

Leonard Fletcher Parker

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Dr. La Force took the course at Wesleyan College, then began the study of medicine in 1857 in Ashland, Wapello county, also attending lectures at the Keokuk College of Physicians and Surgeons. He was for a time located in Colorado, but completed his studies at Keokuk in 1863, and after graduation was appointed assistant surgeon in the U. S. Hospital. In 1864 he was commissioned assistant surgeon, then promoted to surgeon of the 56th U. S. C. troops, then soon transferred to the U. S. Hospital at Helena, Arkansas, of which he was given full charge on May 8th, and continued throughout the war, being mustered out September 15, 1866. After residing at Mt. Pleasant, Burlington and Ashland for various periods, he removed in 1884 to Ottumwa, where he made his home thereafter. In the latter year he was elected to the House in the Twenty-first General Assembly. He was mayor of Ottumwa twice, and in all fraternal, social, professional and business circles was a positive and progressive factor.

STEWART GOODRELL was born in Des Moines, Iowa, August 5, 1857; he died there, August 12, 1911. Mr. Goodrell was the son of the prominent Iowa pioneer, Stewart Goodrell, one of the commission to locate the capital at Des Moines. He established his house adjoining the capitol grounds, and in the house he built was born, married and died the subject of this sketch. Mr. Goodrell graduated at the Iowa State University in 1880. He was an expert in all phases of insurance and as such served for ten years as head of the department of insurance in the office of Auditor of the State of Iowa very materially improving the administrative value of the office, and strongly and beneficially affecting insurance legislation during the term. He withdrew from public service to engage in the management for the largest insurance companies of departments of their business in Chicago, New York and Los Angeles. After loss of health he returned to Des Moines, and there remained until his death.

LEONARD FLETCHER PARKER was born at China, New York, August 3, 1825; he died at Grinnell, Iowa, December 11, 1911. His ancestry was of Puritan and Revolutionary stock. At four years of age his father died and he was reared by his mother on her little farm, and at twenty-one years of age he went to Oberlin with small pecuniary resources, graduating in 1851 with the degree of A. B. His Alma Mater conferred on him the degree of A. M. in 1860 and D. D. in 1895. He intended when in college to become a missionary, and in 1852 accepted an assignment to Siam, but physicians consulted at the time on account of a lapse in his health pronounced him rapidly declining from consumption and his mission-

ary plans were discontinued and his studies were interrupted. He however, recovered his health and accepted a place as superintendent of schools at Brownsville, Pa. He removed to Grinnell, Iowa, in 1856, where he engaged in the management and instruction of a school from which came Iowa College, now Grinnell College. In 1860 this college opened with Prof. Parker as principal, twelve of his former pupils entering the freshman class, part of whom received the first degrees conferred by the college, in 1865. From 1858 to 1862 Prof. Parker taught six hours a day, five days in the week and also acceptably filled the office of superintendent of schools of Poweshiek county, and was an active member of the Board of Trustees of the State University. He was president of the Iowa State Teachers' Association in 1866. He enlisted in Company B, Forty-sixth Iowa Volunteer Infantry and was made First Lieutenant. He was elected to the House in the Twelfth General Assembly, was appointed chairman of the committee on education and given membership on the committees on printing and reform school. In 1870 he was made Professor of Greek and Latin on the faculty of the Iowa State University. For seventeen years as Professor of these languages and of history he exerted a tremendous spiritual and moral, as well as intellectual influence upon the student life of the University. He returned to Grinnell in 1887 as Professor of History and continued in that chair for about ten years, when he retired from active teaching. He was the founder and permanent president of the Poweshiek County Historical Society, and the author of numerous works, among which are a history of Higher Education in Iowa and the History of Poweshiek County.

CHARLES W. BOUTIN was born at Chester, Vermont, November 8, 1839; he died at Des Moines, Iowa, January 4, 1912. He learned the carpenter's trade and while in that calling volunteered in the First Vermont Volunteers, and was with it throughout its three months' service. Being honorably discharged as a Corporal, he immediately reenlisted in Company K, 4th Vermont Infantry and became at once First Lieutenant. Fifty-two months and twenty-three important battles, including Gettysburg, Chickamauga and the Wilderness, and eight months in Libby and three in Macon prison, promotion through the grades of captain and major to colonel by brevet, is his remarkable war record in brief. He was county auditor two terms. In the National Guard of Iowa he served as Captain, Major, Lieutenant-Colonel and Colonel of the Sixth regiment. He was a brilliant Mason, a member of the Grand Army and of the Loyal Legion. He died in service as Custodian of Public Buildings and Property, under appointment of Governor B. F. Carroll.

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