

Cyrus Clay Carpenter, David Nelson Richardson, Landon Hamilton

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NOTABLE DEATHS.

CYRUS CLAY CARPENTER came to Iowa a poor young man, literally without a dollar. He was self-educated and made his own way in the world. He arrived at Fort Dodge, where he spent the years of his mature life, in 1854. His connection with the Spirit Lake Expedition as set forth by himself is given elsewhere in our pages. He also served as captain and commissary of subsistence through the civil war. Aside from filling many lesser places of honor and trust, he easily and quite by a natural succession of events rose to the Governorship of the State, serving also four years in Congress. Of modest and retiring manners, and never given to pushing aggressively his own interests in the direction of public office, his various honors came to him because of the thorough confidence of the people in his integrity. Aside from a personality which at once commanded confidence and affectionate regard, which he never lost, he was a man of genuine ability, of large information and a philosophic thinker. His limited facilities for acquiring an education, which, however, he had improved to the utmost, had been supplemented by wide and excellent reading. He always kept abreast with the ideas and knowledge of his time. If, in coming years, some patient historian shall make careful study of the development and progress of our laws and institutions he will learn that few if any of our statesmen have originally presented so many ideas which have become crystalized in the statutes of our State. He also originated much excellent legislation while in congress. He doubtless appears at his best in his two inaugural addresses, wherein he outlines his own theories and suggests new departures from what had gone before. These documents are excellent reading even yet, showing as they do the trend of his thought, his grasp of great principles and his courage in meeting grave and unexpected emergencies. His political life had closed some years before his death, but he still retained a keen interest in public affairs. Our pages have contained abundant evidence of his ability and versatility as a writer. In this field of usefulness he expected to do much more work. There were several men, especially some soldiers of the civil war, of whose patriotic and heroic services he wished to make a permanent record. He knew much relating to early Iowa, and in this direction his writings possessed great value. What he might and doubtless would have accomplished in these directions can not now be done by any other hand. It is a sad loss when the recollections and experience of such a man fade into oblivion. It only remains for those who knew and appreciated this illustrious citizen to perpetuate his memory and profit by his example. There was nothing in his career to which his friends can now look with regret, unless it be that a man so pure and able, and whose life was so wholly blameless and unselfish, was not even more highly honored. It is probable that THE ANNALS will hereafter contain a sketch of his life which may in some measure do justice to his memory and public services. Gov. Carpenter was born at Harford, Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, November 24, 1829. He died at Fort Dodge, Iowa, May 29, 1898.

DAVID NELSON RICHARDSON was born at Orange, Orange county, Vermont, March 10, 1832; he died at his summer cottage in Groton, Vermont, July 4, 1898. In this death our State loses another distinguished citizen of the same noble type as Gov. Carpenter. Much the same characteristics shone brightly in both of these men. Mr. Richardson and his surviving brother were widely regarded as the most successful newspaper publishers in Iowa. They were for the most part with the minority in politics, and their success was due to their untiring energy, honorable dealing, sound judgment and excellent business management, the result of which was that they ac-

quired a generous fortune. While he never sought public office the subject of this notice became one of the best known Iowans. For a quarter of a century he was regarded as the peer of governors and statesmen. He was always foremost in advocating such measures as would improve the libraries and schools, promote the public health, and the rational comfort and prosperity of the people of Davenport, where he lived for more than forty years. Through the columns of his ably-edited journal he exerted himself to spread these blessings everywhere. He was many years one of the Regents of the State University, giving his best energies to extending the scope of its usefulness. It was one of his highest aspirations that Iowa should possess a University second to none in the country. Much of its development was due to his earnest and judicious labors. It was conceded that no other man among its friends could wield an equal influence in securing favorable legislation. His latest public labor was as secretary of the Iowa Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Commission. He held this position from the start, and in all questions which came before that body was without doubt its most influential member. He had traveled in many countries, and there were few great works of the kind which he had not seen or of which he did not possess some knowledge. This monument has been the subject of much adverse criticism, which we will not attempt to recapitulate here. If it has failed to meet the general expectation, and if it shall not be fully approved hereafter, it should be remembered that the plans of the Commission were interfered with by the legislature, so that responsibility for any failure in these directions cannot rest upon Mr. Richardson. That he performed his duties with rare intelligence, in a spirit of the highest patriotism, and with an ambition to make this one of the grandest works of its kind in the nation, no one who knew this excellent man has ever doubted. Believing that it was justly his due that the story of the monument should be told by himself, as he would wish it to be read and understood in the future, we gave him a cordial invitation as he was leaving his home for the last time, to write it out for these pages. But for his rapid decline and lamented death we are confident he would have told the story—perhaps only for posthumous publication—of the Iowa Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument. It is greatly to be regretted that he was not spared to perform this act of justice to himself and his fellow-members of the Commission. For the Historical Department he ever manifested the sincerest friendship. If a thought occurred to him anywhere, which might result to its advantage, he communicated it by letter at once. He often called at the rooms in the capitol, where his presence was hailed with delight. It is a pleasure now and here to bear this testimony to his unflinching friendship and valuable assistance. Perhaps Mr. Richardson's ability can be better measured by his delightful book of travel—"A Girdle Round the Earth." There would seem to be no end to works of this kind, but with the rarest exceptions their existence is ephemeral. Mr. Richardson's, however, has enjoyed a wide and growing popularity and is still in demand. It is his own best monument and bids fair to have a long life. *The Democrat* of July 10 contained an eloquent eulogy of Mr. Richardson, from the facile pen of Mr. B. F. Tillinghast, one of his long-time editorial associates, together with tributes to his memory by B. H. Barrows, Miss Alice French (Octave Thanet), ex-Govs. Horace Boies and William Larrabee, H. A. Burrell, M. M. Ham, R. P. Clarkson and P. M. Crapo. These are so appreciative, so just to a precious memory, that they deserve a more permanent place than the columns of a daily newspaper.

LONDON HAMILTON, one of the early citizens of Des Moines, died there June 16, 1898, aged eighty-one years. Mr. Hamilton was born in Loudoun county, Virginia. When eighteen years of age he left home and started out for

himself, going to western Ohio. From early youth he developed a great love for nature and this taste was gratified and fostered by his life on the western frontier. His habits of close observation and years devoted to hunting, fishing and trapping, gave him a wonderfully intimate acquaintance with animal life. In 1840 he removed to the then territory of Iowa where Indians and wild game abounded. In 1854 he came to Des Moines, then a small village, and was for some years following chiefly occupied in fur-buying, making many trips along the Des Moines from the town to the source of the river. In this business he accumulated a modest fortune. He was without family ties, and upon retiring from active business led the life of a recluse, devoting his time to the study of natural history and the collecting of specimens. As early as 1846 he kept a sporting book in which entries were made of the game killed from year to year. At the time of his death he owned probably the largest private museum in Iowa. This contains almost the complete fauna of the State, relics of the mound builders, minerals and fossils. By the terms of his will this valuable collection becomes, with many provisions, the property of the State, and it is expected that it will find a permanent home in the historical building now in process of erection.

GEN. CALEB HOSKINS BOOTH, one of the leading citizens of Dubuque, after a residence of sixty-two years, died in that city June 19, 1898. He was born December, 1814, in Chester, Pennsylvania, his ancestors being Quakers. After receiving an excellent classical and legal education he came west while Iowa still remained part of Michigan territory, reaching Dubuque, then a small mining camp, July 3, 1836. During a long career his business interests have been wide and varied. In early days he was engaged in lead mining and smelting; later he turned his attention to milling, shot manufacture, banking and railroad interests. He brought the first steam engine into Dubuque. He invented the Booth Dredge Pump, which has been widely used in engineering and railroad work. Gen. Booth was elected the first mayor of Dubuque, in 1841; he was a member of the Territorial Assembly that convened in 1841 in Iowa City; during the administrations of Presidents Polk and Taylor he was surveyor-general of the land district including the states of Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota. He was elected to the Fourteenth General Assembly as a member of the House of Representatives. Gen. Booth as early as 1848 helped to found the Episcopal Church at Dubuque. He was also one of the oldest Masons in the State, having joined the Dubuque Lodge in 1843.

RIGHT REV. WILLIAM STEVENS PERRY of Davenport, Bishop of Iowa, and eminent as a theologian, scholar and writer, died in Dubuque, Iowa, May 13, 1898, aged sixty-six years. Bishop Perry was a recognized leader in the Episcopal Church of his own country and of England as well. On one of his numerous visits to the mother country he was presented to the Queen and had the honor of addressing the Lambeth conference. Born in Providence, Rhode Island, January 22, 1832, he was educated in Brown University and later, in 1854, graduated at Harvard. He preached for several years in the east, and occupied for a time the chair of history in Hobart College. In 1868 he was appointed historiographer of the Episcopal Church in America. In 1876 he was elected Bishop of Iowa, in which capacity he was serving at the time of his death. He was a man of distinguished appearance and of recognized ability in many lines. He was a member of many ancestral societies. Honorary degrees had been conferred on him by seven prominent institutions of learning, including the University of Oxford, England, and Trinity College, Dublin. He ordained over one hundred persons to the ministry and consecrated between fifty and sixty churches. His writings are numerous and although chiefly con-

fined to church history he expressed himself ably on miscellaneous subjects, notably kindness to animals.

COL. ROBERT SMYTH was born in Ireland, February 26, 1814, and died in Mount Vernon, Iowa, April 3, 1898, at the age of eighty-four. His ancestors were among the Scotch Covenanters who fled to Ireland at a time of persecution. In 1834 he came to this country, where he first obtained employment as a field hand. As early as 1840 he removed to the Territory of Iowa, walking from Bloomington (now Muscatine) to Linn county. Eventually he became an extensive real estate owner in that county. In later years he went into the law and banking business. For most of the time from 1852 to 1866 he resided in Marion and was very prominent in political circles. He was the first postmaster of Franklin township; was township clerk for several years; was a member of the Sixth Territorial Legislature, 1843-44; a member of the First General Assembly, 1846, which held an extra session in 1848; a senator in the Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies, and he was again elected a member of the House in 1884. During the war he was paymaster in the United States army and receipted during that time for more than ten million dollars.

HON. EZEKIEL CLARK died at his home in Iowa City June 26, 1898, aged eighty years. He had figured prominently in the history of the State for over fifty years, having a wide reputation as a financier. His services to Gov. Kirkwood (whose wife was his sister) in raising funds for the war of the rebellion, were invaluable. The Governor's indebtedness to him was freely acknowledged. He is also credited with being the originator of the idea of issuing greenbacks. During the financial crisis of 1873 it was due to his firmness and energy that his own bank and many others came safely through the ordeal. Mr. Clark was born in Pennsylvania January 17, 1817. He first visited Iowa in 1849 and the following year located in Iowa City. He has ever since been active in many enterprises, especially coal mining, milling and banking. He was a member of the State senate during the Tenth, Eleventh, Sixteenth and Seventeenth General Assemblies, and served for some time as treasurer of the State University.

JUDGE JAMES GAMBLE DAY died suddenly at his home in Des Moines May 1, 1898. He was an eminent jurist. Judge Day was born in Jefferson county, Ohio, June 28, 1832, of English descent. He graduated from the law school at Cincinnati in 1857 and came immediately to Iowa, locating in Afton, Union county. He afterwards removed to Sidney, Fremont county. He enlisted in the civil war, becoming a lieutenant of Co. F, 15th Iowa infantry and was afterwards promoted to captain of Co. I. He was wounded at Shiloh and obliged to leave the service. In 1862 he was elected judge of the 3d judicial district and retained that position until 1870 when he resigned to succeed George G. Wright as judge of the supreme court. He was a member of the supreme bench for a period of thirteen years and was three times chief justice.

REV. FATHER LOUIS DE CAILLY, a pioneer priest of this State, was instantly killed by a train while driving in his buggy near Fort Madison, Iowa, July 11, 1898. Father De Cailly was well known and beloved throughout the State as a thorough student and a broad-minded, liberal man. He was born in Lyons, France, in 1832. In 1847 he came to America and located in Dubuque, Iowa. During long years of faithful service he has promoted the interests of Catholicism in this State, having held charges in Dubuque, Des Moines, Davenport, Keokuk and Fort Madison. As early as 1855 he was located for a time in Des Moines, where with great foresight he purchased for \$600 the property now valued by St. Ambrose Church at

\$50,000. He was a nephew of Bishop Loras, first Bishop of Dubuque, and had written his biography which was in press at the time of his death.

CAPT. CHARLES A. L. ROSZELL, a prominent lawyer of Clarksville, Iowa, died in that place February 2, 1898. He was born in Alabama, Genesee county, New York, March 25, 1833. In 1860 he removed west and settled in Clarksville. When the war of the rebellion broke out he raised a company which was mustered in as Co. G, 32d Iowa Infantry. This regiment saw active service throughout the war and took part in many noted battles. He was one of the regiment's most efficient officers. At the close of the war Capt. Roszell returned to Clarksville and to his interrupted business, the practice of law. He was chosen as a Representative from Butler county in the Fifteenth General Assembly.

JAMES M. BYERS, a pioneer of Mahaska county, was born in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, February 12, 1814; he died at Oskaloosa, Iowa, July 24, 1898, aged eighty-five years. His father was a soldier in the revolutionary war and also in the war of 1812. Mr. Byers came to Iowa in 1851, and in 1853 located in Oskaloosa, where he opened the first coal mine in that vicinity, now a great center for the coal-mining industry. He has been identified with the interests of Oskaloosa for forty-five years and has filled different offices of local importance. Mr. Byers was first married to a grand-niece of Chief Justice Marshall, mother of Major S. H. M. Byers, the well known Iowa poet.

SAMUEL BEESON, one of the pioneers of Marshall county, died at Liscomb, Iowa, July 5, 1898, nearly eighty-three years of age. He was born in Ohio, November 9, 1815, of Quaker parentage. In 1854 he removed to Marshall county, where he has since resided. He had been an influential citizen. He held the position of Chairman of the Board of Supervisors and again Justice of the Peace. He served his country in the civil war and suffered in the prison at Andersonville. Mr. Beeson had lived sixty-one years with the wife who survives him. His son, Gen. Byron A. Beeson, served two terms as State Treasurer.

GEN. GEORGE W. CLARK, who served as colonel of the 34th Iowa infantry during the rebellion, died in Washington, D. C., May 22, 1898, where he had for many years resided. Gen. Clark was a native of Indiana, having been born in Johnson county December 26, 1833. He came to Iowa in 1854 and located at Indianola. After the war he removed to Des Moines and lived there until about 1868 when he removed to Washington. He was a popular officer and his death was sincerely mourned by the surviving members of his command.

MRS. ANNA PRICE DILLON, wife of Hon. John F. Dillon, one of the most distinguished judges of the supreme court of this State (1863-1870), was lost by the sinking of the French steamsip Bourgogne, July 4, 1898. Mrs. Dillon was the daughter of Hon. Hiram Price, of Davenport, who served several years as a member of Congress from this State, and as Commissioner of Indian Affairs. Her married daughter, Mrs. Anne Dillon-Oliver, perished with her mother in the same terrible disaster. Mrs. Dillon was about sixty years of age.

HON. JOSEPH A. EDWARDS of Iowa City died August 5, 1898. He was born in Putnam county, Illinois, September 1, 1845. Although very young when the war broke out, he enlisted in Co. B, 139th Illinois infantry, and served until near the close of the war. He graduated in 1873 from the law department of the state university and commenced practice in Iowa City. His legal career was one of unusual brilliancy and success. In 1897 he represented Johnson county in the State legislature.

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