

## NOTABLE DEATHS.

JOHN JACKSON SELMAN was born in Franklin county, Alabama, January 17, 1818; he died in Bloomfield, Iowa, September 27, 1904. He grew to manhood on his father's farm, receiving his education at Perryville Institute, near St. Genevieve, Missouri. He began the study of medicine with an older brother, Dr. S. H. Selman, who had settled at Columbus, Indiana. He graduated from the Medical College of Ohio, in 1837, and practiced his profession at Rushville, Indiana, but in 1841 removed to Jackson township, Van Buren county, Iowa. Three years later he migrated to Davis county, and located a land claim three miles west of the present city of Bloomfield. Here he resumed the practice of medicine, in which he continued up to a short period before his death. He attained a wide and enviable reputation as a physician and surgeon. He was the oldest physician in his county and had especially endeared himself to the pioneer people. He was elected a member of the constitutional convention of 1846, of which body he is understood to have been the last survivor. He was elected to the State senate of the First General Assembly, which convened at Iowa City, November 30, 1846. In the classification which obtained at that time he drew the short term of two years. He was re-elected and on December 5, 1848, was chosen president of that body—the office of lieutenant-governor and president of the senate not existing until the adoption of the constitution of 1857. In 1850 he resumed his seat as senator, with the addition of Wayne county to his district. Of his associates in the Senate of 1848, Hon. P. M. Casady of Des Moines is believed to be the last surviving member. In 1848 he was one of the four Iowa Presidential electors and his vote with the others was cast for General Lewis Cass for President of the United States. This last service closed his political career, though he continued throughout his life to take a deep interest in the public affairs of Davis county. Among his personal friends he was always proud to remember James Harlan, George W. Jones, George G. Wright, Gov. W. M. Stone, and War Governor Samuel J. Kirkwood.

JAMES CALLANAN was born in Albany county, New York, October 20, 1820; he died in Des Moines, Iowa, September 26, 1904. The records state that, after a thorough education, he studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1847, and for some years had a large practice in Albany. In 1857 he formed a co-partnership with Col. Schuyler R. Ingham and opened the banking house of Callanan & Ingham in the city of Des Moines. Mr. Ingham was the resident member, Mr. Callanan residing in the east. This firm was continued until 1861, having acquired a large amount of real estate. So much of this property came into his hands through this change that it became necessary for Mr. Callanan to remove to Des Moines, which he did in 1863. From that time until his death he has always taken a deep interest in the welfare of the capital city, aside from being identified with many of its prominent business interests. After the Ingham partnership he was for a time associated with James C. Savery in the purchase and sale of lands and in acquiring titles to many hundreds of acres of swamp lands. It is also stated that he invested largely in tax titles under the revenue law which was passed in 1860. These ventures have always been understood as having been highly profitable. Mr. Callanan was a humane man and a liberal giver to various educational and benevolent enterprises. The Home for the Aged, Callanan College, and the Home for Friendless Children, Des Moines, and Penn College at Oskaloosa, were among the recipients of his bounty. Two or three years ago he accepted the presidency of the Iowa Humane Society. Of this latter distinction he was always especially proud. It is related of him that humane treatment of

birds and dumb animals was one of the most distinguishing characteristics of his later years, and many anecdotes are told of him illustrative of his unvarying tenderness for these objects of his solicitude.

CHARLES H. LEWIS was born October 17, 1839, at Collins Centre, Erie county, New York; he died at Sioux City, Iowa, September 26, 1904. He came with his parents to Independence, Iowa, where they settled in 1851. The greater portion of his boyhood was spent upon his father's farm and in a furniture factory. At the age of 19 he entered Cornell College, at Mt. Vernon, where he remained until 1862, when he enlisted as a private in Co. H, 27th Iowa Infantry. At the end of his first year he was promoted to Sergeant-Major of his regiment. At the expiration of another year he became First Lieutenant, and was later commissioned as Adjutant of the regiment, in which rank he was mustered out of the service at the close of the war. Upon his return from the army he engaged in merchandizing in Buchanan county, but finally entered the law department of the State University from which he graduated in 1869. He practiced his profession for a short time in Cherokee, Iowa, but in 1870 was nominated for District Attorney of the 4th Judicial District, which then comprised twenty-two counties in the northwestern part of the State. In this capacity he served from 1871 to 1875. At the election in 1874 he was nominated and elected District Judge, his term commencing January 1, 1875. At the end of his first term he was re-elected and chosen again four years later. He thus served twelve years on the bench. At the expiration of his last term of office he resumed the practice of the law in Sioux City, where he resided up to the time of his death. He was a leader in his profession, and well known throughout northwestern Iowa. In a published interview, Craig L. Wright spoke as follows of the deceased jurist: "Personally he was the most lovable of men to those whom he knew well. His character was one of the purest, and mere contact with him left a marked impress. I have always had the highest regard for him as a lawyer and a judge. Before the bar he was stronger in consultation than as an advocate and was one of the most learned men who ever practiced in this State."

GEORGE R. PEARSONS was born in Bradford, Vermont, August 7, 1830; he died in Fort Dodge, Iowa, July 14, 1904. Mr. Pearsons was one of the best known pioneers in the State, having located in Fort Dodge in 1868. For a large part of his life he was connected with railroads; he helped to construct the Fort Dodge & Fort Ridgley road at an early day, and became its superintendent. He contracted with the government to drain Owl Lake, Humboldt county, and in payment received 3,000 acres of lake bed land. He was elected Mayor of Fort Dodge in 1873 and again in 1890. In 1885 he was appointed Indian Inspector and as such made an enviable record as one who instituted much needed reforms in the Indian agencies and schools. He was father of Mrs. J. P. Dolliver, and brother of Dr. D. K. Pearsons, the Chicago philanthropist.

JAMES D. BARR was born in Brandenburg, Kentucky, July 13, 1835; he died in Wapello, Iowa, July 9, 1904. He was the pioneer citizen of Wapello, having settled there in 1842 and lived there continuously for over 62 years. He was in newspaper work from 1850 to 1896; and was connected with the first paper published in Louisa county. During the war *The Wapello Republican* owned and published by him, was one of the most radical papers in the State. He afterward, with Thomas N. Ives, founded *The Louisa County Record*. He was a fearless and honest writer and devoted to the best interests of his town and State. He was married in 1857 by Dr. William Salter to Miss Louisa A. Jenkins.

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