

NOTABLE DEATHS

JOHN RICKERT AMIDON was born in St. Joseph county, Michigan, May 29, 1840; he died at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, July 1, 1912. He was employed on a farm and in a store in Shullsburg, Wisconsin, in his youth, but attended school at Minneapolis, Minn., one year. In 1860 he crossed the plains to Mountain City, Colorado, returning in the fall to his prior home in Wisconsin, there enlisting in Company I, Third Wisconsin Volunteers Infantry, becoming Quartermaster Sergeant in 1864 and being transferred in 1865 to Company B and promoted to the position of Second Lieutenant. He participated in the battles of Chancellorsville, Antietam and Gettysburg, and was in Sherman's march to the sea. He was honorably discharged in July, 1865. After his employment for a short time as a clerk in Minneapolis, he removed to Galena, Illinois, and later to Blairtown, Iowa, establishing a private bank, which afterwards became the Benton County State Bank. In November, 1873, he removed to Cedar Rapids and engaged in the implement business with Hon. John T. Hamilton. In this he remained until 1891. He then engaged in the banking business as assistant cashier of the City National Bank, which was later merged into the Citizens' National Bank, of which he was one of the organizers and vice president. He continued until 1908 in this bank, when he disposed of his interests and became active in the management of the Security Savings Bank, which he served as vice president until his death.

WILLIAM F. JONES was born in Morgan county, Illinois, June 17, 1832; he died near Denova, Henry county, Iowa, July 14, 1912. He was educated in the public schools and later was a teacher in Baltimore township, Henry county. He enlisted in Company B, Third Iowa Cavalry, and served throughout his term of enlistment. He was a member of Henry County Board of Supervisors, being elected in 1864. He was elected to the Twenty-seventh General Assembly as a representative in 1898.

JACOB BENJAMIN HARRIS was born in Huntingdon township, Pennsylvania, February 12th, 1830; he died at Wilton, Iowa, April 29, 1912. After removing with his family to Salem, Ohio, at the age of four, he entered a cabinet maker's shop at the age of ten and learned the trade. He attended the Academy of Marlborough during winters for a number of years. He engaged in teaching in various Ohio high schools until he removed to Wilton, Iowa, in 1860. He established a private school at Wilton, which was discontinued on account of the enlistments in the Union army. He then became an instructor in other Wilton schools, including the Wilton Academy, from which he withdrew in 1886 to establish the first business college in Muscatine. This he continued until 1894, when he disposed of his interests and returned to Wilton to remain throughout his remaining years. He received the honorary degree of M. A. from the State University of Iowa in 1885, and was the author of a number of text books.

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.