

region, where with others he laid out the town of Irvington. This was a most beautiful site, but it was too near Algona and the enterprise was soon given up. In 1859 he removed to Webster City, which continued to be his home until his death. At first he engaged in general merchandising, but in 1871 the First National Bank was organized and Kendall Young became its president. He held this office the remainder of his life. He was very successful, acquiring a fortune estimated at about \$200,000. As a business man he was conservative, but always kind and accommodating, cool and clear-headed, strictly honest and just, a safe and prudent manager, a man who became a strong pillar in the community where he lived so long. In 1858 he married Miss Jane Underdown, an English lady who had come across the ocean to reside with her brother in Webster City. Mrs. Young still survives her husband. The pair were childless. By the terms of his will, the conditions of which Mrs. Young freely accepted, their entire estate at her death is to be devoted to the founding of a free public library in Webster City. Of this, \$25,000 goes to the erection of a building and \$10,000 to the purchase of books. The remainder of the estate is to be invested and the interest devoted to the permanent care and increase of the "Kendall Young Library." This will give to Webster City a permanent and always growing library, worthy of that beautiful and enterprising city, and justly perpetuating the memory of its founders. In this wise disposition of their property Mr. and Mrs. Young may well be classed as pioneers in our library work, for this we believe to be the first instance in Iowa in which husband and wife have united in so bestowing a large estate.

After a long period of intense suffering from wasting disease, Mr. JOHN WRAGG died at his residence in Waukee, Polk county, on the 4th of September, 1896. He was born in Berks county, Pennsylvania, in 1831, and had reached the age of sixty-five. He first settled in Clayton county in 1854, but in 1865 removed to his late residence, where he spent the remainder of his life. Mr. Wragg came to be widely known in Iowa as one of our most intelligent and enterprising nurserymen and horticulturists. At the meetings of the State Horticultural Society he was one of the most constant attendants and one of the most influential members. In his writings, as in his conversations, and more than all in the example which he set before the world, few Iowa men have ever accomplished so much in inspiring a love for fruits and flowers. He was one who saw

"tongues in trees, books in the running brooks,  
Sermons in stones, and good in everything—"

a man of wide and varied intelligence, always enterprising and progressive, a ready writer, a true and abiding friend, a kind-hearted and genial Christian gentleman.

HON. ISAAC PENDLETON, late of Sioux City, was born in Norwich, New York, April 3, 1832. His early years were spent at that place. He attended the Oxford Academy and taught school for one year. In June, 1854, he graduated from Union College. Entering the law office of Henry Mygott at Oxford, he later completed the law course with Judge Comstock at Syracuse, and was admitted to the practice of law in all of the courts of the State of New York. He then removed to Cleveland, Ohio, and in 1858 located in Sioux City, Iowa, where he resided until his death, July 17, 1896. He was elected judge of his district in 1862, and a republican presidential elector in 1872, but later in life

became a democrat. He was a man of ability and fine culture, and a ready and effective speaker. A leading member of Lodge No. 164, I. O. O. F., he was buried with the honors of the Order.

---

EX-STATE SENATOR JOHN M. KENT died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Elijah, near Clarence, Iowa, Aug 21, 1896. Mr. Kent was born in Rockbridge county, Va., Nov. 14, 1814. He came with his parents to Ohio at the age of four, and remained there twenty-four years. In 1852 he settled in Cedar county, Iowa, where he spent the remainder of his life. To fill a vacancy Mr. Kent was elected state senator in 1857, and re-elected in 1859. At the breaking out of the war he took much interest and aided in enlistments, and in 1864 was appointed army vote commissioner. This pioneer of Cedar county was an influential legislator, a useful, exemplary citizen, taking a leading part in all movements for the development of the country and the betterment of society.

---

REV. RICHARD B. GRAFF, of Marengo, died at his residence in that city, on the 24th of August, 1896, from old age. He was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, in 1817. Coming to Iowa he settled on the site of Marengo in 1845, entering the land upon which the city stands, as a homestead. He was admitted to the bar, but later went into the ministry, becoming widely noted as an advocate of temperance. In his youth he was a classmate of Bayard Taylor, at the Union Academy, Philadelphia, and their intimate personal friendship then begun continued during the lifetime of the illustrious traveler, diplomat and poet. Mr. Graff was himself a poet of more than local reputation.

---

CAPTAIN PHILO G. C. MERRILL was born in Stowe, Vermont, October 16, 1816, and died in this city August 27, 1896. He came to Iowa in 1853, and settled in Warren county. Eleven years afterward he removed to Grinnell, but came here in 1895, to make his home with his son, Mr. John H. Merrill. He was a member of the Grand Army and the Loyal Legion. At one time he was active in politics, and represented Warren county in the 10th General Assembly.

---

DAVID ARMSTRONG was born in the county of Down, Ireland, March 13, 1816, and died at Dyersville, July 28, 1896. He was a contractor and builder, remarkable for the extent and excellent quality of his work. He furnished the highly polished granite in the State House, and built the first wing of the hospital for the insane at Independence. He also erected some of the best buildings in the city of Dubuque.

---

MRS. ISABEL HILLOCK MONTZHEIMER died at Webster City, September 5, 1896. She came to that town with her widowed mother, a brother and three sisters, in 1857 or 1858. She was one of the thoroughly educated and favorite pioneer teachers of Hamilton county, as also were two of her sisters. No family in that region occupied a higher place in the general esteem.

---

SETH W. SHAW, who made an honorable record in Company D, 6th Iowa Infantry, died at Centerville, July 19, 1896. He was born in Madison county, Indiana, March 11, 1842, and had resided in Iowa since his thirteenth year. He was in some twenty battles, including Shiloh, Corinth and several around Vicksburg.

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.