

WILLIAM CONNOR was born in Ireland, April 4, 1845; he died in Des Moines, Iowa, February 9, 1904. In 1848 he came with his parents to America, settling in Oneida county, New York, where his early years were spent. From 1863-65 he served in the war of the rebellion as a member of Co. D, 13th New York Cavalry. On his return he studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1867 at Syracuse, N. Y. In 1869 he located in Des Moines, where he became one of the ablest members of the Polk county bar. From 1878 to 1882 he was district attorney of Polk and adjacent counties; from 1883 to 1885 he served as circuit judge. In 1885 he became a member of the law firm of Gatch, Connor & Weaver. After the death of Col. Gatch in 1897, he became the senior member of the firm Connor & Weaver.

ELBERT M. SARGENT was born in Felicity, Ohio, March 8, 1840; he died in Grundy Center, January 7, 1904. He was engaged in the mercantile business when the war broke out, but left it at once and was mustered into Co. I, 22d Ohio Volunteers; he was later made Captain of Co. K, 59th Ohio, and as such served to the close of the war. In 1879 he came to Grundy Center, Iowa, and was in the mercantile business until 1896. He was a member of the city council and of the school board; he served as State senator in the 26th regular and special sessions of the legislature; in 1899 he was elected a member of the republican State central committee from the fifth district, continuing as such until 1903.

RALPH G. ORWIG was born in Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania, May 12, 1832; he died in Chicago, March 27, 1904. At an early age he entered business life in Philadelphia, engaging first in the mercantile business. He later became publisher of the Philadelphia State Journal. During the civil war he removed to Des Moines and became Governor Stone's private secretary. While the Governor was absent in the army, the duties of the office devolved upon him. He subsequently became publisher of the Des Moines daily and weekly Bulletin, and was at one time interested in the Iowa State Register. In 1893 he removed to Chicago where he has since resided.

NELSON B. EVERTS was born in Mexico, New York, September 18, 1825; he died in Webster City, Iowa, January 12, 1904. He was an early settler of Webster City, and one of its best known citizens. His profession was that of a civil engineer and he was for many years surveyor of Hamilton county. When the Illinois Central railroad was built through Iowa, he was chief engineer for the company on the Dubuque division. He superintended the building of the bridge across the Mississippi and the construction of the tunnel through the bluffs east of Dubuque. He was later employed by the Great Western road and by the Minneapolis & St. Louis.

JUSTUS C. ADAMS was born in Philadelphia, November 14, 1841; he died in Indianapolis, Indiana, December 26, 1903. In 1855 he came to Muscatine, Iowa, with his father, Samuel Adams. The latter was one of the first men in the United States to invent machinery for the making of brick. He established a factory with modern methods in Muscatine. The family in 1861 removed to Indianapolis, traveling by wagon. Justus C. became one of the best known residents of that city. He served on the city council and was in 1877 a representative in the Indiana legislature, and speaker of the House.

AMOS JOHNSON was born in Delaware county, Ohio, February 23, 1842; he died in Jefferson, Iowa, December 27, 1903. Mr. Johnson was a member of Co. I, 4th Ohio Infantry, in the civil war. In 1863 he came to Iowa

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.