

thoroughly with all departments of the business. From 1870 to 1884 he was in newspaper work in Atchison, Kansas, as city editor of the *Atchison Champion* and owner of the *Atchison Patriot*. After disposing of his newspaper interests in Atchison he lived for three years in Leavenworth where he built a street railway line. In 1887 he removed to Burlington and purchased the *Burlington Gazette*, which had been established in 1837. His brother, Henry Stivers, who was associated with him withdrew at the end of the first year and from that time until his death, Mr. Stivers remained sole owner of that publication, giving his personal attention to its management, endeavoring to make it a publication for the people. He was a life-long Democrat and active in politics, interested in the development of his city and energetic and enthusiastic in every cause undertaken by him.

JOHN STILLMAN LOTHROP was born in Dover, Maine, October 9, 1836; he died at Sioux City, Iowa, July 1, 1913. He was educated in the common schools of his native town. In 1852 he removed with his father's family to Illinois where he spent seven years on a farm. He entered the Chicago Law School and received his legal education from Prof. Henry Booth. At the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted in Company I, Eleventh Illinois Infantry, and at the expiration of his three months' service re-enlisted in Company E, Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry and was promoted Captain. He participated in the battles of Fort Henry, Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth and other engagements. After the close of the war he practiced law in Ottawa and Champaign, Illinois, until 1884, when he removed to Sioux City and continued his practice there. He was a Republican in politics and was appointed by President Harrison Collector of United States Internal Revenues for the Third Iowa District. He represented Woodbury county in the Senate of the Twenty-sixth, Twenty-sixth Extra and Twenty-seventh General Assemblies.

BENJAMIN F. KEABLES was born in Elba, Genesee county, New York, November 30, 1828; he died at Pella, Iowa, May 8, 1911. He removed when a child with his parents to Michigan and then to Illinois, where he engaged in school teaching, and in his spare moments studying medicine. In 1850 he went to Keokuk to attend medical lectures and pursue his studies. He later graduated from the Rush Medical College in Chicago. In 1852 he removed to Pella and continued in the practice of medicine in that city until a short time prior to his death. In 1862 he enlisted as assistant surgeon in the Third Iowa Volunteer Infantry, was soon promoted to surgeon and held this position until the regiment was mustered out in 1864. He represented Marion county in the House of the Thirteenth and Fourteenth General Assemblies. He took a very deep interest in the upbuilding of his town, especially along educational lines, serving for many years as a member of the school board and of the board of trustees of Central University.

CHRISTIAN HEDGES was born in Richland county, Ohio, May 3, 1830; he died at Marengo, Iowa, February 26, 1913. Though his early years were spent on a farm, he received a good academic education and later graduated from the Cincinnati Law School. He commenced the practice of law at Mansfield, Ohio, but went to California during the gold excitement in 1849, and remained there ten

years. He returned east and located in Marengo, Iowa, where he continued the practice of law, ranking as the oldest lawyer in Iowa county at the time of his death. At the outbreak of the Civil War he recruited Company G, Seventh Iowa Infantry, was elected Captain and served until near the close of the war. He was elected Senator from Iowa county to the Eighteenth General Assembly, and before the expiration of the term was elected circuit judge of the Eighth District, holding that position from 1881 to 1886.

---

JOSEPH HAMILTON PRESTON was born in Benton Center, Yates county, New York, July 9, 1838; he died at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, July 29, 1913. His parents removed with their family to Marion, Iowa, in 1842, and he attended the public schools of Marion and also Cornell College, Mt. Vernon. He graduated from the Union Law School of Cleveland, Ohio, in 1860 with the degree of LL.B. and upon admission to the Iowa bar, engaged in practice with his father at Marion for eight years. In 1869 he removed to Waterloo and continued in practice there until 1881 when he removed to Cedar Rapids where he maintained his home until his death. He was elected district attorney for the Eighth Judicial District and later judge for the same district. In 1886 he was elected judge of the Eighteenth Judicial District and held the office until 1894 when he resigned from the bench to re-enter private practice. He was a prominent member of the Iowa bar for over fifty years.

---

LEWIS FORDYCE was born in Wabash county, Illinois, November 5, 1820; he died at his home near Libertyville, March 24, 1912. He came with his parents to Iowa when a youth of seventeen, and assisted his father in developing a farm in Lee county. In 1849 he moved to Van Buren county, residing there until 1873 when he secured a large farm in Jefferson county and made his home there. For thirty-five years in his early life he was engaged in the ministry, extending his labors throughout Missouri and southeastern Iowa, and for the same number of years was secretary of the State Association of the Christian Church. He was one of the organizers of the Republican party in Van Buren county, and represented that county in the Fourth General Assembly. He also occupied a seat in the Twentieth General Assembly as a Representative from Jefferson county.

---

SAMUEL EWING MCKEE was born in Alleghany county, Pennsylvania, September 26, 1836; he died in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, June 27, 1913. He attended the common schools of his native county until able to teach for a few terms and earn sufficient to give him a course in Jefferson College. He graduated in 1851 and give him a course in Jefferson College. He graduated in 1851 he entered Alleghany Theological Seminary and graduated therefrom in 1856. The same year he came west and was employed for a number of years in various places as pastor, missionary and teacher. In 1873 he settled in Washington, Iowa, and became principal of the Washington Academy of which institution he was the main originator. His connection with this institution continued until 1896. He was known as one of the foremost educators of the State. The last years of his life were passed in his native State.

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.