

NOTABLE DEATHS

PARK ALFONSO FINDLEY was born in Bloomfield, Iowa, January 28, 1875, and died in Louisville, Kentucky, June 13, 1935. Burial was with military honors in Masonic Cemetery, Des Moines. He was a son of Dr. John Bangs Findley and Mary Ellen (Moore) Findley. He was with his parents in their removal to Des Moines in 1890. He attended Highland Park College for a time, and was graduated with the degree of M. D. from Drake University in March, 1895, and admitted to practice in Iowa. He began his practice at Bevington, Madison County, but soon changed to Des Moines where he became assistant city physician, and where for the next twenty years he practiced as a physician and surgeon, although having many interruptions by reason of his other activities. His military career, almost continuous, extended from his enlistment as a private in Company A, Third Infantry, Iowa National Guard, on July 6, 1891, to the time of his death, almost forty-four years. He was an assistant surgeon in the Third Regiment in 1895, became a second lieutenant in 1898 when the regiment became the Fifty-first Iowa Volunteers and went with it to the Philippines where he saw active service and was promoted to first lieutenant. Returning home he was appointed in 1900 captain of Company A of the Fifty-first Regiment. He reported for duty on the call of President Wilson in June, 1916, and saw service on the Mexican Border. During the World War, 1917 to 1919, he was a captain in army camps in the South training troops in trench mortar battery service and in cavalry drills. In 1921 he was appointed major of the First Cavalry, Iowa National Guard, later the One Hundred and Thirteenth Cavalry, was promoted to lieutenant colonel in 1922, to colonel in 1923, and to brigadier general April 16, 1930, and assigned to command the Fifty-seventh Cavalry Brigade. In 1922 he was elected sheriff of Polk County and was three times re-elected, serving from January, 1923, to January, 1931. In September, 1931, General Findley was put in command of the eighteen hundred Iowa National Guard who were sent to Cedar County and to other parts of southeastern Iowa to enforce the tuberculin test of cattle, and handled the difficult situation with ability and skill. Although a Republican, he was appointed on January 1, 1933, by the newly elected Democratic attorney general, Edward L. O'Connor, chief of the Bureau of Criminal Investigation, and that position he was holding at the time of his death. His knowledge of science and of modern methods of detecting crime had greatly aided him in this line of work. In the solution of crime and the capture of criminals he exhibited unusual ability both in the sheriff's office and in this position.

ELLAS R. ZELLER was born near Hamilton, Butler County, Ohio, September 13, 1844, and died in Winterset, Iowa, July 22, 1935. Burial was in the Winterset Cemetery. His parents were John and Susan

(Kumler) Zeller. He was reared on his father's farm and attended the local public school. When twenty years old, or in 1864, he enlisted in Company K, One Hundred and Sixty-seventh Ohio Infantry, and served the period of enlistment, one hundred days, seeing service with the Federal forces in Virginia. Returning home he followed farming, but later entered Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, from which he was graduated in 1871. About this time he entered newspaper work and became publisher of the *Oxford Citizen* at Oxford, Ohio. In 1871 he removed to Iowa and became city editor of the *Burlington Gazette*. Later he purchased and edited the *Eldora Herald*, but sold it in 1873 and removed to Winterset where for five years he was principal of its public schools. In 1883 he purchased a part interest in the *Winterset Madisonian*, H. J. B. Cummings owning the other portion, and again interested himself in newspaper work. In July of that year the *Winterset Chronicle* owned by Henry Wallace was taken over and consolidated with the *Madisonian*, Mr. Wallace joining the firm of Cummings, Wallace & Zeller. A year later Mr. Zeller sold his interest in the paper. In 1884 he was elected county superintendent of schools and was re-elected two years later, serving during the years 1885 to 1888 inclusive. For seven years he was engaged in county institute work and was regarded as a leading educator in his part of the state. Later for several years he was president of the Winterset School Board. He acquired farming interests, and throughout his life did much newspaper and magazine writing and public speaking. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and was a local preacher, and for years frequently occupied pulpits. In 1908 he was elected representative, was re-elected in 1910, and served in the Thirty-third and Thirty-fourth general assemblies, giving able service to the state. He was a charter member of the Madison County Historical Society which was organized in 1904, was its first treasurer, and in recent years was its secretary-treasurer, and custodian of the historical rooms. He was a man of strong personality and exercised quite an influence educationally, morally and politically on his community.

PERRY ENGLE was born at Benton, Hancock County, Ohio, July 16, 1840, and died in Newton, Iowa, June 29, 1935. Burial was in Newton Union Cemetery. His parents were Jacob and Louisa (Probst) Engle. He began the study of medicine when working on a farm, was graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Michigan in 1871, supplemented by a course in Long Island College, Brooklyn, New York. In 1872 he removed to Newton, Iowa, entered on the practice of medicine and continued in practice there for over sixty years. He was a good student, a man of scholarly attainments and kept well ahead of most of his contemporaries in the science of medicine. Besides maintaining a large practice he took great interest in public matters. In 1876 he established the *Newton Herald* and for twenty-four years was its publisher and did most of its editing. He advocated the initiative

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