

sive lines. He was admitted to the bar in 1882 and practiced at Pella until 1892 when he removed to Des Moines and formed a partnership with Ira M. Earle. In 1898 he was elected district judge and served the following four years. In 1902 he became a candidate for the Republican nomination for Congress, but in a closely contested campaign, lost to the then incumbent, J. A. T. Hull. In 1904 he was again a candidate in a no less strenuous campaign, and again lost to Captain Hull. Both of these campaigns were in primaries in Polk and most of the other counties in the district, conducted under party rules. Besides his law practice Mr. Prouty had engaged extensively in commercial lines. The Des Moines Knitting Company and the Des Moines Lumber Company were two of the several concerns in which he was interested. He became a large manufacturer of walnut lumber, and an extensive rice grower. He was financially successful. In 1908 he again became a candidate for Congress, contesting the nomination with Congressman Hull under the new primary law, but again lost. In 1910 he contested with Mr. Hull for the fourth time and this time won in the primaries, and won in the election over his Democratic opponent, Clint L. Price. In 1912 he had no opposition for renomination, and was re-elected, this time his Democratic opponent again being Mr. Price. He was an active, progressive and useful congressman, but declined further service. His later years were spent looking after his business interests and in retirement.

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JOEL MILO FENN was born in Marietta, Ohio, August 9, 1844, and died at Murray, Iowa, May 7, 1914. His parents removed with their family to the vicinity of Salem, Henry County, Iowa, in 1855. Here the son obtained his education in common and normal schools, and taught several terms in Henry County. He then removed to near Osceola, Clarke County, and continued teaching a few years when he changed to farming and stock raising. For a few years he was also engaged in the nursery business. He resided in Murray the later years of his life. In 1906 he was elected representative, and was re-elected in 1908, serving in the Thirty-second and Thirty-third general assemblies.

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S. W. MOORHEAD was born near Blairsville, Pennsylvania, March 4, 1849, and died in Keokuk, Iowa, August 11, 1927. His education was obtained in common school, in Blairsville Academy, and in Edinboro State Normal School, near Erie. He began teaching school when seventeen years old and followed it for a few years. In 1870 he removed to Batavia, Jefferson County, Iowa, where he published for a time the *Batavia Herald*. While there he taught a class in shorthand both at Batavia and at Mount Pleasant. In 1871 he removed to Afton where he published the *Afton News*. While there part of the time he accompanied Judge McDill on the judicial circuit as court reporter. In 1872 he sold out and went to Council Bluffs as editorial writer on the *Council Bluffs*

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