

Order, but the story of his useful career in other fields of effort and usefulness should by no means be neglected. It is to be hoped that this subject may receive early attention from the Masonic Grand Lodge, as well as from his more immediate friends.

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### DEWEY AND INGHAM.

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During the years of the civil war in which the State of Iowa was incurring heavy expenditures incident to the raising, arming, subsisting, and sending to the front her volunteer soldiers, she had the services of two men—John N. Dewey and Schuyler R. Ingham—who deserve to be held in grateful remembrance. They were members of the board of commissioners named as such in the first section of chapter 10. laws of the extra session of the 5th general assembly, “an act providing for auditing all accounts and disbursements arising under the call for volunteers from Iowa, and also for all men organized as State militia of Iowa.” This act was approved May 28, 1861. These gentlemen were associated at times with other well-known business men in the discharge of their onerous and most responsible duties, but the consensus of opinion during these years gave them the largest measure of credit for the excellent work performed by the commission. In this work they “did the State some service,” a fact which was known and appreciated in every community from which soldiers enlisted for the Union armies. This involved great expense and men were found quite ready to “make money” by it. But when an account came to be acted upon by Dewey and Ingham it had to pass through a most critical ordeal, though they were never charged with acting unjustly, or in a spirit of narrow, pinching economy. Each was a man of positive convictions, and from their determination to pay no padded bills against the State or general government they could not be swerved in the smallest degree. Perhaps the highest compliment that can be paid

to the memory of these auditing commissioners is this — that they enjoyed to the fullest extent the confidence of Samuel J. Kirkwood, our illustrious War Governor.

Col. Dewey was born in Hanover, N. H., Feb. 3, 1814; he died in Des Moines, Iowa, Sept. 9, 1889. He had studied civil engineering, which profession he followed for ten years in the employ of railroad companies in New England and New York. He settled in Des Moines in 1855, where he was engaged in engineering, surveying, and dealing in real estate. He was a business man of large capacity and experience, standing high in the confidence of his wide circle of acquaintance. He was often chosen to positions of public trust in the city where he lived, and was one of the first board of capitol commissioners, but his most important service was performed under the law quoted above. When he passed away, aside from an appreciative notice by his friend James S. Clarkson, but little attention was given to the event, because, no doubt, his days of usefulness were long past and his life for many years had been a quiet one. But the State has had few abler and certainly no more upright and conscientious public servant. Col. Schuyler R. Ingham "still lives," a resident, we believe, of New York City. He has been widely known more than a quarter of a century as a business man of great ability, especially successful in the management of large operations.

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### ESTIMATES OF JUDGE SPRINGER.

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The addresses and other proceedings upon the occasion of the presentation of Judge Francis Springer's portrait were too voluminous to be published in our pages. We have therefore made some selections from the letters received in response to invitations. The first selection is the brief letter, evidently written by a tremulous hand, of Hon. Henry J. Skiff, a member of the constitutional convention of 1857, representing the counties of Poweshieck, Jasper, Marshall and Tama:

NEWTON, MAY 5.

The infirmities of my 81 years force me to send regrets for my inability to be present at the unveiling of the portrait of the old president, Francis Springer, May 7, which you very kindly invited me to attend.

Very truly yours,

H. J. SKIFF.

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