

J. M. Slosson

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church for seventy years. He filled all offices open to laymen with energy, faithfulness and great liberality. "His life leaves a fragrance of Christian love to abide with his family and friends."

ABNER DAVISON was born near Cooperstown, New York, January 3, 1820; he died at Davenport, Iowa, May 17, 1900. Mr. Davison was educated at Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., graduating in 1845. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1852. Coming west in 1854 he settled at Davenport where he afterwards resided. He early won a place among the first lawyers of central Iowa. He had as partners Hon. James T. Lane, Hon. Joseph R. Lane, and Mr. True, another distinguished member of the Scott county bar. He only retired from active business the first of the present year, after he had passed his 80th birthday.

JOHN E. KURTZ was born near Lancaster, Pa., in 1817; he died at Lisbon, Iowa, May 14, 1900. Mr. Kurtz settled in the eastern part of Linn county in 1848, and was the founder of the town of Lisbon, becoming one of the leading business men of that region. He was one of the representatives of that county in the general assembly of 1856—the last session in Iowa City. He was active and energetic in business life until a few years ago. *The Lisbon Herald* of May 17, 1900, contained an elaborate and appropriate biographical sketch and a fine portrait of "Father Kurtz," the pioneer settler of the town.

JOHN S. BRIGGS was born in Cambridge, Ohio, in 1839; he died at Omaha, Nebraska, May 31, 1900. He was the son of Ansel Briggs, the first governor of the State of Iowa. We have few particulars concerning his life, except that he settled at Omaha in 1856, where he was long connected with the newspaper press. This veteran printer-publisher issued the first directory of the city of Omaha. A pioneer settler of that locality, he took a prominent part in laying out the city and starting it upon its marvelous career of progress and development.

WILLIAM WILSON was born in Concord, Pa., February 8, 1820; he died at Keota Iowa, March 22, 1900. Mr. Wilson came west in 1854 and settled at Washington, Iowa, where he resided the most of the years afterward. *The Press* speaks of him as an intelligent and highly estimable man—"in religion a United Presbyterian, but a very liberal one; in politics a Democrat; in social life a citizen of the world, affable with all." This pioneer settler was elected State senator in 1875, serving the regular term of four years.

WILLIAM A. MORRISON was born in Tazewell county, Illinois, March 10, 1838; he died at Iowa City, June 5, 1900. He came with his parents to Iowa in 1854, when they settled on a farm near Marshalltown. They afterward removed to Johnson county in 1879, where he engaged in business. He was one of the most active citizens of that busy town, serving as a member of the city council four years and as mayor two years. He was also connected with the old State Bank at Iowa City.

J. M. SLOSSON was born in New York, May 19, 1835; he died at his home in Kensett township, Worth county, Iowa, March 29, 1900. Mr. Slosson was an early and prosperous settler of Worth county, owning a finely cultivated farm of 600 acres. He was elected as an independent member of the lower house of the State legislature in 1887, serving the following session. During recent years his failing health withdrew him from public affairs.

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