

awhile, and then was two years at Ottumwa in the grain, flour and grocery business. Removing to Pittsburg, Van Buren County, he followed milling nine years, when he removed to Keosauqua and engaged in the mercantile business. In 1880 he was elected county treasurer of Van Buren County and was re-elected two years later. In 1884 he was elected treasurer of state and was twice re-elected, serving until January, 1891. Soon thereafter he entered the Home Savings Bank of Des Moines as its president and acted in that capacity for ten years. The last few years of his life were spent in retirement. He was quiet and unobtrusive, but was held in high esteem because of his integrity and good judgment.

EDWARD HOOKER GILLETTE was born at Bloomfield, Connecticut, October 1, 1840, and died at his home near Valley Junction, Iowa, August 14, 1918. He graduated from the Hartford, Connecticut, High School and the New York State Agricultural College at Ovid, New York. Intending to devote himself to agriculture, on leaving college in 1863 he came to Iowa, bought a farm in Dallas county and engaged in raising high bred stock. Shortly thereafter he bought a farm immediately west of Des Moines at the end of Grand Avenue and adjoining what is now the city of Valley Junction. He made his home for a while in Des Moines and was interested not only in farming but in manufacturing and in other business enterprises. He became active in farmers' organizations, especially in their contests with railroad corporations and with the barbed wire trusts. He was an active organizer of the Anti-monopoly party in 1874 and the Greenback party in 1876. In 1876 he was a delegate to the national convention of the Greenback party that nominated Peter Cooper for president, and that year he took an active part in the campaign, speaking in many states. In 1878 the Greenback party of the Seventh Iowa District nominated him for congress and the Democratic party fusing with it, he was elected and served in the Forty-sixth Congress. In 1880 he was renominated but was defeated by John A. Kasson. Mr. Gillette and General Weaver having started the *State Tribune*, Mr. Gillette became its editor in 1881 and remained such until 1891. For over twenty years he was active in politics, speaking in practically every state in the union. He was chairman of the national committee of the Greenback party at one time and chairman of the state committee of the Union Labor party for several years. He was the nominee of the Democratic party in 1898 for auditor of state. The later years of his life were spent in quiet retirement in his home near Valley Junction.

NATHANIEL FRENCH was born at Andover, Massachusetts, September 7, 1854, and died at Tucson, Arizona, February 11, 1929. Burial was at Davenport, Iowa. When a child he removed with his parents to Davenport. There he attended common school and Griswold College and completed his education at Harvard and Heidelberg universities.

Choosing the law for his profession, at Peoria, Illinois, he read in the office of Robert G. Ingersoll, an intimate friend of his father, and commenced practice there. In the late '70's he returned to Davenport, entering the practice there with John W. Thompson. In 1882 he was appointed city attorney and in 1883 was elected circuit judge, serving until 1886. He then retired from the law practice and took over the management of the manufacturing interests of the French family, his father having recently died. From 1889 to 1896 he was with the Eagle Manufacturing Company, which was later sold and removed to Kansas City. In 1888 the Bettendorf Wheel Works was organized by Judge French and William P. Bettendorf. Later this became the firm of French & Hecht. They maintained one large factory at Davenport and another at Springfield, Ohio, and became the largest metal wheel manufacturers in the world. For years Judge French was a director in the First National Bank of Davenport. When a receiver was appointed for the Rock Island lines he became a director. He was a gold standard Democrat and supported Palmer in 1896. During the World War he served as chairman of the exemption board at Davenport, and the arduous duties likely hastened his death. He was a man of large wealth, a lawyer of unusual ability, and a philanthropist and public-spirited citizen of much influence. His brother is Col. George W. French, and his sister, Miss Alice French, known in the literary world as Octave Thanet, of Davenport.

LUMAN H. WELLER was born at Bridgewater, Connecticut, August 24, 1833, and died at a sanitarium in Minneapolis, Minnesota, March 2, 1914. Interment was made at his home at Nashua, Iowa. His education was obtained in the common schools of Connecticut, State Normal School and Literary Institute of Suffield. He came to Iowa in 1858 and settled on a farm near Nashua, which was his home from then until his death. He was admitted to practice law in both the state and federal courts. In 1865 he was justice of the peace. He also served as a member of the county board of supervisors. In 1867 he was an independent candidate for the general assembly. He identified himself with many new movements, it is said with practically all of them except socialism and woman suffrage. In 1882 he was elected to congress from the Fourth Iowa District on the fusion ticket of the Greenback and Democratic parties, and in 1884 he was defeated for congress by William E. Fuller by only 200 votes. He was twice a candidate for governor, twice for judge of the supreme court and, in 1908, was a candidate for vice-president of the United States on the American ticket. He was president of his local grange, a prominent leader in the Knights of Labor, president of the Chosen Farmers of Amercia and a member of the national committee of the Peoples Party for many years. For some twenty years he was editor of the *Farmers' Advocate*. He was a reformer by nature, was sincere and earnest and struck hard blows at monopoly and corruption in high places. He was widely and affectionately called "Calamity Weller."

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