

John Adam Wirt

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AMBROSE A. CALL was born in Huron county, Ohio, June 9, 1833; he died at Algona, Iowa, October 23, 1908. He removed to Iowa in 1854, and with his brother Asa A. Call, established the first home north of Fort Dodge, a cabin in what is now Kossuth county, Iowa. They established the town of Algona, which ever afterward remained the residence of Mr. Call. He was the founder of the *Algona Pioneer Press*, which was the first newspaper in that region. He was a believer in the certainty of the future of his state and county, and early invested his means while he applied his energies in that faith. He was authority on early and subsequent questions relating to the political and business development of Iowa and wrote much on these questions. He was of especial assistance in the formative movements of the Historical Department, being an intimate friend and zealous adviser of the founder.

EDWIN FRANKLIN BROCKWAY was born in Brockwayville, Jefferson county, Pennsylvania, April 23, 1834; he died near Letts, Louisa county, Iowa, April 20, 1908. He removed with his parents from his birthplace to Muscatine county, Iowa, in 1842, where he acquired and opened a farm and instituted a nursery. He removed to Washington county, Iowa, in 1866, to a farm which remained his home, except for a four years' residence at Iowa City while his children were being educated, until 1902, when he removed to Louisa county. He served in the Fifteenth General Assembly of Iowa as a representative of Washington county. He was for several terms a director of the State Agricultural Society and once its president. He was an early and life-long champion of temperance and a member of the Methodist church.

JOHN NEHEMIAH BALDWIN was born in Council Bluffs, Iowa, July 9, 1857; he died in Omaha, April 19, 1908. He was a son of Caleb Baldwin, an eminent lawyer and once chief justice of Iowa. Mr. Baldwin inherited the strong intellect and character of his father, and to these added a liberal education. He graduated from the law department of the State University of Iowa in 1877. He early developed power in public speaking and immediately upon his admission to the bar took front rank as an advocate. He was an ardent and active republican; an elector at large from Iowa in 1890; was chairman of the republican State convention of 1894, delivering an address that stands as a model of its kind. He nominated Hon. William B. Allison for president at the St. Louis convention in 1896. He was made general solicitor of the Union Pacific Railway company in 1901 and the same year removed to Omaha.

JOHN ADAM WIRT was born in Millersburg, Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, May 21, 1846; he died in Des Moines, Iowa, May 9, 1908. After attending the public schools of Millersburg he completed the collegiate course at Gettysburg and received his theological education and a degree from the Susquehanna University at Selin's Grove, Pennsylvania. He served as a missionary preacher of the English Lutheran church in Pennsylvania until he was called to the pastorate of St. John's church, at Des Moines, in June, 1895. Here he worked with distinguished success until suddenly called to his reward. He was a scholarly, sincere, eloquent preacher.

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