

war over, he devoted himself to other pursuits in the western territories, residing several years at Santa Fe. Then in 1854 he came to Iowa and settled in Council Bluffs. He at once engaged in the real estate business, bought and sold great quantities of land and city property, and died the owner of many thousands of acres of farming lands as well as of many city buildings and lots. His largest purchases of the former were in Harrison county, and here he owned a grain and stock farm of large extent. He was an intensely southern man in his feelings, and perhaps it was for that reason he passed most of his time during the war in mining operations in Colorado. Returning to Council Bluffs in 1866, he has left his mark in many directions upon that city. He was mainly instrumental, while Mayor, in the establishment of Fremont Park, and other important improvements, and at a later day he donated to the city a smaller park which has since been greatly improved, and bears his name. He was a wonderfully reticent man as to all his personal affairs, and only his most intimate friends could gain any knowledge in reference to them. A wife whom he married in early life, and also a son born to them, were removed by death as were also brothers and sisters, and only nephews and nieces remained, among whom he divided his large estate by will, in equal proportion. His funeral took place in Council Bluffs on the 22nd of May, and his remains were laid to rest in Fairview Cemetery. A suitable monument will be erected over them on the summit of the bluff, overlooking, for a long distance, the surrounding country, upon which he was wont to gaze during his lifetime with so much pleasure.

D. C. BLOOMER.

---

Dr. ASA HERR, scholar and scientist, died at his home in Dubuque, June 2, 1896. His birth-place was Worthington, Ohio, and the date September 2, 1817. His education began early and he was a student during his whole life. While educated as a physician and surgeon, and while he attained great distinction in his profession, he yet found time to study science and investigated along many lines. Removing from Baltimore, Ohio, in 1846, Galena, Illinois, became his first western home. In 1847 he removed to Dubuque, Iowa, where he resided until his death. He was identified with local societies for the advancement of knowledge, and was one of one hundred American and English short-hand writers who were chosen to make improvements in phonography. He excelled in the study of botany and made large collections. He was president of the Dubuque County and the Cedar Valley Medical Societies and a member of the National Public Health Association. He was interested in geology, mineralogy and astronomy, and paid particular attention to meteorology. To him and Professor Lapham of Milwaukee, is due the present method of forecasting the weather, for the U. S. weather reports. Dr. Herr was an honored member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. All of the societies to which he belonged were benefitted by his labors, and he was successful in bringing the sciences to the comprehension of those interested who were without scientific knowledge. He was liberal but unostentatious, ever aiming to be helpful without becoming conspicuous. He made a donation of four hundred volumes of choice books to the State Historical Department, and he was especially liberal with other public institutions. His contact with others has had the effect to stimulate to more careful and thorough work, so that the good he did will live after him. In politics he was a whig and then a republican. Hundreds of friends deeply mourn his loss. Dr. Herr continued in the active practice of medicine until failing health compelled him to relinquish it a few months

before his death. His life was a splendid example of what a man of noble purpose and resolute will can accomplish. His kindly disposition and strict integrity endeared him to all with whom he came in contact, and while his loss is greatly to be deplored, it is a satisfaction to reflect on the wonderful amount of labor he performed and the great good he did during his life. Such a career should be an incentive to nobler effort for the alleviation of suffering humanity and the advancement of knowledge.

---

HON. NORMAN EVERSON, State Senator in the sessions commencing at Iowa City, December 2, 1850, and December 6, 1852, died at his residence in Washington, Iowa, May 15. He was born on a farm in the town of Vermont, Oneida County, New York, December 27, 1815. At the early age of fourteen, with his father's consent he started out—a poor boy—to make his own way in the world. He had a grand ambition for a boy of that age, succeeding in working his way into and through Hamilton College, near Utica, New York. He graduated in 1837. After this he taught school in Elizaville and Cynthia, Kentucky, where he made the acquaintance of Abraham Lincoln, “a tall, awkward, gangling attorney,” who then “gave no special promise of filling the most splendid niche in American history.” He came to Washington, Iowa, in 1841, and resided there until his death. He was very successful as a lawyer and business man, acquiring a handsome fortune by hard work, and becoming one of the leading men of the town and county as well as of that section of the State. “He filled all sorts of positions because people trusted him. Time and again he was alderman and mayor, once a State Senator, an early post-master, carrying the mail in his capacious hat,—a habit he kept up ever afterwards,—letters, papers, notes, bills, law-papers, and all that queer miscellany went into his hat. He seemed to distrust pockets. It was the queerest mail delivery! The Squire would slowly walk around the park with about a bushel of mail more or less, in his hat, unloading at each door, and sometimes a girl or youth would meet him and ask if there was a letter for them,—love-letters, of course,—and he'd salaam to uncover without spilling, and fish out the missive with a conical grimace, and go his way, a sort of combination of Uncle Sam and Santa Claus. In later years he'd laugh and chuckle as memories of that amusing service came back to him.” The old Legislative Journals show that he was a busy and useful Senator. He was “a genuine man, hating injustice and shams and cruelty,—indignant at wrong, disloyalty and treason.” He visited Europe in 1878, but came home better than ever pleased with his adopted State. *The Washington Press* devotes two columns to an estimate of his career, from which we have condensed this notice.

---

DR. A. W. HOFFMEISTER, died at his residence in Fort Madison, May 16. He was born at Altnau, in the Hartz Mountains, Kingdom of Hanover, June 14, 1827. He received a liberal education, graduating from the college at Clausthal, with the highest honors of his class, in 1846. After a two year's course in chemistry he emigrated with his father's family to this country. They settled in St. Louis, where he devoted a year to the study of the English language. He then went to California, where he remained two years. Returning to St. Louis in 1851, he entered a medical college, from which he graduated in 1854. He then settled in Fort Madison and began the practice of his profession in which he won distinguished success. He was commissioned Surgeon of the eighth Iowa Infantry in 1862, and was with it during

Copyright of Annals of Iowa is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.