

elected the third mayor of the city of Des Moines. In 1855 he was city recorder, and in 1858 city treasurer. He was a member of the city council for the Third Ward in 1869-70. He was long prominent in public affairs in Des Moines, and always discharged his public duties with credit to himself and honor to the public whom he served. Soon after his arrival in the then frontier town he married Susan R. Lawson. Seven children were born to them, and the mother and three children survive—John, Minnie and Lampson P., Jr., all of whom are residents of the capital city.

ON THE MORNING of December 3, 1900, occurred the death of Franklin Wilcox, at Burlington, Iowa, at the ripe old age of ninety years. He was among the first settlers of the State of Iowa, coming to the territory as early as 1836 and settling in what was known as the half breed tract in Lee county. Mr. Wilcox was born at Addison, Vermont, June 24, 1810. His parents soon afterwards removed to Portage county, Ohio. On coming to Iowa Mr. Wilcox purchased 2,000 acres of land in the "Half Breed Tract." He soon afterwards removed to Commerce, Illinois, afterwards known as Nauvoo. He returned to Lee county in 1841 and in 1845 removed to Des Moines county, settling in Union township where he engaged in farming until 1863. His last settlement was in Burlington, where he lived until his death. On the breaking out of the war Mr. Wilcox was one of the first to offer his services to his country, enlisting in Co. K, 33d Illinois Infantry, in May, 1861. He served three years and enlisted again, remaining in the service until the close of the war. He participated in all the engagements in which his regiment took part. There served with him his second son, Pliny, who was killed. The confidence and respect of his fellow-citizens in his ability and integrity were shown Mr. Wilcox on numerous occasions. He held various important public positions, was sheriff of his county, which he also represented in the State Legislature in 1862, member of the board of county supervisors, and justice of the peace for fifteen years. In politics he was a Whig and later a Republican.

HENRY EGBERT was born in New Castle, Delaware, September 22, 1826; he died at Davenport, Iowa, February 23, 1901. At the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted in Co. C, 2d Iowa Cavalry, of which he was a few days later elected captain. He went at once to the front where he saw plenty of active service, taking part in the battles of Iuka and Corinth. He was in the charge at Farmington, in May, 1862, where he received a wound from which he never fully recovered. He left the service for a short time but re-enlisted in 1864, when he was commissioned lieutenant-colonel of the 44th Iowa Infantry. He served as provost marshal at Davenport after the regiment was discharged, and was not finally mustered out till January, 1866. He served four years as treasurer of Scott county, once as representative in the legislature, 1880-81, and four years as postmaster of that city. He was prominent in many business interests, and was for two terms a trustee of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home. During the period of his residence in Davenport he was one of the foremost citizens, both of the town and county, and well known throughout the State.

HENRY G. CURTIS was born in Licking county, Ohio, November 3, 1839; he died at Atlantic, Iowa, March 2, 1901. He graduated from the Central University of Iowa at Pella in 1861, and was honored with the degree of A. M. from the same institution in 1866. He was the founder of his own fortunes, teaching in the common schools to pay his way through college. He enlisted as a private in Co. E, 8th Iowa Infantry, and was promoted to sergeant of the Mississippi River Marine Brigade. He was admitted to the bar in 1865, during which year he served as assistant secretary of the senate. He rose to a commanding position as a lawyer, and was exceedingly

fortunate in business enterprises. He became a member of the Board of Trustees of his Alma Mater, to which he gave \$25,000. He was widely distinguished as a Republican orator and writer. His last public service was as a member of the U. S. commission for the establishment of a new government in Porto Rico.

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WILLIAM WESLEY BOAK was born in Berkley county, Virginia, August 21, 1825; he died at Webster City, Iowa, March 5, 1901. His father came west in 1836, stopping first at Georgetown, Illinois, but the next year continuing his journey to Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, where he made a permanent settlement. In 1852 the subject of this notice crossed the plains with an ox team to California. He returned to Iowa in 1854, and settled on a farm two miles northwest of Webster City. He was, therefore, one of the pioneers of Hamilton county and went through all the privations and vicissitudes of frontier life. Always reliable in his business engagements, an industrious, prudent and successful farmer, he became well known in county affairs. He served long on the township school board, and was for eight years a county supervisor, beginning with the introduction of that system in January, 1861. He was several times chairman of the board.

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LEWIS WHITMAN TUBBS was born in Binghampton, New York, January 24, 1826; he died at Emerson, Iowa, February 28, 1901. He was one of the Argonauts of '49, having crossed the plains to California with an ox train that year. He spent some time in mining, with but moderate success, and when the State was admitted in 1850, he was elected to the legislature from his district. After some time devoted to mercantile and mining pursuits, he returned to "the States" and took up his residence for a time in Michigan. In 1854 he came to Iowa and settled at Emerson, Mills county, where he afterwards resided. He held the office of county judge from 1858 to 1860. In 1861 he raised an infantry company which was retained at home as minute men to keep back the Missouri raiders. The company, however, was never called out. He was prominent in the Masonic order of which he had been a member for half a century.

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JAMES A. POOR was born at Pawlet, Vermont, November 11, 1836; he died at Independence, Iowa, January 10, 1901. When the war of the rebellion came on he enlisted in Co. C, 27th Iowa Infantry, and served during the war. At its close he returned to Independence, where he afterwards resided. He was elected treasurer of the county, which office he held twenty-seven years, an unprecedented record in this State. He managed the office with such rare ability, and his services were so satisfactory to the people that he was, with one accord, kept in that position. Hon. W. G. Donnan, who served with him in the 27th Infantry, paid a high tribute in *The Bulletin-Journal* of Independence to his efficiency as a soldier and an officer. That paper devoted three columns to a biographical sketch of Mr. Poor, which was accompanied by a fine portrait.

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JOHN RAMSDELL was born at Salem, Massachusetts, January 1, 1816; he died at Tama, Iowa, March 5, 1901. In his youth and early manhood he was a sailor. Settling in Tama county in 1863, he assisted in organizing the township where he resided, and was the second county superintendent of schools. During his term he issued a certificate to Hon. James Wilson, present Secretary of Agriculture, authorizing him to teach in the public schools. He has been prominent in business circles in that county—as a director in the First National Bank, one of the organizers and president of the Tama Paper Company, and one of the directors of the Tama Water Power Company. He also filled the office of mayor of Tama City. He was a scholarly and cultured gentleman with decidedly literary tastes.

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