

Benjamin McCoy

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lieutenant and remained in military service until honorably discharged in June, 1865. For the first few years after the Civil War he was engaged in farming and teaching, until called to fill various official positions. Among the more important of these positions were those of county superintendent of public schools, which he occupied for four years, county auditor for a period of six years, and state senator for eight years. He was elected to the Senate in 1891 as a Democrat and began his service in the Twenty-fourth General Assembly and continued through the Twenty-fifth, Twenty-sixth, and Twenty-seventh. Among his colleagues in the Senate he was recognized as a man of sound judgment, marked integrity, and sterling worth. He was prominent in Masonic circles. His later years, except the last one of his life, were spent in Farmersburg, Iowa, where banking interests claimed his attention.—A. R. S.

BENJAMIN MCCOY was born in Jefferson County, Indiana, March 22, 1846, and died at Oskaloosa, Iowa, August 24, 1920. He was brought by his parents in 1855, on their removal to Indianapolis, Mahaska County, Iowa. He attended common school and Cornell College. In 1864 he enlisted as a private in Company H, Forty-seventh Iowa Infantry, and was mustered out at Davenport the same year. He was graduated from Cornell College in 1868, taught school, and was employed for some time as a surveyor. In 1871 he entered the law office of Seevers & Cutts as a student and was admitted to the bar the following year. He then removed to Sigourney and engaged in the practice of law as a member of the firm of Andrews & McCoy. In 1874 he returned to Oskaloosa and joined with J. B. Bolton as Bolton & McCoy. In 1876 he became city solicitor of Oskaloosa. In 1883 he was elected senator and was re-elected four years later, serving in the Twentieth, Twenty-first, Twenty-second, and Twenty-third general assemblies where he took an active part in the enactment of the important legislation of that period. He served as a district judge in the Sixth Judicial District from 1894 to 1898. On leaving the bench he associated himself in the practice with his two sons, John N. and Hugh B., which he continued until shortly before his death. He was a man of ability and was popular because of his many good qualities.

HAMLIN H. FREER was born at Ellsworth, Trumbull County, Ohio, September 9, 1845, and died at Mount Vernon, Iowa, August 26, 1920. In 1855 he emigrated with his parents to Illinois, and in 1856 to Iowa. The son of a Methodist preacher, after coming to Iowa his boyhood was spent at Le Claire, Camanche, Tipton, Independence, and Vinton, as his father's pastorates changed. He was graduated with the degree of B. S. from Cornell College in 1869, served one year as principal of schools at Chariton, and then went to Cornell College as a teacher in the academy. From then his entire life was spent at Cornell, although he re-

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