

He was a great reader and student and contributed many valuable historical articles to the *ANNALS OF IOWA* and other publications.

---

ALEXANDER MARDIS was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, October 10, 1852, and died at his home in Corydon, Iowa, September 18, 1920. He was brought by his parents to Clarke County, Iowa, in 1857, and he grew to manhood there. He lived a short time at Princeton, Missouri, but removed to Corydon, in 1879, and made that his home continuously thereafter. He was extensively and successfully engaged in contracting and building. He was a member of the local school board at Corydon for several years, was auditor of Wayne County for four years, 1890-1893, and was elected state senator in 1900 and served in the Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth General Assemblies. He was a member of several important committees, among them being the Committee on Railroads, and he took an active part in framing railroad legislation. In 1908 he was elected presidential elector, on the Republican ticket. He was interested in banking and for the last eight years of his life was president of the Wayne County State Bank.

---

LAWRITZ M. ENGER was born in Norway, November 3, 1856, and died at his home in Decorah, Iowa, August 2, 1920. He attended school in his native country, but at fifteen years of age emigrated to America, coming to Winneshiek County, Iowa. Here he worked on farms in summer and attended country school in winter. Later he attended Decorah Institute for three years. This was followed by several years in various mercantile pursuits and by service in the post office as an assistant. For sixteen years he was with the *Decorah Posten*, first as mailing clerk and later as a business manager and as editor. He also built up an extensive insurance business. He was active in local affairs, being secretary of the county fair, secretary of the local school board and treasurer of the city hospital. In 1910 he was elected to the lower house of the Iowa legislature and was re-elected in 1912, serving in the Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth General Assemblies. He was elected to the State Senate in 1914 and served in the Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh General Assemblies. In 1918 he was an unsuccessful candidate for the Republican nomination for Congress in the Fourth District, against Hon. G. N. Haugen.

---

MARY C. COLLINS was born at Upper Alton, Illinois, April 18, 1846, and died at Keokuk, Iowa, May 25, 1920. She came with her parents to Keokuk in 1848, was educated in public and private schools in that city, and taught a few years in the public schools there. In October, 1875, under the auspices of the Congregational church she went, as a missionary to the Sioux Indians, to Dakota Territory, near where the

city of Pierre now stands. She worked in that mission until 1884 when she went to Little Eagle station on Grand River, near the present state line between the two Dakotas. Here for twenty-five years she labored among Sitting Bull's people, much of the time living alone, traveling a great deal by team and helping many Indians to change from a wild life to that of civilization with homes, schools and churches. She was ordained a minister of the Congregational church in 1899. About 1910, because of failing strength, she was obliged to quit her work in the field. She then returned to Keokuk, but traveled much, speaking for the American Missionary Association of her church, urging support of its work among the Indians. She occupied the pulpit of the Congregational Church at Keokuk several months in 1919 as a supply.

---

JAMES F. DAUGHERTY was born at Chillicothe, Ohio, September 16, 1835, and died at Keokuk, Iowa, May 8, 1920. He came by wagon with his parents to Keokuk in 1842. He attended common school and at the age of fifteen years entered a retail store with his father. Two years later the father died and young Daugherty took over the business. When the Civil War came on he recruited a company, but as the Iowa regiments were full he moved the company to St. Louis where it was assigned as Company H to the Tenth Missouri Infantry. He was commissioned captain. He served actively in many campaigns and battles and was honorably discharged in July, 1862. Following his return to Keokuk he operated the steamboats Bridgeport and Imperior, for a time and then turned his attention to the wholesale liquor business, so continuing until within a few years of his death. He served as a member of the city council a number of years and in 1899 was elected mayor. For nine years he was a member of the board of supervisors of Lee County. In 1899 he stood third on the ballot in the Democratic state convention for the nomination for governor of Iowa.

---

HOMER H. FIELD was born at Atwater, Ohio, May 9, 1825, and died at the Old Soldiers' Home near Los Angeles, California, April 17, 1920. He went to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, in 1841 and learned the chairmaking trade. In 1845 he removed to Cincinnati, Ohio. He served in the Mexican War as a member of Company E, First Regiment Ohio Volunteers. In 1850 he removed to Indianapolis, Indiana, and in 1856 to Council Bluffs, Iowa. He was deputy sheriff and deputy provost marshal from 1862 to 1865, sheriff of Pottawattamie County from 1865 to 1868, a member of the city council of Council Bluffs for nine years between 1863 and 1875, chief of police from 1881 to 1884, a member of the board of education three terms, the last time as its president, and was justice of the peace from 1893 to 1895 and from 1905 to 1907. In 1907 he, with Hon. Joseph R. Reed, wrote a history of Pottawattamie County. As an expert violinist trained by Joseph Tasso, he was a professional musician for twenty-five years after coming to Council Bluffs.

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.