Dr. Jackson Watts died in Des Moines October 16, 1897. He was born in Indiana in 1840. With his father and seven brothers he removed to Polk county, Iowa, in 1848, and was one of the oldest residents of this region. In 1859 he began the study of dental surgery, and at the time of his death was eminent in his chosen profession, enjoying the reputation of being one of the best dentists in the West.

REUBEN C. Rock who died November 4, 1897, in Cedar Rapids, was one of the oldest settlers of Linn county. He was born in Litiz, Pennsylvania, in 1820. In 1850 he came to Cedar Rapids and was the first person to engage in the hardware business in that city. Mr. Rock was one of the best educated men in the county, and his wide knowledge and excellent judgment rendered him a most valuable citizen.

CAPT. W. A. HUNTER died at Malvern, Iowa, December 11, 1897, at the age of 84 years. He was once a student in the law office of Edwin M. Stanton, Steubenville, Ohio, but later on became editor of a journal advocating the abolition of slavery. He was a fearless and able defender of what he deemed to be right. He was the father of Hon. J. D. and Capt. J. R. C. Hunter of Webster City.

DAVID T. JEWELL, an old and highly respected citizen of Hamilton county, died at Jewell Junction, Iowa, November 12, 1897. Mr. Jewell was born in the State of New York in 1835. In 1877 he removed to Iowa and became the founder of the town that bears his name.

PORTRAIT OF GEN. HENRY DODGE.

We present in this number of The Annals an etching from a portrait of this illustrious pioneer of the Northwest. The original was painted by George Catlin, in 1834, when its subject was in the prime of life, and is now owned by his grandson, Hon. W. W. Dodge, of Burlington. The Historical Department, through the courtesy of this gentleman, is in possession of a facsimile of this interesting and valuable painting, copied by Miss Hattie Binford of Burlington. The original was a miniature, the figure being only 7½ inches in height. Our printed copy of this portrait is somewhat reduced in size, but otherwise as faithful a reproduction as can be secured in a zinc etching.

The Spirit of our land, personified,
Is the bold Pioneer: that Spirit strong
And restless, which hath mow'd its sinewy way
Through the deep forest, since its first tree stoop'd
To the sharp axe-blow. Far and wide he sees
The wonders he has caused: the bloom—the life—
Which glanced in broken visions through the brain
That night beneath the branches: and as dips
The sun within the west, he humbly hopes
His sun will sink as gently to the tomb,
And rise as brightly to eternal day.

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 listsery without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.