

## Thomas Officer

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V. Hayden, the scientist, and Jacob Dolson Cox, the Union General, Governor of Ohio, and Grant's Secretary of the Interior. Much of her life was devoted to teaching. Before her graduation she taught two years in Cincinnati and was urged to accept the best place in the schools ever offered to a woman. After that time she taught in Willoughby Female Seminary in Ohio, and after her marriage she often taught some of her husband's classes or was in the same faculty with him. Of her teaching her eight years of continuous work in Iowa College (during seven of which she was the first lady principal) were the most conspicuous. Her hours in the classroom were a delight to teacher and to pupils. There literary subjects were mastered, and lifelong friendships were formed, for she took her pupils, like her children, into her heart, and often, when sick or despondent, into her own home under her personal care. During her forty-four years in Grinnell and Iowa City she was a leader in organizing and in maintaining literary, charitable and religious associations of which the Ladies' Education Society of Iowa College is specially noteworthy for its usefulness and prosperity. The secretaryship of the Iowa Branch of the W. B. M. I. absorbed much of her time and gave her rare pleasure during the last twenty-four years of her life. Her love of nature and of art was greatly quickened by her tours in Europe and in the United States. Her poetic nature revealed itself in her reading, her conversation, her correspondence, her descriptive articles, in occasional poems from her pen, and in the ease with which choice fragments of poetry became fixed in her memory. A fuller notice of her life in a booklet is anticipated.

HENRY B. HENDERSHOTT was born in the State of Ohio, in 1816; he died at Ottumwa, Iowa, August 10, 1900. He came to Burlington, Iowa, in 1837, where he studied law. He was admitted to the bar in 1841, residing a while at Mt. Pleasant, and afterwards at Fairfield. He finally settled at Ottumwa, which became his permanent home. He was one of the best known among the early settlers of this State, and held several important public offices. He was appointed by Judge Charles Mason, Clerk of the District Court of Wapello county in 1844. While acting in this capacity he organized the county. In 1845 the Governor appointed him to the office of District Prosecutor for the Seventh District of Iowa. He was at one time Colonel of the 2d Regiment, 1st Brigade, 4th Division of the Iowa Militia. He also had charge of some important surveys of government lands. With Joseph G. Brown he acted as commissioner to settle the vexed question of the Missouri boundary. He served until the matter in dispute was considered settled. Years afterwards it was reopened and a settlement was only reached in quite recent times. Judge Hendershott represented Wapello, Monroe and Lucas counties in the State senate from 1850 to 1854, where he was chairman of the judiciary committee. In 1856 he was elected judge of the District Court of the Third Judicial District, in which position he won very distinguished credit. During all these years he had filled many other positions in the State, county and city, and was a man in whom the public reposed the largest confidence. As a speaker he was fluent, forcible and convincing, and an able supporter of education, morality and sobriety, enjoying the fullest confidence of all who knew him. A biographical sketch of Judge Hendershott, from the pen of Hon. E. H. Stiles, now of Kansas City, but many years ago reporter of the Supreme Court of Iowa, with his portrait, appeared in this magazine, Vol. 3, No. 8, pp. 624-630.

THOMAS OFFICER was born near Little Washington, Washington county, Pennsylvania, December 28, 1822; he died at Council Bluffs, Iowa, September 12, 1900. He was a graduate of Washington-Jefferson College in 1839, and completed his education for the ministry at Princeton Theological

Seminary. His eyesight failing, however, he was compelled to relinquish all hope of following his chosen profession. Removing to Iowa he became associated with his brother-in-law, Hon. W. H. M. Pusey, in the banking and real estate business as early as 1857. Mr. Officer was early recognized as a leading business man of Western Iowa. He also acquired a commanding influence in the councils of the Presbyterian church and as an educator. He organized the first school in Council Bluffs and was an important factor in establishing the State Institution for the Deaf and Dumb in that city. In the matter of banking, Messrs. Officer and Pusey were especially fortunate. This was due to the confidence with which they were always regarded by the public and to their careful and conservative methods in the transaction of business. Their house went safely through the panic of 1857, and its reputation during all these forty-three years has remained of the highest character. From the pioneer days until his lamented death no citizen of Council Bluffs has been more influential in whatever pertained to the growth and progress of that enterprising city.

JOEL M. WALKER was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, November 8, 1835; he died in Moscow, Idaho, July 5, 1900. In 1840 he removed with his parents to Fort Madison, Iowa. His education was obtained at the pioneer institution of Denmark Academy, Denmark, Iowa, and at an early age he was admitted to practice law in the Supreme Court. On the breaking out of the Civil War, he enlisted two hundred men and was himself elected first lieutenant, and later captain of Company B, 23d Iowa Infantry. He served with his company at Vicksburg and in other important battles. Soon after the war Captain Walker was appointed U. S. Marshal for Iowa by President Johnson. He afterwards engaged in stock-farming on a large scale. In 1882 he left this State and removed to Kansas, hoping to benefit his health. He was engaged in the loaning and banking business at Howard, Kansas, and afterwards in Kendrick and in Moscow, Idaho. He was influential in military, business and political circles wherever he resided. He was a leader in the Democratic party and was at one time candidate for United States Senator in Idaho.

EUGENE A. CONSIGNY was born in St. Cesaire, Canada, May 15, 1841; he died at Manitou, Colorado, August 8, 1900. His grandfather, a French voyageur, settled in Montreal in 1790. His father, Antoine Consigny, owing to civil war in Canada, settled for a time in Vermont, but returned to that country. By the death of his father, Mr. Consigny's legal studies were interrupted and he engaged in mercantile life. When the war broke out, he enlisted in Company M, First Vermont Volunteers. He was in many important battles. He served as sergeant, orderly sergeant, second lieutenant, and was finally promoted to first lieutenant and then appointed adjutant of his regiment. Soon after the war he removed to Dubuque, Iowa, after two years to Cascade, and in 1872 to A voca, where he afterward resided. He was prominent in the G. A. R. organization and at one time Department Commander in Iowa.

MATTHIAS J. ROHLFS died in Davenport, Iowa, September 5, 1900, at the age of eighty-four. He was a native of Schleswig-Holstein, Germany. He came to the United States in 1847, settling at Davenport. His expectation was to become a teacher, but he soon removed to a farm just out of the city. He was one of the leading citizens of Scott county for almost half a century. He served eight years in the Iowa House of Representatives, where he took a leading position. He was also for fourteen years county treasurer. During this time he was engaged in several successful business enterprises. At the start he conducted a German school and a singing society, and interested himself in whatever pertained to the gen-

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