

La Vega G. Kinne

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made necessary, the last insidiously sapping the secret sources of his strength. Discharged February 16, 1863, he was soon after appointed commissioner of the Board of Enrollment of the Third District of Iowa. In June, 1864, he was made Colonel of the Forty-sixth Iowa Infantry and he served in that capacity until the close of the war. In 1865 he was admitted to the bar, and in that same year was appointed Collector of Internal Revenues for his district. In 1869 he became junior member of the famous Dubuque law firm of Shiras, Van Duzee & Henderson. In 1882 he was elected member of Congress and entered upon a career of statesmanship which continued for twenty years—a career so successful that near its close he was the unanimous choice of his associates for the speakership. His resignation was a genuine surprise and shock, for there was nothing in the situation in Iowa or in Washington to compel or even invite such a course. It was later thought by his friends that for several years before the final breakdown of his health he felt his strength slowly giving way under the tremendous pressure upon him officially and socially, and that he deemed it best to retire from public life in the strength of his mature manhood. Be that as it may, a brief career as a lawyer in New York City was soon followed by a glad return to his home and friends in Dubuque, and later by a residence in southern California, where his wife and daughter had hoped he might renew his former vigorous health. In this they were disappointed. He was brought home to die, and after months of slowly failing strength, on the 25th of February, 1906, the end came. On the first of March his funeral was held. It was a notable funeral—the most notable in the history of Iowa. It was attended by thousands of his fellow citizens, his soldier comrades from all parts of Iowa, high state officials, legislators and distinguished friends from other States. The eulogy pronounced by the Hon. George D. Perkins of Sioux City, an old-time friend and comrade, was a rare and beautiful tribute of friendship and esteem, voicing the emotions of thousands to whom the memory of the deceased is precious. The Thirty-first General Assembly of Iowa, and the Fifty-ninth Congress of the United States notably honored the memory of the great Iowan.

Colonel Henderson was a faithful friend of the Historical Department, promoting its interests whenever possible, and securing for the museum many valuable gifts from Washington, D. C. The bronzed plaster cast of him which stood in front of the Iowa building at St. Louis during the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, has recently been placed in the Historical building. (The original statue stands in Clermont, Iowa, the gift of ex-Gov. Larrabee). The sculptor, J. Massey Rhind, represents the subject in a characteristic pose—in the right hand his gavel, under the left arm his crutch. A fine oil portrait of Col. Henderson, by Freeman Thorp, hangs in the Art Gallery of the Historical building.

J. B.

LA VEGA G. KINNE was born near Syracuse, N. Y., November 5, 1846; he died in Des Moines, Iowa, March 16, 1906. He attended the common and high schools of Syracuse. He entered the University of Michigan and pursued studies in both the law and literary departments, graduating from the law department in 1868. In the same year he was admitted to the bar in Ottawa, Ill., and began to practice in Mendota, where he resided until September, 1869; when he removed to Toledo, Iowa. He soon formed a partnership with Mr. D. D. Appelgate, that continued, until 1876. Later a partnership was formed with Hon. G. R. Struble and Mr. H. J. Stiger, that continued until 1876, when Judge Kinne was elected to the District bench. Judge Kinne was a man of great industry,

strong convictions, great power of expression, and speedily became a man of note, not only in legal circles, but in politics. He served the people of Toledo as president of the school board, as city solicitor, and mayor for three terms. In 1876 he was sent as a delegate, and in 1884 as delegate at large, to the Democratic National Convention. For many years he served as secretary and later as chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee. In 1881, and again in 1883, Judge Kinne was nominated for the office of Governor by the Democratic party. Iowa has had few more spirited campaigns than those conducted by Judge Kinne, but the traditional Republican majorities of the State were too great for him to overcome. In 1886 he was elected Judge of the Seventeenth Judicial District that was normally Republican. He resigned, however, in January, 1887. At the following election he was again nominated for the office and again elected to fill his own vacancy. He was re-elected without opposition in 1890. His career as Judge was notable and he was nominated by the Democrats for the office of Supreme Judge in 1891. His old district gave him one thousand majority, although in 1886 he had won by only seven votes. On the expiration of his term as Chief Justice he was renominated by the Democratic party, but his Republican opponent was elected. Judge Kinne immediately entered upon the practice of law in Des Moines, where he continued to reside until the day of his death. On the creation of the Board of Control of State Institutions, Judge Kinne was appointed as a representative of the Democratic party. He was appointed for a second term in 1904. Besides these numerous public offices, Judge Kinne gave a great deal of time and earnest thought to various lines of work in which he was especially interested. He was a prominent member of the State Bar Association, of which he was the second president in 1896. In 1894 he was appointed one of the Commissioners from this State upon uniform legislation, which has done so much valuable service in the improvement of statutory law in various commonwealths. For many years he was a lecturer upon legal subjects, especially the law of corporations, domestic relations and taxation, in the State University and the Iowa College of Law in Des Moines. Besides being the author of numerous addresses and papers upon subjects of law and charities and corrections, Judge Kinne was the author of the well known and serviceable text, "Pleadings and Practice," a work that relates especially to judicial procedure in Iowa. From the time of his appointment to the day of his death, Judge Kinne had practically the sole charge of the editing and publication of the Bulletin of State Institutions, a quarterly issued by the Board of Control, in which are printed the reports and proceedings of the quarterly conference of Superintendents, and the papers and discussions of the conference. The last work of note done by Judge Kinne was the investigation of tuberculosis, and his extended report to the Thirty-first General Assembly. In his public life Judge Kinne did not seek office. He preferred the practice of the law. But his abilities and his character were such that he commanded positions. His associates and his fellow citizens in communities where he lived instinctively turned to him when strong men were needed and high class service was desired, and practically drafted him into the public service.

HENRY KINGMAN EDSON, born Oct. 5, 1822, in Hadley, Mass., died March 13, 1906, in Grinnell, Iowa, was an Iowa pioneer and veteran in the profession of teaching, serving earlier and longer and more continuously in that profession than any other member of it in the State. A graduate of Amherst College, 1844, he was principal of Hopkins Academy, Mass., five years, studied theology with John Woodbridge, D. D., and

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