

John E. Williams

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JOHN E. WILLIAMS was born in Dane County, Wisconsin, February 23, 1865, and died at Waterloo, Iowa, June 12, 1920. In 1868 he was brought by his parents in their removal to a farm near Reinbeck, Grundy County, Iowa. He was graduated from the Reinbeck schools and from the Law Department of the State University of Iowa in 1889, and commenced the practice of law in Reinbeck. He served as county attorney of Grundy County in 1893 and 1894 and removed in 1895 to Waterloo and formed a partnership with C. D. Kern, which continued two years. In 1897 he was appointed city solicitor of Waterloo and held the position eight years, during which time he handled much important litigation for the city. In 1900 he formed a partnership with O. C. Miller which continued until 1911 when Mr. Miller removed from Waterloo. In 1912 he associated himself with James G. Clark in the practice, which continued until June 1, 1919, when, on the death of Judge Mullan, he was appointed district judge. He served in this position less than a year when he was stricken with paralysis, from which he died. He had a high standing as a lawyer and a citizen.

THOMAS LEE MAXWELL was born in Harrison County, Ohio, January 23, 1851, and died at Creston, Iowa, August 28, 1920. Burial was at Corning, Iowa. He removed with his parents, Thomas and Ann Maxwell, to Industry, Illinois, in 1860. In 1874 he came to Cromwell, Iowa, and taught school there and at Prescott until 1878 when he was elected county superintendent of Adams County. He was admitted to the bar at Afton in September, 1879, and in 1880 actively engaged in the practice of his profession at Corning. In 1881 he was elected representative and served in the Nineteenth General Assembly. In 1884 he removed to Creston and engaged in the practice of law. In 1892 he was the Democratic nominee for Congress in the Eighth District against Colonel Hepburn. In 1895 he removed to Des Moines, but in 1901 returned to Corning and engaged in stock raising and the practice of law. In 1905 he removed again to Creston and renewed his practice there. He was elected district judge of the Third Judicial District and served eight years, 1911-1918, declining re-election, after which he again entered practice and was engaged therein at the time of his death.

BENJAMIN F. BROWN was born in Knox County, Ohio, May 3, 1833, and died at Biloxi, Mississippi, March 7, 1915. Interment was in Washington County, Iowa. When he was twelve years old he removed with his parents to Brooke County, Virginia, later a part of West Virginia. Here he was graduated from the Scientific Department of Bethany College. In 1858 he came to Washington County, Iowa, and taught school. In 1860 he returned to Virginia, but in a few years came back to Iowa and settled on a farm in Cedar Township, Washington County. In 1873 he was elected representative, on the Anti-monopoly ticket, and served in the Fifteenth General Assembly.

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