

Roderick A. Smith

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all over the world. Mr. Pitts was graduated from Rush Medical College in 1868. From then until 1906 he practiced medicine at Fredericksburg. He was thoroughly identified with the community as town and country doctor, leader of the church choir, treasurer of the school board for twenty-five years, and mayor of Fredericksburg for seven years. In 1906 he removed to Clarion and in 1909 to Brooklyn, New York, spending his last days there with a son.

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GEORGE RIX STRUBLE was born in Sussex County, New Jersey, July 25, 1836, and died at Toledo, Iowa, December 15, 1918. When he was a child his parents removed to Virginia, and later to Ohio, and in 1856 they came to Toledo, Iowa. Here he a little later began the study of law and in 1860 was admitted to the bar and began practice. From 1860 to 1864 he had as partner Albert Stoddard. After that he had at different times partnerships with Isaac N. Allen, who was attorney-general of Iowa in 1865, C. B. Bradshaw, C. N. Goodrich, and L. G. Kinney. Then in 1881 the firm became Struble & Stiger, which continued until within a few years of his death. In 1870 Governor Merrill appointed him circuit judge and he served two years. In 1879 he was elected representative and was re-elected two years later, serving in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth general assemblies, being speaker in the Nineteenth, elected after a notable contest. In 1890 he was the Republican candidate for Congress in the Fifth District, but went down to defeat in the landslide. In 1896 he was a delegate to the Republican National Convention at St. Louis that nominated McKinley.

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EDGAR EUGENE MACK was born at Leicester, Vermont, June 14, 1850, and was killed in an automobile accident at Addison, Pennsylvania, July 30, 1918. Burial was at Storm Lake, Iowa. In 1861 he was brought by his parents in their removal to Lake County, Illinois, in 1863 to Alden, Iowa, and in 1870 to Buena Vista County, where the father homesteaded land. In 1874 the young man was elected county clerk and by reason of re-elections he served in that capacity fourteen years. When he was first elected the county seat was at Sioux Rapids, but in 1874 it was removed to Storm Lake. On retiring from the office of county clerk he entered real estate business. In 1890 he formed a partnership with James De Land in the law, abstract, and loan business which continued to 1907 when he formed a partnership with his son, Guy E. Mack. In 1889 he was elected senator and served in the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth general assemblies. He was chairman of the Republican State Central Committee in 1890 and 1891.

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RODERICK A. SMITH was born in Wyoming County, New York, October 12, 1829, and died at Okoboji, Iowa, September 18, 1918. He came into Iowa in 1856, stopping at Fort Dodge. In 1857 he joined the relief expedition to Spirit Lake, called there because of the massacre by

Sioux Indians. Thereafter he made his home at the junction of the Okoboji lakes. He was elected county clerk and justice of the peace on the organization of Dickinson County in 1858. He later held various positions of trust. In 1868 he represented Clay, Dickinson, Emmet and Palo Alto counties as representative in the Twelfth General Assembly. He was a delegate from Iowa to the Republican National Convention in 1868 that nominated General Grant for president. In 1875 in the Republican State Convention he had substantial support as a candidate for lieutenant-governor. In 1894 he was appointed by Governor Jackson as a member of the commission to erect a monument commemorative of the sacrifices in the Spirit Lake massacre. In 1902 he issued a history of Dickinson County, which is a valuable contribution to early history in that part of the state.

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JOSEPH HENRY SWENEY was born in Warren County, Pennsylvania, October 2, 1845, and died at Hampton, Virginia, November 11, 1918. Interment was at Osage, Iowa. He came with his parents to Mitchell County, Iowa, in 1855. Here he attended public school and remained on the farm with his parents until 1862, when he enlisted in Company K, Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry, and remained in the service until August, 1865. He was engaged in the banking business at Osage for several years. In 1880 he was commissioned lieutenant-colonel of the Sixth Regiment, Iowa National Guard, and later was made brigadier-general and inspector-general for the state. In 1881 he was graduated from the Law Department of the State University of Iowa, and for many years thereafter successfully practiced law at Osage. He retired in 1910 because of poor health. In 1883 he was elected senator and was re-elected in 1887, serving in the Twentieth, Twenty-first and Twenty-second general assemblies. He was president pro tem of the Senate in the Twenty-second. In 1888 he was elected to Congress and served in the Fifty-first Congress. He was a Republican in politics.

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JAMES MERCER was born at Gault, Ontario, Canada, April 26, 1847, and died at his home near Fonda, Iowa, July 21, 1918. He came with his parents to Cascade, Dubuque County, in 1855. He attended public schools and academy. In October, 1864, he became a member of Company M, Sixth Iowa Cavalry. In 1875 he removed to a farm in Cedar Township, Pocahontas County. He was a member of the county board of supervisors from 1883 to 1886, and in 1889 was elected representative from the Clay-Pocahontas district, serving in the Twenty-third General Assembly. He was again elected representative from Pocahontas County in 1906 and served in the Thirty-second General Assembly. In 1890 he helped organize the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of Pocahontas County and was connected with it until the time of his death.

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