

Kate Shelly

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KATE SHELLY was born in county Tipperary, Munster Province, Ireland, September 25, 1865; she died at Moingona, Boone county, Iowa, January 21, 1912. In 1866 her parents emigrated to America and to the home where Miss Shelly died. The father was killed in a railway accident several years later. On the night of July 6, 1881, a freight train on the Chicago and Northwestern railroad was wrecked in a washout at Honey Creek, near the Shelly home. The sixteen year old girl on her own initiative improvised a lantern from parts of an ordinary lantern and a miner's lamp, breasted a drenching rain storm to the site of the wreck, and found the only surviving member of the crew, the engineer, clinging to a tree. Both knew of the impending arrival of an express train and of the only means of warning being at the station Moingona, a mile distant, across the Des Moines river. Her lantern failed her while at Honey Creek, and she made her way along the railroad grade, and on her hands and knees across the four hundred foot bridge with the warning which saved the express train. The railway company presented her with a one hundred dollar honorarium, for some years employed her as its station agent at Moingona and continued its courteous attention throughout her life. The Nineteenth General Assembly voted her two hundred dollars in cash, a gold medal and its thanks. Her life was that of a modest, useful citizen.

DEWALT SHONTZ FOUSE was born in Huntingdon county, Pa., in November, 1840; he died at Lisbon, Linn county, Iowa, March 12, 1912. He was educated at Franklin and Marshall college, Lancaster, Pa., but discontinued his studies to enlist in Company C, 53d Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. He rose from Sergeant to First Lieutenant, and for great part of his service was Acting Adjutant of his regiment. He was honorably discharged, then entered Mercersburg Theological Seminary, graduating in 1867, removing at once to Iowa, where he served in the Reform Church ministry at Tipton, Lisbon and in that general locality for the remaining forty-five years of his life.

JOHN MARTIN BRAYTON was born at Newport, New York, September 15, 1831; he died at Delhi, Iowa, September 18, 1911. He was a son of Smith Brayton, a surveyor and farmer. He was educated at Whitestown seminary, Whitestown, New York, and Hamilton College, Clinton, New York, from which institution he received the degree of A. M., some time after his graduation with the degree of LL. B. in 1853. He removed to Delhi, Delaware county, Iowa, in the fall of 1854 and became a member of the law firm of House, Brayton & Watson, continuing in this connection until 1864. He was elected as a Republican to the Iowa Senate in 1863, serving two

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