

active life was a member of the church choir. Popular with all classes because of his fine personal qualities, he was an especial favorite among his war comrades. As a camp fire speaker he had few equals. He received the highest honor the Grand Army had to bestow, being commander of the Department of Iowa for the year 1907-08, and grand commander of the national organization in 1914-15.

---

DILLON H. PAYNE was born in Wapello County, Iowa, August 7, 1847, and died in Bloomfield, October 15, 1928. His parents were William E. and Hester Ann (Vinson) Payne. His father died in 1848 and his mother in 1854, after which he lived with relatives. He was graduated in liberal arts from Iowa Wesleyan University (now Iowa Wesleyan College) in 1869. He then read law in the office of James B. Weaver at Bloomfield and was admitted to the bar in 1870. He spent a year in Little Rock, Arkansas, as city reporter on a daily paper, and later as deputy state superintendent of public instruction, but in 1871 returned to Bloomfield and joined with General Weaver in the firm of Weaver & Payne, lawyers. When General Weaver became immersed in politics he withdrew from practice and the firm became Traverse, Payne & Eichelberger. On Traverse and Eichelberger being elected to judgeships Mr. Payne then associated himself with George T. Sowers and on Sowers' death, with T. A. Goodson. In over half a century of active practice he attained honorable distinction and success. He was a life-long member of the Methodist church, was superintendent of the local Methodist Sunday school for over thirty years, was a member of the choir for over sixty years, and was a delegate to two general conferences, in Chicago in 1900 and in Los Angeles in 1904. In his later life he did considerable writing for the local press, especially along historical lines. In 1922 Governor Kendall appointed him a commissioner from Iowa to the World's Centennial Exposition in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, which he attended. His publications in book form are *Brazilian Letters, Recollections*, and *Pioneer History of Davis County*, the latter being partly a compilation with others. In his earlier years he was a supporter of the Greenback party, and in later years, generally of the Democratic party, although he was not strictly a party man. He was a man of fine influence in his community.

---

ELDON J. HARTSHORN was born at Lunenburg, Vermont, June 16, 1842, and died in Kensington, Maryland, a suburb of Washington, D. C., January 16, 1926. The following day Mrs. Hartshorn, who was Ella P. Bennett of Lima, New York, before her marriage, suffered a stroke of paralysis and died in a few hours. Their double funeral was held on January 19, and they were buried with military honors in Arlington National Cemetery near Washington. Mr. Hartshorn enlisted in Company E, Fifteenth Regiment Vermont Infantry, in August, 1862, was made orderly sergeant, was promoted to second lieutenant, and was mustered out in 1863. He then enlisted in Company G, Seventeenth

Regiment Vermont Infantry, was made captain and served as such until mustered out in July, 1865. Returning home he entered the law office of his old colonel, Redfield Proctor, of the Fifteenth Regiment, and was admitted to the bar in 1869. In 1870 he removed to Emmetsburg, Iowa, and engaged in the practice of law with George B. McCarty. In 1873 he was elected representative and served in the Fifteenth General Assembly. In 1875 he was elected senator, and was re-elected in 1879, serving in the Sixteenth, Seventeenth, Eighteenth, and Nineteenth general assemblies. In 1885 he was elected county treasurer of Palo Alto County and was re-elected in 1887, serving four years. While county treasurer he was also a member of the Board of Trustees of the State Hospital for Insane at Clarinda. During the sessions of the Fifty-first Congress, 1890-1892, he was at Washington acting as treasurer of the sergeant-at-arms of the House of Representatives. He followed that by some service in the General Land office, but in 1894 returned to Emmetsburg. That year he was elected clerk of the District Court of Palo Alto County and was re-elected in 1896, serving four years. In 1898 he was a candidate for the Republican nomination for auditor of state, but lost to Frank F. Merriam. Soon thereafter he returned to Washington and obtained a position as an assistant attorney in the office of the solicitor of the Department of the Interior, retaining it until his death. He was a man of fine character and of winning personality.

---

CHARLES H. McNIDER was born in Dubuque, Iowa, February 9, 1860, and died in Mason City, October 30, 1928. His parents were Thomas B. and Anna (Kane) McNider. The family removed to Mason City in 1871. Charles H. attended public school in Dubuque and Mason City, but at an early age began work. He herded cattle, worked on farms, and in grain elevators. In 1875 he took employment as an office boy in the Cerro Gordo County Bank, remained with it and in 1881 when it was organized as the First National Bank became assistant cashier, was advanced to cashier in 1887 and to president in 1895 and continued in that position until his death. He became president of several other banks in smaller towns in the vicinity of Mason City, was president of the Northwestern States Portland Cement Company, and was a moving spirit in practically all the larger business concerns in his part of the state. While still in his thirties he was president of the Iowa Bankers Association. Since then he had many lucrative offers from large financial concerns to take executive positions, but always refused to leave Mason City. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank, was during the World War director for Iowa of the third and fourth Liberty loans, was county chairman for the Red Cross work, and was in numberless patriotic activities. Interested in politics but not a candidate for public positions, yet he served his city as treasurer for over ten years, was a member of the Mason City School Board many years, was a presidential elector in

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.