

Joseph Hamilton Preston

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years. He returned east and located in Marengo, Iowa, where he continued the practice of law, ranking as the oldest lawyer in Iowa county at the time of his death. At the outbreak of the Civil War he recruited Company G, Seventh Iowa Infantry, was elected Captain and served until near the close of the war. He was elected Senator from Iowa county to the Eighteenth General Assembly, and before the expiration of the term was elected circuit judge of the Eighth District, holding that position from 1881 to 1886.

JOSEPH HAMILTON PRESTON was born in Benton Center, Yates county, New York, July 9, 1838; he died at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, July 29, 1913. His parents removed with their family to Marion, Iowa, in 1842, and he attended the public schools of Marion and also Cornell College, Mt. Vernon. He graduated from the Union Law School of Cleveland, Ohio, in 1860 with the degree of LL.B. and upon admission to the Iowa bar, engaged in practice with his father at Marion for eight years. In 1869 he removed to Waterloo and continued in practice there until 1881 when he removed to Cedar Rapids where he maintained his home until his death. He was elected district attorney for the Eighth Judicial District and later judge for the same district. In 1886 he was elected judge of the Eighteenth Judicial District and held the office until 1894 when he resigned from the bench to re-enter private practice. He was a prominent member of the Iowa bar for over fifty years.

LEWIS FORDYCE was born in Wabash county, Illinois, November 5, 1820; he died at his home near Libertyville, March 24, 1912. He came with his parents to Iowa when a youth of seventeen, and assisted his father in developing a farm in Lee county. In 1849 he moved to Van Buren county, residing there until 1873 when he secured a large farm in Jefferson county and made his home there. For thirty-five years in his early life he was engaged in the ministry, extending his labors throughout Missouri and southeastern Iowa, and for the same number of years was secretary of the State Association of the Christian Church. He was one of the organizers of the Republican party in Van Buren county, and represented that county in the Fourth General Assembly. He also occupied a seat in the Twentieth General Assembly as a Representative from Jefferson county.

SAMUEL EWING MCKEE was born in Alleghany county, Pennsylvania, September 26, 1836; he died in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, June 27, 1913. He attended the common schools of his native county until able to teach for a few terms and earn sufficient to give him a course in Jefferson College. He graduated in 1851 and give him a course in Jefferson College. He graduated in 1851 he entered Alleghany Theological Seminary and graduated therefrom in 1856. The same year he came west and was employed for a number of years in various places as pastor, missionary and teacher. In 1873 he settled in Washington, Iowa, and became principal of the Washington Academy of which institution he was the main originator. His connection with this institution continued until 1896. He was known as one of the foremost educators of the State. The last years of his life were passed in his native State.

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