

Richard H. Sylvester

ISSN 0003-4827

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Recommended Citation

"Richard H. Sylvester." *The Annals of Iowa* 2 (1896), 327-327.

Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0003-4827.2077>

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THE VERY REVEREND ANDREW TREVIS, V. G., died at Mercy Hospital, Davenport, November 3, at the age of 70 years and 3 months. He was born in France, and educated in seminary and college for the Catholic priesthood. Rt. Rev. Matthias Loras, the first Catholic Bishop of Dubuque, had returned to France in 1849, in the hope of bringing back a number of young priests to aid him in his field of labor, which included the early settlements along the Mississippi and 30,000 Indians in Minnesota. Young Trevis volunteered for the work, and reached this country the following spring. From that time until his death he was an earnest worker for his church, distinguished for his benevolence and Christian charity. During this long period he re-visited his native country, spending some time there in church work. He was several years ago chosen Vicar General of the Diocese, which position he held at the time of his death, being closely associated with Bishop Cosgrove. The *Democrat* and *Leader* of Davenport both paid the highest tributes to the memory of the aged priest.

WILLIAM H. HOLMES who died in Neligh, Nebraska, on the 13th of December, was for many years a prominent state official in Iowa. He was a native of the state of New York where he was born in 1828. He came to Iowa in 1851, settling on a farm near Wyoming, Jones County. In 1861 he was elected to the State Senate for the full term of four years. Upon the organization of the Senate, in 1862, he was made chairman of the committee of Ways and Means. At the next election he was chosen State Treasurer, and re-elected, serving four years. In 1865 he was one of the Trustees of the State Agricultural College, and President of the Board. He removed to Nebraska many years ago.

The recent death at Washington D. C. of RICHARD H. SYLVESTER, removes one of the most vigorous and graceful writers of early Iowa. Mr. Sylvester settled at Iowa City in 1854. He became one of the editors of the old *Capital Reporter*, then the leading Democratic paper in Iowa. On this paper he did most effective work for his party, the Capital city, and the State, for six years, attaining high rank as an editor and most accomplished political writer. Though not a public speaker, he was yet one of the influential leaders of his party. He was affable, genial, and popular, making friends everywhere. His political writing was never marred by personal abuse, and many of his warmest friends were his political opponents. He removed to Washington many years ago, and was an editorial writer on the daily *Post* of that city, up to the time of his death.

DR. G. M. STAPLES one of our most eminent physicians and surgeons, died at Dubuque, September 7th, at the age of 68. He came to Iowa in 1856, settling at Dubuque, where he at once entered upon his life-work as a physician. In November, 1861, he was commissioned Surgeon of the 14th Iowa, commanded by Colonel William T. Shaw. He did excellent service at the battles of Fort Donelson, Shiloh, and in the disastrous Red River campaign. He was promoted to medical director, with the rank of Lt. Colonel. After the war, he returned to Dubuque where he acquired the largest practice of any physician in Iowa. He was an able writer and contributed numerous valuable papers to the leading medical journals of the country.

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