

GUERNSEY SMITH was born in Ulster county, New York, July 15, 1833; he died at Hawkeye, Iowa, July 16, 1915. His parents were Calvin and Henrietta (Chambers) Smith. His early years were spent on the home farm. When he was eight years of age his father died and he was obliged to earn his own living. In 1849 he started to California, but stopped at the Missouri river and spent a year in shipping and freighting on the Missouri, Mississippi and Tennessee rivers. He returned home for a few years. In 1856 he removed to Iowa City and was one of the party who assisted in removing the capital from Iowa City to Des Moines. In 1857, while acting as government surveyor in Pocahontas county, he volunteered in the Spirit Lake Massacre Relief Expedition and participated in the terrible hardships of that trip. The next three years were spent on his claim near Fort Dodge. In 1861 he crossed the plains and worked in the mines and as stage driver until 1864, when he returned home. He remained on this farm for eight years, and afterward lived for different periods of time at Rochester, Illinois, on a farm in Fayette county and at Hawkeye, Iowa. He was a worker in the temperance cause and always interested in men and events about him.

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WILLIAM DENNIS was born in Madison County, Illinois, April 20, 1870, and died at his home in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, December 12, 1919. In 1884 he came with his parents to Woodbury County, Iowa. He attended school at Sloan, taught school five years, graduated from Cornell College, Mount Vernon, in 1900, and later, from the law department of the State University of Iowa. He began practice at Mount Vernon, but was elected county clerk of Linn County in 1910 and re-elected in 1912 and 1914. He was for a time chairman of the Linn County Republican Committee. In 1915 he was appointed by Governor Clarke a member of the Iowa Board of Parole, but resigned in 1916. He then formed a law partnership with Charles W. Kepler and son of Mount Vernon, the firm being Kepler, Dennis & Kepler, he having the Cedar Rapids office of the firm. He was a member of the board of directors of the Cedar Rapids Y. M. C. A.

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THOMAS FRANCIS NOLAN was born in Ireland, December 17, 1838; he died at Dubuque, Iowa, June 26, 1915. At the age of eight years he emigrated with his parents to America and settled in Philadelphia, Pa., where they remained three years. At the end of that time they removed to Iowa, and to a farm in Dubuque county. Mr. Nolan engaged in farming and successfully followed that pursuit in Dubuque county for the remainder of his life. He served as representative from Dubuque county in the Twenty-sixth, Twenty-sixth Extra and Twenty-seventh General Assemblies and as senator in the Twenty-eighth General Assembly, in which he was a member of the committees on agriculture, labor and mines and mining.

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