

Samuel Husband Fairall

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SAMUEL HUSBAND FAIRALL was born in Alleghany county, Maryland, June 21, 1835; he died at his home near Iowa City, Iowa, March 8, 1909. He was descended from English and Welsh ancestry, who settled in Maryland early in the seventeenth century, being a direct descendant of Samuel Snowden, who was a member of Prince George's County Committee under the Continental Congress. He was a young man of industrious and studious habits, and entering Washington College at Washington, Pennsylvania, at an early age, was graduated in 1855. Shortly after his graduation he removed to Iowa, arriving at Iowa City, October 1st, 1855. He early manifested a preference for the study of the law, and soon after his arrival at Iowa City, entered the law office of William Penn Clarke, a leading lawyer, and then Supreme Court Reporter. He proved to be a diligent student, and was admitted to the bar on June 21, 1856. He formed a partnership the same year with James D. Templin, and in 1861 he entered into partnership with Hon. George J. Boal, continuing in this association until 1873, the firm during this time becoming one of the prominent law firms of the State, and enjoying a large and lucrative practice. He continued the practice of law part of the time alone, and part of the time in partnership with H. F. Bonorden, Hon. C. S. Ranck, and his brother, H. S. Fairall, until 1886, when he was elected District Judge of the Eighth Judicial District of Iowa, and in 1890 was re-elected for a second term. Upon leaving the bench, he resumed the active practice of law, in which he continued until his death. He was a member of the House of Representatives in the Ninth and Ninth extra sessions of the General Assembly, and of the Senate in the Twelfth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth sessions of the General Assembly. He was an active thoroughgoing Democratic leader, serving as delegate to county, district and state conventions, during the greater part of his active life, and presided over the Democratic State Convention, which elected him a delegate to the National Democratic Convention, in 1868. Judge Fairall was for many years and until his death an active and efficient member of the Trinity Protestant Episcopal Church in Iowa City, and a faithful member of its Board of Vestrymen, attending at different times the Diocesan Conventions of this Church. Judge Fairall was a notable character, prominent in public affairs, not only in his community, but throughout the State. He was an able legislator, whose lasting impress will remain as a part of the legislation of the State for all time; a careful, painstaking, competent judge, an able, industrious, tireless lawyer, ambitious and successful in his profession.

G. A. B.

GILBERT BALDWIN PRAY was born in Michigan City, Indiana, April 27, 1847; he died at Iowa City, Iowa, on February 28, 1909. Coming to Webster City, Iowa, by the removal of his family to that place in 1856, he was educated in the public schools of that city. In 1864, when seventeen years old, he enlisted in Company F, Sixteenth Iowa Infantry, participating in the battle of Nashville and the later campaigns of Sherman's army. At the close of the war he became a student in the law office of the late Judge D. D. Chase at Webster City, was admitted to the bar in 1868, and practiced his profession in Webster City until 1880. He was elected Clerk of the Supreme Court of Iowa in 1882 and served in that office for twelve years with marked efficiency. He was twice elected Chairman of the Republican State Central Committee, and served as a member of that body for

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