

## Laur Larsen

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elected representative from Polk county to the Eleventh General Assembly. He took active part in the proceedings of the legislature, secured the passage of a bill for the erection of a state arsenal and adjutant general's headquarters and was the author of a bill for the erection and maintenance of a soldiers' orphans' home, which is now located at Davenport. Colonel Godfrey served for four years as recorder of the land office at Sioux City, as city attorney and city solicitor of Des Moines, and as assistant U. S. district attorney for four years. He was a member of the Utah commission from 1882 to 1913. From 1903 until his death he was surveyor of customs at Des Moines. He was a Republican in politics and a member of the G. A. R. and Loyal Legion.

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WASHINGTON GALLAND was born at "Lower Yellow Banks," near the present city of Oquawka, Ill., July 20, 1827; he died at Fort Madison, Iowa, April 22, 1915. His father, Dr. Isaac Galland, a year or two later established an Indian trading post at Ah-wi-pe-tuk, now in Lee county, Iowa, and removed his family to that point. Washington attended the first school in Iowa, which was taught by Berryman Jennings, and, subsequently, other schools of the locality, and in St. Louis, Mo., and Akron and Chillicothe, Ohio. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1856. He enlisted in Company A, Third Missouri Mounted Volunteers, and served two years in the Mexican war. At the outbreak of the Civil war he raised and organized Company H, Sixth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered in as captain. He participated in the battles of Corinth and Shiloh and was held prisoner for seven months. On account of ill-health he resigned on June 20, 1862, and returned to Montrose, Iowa. In 1863 he was elected representative from Lee county in the Tenth General Assembly. For a few years he practiced law in Lee county, but, being possessed of a wandering spirit, he spent two years in Texas and afterward four years in California. In 1878 he was in Washington, D. C., and later entered the lecture field and toured the eastern states. He returned to Iowa to spend the last years of his life. He was a man of literary taste and considerable ability as a humorist and poet. His residence in Iowa was probably longer than that of any other man.

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LAUR LARSEN was born at Christiansand, Norway, August 10, 1833; he died at Decorah, Iowa, March 1, 1915. His father was an army officer and his mother a daughter of one of the framers of the Norwegian Constitution of 1814. He received a liberal education and graduated from the theological department of the university of Christiania in 1855. For two years he was a teacher of languages in Christiania. In 1857 he emigrated to America and spent two years in missionary work in Wisconsin among the Nor-

wegian immigrants. In order to educate young men for the ministry, the Norwegian pioneers founded a professorship at the Concordia Seminary in St. Louis in 1859. Doctor Larsen filled this chair until Luther College was organized at Half-way Creek, Wisconsin, in 1861, when he was appointed president. The school was moved to Decorah, Iowa, in 1862, and Doctor Larsen continued as president and president emeritus until his death. He was vice president of the Lutheran Synod from 1876 to 1903, and served as pastor at various times and upon important occasions. From 1868 to 1888 he was editor-in-chief of the *Kirke Tidende*. Doctor Larsen was one of the oldest educators among the Norwegians in America and was widely known as a teacher, pastor and editor. He received the degree of D.D. from Concordia Seminary, and in recognition of his life work was made a knight of the Order of St. Olaf by the king of Norway.

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ALFRED HURST was born in Hull, Lincolnshire, England, November 19, 1846; he died at Hurstville, Iowa, March 25, 1915. At the age of six years he emigrated with his parents to America, landing at New Orleans and coming immediately to Davenport, Iowa. Soon after their arrival the father died, leaving his wife and three boys to make their own way in the world. Although but fifteen years old, at the outbreak of the Civil war he enlisted in the transportation service, was engaged for nineteen months with the Mississippi fleet, was present at the battles of Paducah, Ft. Donelson and Shiloh, and also accompanied General Banks on the Red River expedition. In September, 1863, he was captured by the Confederates and for some time forced into the service of the South. During the raid of Memphis he succeeded in escaping, returned to St. Louis and engaged in steamboating on the upper Mississippi river until 1866, when he returned to his home at Davenport and learned the stone mason's trade which he followed in that city for some years. He purchased forty acres of land in Jackson county suitable for the manufacture of lime, developed a flourishing business and the town of Hurstville grew up about the Hurst quarries and kilns. Mr. Hurst was always active in the interest of public welfare and was twice elected county supervisor. He served two terms as senator from Jackson county, continuing in office from January, 1892, until April, 1898.

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RICHARD T. WELSLAGER was born in Washington county, Maryland, April 18, 1834; he died at Des Moines, March 15, 1915. When he was two years of age his parents removed to Richland county, Ohio, where his boyhood was spent working in the forest and on the farm in summer and attending the common schools in winter. In 1852 he began teaching school, alternating that with his farm

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