

he read law in the office of Wood Brothers, Effingham, Illinois, and was admitted to the bar at Mount Vernon, Illinois, in July, 1881. In October of the same year he located in the practice of law at Storm Lake. He was county attorney of Buena Vista County in 1887 and 1888. He was for some time chairman of the Republican County Central Committee, and was several terms mayor of Storm Lake. On August 30, 1900, Governor Shaw appointed him a judge of the Fourteenth Judicial District succeeding Judge Frank H. Helsell, resigned. By reason of this appointment and subsequent elections he served until 1913 when he returned to private practice, having as his partner in later years Willis C. Edson. He was a member of the Presbyterian church, was a trustee of the local church, and a trustee of Buena Vista College. He was held in high esteem in the community in which he lived for over fifty years.

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CLAYTON E. BRONSON was born on a farm near Raymond, Black Hawk County, Iowa, September 1, 1881, and died in Waterloo January 28, 1935. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery, Waterloo. He was with his parents, Lyman H. and Frances Butterfield Bronson, in their removal to Waterloo in 1889. He was graduated from East High School, Waterloo, in 1903, the same year entered the insurance business with his father in Waterloo and at the time of his death was manager of the Bronson Insurance Agency. He was a Republican and had the confidence and esteem of the public. He was elected representative in 1914 and served in the Thirty-sixth General Assembly.

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CHARLES WESLEY CARTER was born near Collinsville, Illinois, April 11, 1853, and died in Pasadena, California, April 21, 1934. His parents were Henry T. and Hester Ann Carter. He was graduated in 1878 from Chicago College of Law and removed the same year to Orange City, Sioux County, Iowa, and began the practice of law. He was a resident of Orange City and of Rock Valley, Sioux County, until 1902. He was active in the development of that section of the state and became the owner of some 3,000 acres of land in that vicinity. In 1899 he was elected representative and was re-elected in 1901, and served in the Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth general assemblies. In 1902 he removed to Grinnell, Iowa, but in 1913 removed to Pasadena.

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MERLIN A. FREEMAN was born in Scott County, Iowa, October 14, 1866, and died in a hospital in Iowa City June 11, 1928. Burial was at Chillicothe, Missouri. He was with his parents in their removal to Jasper County in 1884. He was reared on a farm and received his education in district and Grinnell public schools. Before becoming of age he entered railway train service, and followed that until shortly before his death. For many years of his later life he was a conductor on the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad with his home at Ottumwa. In 1914 he was elected representative from Wapello County and served in the Thirty-sixth General Assembly. In politics he was Republican.

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