waterloo, Iowa, Nov. 30, 1907. Dr. Adams was the last survivor, with the exception of the Rev. Dr. William Salter, of Burlington, of the famous "Iowa Band" of Congregational missionaries who came to Iowa in 1843. These young clergymen first stopped at Denmark, Lee county, until they were called to different congregations throughout the State. Dr. Adams preached at Mt. Pleasant one year, and then definitely settled in Davenport, where he remained twelve years, at the end of which time he had a call from Decorah, where he labored fifteen years. He concluded his services with six years at Eldora. Upon retiring from that pastorate he settled in Waterloo, where he resided up to the time of his death. Dr. Adams was one of the founders of Iowa College, which was first started at Davenport, and subsequently removed to Grinnell, where it has since been permanently established. He was one of the chief laborers in the founding of this institution and continued on the Board of Trustees throughout his life. He has thus been prominently connected with church and educational affairs ever since he came to the State in 1843. His death was the result of old age rather than of disease. His funeral was one of the largest ever attended in the city of Waterloo. There were representatives from many of the Congregational churches throughout the State the most notable man in attendance being the Rev. Dr. Salter, the last survivor of the "Iowa Band." He made a brief and most eloquent and characteristic address upon the life and labors of his deceased classmate. Dr. Salter quoted from the first volume of this periodical (*Annals of Iowa*, 1st ser. I:212) the following tribute to Dr. Adams, which was, of course, published long ago: "In toil and self-denial he labored on amid many discouragements. His uniform kindness to all and persuasive manner as a minister, his daily walk among his fellow men, and his untarnished Christian character, justly entitled him to, as he had, the love and respect of all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance."

DAVID SECOR was born in Putnam county, N. Y., Jan. 6, 1836; he died in Winnebago, Minn., Sept. 14, 1907. In 1859 he came to Iowa, working at the trade of a mason, studying and teaching for a time in

Johnson and Linn counties and in Mason City. He located permanently in Forest City, and in 1861 was elected treasurer and recorder of Winnebago county. In 1863 he was appointed postmaster, holding the position for nine years. In 1864 he enlisted in Co. C, 2d Iowa Infantry, and was with Sherman on his march to the sea. During the expedition he was taken ill and lay at the point of death for some time. He was a member of the House of Representatives in the 14th and 15th General Assemblies. In 1874 he was elected Register of the State Land Office, holding the position four years. In 1879 he was admitted to the bar and continued the practice of the law for about ten years. He was also engaged in the banking business and was one of the chief promoters of the M. & St. L. railroad. About 1886 he removed to Winnebago, Minn., where he resided until his death.

JOSIAH T. YOUNG was born in Johnson county, Indiana, Feb. 25, 1831; he died in Albia, Iowa, Nov. 11, 1907. In 1846, with his parents, he came to Iowa, settling in Kishkeokosh, now Monroe county. In 1860 and '61 he was engaged in publishing the *Monroe County Sentinel*, which advocated the election of Stephen A. Douglas to the presidency. Mr. Young served for three years in the civil war. After the war he served for six years as Clerk of the District Court in Monroe county. In 1872 he was elected Secretary of State and was twice re-elected to the office. He served in the House of Representatives in the 23d General Assembly. For many years he had been engaged in the practice of the law. He was a leading citizen of Albia during all the years of his residence there.

MRS. REBECCA A. (McMeekin) NOURSE, wife of Judge C. C. Nourse, was born in Fayette county, Ky., March 21, 1827; she died in Des Moines, Nov. 11, 1907. In 1853 she was married and removed to Keosauqua, Iowa, where her husband was located. In 1858 they came to Des Moines where they afterwards resided. Mrs. Nourse was a woman of influence, well known as one of the leading women of the capital city. At the time of the outbreak of the civil war, she with other women was active in promoting enlistments and in honoring the soldiers. A beautiful silk flag was presented to Gen. James A. Williamson, a Des Moines resident, who went out as Adjutant of Gen. Dodge's 4th Iowa Infantry. In this work Mrs. Nourse bore a prominent part.

DANIEL R. LUCAS was born January 14, 1840, at Belvedere, Boone county, Ill.; he died at Indianapolis, Indiana, November 3, 1907. An eminent preacher, he served as pastor of the Central Christian Church, Des Moines, Iowa, from 1879 to 1882. While a resident of Iowa he served as chaplain three times each of Crocker Post and the Iowa Department G. A. R. He suggested to his denomination the foundation of a university at Des Moines and with George T. Carpenter and Gen. F. M. Drake established the institution bearing the latter's name. Mr. Lucas served as lieutenant and later as chaplain in the 99th Indiana Volunteer Infantry throughout the rebellion.

CHARLES E. PERKINS was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, Nov. 24, 1840; he died at Westwood, Mass., Nov. 8, 1907. Of the character of this man whose genius may be said to have produced one of the greatest transportation lines of Iowa, an adequate sketch will later appear.

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