

Stephen Parker O'Brien

ISSN 0003-4827

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Recommended Citation

"Stephen Parker O'Brien." *The Annals of Iowa* 10 (1912), 398-399.

Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0003-4827.3769>

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terms. He served as judge of the Ninth Iowa District from January 1, 1871, to July, 1872. He was a man of strong and broad mind, was interested in many improvements of culture and was a member of the American Academy of Political and Social Science.

SAMUEL HOUSTON HARPER was born near Zanesville, Ohio, April 23, 1843; he died at Ottumwa, Iowa, December 17, 1911. At the age of ten his family removed to a farm near Ottumwa, where the remainder of his youth was spent. He enlisted in Company B, Thirty-sixth Iowa Volunteer Infantry in June, 1863, and by promotion attained the rank of Captain, serving until honorably discharged in February 1866. Very soon after the close of the war he entered the hardware business in Ottumwa, first as a clerk, then for himself in association with various other persons until 1892, when the firm of Harper & McIntire was formed and still continues, Captain Harper having been the controlling factor in its growth into one of the largest wholesale hardware establishments in the State. His fine ability and his standing as an honorable and trustworthy man drew to him such connections as the presidency of the Agency Savings Bank, vice presidency of the South Ottumwa Bank and the Phoenix Trust Company, directorship in the Iowa National Bank, Iowa Savings Bank, Dain Manufacturing Company, United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company, Chilli-cothe Savings Bank, Ottumwa Y. M. C. A., Ottumwa Cemetery Association, the Open Door Rescue Mission and the Ottumwa Public Library Board. He served in the Iowa Senate most efficiently during the 29th, 30th and 31st General Assemblies. Among memorable measures for which he labored was that for the appropriation for the erection of the Historical, Memorial and Art Building. He was commander of the Iowa Department G. A. R. in 1905 and of the Loyal Legion Iowa Commandery, in 1906. He was a presidential elector and a delegate to the national monetary conventions at Indianapolis in 1896 and 1898. He was serving most successfully as Mayor of Ottumwa at the time of his death.

STEPHEN PARKER O'BRIEN was born in Brown county, Ohio, December 24, 1825; he died at Ames, Iowa, March 17, 1912. He enlisted for the war with Mexico in Company C, Indiana Infantry, Captain John Osborn, serving through the war, and engaging under General Zachary Taylor in the battle of Buena Vista, February 22 and 23, 1847. He removed to Story county, Iowa, in 1852, was admitted to the Story county bar by Judge J. C. McFarland in May, 1854, being the first lawyer admitted. On August 4 1862, he enlisted in Company A, 23d Iowa Volunteer Infantry, was made First Sergeant, promoted to Second Lieutenant, then to First Lieutenant,

in which rank he was honorably discharged April 11, 1864, because of disabilities, as the result of wounds received in the battle of Black River.

JONAS SEELY KNAPP was born at Elmira, New York, September 6, 1821; he died at Los Angeles, California, February 5, 1912, while on a visit there. He was the second son of General John H. and Harriet Seely Knapp. He went with the family to Blossburg, Pa., for a short time and then to visit his sister at Penn Yan, New York, as there were better schools there. He came west with the family, arriving at Ft. Madison, Iowa, October 9, 1835, and always after lived there. For many years he has been acknowledged as the oldest resident of Ft. Madison. He retained the farm his father entered, one-third of which he inherited, and the other two-thirds he bought from his mother and brother John. October 31, 1844, he was united in marriage to Mary Stewart of Ft. Dodge, and five children were the issue, all of whom are living, though only one in Ft. Madison. Mrs. Knapp died July 23, 1906. Jonas S. Knapp had a remarkable memory, especially for faces and names, and was intimately acquainted with and could call by name almost every man, woman and child who now lives in Fort Madison or ever had lived there for any length of time.

H. E. K.

WILLIAM GIBSON CROW was born in Tennessee, July 2, 1837; he died at Eldon, Iowa, January 22, 1912. He removed to Appanoose county, Iowa in 1856, and then to Eldon, Iowa, in 1872. At the age of twenty-six he enlisted in Company D, Sixth Iowa Infantry, was wounded at the battle of Kanesaw Mountain, June 27, 1864, was promoted to seventh Corporal May 1, 1865, and mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, on July 21st, of the same year. From 1872 to 1882 he was a locomotive engineer on the Chicago Rock Island and Pacific Railway, and in the latter year engaged in the mercantile business at Eldon continuing until 1890. In 1891 he was elected to the General Assembly as a member of the House of Representatives and was reelected in 1893. He was one of the organizers of the Eldon District Fair and served the community in many ways as a promoter of patriotic and moral movements.

JOHN F. BOEPPLE was born in Germany, July 23, 1854; he died at Muscatine, Iowa, January 30, 1912. He was a native of Ottensea, near Hamburg, and there learned the trade of a horn turner. He removed to America in 1887, locating at Columbus Junction. While engaged as a farm laborer he collected some fresh-water clam shells and after extemporizing a foot lathe on the principle of those he had operated as an apprentice in Germany, he cut the first

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