

NOTABLE DEATHS.

DEXTER C. BLOOMER was born in Cayuga county, N. Y., July 4, 1816; he died at Council Bluffs, Iowa, Feb. 24, 1900. He was of Quaker parentage, and was reared under the influences of that wise and equable people. The impressions which a youth so "watched and tended" left upon his character remained with him to the end of his singularly beautiful and useful life. After his common school education, he studied law, but turned his attention to politics and journalism, and for a time edited *The Courier*, at Seneca Falls, N. Y. He belonged to the Whig party. His newspaper work soon made him a prominent factor in that section. He held a number of local offices, among which was that of postmaster from 1849 to 1853. In the latter year he came west and settled in Mt. Vernon, O., where he published *The Western Home Visitor*, in the editorial conduct of which he was ably assisted by his wife, who had already attained a national—almost world-wide—fame as an advocate of woman's suffrage and dress reform. Business interests, however, drew him to Council Bluffs, whither he removed in 1855. Since that time, few educators have been better known in our State. He became a member in 1861 of the State Board of Education, which came into existence with the adoption of the present constitution and was abolished March 23, 1864. He early took an active and prominent part in developing the schools and library interests of Council Bluffs, continuing a worker for their advancement until his own life ended. To no other one resident is so much due for the excellent educational progress of that thriving city. In fact, the influence of his labors, local though they were, was felt throughout the State. During the years which elapsed after he settled at Council Bluffs he had held many positions of honor and trust, as Receiver of the U. S. Land Office from 1861 until it was abolished years afterward; Mayor of that city in 1872; President of the School Board, and President of the County Bar Association. He held the position of senior warden of St. Paul's Episcopal church for forty years. He wrote a "History of Pottawattamie County," and soon after the death of his wife published "The Life and Writings of Amelia Bloomer" (Boston, 1895), a loving and beautiful tribute to her useful life. To the work of The Historical Department of Iowa he was always a valued friend, ever ready to write or speak words of encouragement. He had contributed several valuable articles to THE ANNALS, and had given us information in regard to securing others. His portrait appeared in Vol. II, p. 586, and there are many references to him elsewhere in our pages. He was one of the best men the writer has ever known, and our acquaintance dated from 1870. He possessed a fund of rich and varied information and was a rare converser. A meeting with him was an opportunity to be prized and an event long to be remembered. His character was a symmetrical one, well developed in every direction. His nature was geniality and kindness personified, though no man was ever more fixed and settled in his opinions upon questions involving right and wrong. His influence was always exerted for the best interests of the community in which he resided, and for the State of which he was proud.

BOARDMAN O. SHAW, father of the present governor of Iowa, died at his home at Morrisville, Vermont, on Tuesday, March 6. He was born in the same town in the month of August, 1816. Much of his life was spent on a farm in the neighboring town of Stowe, where his son Leslie was born. In his youth he had taught school for several years and his conversation always gave evidence of culture, although he had had no advantages of a college education. The deceased was twice married. His first wife was Lavisa Spaulding, who was of a family that half a century ago were noted in the

educational world. This lady was the mother of his three children, two of whom survive him. After her death Mr. Shaw married Mrs. McCutchen, a lady whose first husband perished in the army during the civil war. She survives the deceased. Some years ago, Mr. Shaw came to Iowa with the view of making his home near his sons in Crawford county; but in a few years he found that old associations had too strong an attachment for him to permit his remaining away from his native state. Accordingly, he returned to Vermont. He came again to Iowa on a visit in 1897, and to attend the inauguration of his son as governor—a happy occasion for the venerable gentleman. Last summer his daughter, Mrs. Cora Allen, passed away. On Saturday, the 3d, Mr. Shaw had a partial stroke of paralysis, which the physicians looked upon as likely to be fatal. The patient however suffered no pain, and seemed to be entirely comfortable, conversing pleasantly with his family, until Sunday evening, when he lapsed into unconsciousness, in which condition he remained until the end peacefully came on Tuesday, the 6th, at 4:30 p. m. His son, the Governor of Iowa, was summoned to his father's bedside, but did not arrive until the aged man had passed away. He was at the funeral, it being the second time he had been called to his old home on a like mournful errand since he became Governor. Mr. Shaw's other son, Dutha W., resides at Manilla, Crawford county. His wife is the daughter of his father's present wife by her former marriage.

MOST REVEREND JOHN HENNESSY, Archbishop of Dubuque, was born in Limerick county, Ireland, August 20, 1826; he died at Dubuque, Iowa, March 4, 1900. He received his primary education in his own home, but studied from his 12th to his 22d year under special teachers. He came to this country in 1847, and studied awhile at Carondelet Seminary, near St. Louis, where he was ordained to the Roman Catholic priesthood by Archbishop Kenrick, in 1850. He was pastor of the church at New Madrid, and also at Gravois, Missouri, from 1850 to 1855, when he became professor of dogmatic theology at the theological seminary at Carondelet. He taught for two years when he was attached to the cathedral at St. Joseph, Missouri, and also officiated at St. Joseph's church in that city. In 1866 he was appointed Bishop of Dubuque. In 1893 Dubuque became a metropolitan see and Dr. Hennessy was promoted to the archbishopric. His archdiocese included five sees—Dubuque, Davenport, Omaha, Lincoln and Cheyenne. He was one of the profoundest scholars and ablest men in the Catholic church of this country—with few equals in executive ability—and one of the most influential in its councils. He was not often heard from the pulpit, though he had a high reputation as an orator. He was especially distinguished for his work in establishing hospitals and schools, and for a year or two before his death was striving to found a great educational institution which would have become the chief work of his life. In his death his church in the United States has lost one of its greatest men. His funeral was attended by Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishops Ireland, Ryan, Feehan, Keane, and many others of the most distinguished priests and prelates throughout the country.

DR. WILLIAM CRAIG was born in Westmoreland county, Pa., July 29, 1817; he died at Keosauqua, Iowa, Dec. 14, 1899. He was of Scottish descent. His boyhood and youth were spent on his father's farm, but he entered upon the study of medicine at Geneva College, N. Y., in 1843. He also studied at the Western Reserve University, at Cleveland, O., where he graduated in 1851. In the autumn of that year he settled at Keosauqua, Iowa, which was his home to the end of his days. He served as Mayor of the city, upon the school board, and was a leading deacon of the Congregational church. People of these days can little appreciate what a humane

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