

LEMUEL B. PATTERSON, a pioneer of the Iowa Bar, and one of the oldest and most influential citizens of Iowa City, died there, March 15, 1897. Mr. Patterson was born in Indiana in 1824, removing to Iowa in 1841. At the time the State capitol was located at Iowa City he was appointed Territorial Librarian and served in that capacity for two terms. While holding this office, although a young man, he rendered important aid in securing the passage of the first Iowa Homestead law. In 1861 he formed a law partnership with Levi Robinson, which continuing until a recent date, constituted by far the oldest law firm in the State. Mr. Patterson served at different times as Councilman and as City Auditor. He was for twenty years a member of the School Board and is said to have been the first to advocate the employment of women as teachers.

SUSAN SMITH RUSSELL, the first woman teacher in Iowa, and an old pioneer of Jefferson, died at that place February 22, 1897. Mrs. Russell was born in Maine in 1816. In 1837 she came to old Fort Des Moines and began teaching in the barracks. This was one year after the Territory of Wisconsin had been taken from Michigan Territory. While still engaged in this work, Iowa was made a separate Territory and consequently Mrs. Russell had the honor of being its first woman teacher. In territorial days she also taught in Augusta, Iowa. While there she heard Governor Lucas make a public speech, an occasion always remembered by her with great pleasure. In 1868 she removed to Jefferson, where for the remainder of her long life she was identified with the best interests of the town, honored and beloved by all.

SUPT. C. C. CORY, of the Girls' Industrial School at Mitchellville, died in Chicago, February 21, 1897. Supt. Cory took charge of the work in Mitchellville in 1885, having been previously connected with the public schools of Pella and also with the Central University located at that place. He was a man of the highest character and discharged the duties of his responsible position in the most faithful and conscientious manner, leaving an impression for good on hundreds of young lives. No officer could be more faithful to a public trust. Two new buildings for the Industrial Home School have recently been erected, and to each he gave his personal supervision and care. His arduous duties impaired his health, and he was taking an enforced rest at the time of his death.

CAPT. NATHANIEL A. MERRILL died at his home in De Witt, December 31, 1896. The subject of this notice came to Iowa in 1856 and has long been prominent in the public and political affairs of the State. A loyal patriot, he rendered faithful service in the late war as Captain in the 26th Iowa Infantry. He was severely wounded in the battle of Arkansas Post. He was a member of the lower house in the 14th, 21st and 26th General Assemblies, served in the Senate two terms, and at the time of his death was the representative of Clinton county. He was President of the First National Bank of De Witt, and until recently was a Commissioner of the Iowa Soldiers' Home. He aided materially in the revision of the code of 1873. Capt. Merrill was a life-long Democrat.

MRS. KATHERINE ROOP, widow of Benjamin Roop, died in Oskaloosa, January 29, 1897, at the age of ninety. Mrs. Roop was one of the earliest pioneers of Oskaloosa, having come with her husband to that place in 1843, a year before the town was laid out. Her death will recall to the old citizens of that town and vicinity the prominent part taken by Mr. and Mrs. Roop in early days. Their first residence, a large brick building, now serving as a hotel, was erected before railroad times and much of the material was brought by team from Keokuk and Burlington. A grandson of Mrs. Roop is on the editorial staff of the *Youth's Companion* and another is now serving as State Senator in Utah.

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