

NOTABLE DEATHS

WILLIAM G. RAY was born at Hope, Michigan, February 19, 1857, and died in Grinnell, Iowa, January 30, 1936. Burial was in Hazelwood Cemetery, Grinnell. His parents were Orin L. and Harriet Shaw Ray. Owing to his mother's death he lived at the home of his maternal grandparents at Madrid, St. Lawrence County, New York, from the time he was three years old until he was seventeen, when he came to friends in Grinnell. He attended the Grinnell Academy and matriculated in Iowa College (later Grinnell College), from which he was graduated in 1882, teaching country school occasionally in the meantime. From 1882 to 1887 he was principal of Guthrie County High School at Panora, and from 1887 to 1889 was superintendent of Grinnell public schools. During these years he did much teaching in various teachers' institutes in his section of the state. On retiring as superintendent of Grinnell schools, he was made secretary of the Grinnell School Board which he held until failing health overtook him. In 1889 he became associated as junior partner with Dr. S. A. Cravath in the publication of the *Grinnell Herald*. This work he continued until the time of his death, having as partners during that forty-six years, besides Dr. Cravath, Ronald McDonald, G. W. Cowden, Austin P. Haines, and in recent years, A. L. Frisbie. In 1895 he was elected representative and served in the Twenty-sixth, the Twenty-sixth Extra (Code Revision), and the Twenty-seventh general assemblies. He was chairman of the Normal Schools Committee in the Twenty-sixth, and of the Private Corporations Committee in the Twenty-seventh. He was chairman of the Republican County Central Committee of his county for several years. He served as postmaster at Grinnell from January 18, 1907, until January 31, 1911. He served Grinnell as mayor from 1925 to 1931. During those years he took much interest in the Iowa League of Municipalities, and served that organization one year as its president. In 1921 he with A. L. Frisbie and David Sutherland bought the Brooklyn Chronicle, which at the time of his death was owned by Ray & Frisbie. In 1923 the same parties bought the Montezuma Republican, which is now owned and edited by Mr. Sutherland. Mr. Ray served as president of the Iowa Press Association for the year 1929-30. In 1933 the association gave him the further honor of designating him as one of the master editors of the state. He was made a trustee of Grinnell College in 1926, was an active member of the Masonic and the Knights of Pythias orders and of the Congregational church. He gave unstintingly of his talents and strength to the welfare of the people of his town, county and state.

SIDNEY A. FOSTER was born on a farm near Friendship, Alleghany County, New York, May 17, 1849, and died in Des Moines, Iowa, February 1, 1936. Burial was in Woodland Cemetery, Des Moines. When he was ten years old his mother died and he supported himself by labor, meantime attending common school. In 1865 he removed to Adams County, Wisconsin, and in 1866 began an apprenticeship as a printer

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.