

Alfred Hurst

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wegian immigrants. In order to educate young men for the ministry, the Norwegian pioneers founded a professorship at the Concordia Seminary in St. Louis in 1859. Doctor Larsen filled this chair until Luther College was organized at Half-way Creek, Wisconsin, in 1861, when he was appointed president. The school was moved to Decorah, Iowa, in 1862, and Doctor Larsen continued as president and president emeritus until his death. He was vice president of the Lutheran Synod from 1876 to 1903, and served as pastor at various times and upon important occasions. From 1868 to 1888 he was editor-in-chief of the *Kirketidende*. Doctor Larsen was one of the oldest educators among the Norwegians in America and was widely known as a teacher, pastor and editor. He received the degree of D.D. from Concordia Seminary, and in recognition of his life work was made a knight of the Order of St. Olaf by the king of Norway.

ALFRED HURST was born in Hull, Lincolnshire, England, November 19, 1846; he died at Hurstville, Iowa, March 25, 1915. At the age of six years he emigrated with his parents to America, landing at New Orleans and coming immediately to Davenport, Iowa. Soon after their arrival the father died, leaving his wife and three boys to make their own way in the world. Although but fifteen years old, at the outbreak of the Civil war he enlisted in the transportation service, was engaged for nineteen months with the Mississippi fleet, was present at the battles of Paducah, Ft. Donelson and Shiloh, and also accompanied General Banks on the Red River expedition. In September, 1863, he was captured by the Confederates and for some time forced into the service of the South. During the raid of Memphis he succeeded in escaping, returned to St. Louis and engaged in steamboating on the upper Mississippi river until 1866, when he returned to his home at Davenport and learned the stone mason's trade which he followed in that city for some years. He purchased forty acres of land in Jackson county suitable for the manufacture of lime, developed a flourishing business and the town of Hurstville grew up about the Hurst quarries and kilns. Mr. Hurst was always active in the interest of public welfare and was twice elected county supervisor. He served two terms as senator from Jackson county, continuing in office from January, 1892, until April, 1898.

RICHARD T. WELSLAGER was born in Washington county, Maryland, April 18, 1834; he died at Des Moines, March 15, 1915. When he was two years of age his parents removed to Richland county, Ohio, where his boyhood was spent working in the forest and on the farm in summer and attending the common schools in winter. In 1852 he began teaching school, alternating that with his farm

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