

NOTABLE DEATHS.

MARTIN H. CALKINS was born near Mexico, Oswego county, New York, September 15, 1828; he died in Wyoming, Jones county, Iowa, September 28, 1909. He was of Puritan ancestry. He attended the common schools of his native county, in which he served as a school teacher at the age of seventeen. He began his medical studies in the office of the local doctor in Oswego, pursued them in the college of medicine at Geneva, completing his course in the medical university of the City of New York. He began the practice at Constantia, New York, continuing until 1856, when he removed to the state of Iowa, beginning his practice anew on June 14, 1856, at Wyoming, where he made his final residence. Upon the lot where he erected his first dwelling he continued to reside, though afterward in a much more pretentious house. In 1862 he acted as mustering officer and as such mustered into the State militia a company of eighty-nine men, which afterward formed Company K of the 24th Iowa Infantry. He also acted as one of the commissioners who took the vote of the Iowa soldiers in the field in 1862-3. Dr. Calkins was unanimously chosen as mayor of Wyoming. In 1881 he was nominated by the Republicans of Jones county as their candidate for Representative in the Iowa House, the Democrats making no nomination and causing his unanimous election. He was re-nominated to be his own successor and was given a large majority against strong opposition. He was appointed on the committees of ways and means, insurance, penitentiary at Anamosa and medicine and surgery. To him is accredited the leadership in securing statutes for oil inspection and for most effective support for the prohibitory law. He was no seeker after political honors, and returned to the comfort of private life upon the completion of his second term as Representative. He kept memoranda of passing events and wrote rather fully on the early days in Jones county. He was distinguished for his fairness, and both the gentleness and strength of his character.

LAWRENCE MARSHALL BYERS was born at the Chateau of Bocken, near Zurich, Switzerland, on August 18, 1872; he died in London, England, July 7, 1909. He was the son of Major and Mrs. S. H. M. Byers. His birth occurred during the residence of his father in Switzerland as United States Consul. He was first taught by private teachers, and then entered the select academy of Count Benst, where he acquired perfect knowledge of the continental languages and prepared for college. His education was continued in Penn College, a Quaker institution at Oskaloosa in 1885, from which he was graduated at the age of seventeen. Here he won the scholarship for Haverford College, Philadelphia, where he took the course in astronomy and received the degree of A. M. He attracted the attention and favorable remark of Professor Simon Newcomb, the celebrated astronomer. He was offered employment by the Government, but turned his attention to the law, taking up the course in Roman law at the University of Zurich. He returned to America, entered Yale Law School and graduated with special honors. He entered the practice in the city of Des Moines, from which he was

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