

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Senator Young,
Lafayette - Represented Adams Case Adams Madison and Union
Courts, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 10 May 1848 Monroe County Iowa
near Edgemoor, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

Josephine Patton 1870

3. Significant events for example:

- A. Business Active in building the Atlantic Iowa water system;
he was made a Knight of the Order of Leopold II of Belgium in
recognition of his work for making power for children of Belgium
- B. Civic responsibilities Mason; Chautauqua Leader;

C. Profession Editor of The Des Moines Capital newspaper, Des Moines, Iowa
and The Atlantic Weekly Review, Atlantic Iowa

4. Church membership

5. Sessions served 15th 16th 17th 18th 21st 22nd General Assemblies 1874 1876

6. Public Offices 1878, 1880, 1886, 1888

A. Local Water board secretary for several years

B. State Chairman of the State Council for Defense prepared in World
War I

C. National United States Senator 1910-1911; he was a war correspondent
for 4 months in Europe in 1915

7. Death 15 Nov 1926 Des Moines, Iowa; Buried Newland Cemetery, Des Moines, Iowa

8. Children Nellie (Mrs. John P. Krawick); Harold; Lafayette
Young, Jr.

9. Names of parents John and Rachel (Littell) Young

YOUNG, LA FAYETTE

10. Education

He was educated in country schools of
Monroe County, Iowa.

11. Degrees

Attended night school in St. Louis to learn the
printing trade.

12. Other applicable information

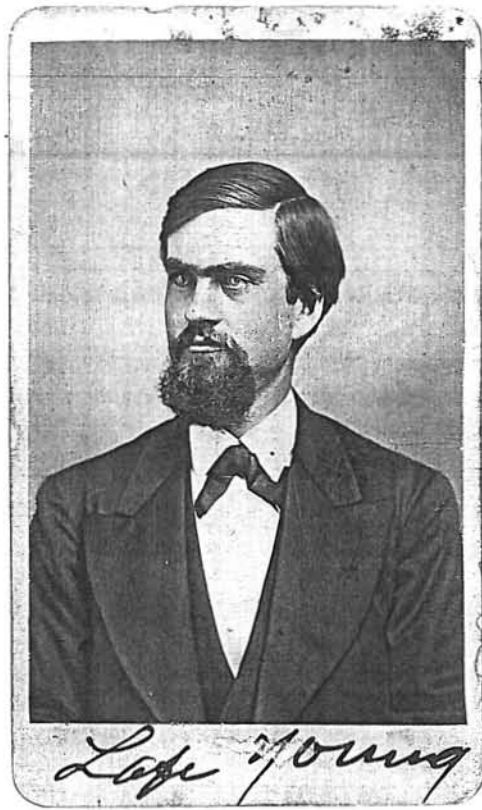
Republican

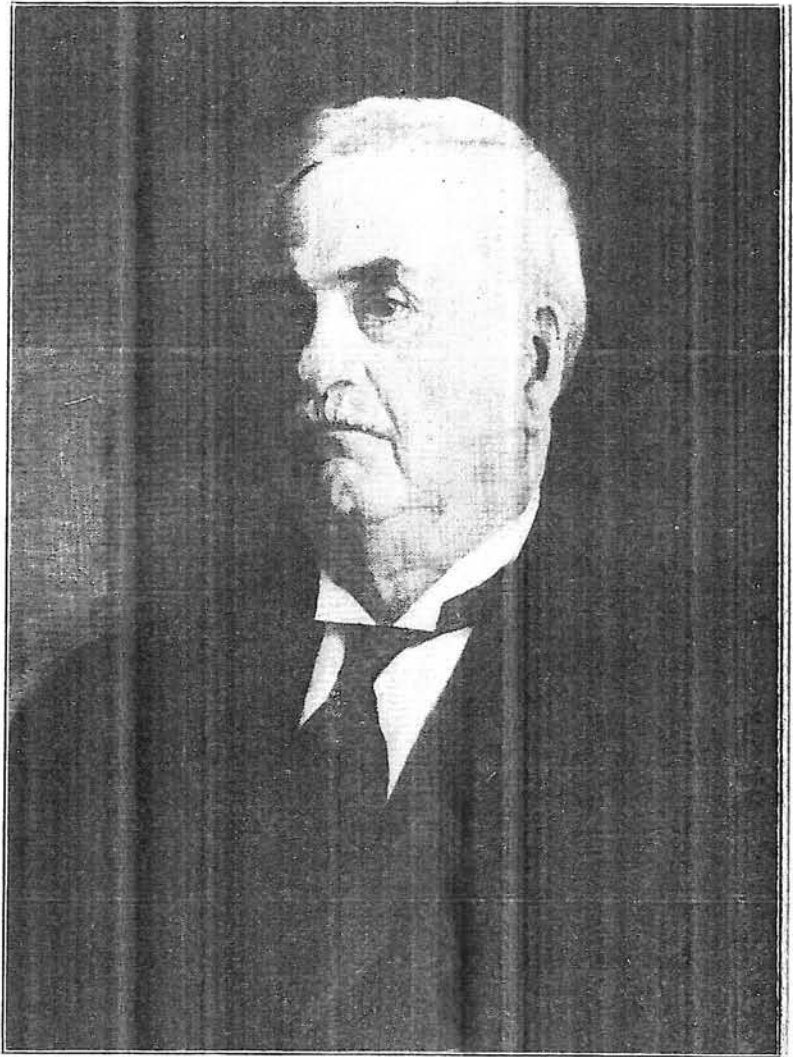
- He learned the printer's trade early in life in the office of
The Albion Sentinel where he worked until 1861.
- In 1866 he went to Des Moines and worked for Mills and
Company who were job printers.
- He worked at the printing trade in several jobs in several
places until March, 1870 when he became the city
editor of The Iowa State Register, Des Moines, Iowa. He
held this position until Jan 1871.
- Jan 1871 he moved to Atlantic, Iowa and launched The
Atlantic Weekly Telegraph.
- 1879-1880 he established The Atlantic Daily Telegraph.
- 1890 he purchased The Des Moines Capital after selling The
Atlantic Daily Telegraph. He was editor until his death.
- Military service - Spanish-American War - stationed in Cuba
as a war correspondent in 1898
- Appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the death of John P. Dolliver
- Military service - Spanish American War - war correspondent in 1898
based in Cuba
- His wife, Josephine, died 21 Dec 1926, Des Moines, Iowa,
also buried in Woodland Cemetery, Des Moines, Iowa.

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

- | Source | Non Applicable | Applicable | Information obtained |
|--|---|------------|----------------------|
| - Obituary | - The Atlantic News Telegraph, Atlantic, Iowa,
Mon. Nov. 15, 1926, p. 1, col. 7 and p. 5, col. 4-5 | | |
| - bioguide.congress.gov (accessed 2/1/09) | | | ✓ |
| - Who's Who in Iowa 1920-1921, p. 98 | | | |
| - Biographical Sketches 22 nd General Assembly of Iowa p. 61-62 | | | |
| - History of Iowa by Geo. V. Noyes and III | | | |
| - Recollections & Sketches of Notable Lawyers and Public Men
of Early Iowa by Shiles 1916, p. 532-533 | | | |
| - Des Moines - Polk County, Iowa 1911, p. 24, 25, 26. | | | |
| - rootsweb.com (accessed 10/18/2007) | | | |
| - Woodland Cemetery Books, Des Moines, Iowa | | | |
| - The Biographical Dictionary of Iowa p. 573-574 | | | |
| - Findagrave.com (accessed 24 Jan 2009) | | | |
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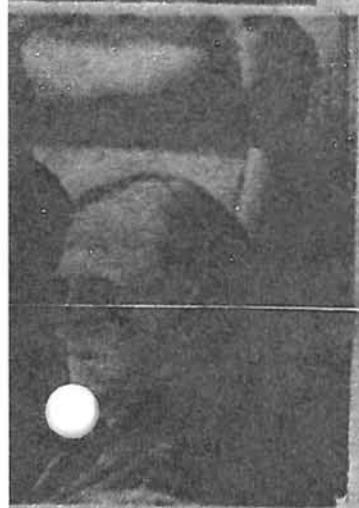
Carpenter Yessing

From an oil painting by Karl Albert Buehr, in the collections of the Iowa Historical, Memorial and Art Department.

TODAY

and Self

Near Crisis



apex and the verdict will be
tant new witnesses for the
Y'Neil is combining a razor,
was used in backing Mrs.

FORMER ATLANTIC PUBLISHER STRICKEN IN DES MOINES

End Came Suddenly in Bath
House. Founded Telegraph
in Atlantic in 1871.
Owned Capital.

Lafayette Young, publisher of the Des Moines Capital, founder of the Atlantic Telegraph, former state senator, one time United States senator, and one of the best known men in Iowa, died suddenly in Des Moines at 11 o'clock this morning. The dispatches convey the word that his death occurred in a bath house where he had had a steam bath and had lain down for a rest afterwards.

Mr. Young, who was 75 years old on the 10th of May, this year, was resting on a couch when attendants noticed his weakened condition. A physician was summoned but Mr. Young sank rapidly and died in a short time. He had been in poor health and failing for several months.

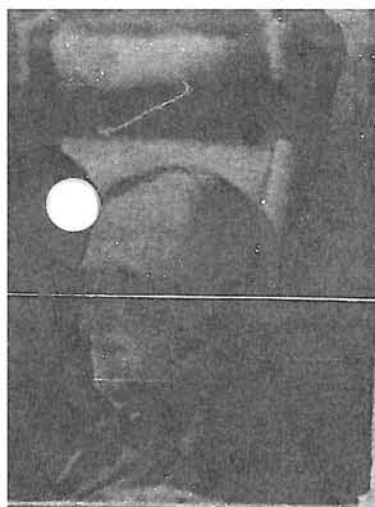
Born in Monroe County.

Mr. Young was born in Monroe county, Ia., May 10, 1848, and early learned the printer's trade. He came to this city and launched the Weekly Telegraph, of which the News-Telegraph is a successor. In 1871, the first issue appearing Feb. 10, that year. The first paper was nine columns wide, of four pages, and Mr. Young announced in his initial issue that he had come here to lead his son to the building up of the city, then called the "Magic City." At first the paper had a "patent inside," but later Mr. Young changed it to "all home print."

In the early winter of 1873-80, Mr. Young established the Daily Telegraph, the first number appearing on Dec. 8, 1879. The paper was seven columns, four pages, in size.

*as shown
as possible*





county, Ia., May 10, 1848, and early learned the printer's trade. He came to this city and launched the Weekly Telegraph, of which the News-Telegraph is a successor, in 1871, the first issue appearing Feb. 16, that year. The first paper was nine columns wide, of four pages, and Mr. Young announced in his initial leave that he had come here to find

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In the early winter of 1879-80, Mr. Young established the Daily Telegraph, the first number appearing on Dec. 8, 1879. The paper was of seven columns, four pages, in size.

Mr. Young learned the printer's trade in the office of the Albia Sentinel. He remained in the employ of that paper till 1861, when the paper changed hands. In 1862 its editor, Josiah Young, quit the paper to join the Union army in the Civil war, and all hands in the office who were old enough did the same thing.

In 1866, Mr. Young went to Des Moines, walking the entire distance, and entered the employ there of Mills & Company, job printers. He worked at his trade in Des Moines, St. Louis, and other places and in March of 1870 became city editor of the Iowa State Register, holding that position till January of 1871, when he came to Atlantic. His first investment was but \$400 actual cash.

To State Senate.

Mr. Young held local offices here and in 1873 was elected state senator from the district then composed of Adair, Cass, Adams and Union counties. He was re-elected in 1877, the district then being composed of Adair, Cass and Madison counties. He was active in the building of the water system here and was secretary of the water board for some years. He was a Mason of high degree and was grand senior warden of the state grand lodge in 1884, being next to C. B. Osborne, well known local man, the oldest survivor of the grand lodge of that period.

Bought Capital.

Mr. Young went to Des Moines in
(Continued on Page Five)

apex and the verdict will be important new witnesses for the O'Neill is exhibiting a razor, which was used in hacking Mrs. seen telling the story of his

**IN ARRANGES
RETURN HOME;
CHANGES PLANS**

**ARD QUEEN MARIE'S SPE-
RAIN** (in Chicago), Nov. 16. S.—Queen Marie of Rou- the plea of a lonely cross the seas and today be- paring to sail for Europe on e home before Christmas," ing Ferdinand.

proposed southern trip of her which was to include North and Florida was immediate- ped. After returning to on Nov. 24, the queen Atlantic City on Nov. 26 princess Heana and Prince are seeing the Army-Navy game in Chicago. The royal will be re-united at White Springs, visit Richmond and to New York. Only a short Boston is planned before her sails for home on the liner

seen continued her sightsee- Chicago today as the host of on Morris, Roumanian consul in Chicago. A special train royal party to Gary for a the steel mills. Following at the South Shore Country r majesty visited the Univer- Chicago. A dinner for the urists was scheduled at the or tonight.

**BURZETTE COUNSEL
AND COURT ROW**

OVER TESTIMONY

G BOB JOE OF

...thee me sleepy." His bed and got back feeling very much like r. Sylvia followed him ing else to do.

"A sleepy bride-groom... but won't go— to think about any marriage license, mind?"

her lovely head. She e didn't care what she e didn't have, so long y Phelps. She didn't ened to her, so long him when it happened. "What will I do," he "It's too late to get a wayway. And no self-ter or justice of the try us at this hour. I'll just sit here until en I'll trot down the me gas. It wouldn't you here alone, now,

...to come to my... mind, sweetheart— close to him, hid his er shoulder and was asleep.

ry still, looking out lit.

egan to ache after a ins and legs, in their west painfully to

...wide grade an see had ever been

...my were married for 11 o'clock.

...ried by a justice of title village about 30 -the sleepy village of

...when they came out t May sunshine they some—one to Aunt other to Ranny's

...we've done our duty get the rest of the id weeks," he said to luted into their car. want to go far your Phelps?"

...with the pleasure of leral new name, and moved like stars.

... she laughed, "but t to buy a toothbrush dices. And then I hotel and take a bath 'fresh and beautiful

...e all time—and now, make yourself more hot are at this mo- covered. "For never y gently as you are y-are."

...e I'm happy." She

...e I'm happy." She

...e I'm happy." She

...e I'm happy." She

quicker than painful feet. These are often caused by selecting shoes that are "not large enough, al-

For this newspaper. Her next subject is "Present Prominence of the Foot."

Copyright, 1925 (RPS)

FORMER ATLANTIC PUBLISHER STRICKEN IN DES MOINES

(Continued from Page One)

1890 and purchased the Capital, then published on the east side in the capital city. He soon moved it to the west side of the river and made it a power in the Des Moines field. He sold the Telegraph when he left here to McLain & Sons, Paul McLain, now with the Butte Miner at Butte, Mont., being its editor. They sold to Crawford & Hollowell, they were succeeded by Agnes & Hollowell, they by Egan, Anderson & Company, they by W. H. Wiseman and on Jan. 1, 1912, the paper was merged by its present publishers with the News and became the Atlantic News-Telegraph, the weekly issues of both papers being discontinued with the combination.

Words of Tribute.

Local people expressed themselves in tribute to Mr. Young when told by the N-T today of his death.

O. M. Hobart, county recorder, said, "He was a great character." Mr. Hobart was employed for years as foreman in the Telegraph under Mr. Young's ownership and was his faithful assistant in many of his enterprises.

Charles F. Chase said, "He was a great man, and gave his life to the common good."

C. B. Osborne, veteran funeral director and Civil war veteran, long time friend of deceased, said, "They will not look on his like again."

Most of those who knew Mr.

AT LAST



Young here have passed on and of the "old guard" of his day and generation here few are left.

* * * * *

SICK AND INJURED

* * * * *

Getting Better.

Miss Mary McCourt, Third and Olive streets, employed at the Gillette store, who has been off duty with a sprained ankle, is much improved.

Tonsil Operation.

Mrs. Harley Anderson, formerly Miss Evelyn Franklin, underwent an operation for the removal of her tonsils at the Atlantic hospital today.

John C. W. Cary Very Ill.

Word has been received by relatives here of the serious illness of John C. W. Cary, well known local man, following an operation for hernia at a Long Beach, Calif., hospital, which he underwent last Monday. Mr. and Mrs. Cary left here last spring to visit during the summer and the severest winter months with their son who lives at Long Beach.

Dows Griswold Way.

GRISWOLD, Ia., Nov. 15.—(Special to News-Telegraph.)—John McKay was brought home Saturday from Rochester, Minn., where he went through the Mayo Brothers clinic. His condition remains about the same.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Knoke left Monday morning for Omaha to take their daughter, Mary Louise, to see a specialist about her leg, which has been giving her some trouble lately.

Word comes from Omaha that Miss Alberta Cocklin, who is in St. Joseph's hospital there, is getting along nicely and is expected to be able to be brought to her home in Griswold soon.

Miss Faye Parley has been ill for several days with an attack of the flu.

Visited Ellis of St of their at Chestnut

To Cook 411 Elm Rapids to law, Mrs.

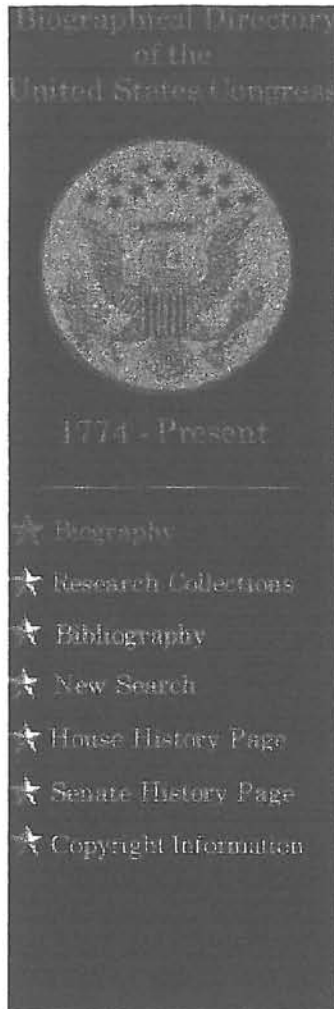
All Res readiness the Wozoe can Legio Iowa, to house for The prog previously

Interest ings being E. A. Pat increasing are at 2:3 one is inc are welco edist of S

To Call F. Alexan Huntingto children, staying w and Mrs. the school they will

Former K. Coones Des Moines new matter the N-T a he is pleat recent sta and says t work when

Address dress by tional exee T. A., to Wednesday 7:30 in the and not by at the N-stated Satu 4 to 5 is a



YOUNG, Lafayette, 1848-1926

Senate Years of Service: 1910-1911

Party: Republican



YOUNG, Lafayette, a Senator from Iowa; born near Eddyville, Monroe County, Iowa, May 10, 1848; attended country schools and night school in St. Louis, where he learned the printing trade; founded and published the Atlantic (Iowa) Telegraph 1871-1890; member, State senate 1874-1880, 1886-1888; established the Des Moines Capital in 1890 and was editor until his death; during the Spanish-American War was in Cuba as a war correspondent in 1898; presidential elector on the Republican ticket in 1908; appointed as a Republican to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Jonathan P. Dolliver and served from November 12, 1910, to April 11, 1911, when a successor was elected; unsuccessful candidate for election to fill this vacancy; war correspondent for four months in Europe in 1915; Chautauqua lecturer in 1915; chairman of the State council for defense for Iowa during the First World War; was made a knight of the Order of Leopold II of Belgium in recognition of his work in raising funds in Iowa for the children of Belgium; died in Des Moines, Iowa, November 15, 1926; interment in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Bibliography

DAB; Young, Lafe. History of Cass County, Iowa,
Together with Brief Mention of Old Settlers.
Atlantic, IA: Telegraph Steam Printing House,
1877.

STATE OF IOWA,
Office of Secretary of State,

Des Moines, October 20, 1875.

Hon......

Dear Sir: It has been the custom of each House of the General Assembly to cause to be prepared and published a table showing certain statistics in connection with the names of the members thereof. To make this historical data CORRECT is the object of furnishing you this blank, and it is hoped that you will aid me in making it as complete as possible by making a full return of the items below to this office as early as practicable.

PLEASE GIVE FIRST NAME IN FULL.

Name Lafayette Young

P. O. Atlantic

County Cass

Occupation Editor

Nativity Iowa

Married or Single Married

If in the Service: Regiment and Rank

Years in Iowa 27

Age 27

Weight 150

Herewith please find copy of Rules of the last Session, which, it is requested, you will preserve, owing to the scarcity of the edition.

Yours, very respectfully,

JOSIAH T. YOUNG,

Secretary of State.

A MEMORIAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL

RECORD OF IOWA

ILLUSTRATED

PART 2

"A people that take no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors will never achieve anything worthy to be remembered with pride by remote descendants."—MACAULAY.

"Biography is by nature the most universally profitable, universally pleasant, of all things."—CARLYLE

"History is only biography on a large scale."—LAMARTINE.

CHICAGO
THE LEWIS PUBLISHING COMPANY
1896

Virginia. James Ireland was residing with him when he was taken to the Culpeper Courthouse and there received such atrocious punishment for preaching the gospel. Wharton Adams was a member of the Baptist Church, and his death occurred in Oldham county. His wife preceded him to the grave by many years. Evan Adams, the father of our subject, was born in Culpeper county, and served in the war of the Revolution, having been within a half day's walk of Cornwallis at the closing siege of that struggle. He was an old-time Whig, and was converted to the Baptist faith by the Rev. Ireland. He observed those doctrines throughout his life, and passed away in Bartholomew county, Indiana, November 19, 1841, having been laid to rest in the pretty little cemetery known as the Ebenezer churchyard, his wife being interred by his side. Mr. Adams was twice married and was the father of twenty children, eight by his first wife and twelve by the second.

Joel Adams, the eleventh of twelve children, six sons and six daughters, remained under the parental roof until his father's death, after which the estate was divided. Leaving his old homestead in 1843, he purchased a farm of sixty acres in the same neighborhood. On coming to Lucas county, Iowa, Mr. Adams secured a tract of land about five miles south of Chariton, his farm consisting of eighty acres of prairie and the same number of acres of timber. He erected a log cabin eighteen feet square, making a place for their beds above, and the one room below served as a kitchen, dining-room and parlor. Here Mr. Adams entertained the early travelers seeking homes in Iowa, and, amid joys and sorrows, trials and pleasures, the esteemed settler spent about eight years.

In his political relations, Mr. Adams has been a life-long Republican, and his first presidential vote was cast for William Henry Harrison. Although never seeking political preferment, he has been called upon to serve as Constable two years, as Supervisor both in this State and Indiana, and was elected Jus-

tice of the Peace, but would not qualify. Mr. Adams' life has been a busy one indeed from the early days on the bleak prairies, and his associations with conditions and affairs make him one of the eligible and desirable men to deserve recognition at the hands of the citizens of Lucas county. During his busy life he has been employed as a carpenter and a shoemaker, and had made coffins as early as 1844. He still conducts an undertaking establishment.

Mr. Adams was united in marriage with Miss Eliza Threlkeld, born in Kentucky, October 9, 1814, a daughter of Moses and Elizabeth (Weekly) Threlkeld. She buried her mother in what is known as the Rag Town cemetery, the latter having attained her ninety-third year. Mrs. Adams' father died in Jackson county, Indiana, many years ago. Mrs. Adams has celebrated her eighty-first birthday. She is a sweet-tempered Christian lady, has known little sickness, and has been a great helpmate to her honored husband. She has been somewhat afflicted with rheumatism, and has sustained the loss of the use of her right limb.

HON. LAFAYETTE YOUNG, publisher and editor of the Daily Iowa Capital, Des Moines, Iowa, is a gentleman well known all over the State and is eminently deserving of biographical honors in this work.

He was born in Monroe county, Iowa, May 10, 1848, and the first eleven years of his life were spent on a farm and in attendance at the country schools. In 1859 he removed with his parents to Albia, the county seat, and in January of the following year he became an apprentice to the trade of printer in an office owned by his brother. From that time until the present, a period of thirty-five years, he has been engaged in some work connected with printing. In 1866 he came to Des Moines and entered the employ of Mills & Company, a job printing firm. In 1868-9 he worked at his

trade in St. Louis. During the year 1870 he was city editor of the Iowa State Register. In January, 1871, he removed to the new town of Atlantic, Cass county, which had shortly before been selected as the county seat, and there he established a weekly paper called the Telegraph, which he edited for nearly twenty years. During all this time he took an active part in political matters, being an enthusiastic supporter of the Republican party and frequently making political speeches. In 1873, when only twenty-five years of age, he was chosen State Senator, for a term of four years, for the district composed of the counties of Cass, Adair, Adams and Union. He was the first native of the State ever elected to the office of State Senator. In 1877 he was re-elected, representing Cass, Madison and Adair counties. At the end of this term he was not a candidate for re-election, but in 1885 he was again brought out as a candidate for Senator, this time to represent the district composed of Cass, Adair and Adams counties, and was elected. In 1889 he was unanimously renominated in the district composed of Cass and Shelby counties, but was defeated at the polls, the State going Democratic for the first time in forty years. In March, 1890, Mr. Young removed to Des Moines and purchased the Daily Iowa Capital, then a struggling, unsuccessful newspaper, which has since been made a pronounced success and has grown to be one of the great newspapers of the State. In 1893, in compliance with the earnest solicitation of his many friends, he made a campaign of one week for the Republican nomination for Governor, and in the race came out second to Mr. Jackson, who was nominated. The General Assembly of Iowa, in January, 1894, by an almost unanimous vote, elected Mr. Young State Binder for a term of two years, which office he now holds. In the various positions which he has held, his service has ever been characterized by strict fidelity, and as a newspaper man and citizen his life has ever been so conducted that he has won and maintained the confidence and respect of all.

Mr. Young was married in 1870 to Josephine Bolton, of Jones county, Iowa, and they have three children, a daughter and two sons, the youngest being seventeen years of age (1895.)

WILLIAM HENRY FLEMING, associate editor of the Iowa Daily Capital, Des Moines, Iowa, is a gentleman who has had a broad experience in the journalistic field.

He was born in New York city, in the year 1833, and is a son of William and Margaret (Chambers) Fleming, both natives of Ireland, the father born in Waterford and the mother in county Fermanagh. Four sons and one daughter composed their family, and of this number two are now living: William H. and David D., the latter a resident of West Des Moines. William Fleming, the father of our subject, was by occupation a printer. He came to America about 1815 and settled in New York city, where he was married and where he passed the rest of his life. He died there July 26, 1845, at the age of about forty-three years. His wife survived him till May 26, 1874, when she died in Des Moines. She was an Episcopalian. Grandfather Fleming was a Scotchman, was a sea captain for many years, lived to an advanced age and died in New York city. He and his wife were the parents of three sons and two daughters. Of the maternal grandfather of our subject, John Chambers, be it recorded that he was a native of the Emerald Isle, was a farmer by occupation, and emigrated to America and located in New York city as the war of 1812 was beginning, being on the ocean when war was declared. In this conflict he was for a short time a participant.

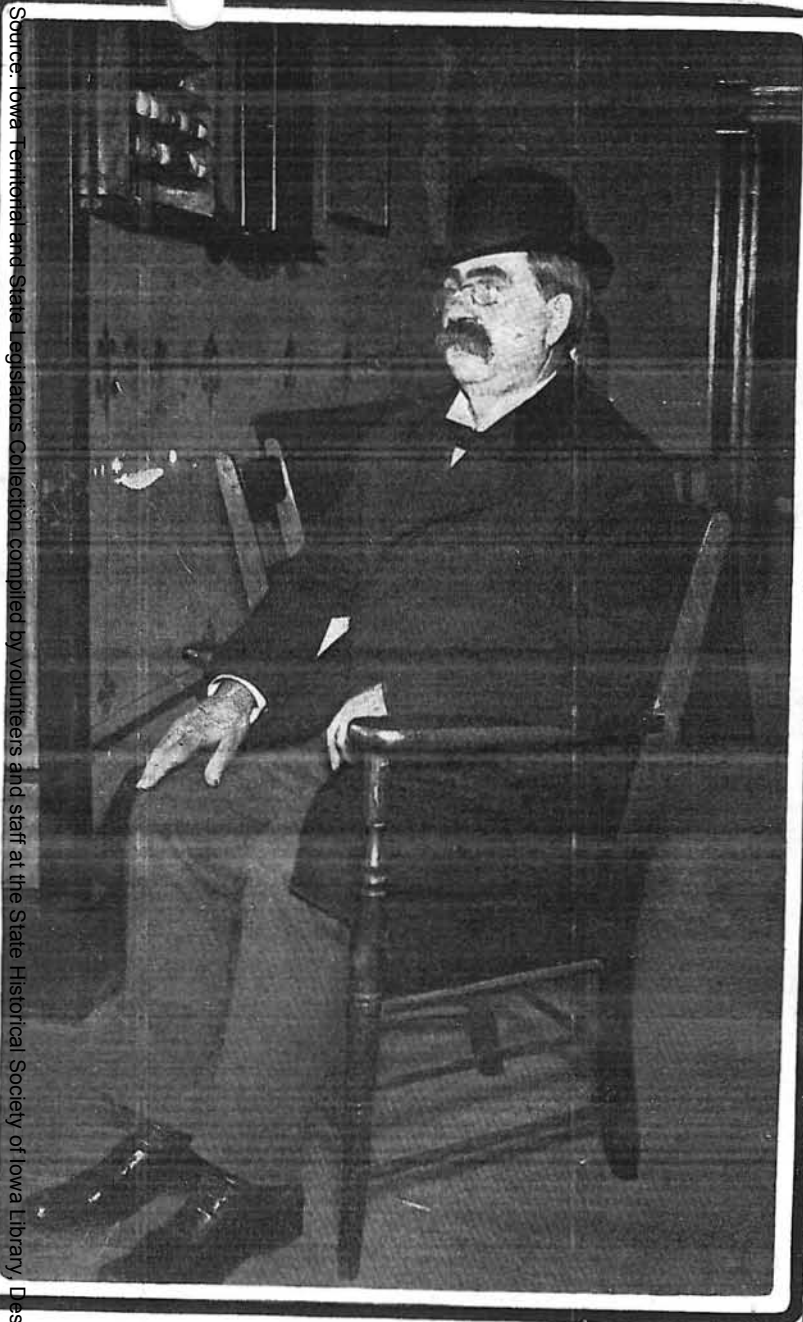
William H. Fleming, whose name introduces this article, was reared in New York and received his early training partly in a private school, but mostly in Public School No. 7 of that city. At the age of fourteen he became an apprentice to the trade of printer in the office of John A. Gray, and subsequently he

What who's Who Says of Young

BORN in Iowa, 1848. Editor, owner and publisher of The Des Moines Capital since 1890. Served in Iowa senate twelve years; nominated Theodore Roosevelt for vice president at Philadelphia in June, 1900; was a member of the Taft party to the Philippines. Delegate-at-large to two republican national conventions. War correspondent with Shafter's campaign in Cuba. Appointed United States senator Nov. 12, 1910, to succeed Jonathan P. Dolliver, deceased; served until April, 1911. War correspondent in Europe four months in 1915; chautauqua lecturer, summer, 1915, middle west; established Sunday Capital April 6, 1919. Chairman of the State Council of Defense for Iowa during the world war. Knight Order Leopold II of Belgium for raising large funds in Iowa for relief of the children of Belgium.

Success history of Iowa - Vol. 4

LAFAYETTE YOUNG was born in Monroe County, Iowa, on the 10th of May, 1848. His early education was acquired in the public schools and in printing offices at Albia and Des Moines, where he soon mastered the printing and general newspaper business. His first business enterprise was the establishing of a weekly newspaper at Atlantic which he named the *Telegraph*. He was an active Republican and in the summer of 1873, received the nomination of that party for State Senator for the district composed of the counties of Adair, Cass, Adams and Union and was elected. In 1877 he was reelected from the district consisting of Madison, Cass and Adair counties. In 1883 he was again elected to the Senate from the Eighteenth District composed of the counties of Adair, Adams and Cass for the term of four years, serving in that body for twelve years. In 1890 he removed to Des Moines and purchased the newspaper establishment of the *Iowa Capital*, which under his management has become one of the most enterprising daily papers in the State. In 1893 Mr. Young was one of the prominent candidates before the Republican State Convention for Governor. In 1894 Mr. Young was chosen State Binder, holding the position by reelection until December 31, 1900. When war with Spain was declared he went with the American army to the seat of conflict near Santiago as war correspondent and furnished graphic reports of the campaign which resulted in the surrender of the Spanish army. He is an able public speaker as well as a fluent writer, and a successful journalist.



LAFAYETTE YOUNG, EDITOR—Photo by Bostwick.

NOTABLE DEATHS

LAFAYETTE YOUNG was born on a farm in Monroe County, Iowa, near Eddyville, May 10, 1848, and died in Des Moines, November 15, 1926. His parents were John and Rachel (Titus) Young. He had but limited opportunities for attending school. When a small boy he worked in his father's woolen mill at Albia, a mill run by horse power. When he was about thirteen this mill burned, after which he worked in woolen mills in nearby towns for a few years as the main support of his mother, while his father and older brother were in the Union Army. When he was fifteen he tried to enlist, but was rejected on account of his youth. He was a member at Albia of the Zouaves, the company being organized to defend that part of the state from threatened invasion of the Rebels from Missouri. About this time he entered the office of the *Albia Sentinel* to learn the printer's trade, and for the next few years worked as a printer in Albia, Centerville, Keokuk, and Eddyville. By 1866 he was working for Mills & Co., printers of Des Moines, for ten dollars a week. In 1868-69 he worked in St. Louis and attended night school. In 1870 he returned to Des Moines and became city editor of the *State Register*. In February, 1871, he established the *Atlantic Telegraph* as a weekly paper but changed it to a daily in December, 1879. In 1873 he was elected senator from the district of Adair, Adams, Cass, and Union counties, was re-elected in 1877 from the district then composed of Adair, Cass, and Madison, and was again elected in 1885, the district then being Adair, Adams, and Cass. He was thus a member of the Senate in the Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth, Eighteenth, Twenty-first, and Twenty-second general assemblies. He early took part in railroad legislation, and voted for the original act fixing railroad freight and passenger rates. He was a member of the Committee on Railroads in the Sixteenth, was its chairman in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth, and again a member on his return to the Senate in the Twenty-first and Twenty-second general assemblies. He was chairman of the Committee on Printing in the Sixteenth, and a member of that committee during the other assemblies of which he was a member, and was throughout his service an active and efficient legislator. On March 31, 1890, he purchased the *Des Moines Capital* and remained as its editor and publisher during the rest of his life. In 1893 he was a candidate for the Republican nomination for governor and in the convention was second in a field of six or more candidates, receiving on the first ballot 241 votes to 493 for Frank D. Jackson, who was nominated on the second ballot. On March 15, 1894, the Twenty-fifth General Assembly elected him state binder, and he served for the six years of 1895-1900. During the Spanish-American War he was with Shafter's

Army in Florida and in Cuba as a newspaper correspondent, and acquired a personal acquaintance with Colonel Roosevelt and other eminent military and naval leaders. In 1890, as a delegate at large from Iowa to the Republican National Convention, he placed Theodore Roosevelt's name before the convention for vice president. In 1895 he was a guest of the Taft party on its trip of inspection of the Philippines. The party consisted of Secretary of War Taft and a number of congressmen and ladies, among them were Nicholas Longworth and Alice Roosevelt. After his visit to the Islands Mr. Young went on around the world, returning home by way of the Suez Canal, following which he wrote copiously for the press and lectured from platforms concerning his travels. In 1903 he was again a delegate at large to the Republican National Convention. Soon after the death of United States Senator Dolliver, or on November 12, 1910, Mr. Young was appointed by Governor Carroll to the vacancy until it was filled by the General Assembly, electing W. S. Kenyon on April 12, 1911. In 1913 Mr. Young spent several months in the Balkan states as a newspaper correspondent and then and later made valuable contributions to the press and from the platform concerning conditions in those warring countries. For several months in 1915 he was a war correspondent in Europe and was for a time held as a spy by the Austrian government. In May, 1917, he was appointed by Governor Harding chairman of the Iowa State Council of Defense and did patriotic and meritorious service in its work during the time our country was involved in the World War. He was a successful newspaper man, a vigorous and an attractive writer, and a popular public speaker. As he approached the later years of his life, having grown in knowledge and experience, enriched by world travel and by personal acquaintance with many of the great personages of the country, he came to be regarded as almost without a peer in Iowa as a speaker at important functions. His quaint style, homely philosophy, kindly and abundant humor, sparkling epigrams, and patriotic eloquence all contributed to give him that eminence.

JOSEPH F. NUGENT was born at Tiffin, Ohio, May 22, 1844, and died in Des Moines, Iowa, December 26, 1925. His parents were Hugh and Mary (Donnelly) Nugent. In 1846 the family removed to a farm twenty miles northeast of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Joseph F. received his first holy communion at St. Patrick's church, a country mission about six miles from the Nugent home. Here in a class of seventy-five children he received the first prize for answering correctly every question of the catechism. He was confirmed in 1856 by the Rt. Rev. Peter Paul LaFevre, bishop of the Diocese of Detroit. He received his early education in a country common school near his parents' home. Not until he was twenty-two years old, in 1866, did he leave the farm home for further education. He then entered Our Lady of Angels Seminary at Niagara Falls, New York. The following year he studied French

of the activities are the statistics pertaining to askings and recommendations for the ensuing two years.

"The total amount of askings of the several state departments and institutions for each year of the ensuing biennium are \$18,057,723.05 or \$36,115,446.10 for the biennium. The amount recommended by the director of the budget is \$14,552,329.55 or \$29,104,659.10 for the ensuing biennium.

"The amount appropriated annually by the Forty-first General Assembly as shown on page XX, was \$14,308,515.18 or \$28,617,030.96 for the biennium, which includes the \$28,379,922.26 appropriated by that legislature from the general fund, and in addition thereto \$200,000.00 from the industries fund at penal institutions and \$37,108.70 from continuing and other appropriations.

"The total amount of askings and recommendations includes only those amounts which are to be paid out of the general fund of the state and does not include any of the departments which are self-supporting.

"The estimates of the director for the ensuing two years have been based on the expenditures for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 1926, allowing increases in some instances, while in others decreases have been made. It has been the aim of the director to maintain the highest degree of efficiency throughout all departments and institutions without any additional increase in expenses. There are numerous requests for additional lands and new buildings, which in most cases have been refused.

"In another report to the governor is found further recommendations relating to the curtailment of expenditures and to the centralizing of various activities.

"ERNEST L. HOGUE,
Director of the Budget."

Recollections and Sketches of Notable Lawyers and Public Men of Early Iowa

Belonging to the First and Second
Generations, with Anecdotes and
Incidents Illustrative of the Times

By

EDWARD H. STILES

For many years a member of the Iowa Bar; member of its House of Representatives, 1863-1864; member of its Senate, 1865-1866; Reporter of its Supreme Court, 1867-1875; author of Complete Digest of its Decisions from the earliest Territorial period to the 56th Iowa Reports.

"In old age alone we are masters of a treasure of which we cannot be deprived, the only treasure we can call our own. The pleasures of memory and the retrospect of the varied images which in an active life have floated before the mind, compensate, and more than compensate, for the alternate pleasures and cares of active life."—SIR ARCHIBALD ALLISON.

"Personal anecdotes, when characteristic, greatly enliven the pages of a biography."—SAMUEL SMILES.

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DES MOINES
THE HOMESTEAD PUBLISHING CO.
1916

in the United States Biographical Dictionary for Iowa, 1878. In addition to the other offices mentioned to which he was elected, was that of Representative in the House of the Twenty-Third General Assembly.

For many years he was an influential citizen of Monroe County and the State. His educational advantages had been very meagre, but by dint of his characteristic perseverance and his determination, he made amends for this deficiency and became an honor to the commonwealth. He was plain in manners and address and there was not a false fibre in his character. He was utterly devoid of hypocrisy and well verified the saying, that an honest man is the noblest work of God.

Lafayette Young was born in Monroe County in 1848. He became noted as a man of extraordinary talents. He learned the printer's trade and mastered its every detail. He engaged in newspaper work and in that field as editor and writer, attained great prominence. He was regarded as one of the most graceful and pungent writers of his time; and his editorials were frequently reproduced in other newspapers. He early went to Atlantic in Cass County, where he established a newspaper called the "Telegraph." In 1873 he was elected State Senator, representing the Counties of Adair, Cass, Adams and Union. In 1877 he was re-elected, and again in 1885, serving in all twelve years in the Senate.

In 1890 he became proprietor of the "Iowa Capital," published at Des Moines, and under his editorial management it became one of the most widely known newspapers in the country, and one of the most powerful organs of the Republican Party. He was not only an editor of ability, but an eloquent orator, and may be properly termed a highly gifted man. General W. L. Alexander told me, in a conversation I had with him the other day in reference to Lafayette Young, that he was one of the most finished and eloquent speakers he ever heard. A specimen of Mr. Young in that behalf will be found in connection with the sketch of Charles Aldrich. In 1893 he was a prominent candidate before the Republican State Convention for Governor, and from 1894 to 1900 he held the office of State Binder. During the Spanish-American War he went with our army to the field as War Correspondent, and furnished strikingly graphic reports of the military operations.

Speaking of Josiah Young as having been Clerk of the District Court of Monroe County, reminds me of John W. H. Griffin, who was his Deputy, afterward Clerk himself, and is still a fixture in that office. The following Associated Press dispatch, which I clipped from a newspaper at the time, will throw sufficient light on the subject:

Albia, June 30, 1913.—John W. H. Griffin was given a letter shower June 27th, by the members of the Monroe County bar and by his numerous friends. The occasion was the forty-fourth anniversary of his clerkship in the county clerk's office, both as county clerk and deputy. He is eighty years old and celebrated his golden wedding five years ago. He is still active and vigorous, rides a bicycle, and his mind still gives him power to take an active part in business life.

One who has served the public so long and faithfully, deserves the notice I have thus given of him.

There were two or three other early lawyers of considerable note that located in Albia, and with whom I became acquainted. They were William A. Allison, William P. Hammond, George Yocum, B. F. Yocum and James Coen, but concerning them I have no data save a little I obtained from Col. Dan Anderson some thirty-five years ago, and of which I made a memoranda at the time, and my own recollection.

Allison, Colonel Anderson informed me, came from Ohio and located in Albia soon after he did. They were both associated with Cyrus Walker in the defense of Cap Ross for killing Doctor Wright at a land sale in Ottumwa. The trial was in the old log courthouse at Albia. Allison subsequently went to Texas for his health, returning to Eddyville in Wapello County in a year or two afterward, where he died of consumption. I became acquainted with him while he was in Eddyville. He was a learned and excellent lawyer, but on account of his health, did but little practice after I knew him. Henry N. Clements, of Eddyville, studied law with him, and afterward went to California.

William P. Hammond, according to Colonel Anderson, came to Albia in 1855 or 1856. I recollect him distinctly. He was an exceedingly bright and ingenious lawyer, with black hair, fine black eyes, and a pale face upon which consumption had set its mark, and of which he died some forty years ago.

George Yocum came soon after Hammond. Both he and Hammond used frequently to attend our courts at Ottumwa. He was slight of figure, wore spectacles and looked like a young professor. He was exceedingly vivacious, made quite a lively figure in court, and had talents of no mean order. He was associated with his brother, B. F. Yocum. He moved away or died very many years ago.

James Coen came a few years later. He was crippled in his feet and legs, which made it difficult for him to get about. He was a very industrious lawyer and made his way quite successfully in the profession. He, too, died many years ago.

being in caricature. A humorous sketch called the "*Removal of the Capitol*" from Iowa City, brought him before the public and the members of the Legislature then in session at Iowa City. This caricature attracted the attention of Judge Charles Mason, who sought him out and aided him with money, by which he was able to begin a course of art study in New York in 1851, entering the schools of the National Academy of Design.

In 1856 he went to Paris and became a pupil of Thomas Couture, one of the great painters of France. The panic of 1857 obliged him to support himself by making copies of popular pictures in the galleries of Paris. In 1860 he went to Holland and Belgium to study the masterpieces of the Dutch and Flemish painters, and returned to New York in 1861. His most important picture painted in France was "*Children on the Seashore, Normandy*," commissioned by the late John Allen, Esq., of Saybrook, Conn. In New York in 1866 he painted a portrait of his early patron, Charles Mason, an engraving from which appears in this volume.

In 1867 he went to Italy, taking a studio in Rome, where he lived until 1878, spending the summer months either at Perugia, Venice or the Venetian Tyrol. Of Italian subjects his principal pictures were "*Entrance to the Grand Canal, Venice*," owned by Senator Allison of Iowa; "*Senate Chamber in the Doge's Palace, Venice*," painted for the late George Kemp, Esq., of New York, and "*Interior of St. Mark's Church, Venice*," in the Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, Connecticut.

Since 1878, Mr. Yewell has lived in New York, spending his summers at Lake George. Nearly all of these years have been given to portrait painting. Many of his most important portraits are in the Capitol at Des Moines, where may be seen those of Ex-Governors Kirkwood, Lowe and Chambers, General Grenville M. Dodge and Judges Mason, Wright and Dillon.

In 1880 he was elected a member of the National Academy of Design. He is a Patron of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, a member of the Century Club, and for many years has been secretary of the Artists' Fund Society of the City of New York.

LAFAYETTE YOUNG was born in Monroe County, Iowa, on the 10th of May, 1848. His early education was acquired in the public schools and in printing offices at Albia and Des Moines, where he soon mastered the printing and general newspaper business. His first business enterprise was the establishing of a weekly newspaper at Atlantic which he named the *Telegraph*. He was an active Republican and in the summer of 1873, received the nomination of that party for State Senator for the district composed of the counties of Adair, Cass, Adams and Union and was elected. In 1877 he was reelected from the district consisting of Madison, Cass and Adair counties. In 1885 he was again elected to the Senate from the Eighteenth District composed of the counties of Adair, Adams and Cass for the term of four years, serving in that body for

twelve years. In 1890 he removed to Des Moines and purchased the newspaper establishment of the *Iowa Capital*, which under his management has become one of the most enterprising daily papers in the State. In 1893 Mr. Young was one of the prominent candidates before the Republican State Convention for Governor. In 1894 Mr. Young was chosen State Binder, holding the position by reelection until December 31, 1900. When war with Spain was declared he went with the American army to the seat of conflict near Santiago as war correspondent and furnished graphic reports of the campaign which resulted in the surrender of the Spanish army. He is an able public speaker as well as a fluent writer, and a successful journalist.

CHARLES BEARDSLEY was born near Mount Vernon, Knox County, Ohio, on the 18th of February, 1830. He prepared for college at Granville Academy and Wesleyan University, Delaware, entering the Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati and was graduated from that institution. In 1855 he came to Iowa and began the practice of medicine at Muscatine, but soon removed to Oskaloosa, where in 1861 he became editor of the *Weekly Herald*. He was an accomplished writer and his paper attained wide influence in that section of the State. He was appointed postmaster of Oskaloosa, by President Lincoln. In 1865 he removed to Burlington becoming one of the owners and the chief editor of the *Hawkeye*. In 1869 he was elected by the Republicans to the State Senate, serving four years with marked ability. He was an earnest advocate of the taxation of corporate property on the same basis as other property and the taxation of the railroad bridges across the Mississippi and Missouri rivers. He favored the employment of women in the public service and the extension to them of the right of suffrage. In 1874 he was appointed Librarian of the War Department at Washington, with charge of the records of the Rebellion. In 1879 he was appointed by President Hayes Fourth Auditor of the Treasury, which position he held until 1885. He was a member of the council called by Plymouth Congregational church at Brooklyn, New York, which tried the charges preferred against Rev. Henry Ward Beecher in 1876. He was a life-long and prominent member of the Congregational church and moderator of its fifty-second annual meeting at Sioux City in 1891. At the celebration of the Semi-Centennial Anniversary of the admission of Iowa as a State held at Burlington in 1896, Dr. Beardsley was one of the chief managers. His great ardor in the work assigned to him led to overexertion bringing on nervous prostration from which he never rallied. He died at his home December 29, 1896.

JOHN DOWNS ELBERT was born in Fleming County, Kentucky, May 16, 1806, and was a son of Dr. John Downs and Elizabeth Ficklin Elbert. In 1812 his father removed with his family to Logan County, Ohio. There young Elbert spent his childhood and youth. His educational advantages

DES MOINES

The Pioneer of Municipal Progress and
Reform of the Middle West

TOGETHER WITH THE HISTORY OF

POLK COUNTY, IOWA

The Largest, Most Populous and Most Prosperous County
in the State of Iowa

By JOHNSON BRIGHAM
STATE LIBRARIAN OF IOWA

ILLUSTRATED

VOLUME II

CHICAGO
THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING COMPANY
1917

principal business. The success that he has achieved is almost beyond belief. He has come into possession of a large portion of the most valuable property of the city. Upon this he has erected many fine buildings and has many plans in view which will still further beautify the city. There is probably not another man in Des Moines that has done so much for its development and prosperity, as he is ever ready to lend his support to any enterprise which he believes calculated to prove of public benefit. He usually supports the democratic party but is not a politician and in local affairs votes for the man whom he deems best qualified for office regardless of party lines. He is a man of firm convictions and is a worthy representative of that type of American citizenship which has done so much toward the development of the middle west.

HON. LAFAYETTE YOUNG.

Hon. Lafayette Young, numbered among those who for some years have been molding public opinion in Iowa, is now leaving his impress upon the political history that is being written by congress in Washington, for, named as the successor to Senator Dolliver, he is now one of Iowa's two representatives in the upper house and enjoys the distinction of being the only native son of this state to be so honored.

Born in Monroe county, Iowa, on the 10th of May, 1848, he spent his early youth in his father's home, and when not occupied with the effort of acquiring an education in the public schools he assisted his father, who owned and operated a woolen mill run by horse power. He was one of a family of seven children and the lack of financial resources in the home made it incumbent that he spend much of his time in labor, and he had little opportunity for the enjoyment of those sports which engage the attention of most boys. When he was thirteen years of age his father's mill burned down. Thus devolved upon him the necessity of providing for his own support in other ways; it meant that the boy should assume the burdens of manhood and that he was thus deprived of the parental assistance and guidance which came to him with his father's instruction in the work of the mill.

He went to Albia, where he secured employment in a newspaper office, and later he was located at different times at Centerville, Keokuk and Eddyville. Gradually he mastered all of the duties in connection with the mechanical operation of a newspaper and learned to some extent the secret of successful journalism in business management and in newspaper writing. He has, however, throughout his entire life been a student, for he has never ceased to learn, and each year finds him with broader experience and with a wider understanding and, therefore, with greater force and personality as a journalist of the middle west. Early in his newspaper career he was connected with the job department of the St. Louis Dispatch, which was ten years before that paper was sold from the courthouse steps at auction to Joseph Pulitzer for twenty-five hundred dollars. Early experience in the newspaper field also came to him as an employe of Mills & Company of Des Moines.

About the time of his marriage he removed to Atlantic, Iowa, and established the Atlantic Telegraph in February, 1871, continuing its publication until March, 1890, and in that period of nineteen years built up one of the most prosperous journals in that section of the state. Wishing to try the broader field offered in Des Moines, he returned to the city where he had lived twenty years before and founded the Capital, continuing as its editor and manager until he was temporarily relieved from those duties by his son and namesake, after his appointment as the successor of Senator Dolliver in the United States senate.

Mr. Young was reared in the faith of the democratic party, his father and brothers all being stalwart supporters of that political faith, but the independent spirit which caused Lafayette Young to start out in life for himself at the age of thirteen has been manifest in his political views as well as in other relations of life. He took up the study of politics, carried his investigations far and wide, thought earnestly and considered wisely. His opinions have been the result of careful research and thorough understanding and the republican party has for years recognized in him one of its foremost representatives in Iowa.

Until within a comparatively recent period newspapers have been made the vehicle of his political views. Those at all acquainted with the history of journalism in the Mississippi valley know that Lafayette Young has made the Des Moines Capital what it is today. He came to this city in 1890 and purchased the paper. It was not much of a journal in those days and, in fact, he had to upbuild it both financially and politically. He brought to the former task marked business acumen, disposed of all processes that seemed a useless expenditure of time, labor or material, and sought the introduction of that secret of business success—the attainment of maximum results with minimum of effort. He thoroughly organized every department of the paper, surrounded himself with an able corps of assistants in gathering and printing the news and himself remained at the head of its editorial interests. He has never been hesitant in expressing his views, but his opinions have on the whole been founded on the bed rock of fact and logical deduction. He stands today justly prominent among newspaper men of the country, having won success as well as distinction.

It has only been public service that has occasionally called Mr. Young from the editorial rooms of the Capital. At the time of the Spanish-American war he went to the front to write of the conflict between the two countries and, while not in actual service, he has since been known by the title of colonel. He was with the commission which, headed by W. H. Taft, then secretary of war, visited the Philippines and other parts of the Orient.

In legislative work Senator Young's initiative experience came when his fellow townsmen and other citizens of his district elected him to the state senate, where he served for three terms, or twelve years. He was a member of the senate during the period in which all of the railroad laws now in force were adopted, except that relative to the two-cent fare and the anti-pass laws. Again and again a delegate to the party conventions he has twice served as permanent chairman of the republican state convention and has been a delegate-at-large to two national republican conventions—those of 1890 and 1898. In 1908 he was made elector-at-large.

At the national republican convention at Philadelphia he made the nominating speech which placed the name of Roosevelt before that body for vice president. He is an orator of ability, and while his utterances ring with strong and clear logic, he knows just as well how to employ the art of rhetoric or to hold the attention of auditors through the excitation of sympathy. On the whole, however, his speech is that of a forceful and earnest presentation of a cause which he espouses, and he never falters in his support of what he believes to be right or for the best interests of the public at large.

His work in behalf of good roads in Iowa entitles him to rank with the public benefactors of the state. He was president of the Iowa Good Roads Association and labored untiringly and persistently for years for the accomplishment of the prime object of that body. He advocated dragging and draining and eventually was instrumental in securing a great highway, three hundred miles long, from Davenport to Council Bluffs, by way of Des Moines. The River-to-River Road Association is directly due to his work, his ceaseless agitation and his tireless campaigning. Following the death of Senator Dolliver Mr. Young was appointed by Governor Carroll to serve out the unexpired term in the United States senate and has maintained the same fearless, steadfast and

sturdy position that he has ever occupied in his championship of movements or measures in which he believes.

In 1870 Senator Young was united in marriage to Miss Josephine Bolton, whose acquaintance he had formed when she was a student in a private school of Des Moines and he was an employe on the State Register. When her school days were over they were married and to them have been born three children. Their only daughter, Nellie, is now the wife of John P. Herrick, of Bolivar, New York. Their elder son, Harold, held a captaincy during the Spanish-American war and is now an editorial writer on the Des Moines Capital, while the younger son, Lafayette Young, Jr., is business manager of that paper.

The Register and Leader of February 21, 1911, said: "Mrs. Lafayette Young is unique among the senatorial hostesses of Washington in being a practical newspaper woman, who has been the associate and able coeditor of her husband during his long and successful career as an editor and publisher. From the early days of their married life her ambition was to be her husband's chief support, not only in the home but in his business cares. She familiarized herself with every detail of the business connected with newspaper publication and," continued the Register and Leader, "was so well trained in practical newspaper lore that when Senator Young went to Cuba during the Spanish-American war his wife assumed editorial and business management of the Capital and conducted its affairs with brilliant success. She is a versatile writer and has contributed to almost every department of her husband's paper. . . . She is a charming woman personally and is noted throughout the state for her wit and general fund of information. She takes a broad view of every question, and to her ripe experience and ready sympathy much of her husband's prosperous and honorable career may be traced."

Their home, known as the "Owl's Head," is one of the commodious and beautiful residences of Des Moines, having a substantial and roomy appearance and an extremely hospitable air. In it have been entertained, perhaps, every newspaper man of prominence that has ever visited Des Moines, and the social functions there may be said to resemble somewhat the salons of France, for here distinguished men and women are gathered in the discussion of leading questions of the day and of the vital problems that have concerned this and previous ages. Both Mr. and Mrs. Young have traveled extensively, having visited Europe and the Orient as well as all sections of America, and possess that broad and liberal culture and intimate knowledge of lands and people that only travel can bring.

LAFAYETTE YOUNG, JR.

Lafayette Young, Jr., business manager of the Des Moines Capital since June 13, 1901, was born in Atlantic, Iowa, December 1, 1878, the younger son of United States Senator Lafayette and Josephine (Bolton) Young. He was twelve years of age when the family removed to Des Moines and after completing his preliminary education in the public schools entered the University of Michigan, which numbers him among its alumni. He was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy and has since graduated from the law department of the University of Iowa. He was made business manager of the Des Moines Capital immediately on his graduation, the 12th of June, 1901.

Mr. Young was married in 1910 to Miss Virginia Corse MacArthur, of Burlington, Iowa, a daughter of William Corse and Harriet (Hammer) MacArthur. Outside of home and business Mr. Young devotes all of his energies to the up-building of the city of Des Moines and the state of Iowa. He organized and

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RICHARD ACTON

Young, Lafayette

(May 19, 1848–November 15, 1926)

—journalist, state senator and U. S. senator whose dual role as editor of the *Des Moines Capital* and chair of Iowa's Council of National Defense during World War I climaxed his career—was the son of John and Rachel (Titus) Young. "Lafe" considered Eddyville, Iowa, his hometown. But he was not born there, as most sources state. Instead, as his newspaper, the *Des Moines Capital*, would eulogize, he was born in Monroe County, Iowa, "in a rude little log cabin on Soap Creek near . . . Appanoose Count[y]." His family moved near Eddyville soon after his birth. But the *Capital* erroneously claimed that the only school education he ever obtained was secured "by tramping several miles to a country schoolhouse three winters." In fact, he also attended night school in St. Louis in 1868 and 1869.

Young's life was shaped by his age in relation to his nation's wars. Too young to fight during the Civil War, he carried an enthusiasm for that conflict unmediated by the realities of actual combat. He was, however, in the Zouaves, a Monroe County Home Guard, which successfully protected Albia from a largely imagined threat of Confederate invasion. Young later appointed himself war correspondent to Cuba in 1899, where he became friends with Theodore Roosevelt, and to Europe in 1915, where a brief detainment by Austria, apparently because his first name sounded French, reinforced his support for the Allied cause.

After serving as a copyeditor for the *Iowa State Register* in Des Moines, where he married Josephine Bolton on March 20, 1870, Young moved to the three-year-old town of Atlantic, Iowa, in 1871 to start the *Telegraph*. In 1873 he began representing Cass County in the state senate as a Republican. He would continue mixing journalism and Republican politics throughout his life, but his political viewpoint, moderately antimonopoly as a legislator, veered toward the conservative thereafter.

In 1890 Young moved to Des Moines and acquired the *Des Moines Capital*, which he published and edited until his death in 1926. In 1893 he unsuccessfully sought the Republican nomination for governor, and eyed it again in 1901, but what support he still had among progressives could not match that of **Albert B. Cummins**.

In 1900 Young nominated Theodore Roosevelt for the vice presidency at the Republican National Convention in Philadelphia. Young had intended to nominate Iowa senator **Jonathan Dolliver**, but after extended negotiations, Dolliver withdrew in favor of Roosevelt. Young thereupon tweaked his prepared speech and persuaded all delegates except Roosevelt himself to ratify the nomination.

After Dolliver's death in 1910, Governor **Beryl Carroll** appointed Young to fill Dolliver's Senate seat until the legislature acted. Aside from breaking Senate precedent with a speech early in his term, his six-month stint in the Senate was unremarkable and overshadowed by the electioneering. The *Capital's* claim that Young should be considered a Progressive because he was generous with his time and money did not change any votes. Progressive Republicans in the legislature were divided on a candidate but united in realizing that sending the election to a primary would assure Standpat candidate Young's election, which they forestalled at the expense of their principles. After a four-month stand-off, with one vote taken every day of the

session, on the last day the legislature selected **William Kenyon**, the last Iowa senator to be elected by the state legislature.

Upon U.S. entry into World War I, Governor **William Harding** appointed Young to chair the Iowa Council of National Defense (CND). Young used his dual roles as editor and chief sedition hunter to fill the *Capital* with reports of disloyalty, and capitalized on those reports to seek increased repression. Even in an atmosphere of wartime hysteria, Young's strategy stood out: at the April 1918 meeting of state CND units in Washington, D.C., he called for stockading 5,000 Iowans, "or," he predicted darkly, "there will be a tragedy."

But Young's rhetoric seemed almost moderate compared to that of Governor Harding, who made references to "baseball bats" and "necktie parties." In July 1918 Young compared Harding's "Babel Proclamation" (outlawing the public use of any language other than English) favorably to Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.

In the summer of 1918 Iowa CND board member **James Pierce** attacked his fellow council members in *Iowa Homestead* editorials with titles such as "Raw Meat Eaters" and "Iowa's Reign of Terror." The question of whether Pierce could be legally removed from the council for his dissent apparently went unresolved when the end of the war made the point moot.

Young died in 1926. His son, Lafayette Jr., succeeded him as publisher of the *Capital*, but the paper did not long outlast the senior Young, merging with the *Des Moines Tribune* in 1927.

SOURCES The State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines, holds a collection of Young's papers, primarily correspondence. See also *Des Moines Capital, 1890-1926*; *Dictionary of American Biography* vol. 10 (1958); Leland Sage, *A History of Iowa* (1974); Thomas Ross, *Jonathan Prentiss Dolliver: A Study in Political Integrity and Independence* (1958); Thomas James Bray, *The Rebirth of Freedom* (1957); Eli

Daniel Potts, "William Squire Kenyon and the Iowa Senatorial Election of 1911," *Annals of Iowa* 38 (1966), 206-22; Fleming Fraker Jr., "The Beginnings of the Progressive Movement in Iowa," *Annals of Iowa* 35 (1961), 578-93; Edwin Percy Chase, "Forty Years of Main Street," *Iowa Journal of History and Politics* 34 (1936), 241-42; Nancy Derr, "Iowans during World War I" (Ph.D. diss., George Washington University, 1979); William Breen, *Uncle Sam at Home: Civilian Mobilization, Wartime Federalism, and the Council of National Defense, 1917-1919* (1984); and *Burlington Hawkeye*, 1/22/1911.

BILL R. DOUGLAS

Young, William John

(February 27, 1827-June 8, 1896)

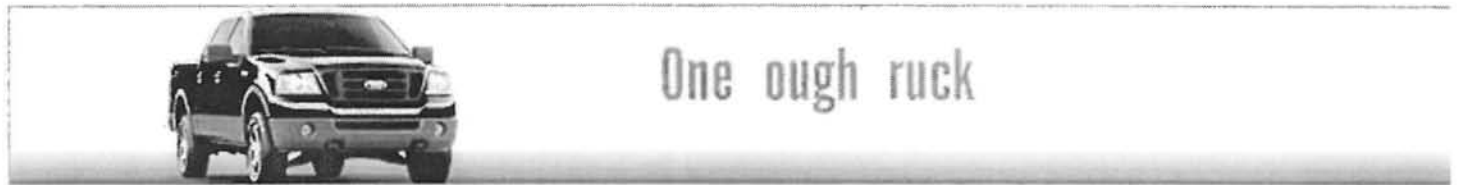
—lumberman—was born in Belfast, Ireland. In 1846, at age 19, he emigrated to the United States. Working as a grocery store clerk, he gained some knowledge of book-keeping, which he used to obtain a job with a railroad contractor, which in turn led to a position as a freight agent with the Cincinnati, Logansport & Chicago Railroad. During his railroad career, some Cincinnati men offered him the opportunity to open a lumberyard at Clinton, Iowa, for the Ohio Mill Company. At about the same time, in 1858, he married Esther Elderkin, of Richmond, Indiana. They had six children.

The Ohio Mill was located at La Crosse, Wisconsin. Young's job was to receive rafts and sell lumber at Clinton. When one of the Cincinnati partners died and the company was dissolved, Young did all of the business in his own name for several months, then became a partner in the reorganized firm, which was named W. J. Young & Company, and convinced his partners to move the mill from La Crosse to Clinton, leaving Young in charge of both sawing and selling. Slowly the business prospered. With improvements to the mill over the years, lumbermen generally



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- *ID:* I90326154
- *Name:* Lafayette YOUNG
- *Given Name:* Lafayette
- *Surname:* Young
- *Sex:* U
- *Birth:* 10 May 1848 in Monroe Iowa/Monroe Co., IA
- *Death:* 15 Nov 1926 in DesMoines, Iowa
- *Burial:* Woodlawn Cemt, DesMoines ,Iowa
- *Note:* Was Iowa's US Senator 1910-1911

Father: John YOUNG b: 20 Nov 1806 in Strait Creek Brown Ohio

Mother: Racheal TITUS b: 1808 in Penn.

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Lafayette Young

Birth: May 10, 1848
Death: Nov. 15, 1926
 Des Moines
 Polk County
 Iowa, USA

US Senator. He was appointed to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Jonathan P. Dolliver, and served from 1910 to 1911. (bio by: [Tim Crutchfield](#))

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Burial::
[Woodland Cemetery](#)
 Des Moines
 Polk County
 Iowa, USA

Maintained by: Find A Grave
 Record added: Sep 19 2003
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Added by: [Tim Crutchfield](#)



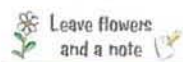
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