

James D. Springer

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August, 1848. The city was then but a small village, a trading and army post. He very soon decided to make Des Moines his future home. At first he was connected with a land office, buying and selling real estate. A party had attempted to start a newspaper here but had given it up and Mr. Granger entered into that business, calling the paper *The Iowa Star*. The first number was dated July 26, 1849. It was thoroughly democratic, Mr. Granger declaring his firm adhesion to that party. He remained a democrat to the end of his days. He published *The Star* until February 20, 1850, when he was succeeded by Curtis Bates and Luther D. Johnson. After his newspaper work, Mr. Granger was admitted to the bar, and for some years practiced law in Des Moines. At one time he sat upon the bench, and was once elected Mayor of Sevastopol, which was a separate organization, and later on of Des Moines. He built his home on the bluff across the valley southeast of the Iowa capitol, and resided there the remainder of his life. He retired many years ago from active business in the city and gave his attention to his farm. He was a man of much versatility of talent, possessing the finest social qualities—a man of many friends. His death occurred from old age, and he had been active until a short time preceding it. His funeral, which was largely attended, was taken in charge by the Octogenarian Society of Des Moines, of which he had been the first and only president. Rev. A. L. Frisbie was the officiating clergyman, and he paid a high tribute to the characteristics of the deceased. He was followed in generous appreciation by Father J. F. Nugent, who was a warm friend of Mr. Granger. The burial took place at Elm Grove cemetery, three miles southwest of his residence, a spot he had long before selected to be his burial place. The Historical Department some years ago secured from the widow of Curtis Bates a file of *The Iowa Star*, which included several years of that weekly. It was a well edited paper from the start and contains much valuable historical material.

WASHINGTON MATTHEWS was born at Killiney, near Dublin, Ireland, July 17, 1843; he died at his home in Washington, D. C., May 2, 1905. His father was a well-known physician of Dubuque, whither Washington came with the family prior to 1860. The son was educated in the common schools and also graduated from the medical department of the State University of Iowa in 1864. That institution conferred upon him the honorary degree of LL. D. He was appointed an assistant surgeon in the U. S. Army, serving from 1864 to 1889, when he was retired on account of disability contracted in the line of duty. He had attained the grades of Captain and Major in the regular army. He was on duty in the Army Medical Museum at Washington from 1884 to 1890. He became quite noted from his successful investigations in the ethnology and philology of the Navajo Indians and other tribes. He was also a member of several learned societies, and the author of many publications relating to the Indians. His bibliography includes several elaborate volumes, many pamphlets and monographs. One of his most important works was "The Mountain Chant: a Navajo Ceremony", published in 1887. In 1897 he published a work on the "Navajo Legends". He also wrote "The Prayer of the Navajo Shaman"; "The Gentile System of the Navajo Indians"; "The Catlin Collection of Indian Paintings" and "The Night Chant, a Navajo Ceremony". He had resided many years at 1262 New Hampshire Avenue, Washington, D. C., where he led a very retired life. He retained an interest in Iowa to the end of his days, sending his many publications to the Historical Department and other institutions. His works promise to live long in the annals of American science.

JAMES D. SPRINGER died in Chicago, Feb. 17, 1905, at the age of sixty years. His parents resided at Iowa City during the early fifties, where the

father had been for some time employed as a laborer in a flouring mill owned and operated by Governor Samuel J. Kirkwood. The family removed to Webster City and settled on a farm where James grew up to about the age of fourteen. In December, 1859, he came to Des Moines as a candidate for messenger or page in the State senate. Appealing to Governor Kirkwood on the ground that he wished to earn money for the purpose of attending school, the governor took his case in hand and largely through his influence James was elected. He appeared to be such a studious, excellent boy that he won the hearty friendship of George W. McCrary, a State Senator from Keokuk, who afterwards became a federal judge and Secretary of War. Mr. McCrary took James home with him at the end of the session, and the young man studied law in his office. He was a bright student and became a very successful lawyer. He was also connected with several railroads in the west. He practiced law some years in Ft. Dodge, finally removing to Chicago. His career was a brilliant one. To native ability of a high order, he united great industry, and a genial, kindly nature. He was to a great degree self-educated, and all things considered his success was remarkable.

JOSEPH BENSON HARRIS was born in Belmont county, Ohio, July 14, 1859; he died at Boone, Iowa, April 29, 1905. When he had reached the age of nine years, his mother having become a widow, removed to Chariton, Iowa, with her two sons and a daughter. Five years later he entered the employ of the C., B. & Q. R. R. Co., as a messenger. While so occupied he learned telegraphing, working in several towns along that line. At the age of twenty-one he resigned and entered Simpson College, at Indianola, to prepare himself for the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He spent three years in this institution before entering upon his life work. He was at various times pastor of churches in Lewis, Audubon, Denison, Indianola, Des Moines and Boone. He was for one year President of Simpson College. His services were highly acceptable to his various congregations and to the students. His loss was deeply deplored by his people wherever he had been known. Among those who attended his funeral were Hon. Messrs. L. M. Shaw, Secretary of the U. S. Treasury, and Ex-Senator W. H. Berry, of Indianola, who paid eloquent tributes to his memory.

JAMES J. DOLLIVER was born Nov. 28, 1816, in Saratoga co., N. Y.; he died in Washington, D. C., April 28, 1905. His parents removed to New Jersey when he was a boy. He was educated in the country schools, paying his way by teaching as soon as he was qualified. He migrated to Ohio in 1836. A few years later he was converted, joining the Methodists, and bending all his energies towards becoming a preacher. In 1844 he went to West Virginia, residing in Kingwood and Morgantown. He became a typical circuit rider, traveling thousands of miles on horseback, and participating like others of his class in the usual round of conferences, quarterly meetings and revivals. He was especially distinguished by his war on slavery and intemperance. In 1881 he came to Iowa, settling in Fort Dodge. He spent much time in Washington, D. C., where he was an especial favorite of Presidents Harrison, Cleveland, McKinley and Roosevelt. He was the father of Hon. J. P. Dolliver, the present junior U. S. Senator from Iowa.

WILLIAM C. EVANS was born in Delaware county, N. Y., June 24, 1822; he died in West Liberty, Iowa, April 11, 1905. In 1834 he removed with his father's family to Ohio and assisted in making a home in what was then the far west. He afterwards worked for a time in Illinois and the lumber camps of Wisconsin and with a portion of the earnings thus ob-

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