

William E. Odell

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WILLIAM E. ODELL was born at Rensselaer, Indiana, September 19, 1849, and died in Des Moines, Iowa, May 7, 1920. He came with his parents to McGregor, Iowa, in 1858. He was graduated with honors from the Wisconsin State University and read law in the office of his father, Hon. Elijah Odell, of McGregor. His father died in 1874 and left him in charge of an extensive practice. He removed to Des Moines in 1892 as local attorney for the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company, and built up a large general practice, retiring from active practice in 1906. He was an able, educated and cultured man.

JOHN MCKAY was born in Scotland in 1843, and died at his home in Des Moines, Iowa, December 29, 1916. He was a coal miner by trade. He came to America in 1864. He was employed as a coal miner at Fort Dodge and at Angus, becoming a mine manager at the latter place. He came to Des Moines in 1892. In 1897 he was elected a member of the city council. He served as county treasurer in 1900, 1901 and 1902, resigning in January, 1903, to become postmaster at Des Moines. He served in that position four years, going out in March, 1907.

ALEXANDER MOFFITT was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, April 24, 1828, and died at his home near Mechanicsville, Iowa, November 20, 1917. He came to America with his parents in 1840, reaching Cedar County on November 20. In 1852 he, with two companions, outfitted a wagon and with six yoke of oxen, crossed the plains to California. He returned two years later, taking six months to make the trip. He became a very successful farmer and stockman. He held various school and township offices, was a member of the Cedar County Board of Supervisors and in 1875 was elected representative and served in the Sixteenth General Assembly.

DAVID HAMILTON SCOTT was born in Fleming County, Kentucky, June 27, 1825, and died at his home in Albia, Iowa, December 21, 1918. He removed to Monroe County in 1850, and followed the vocation of farmer. In 1862 he volunteered in Company A, Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry, became first sergeant and was promoted to second lieutenant. Ill health caused him to resign in 1864. In 1895 he was elected representative and served in the Twenty-sixth General Assembly, both the regular and the extra sessions.

JESSE J. WALL was born in Tennessee, September 3, 1831, and died at his home in Centerville, Iowa, December 6, 1916. He removed to Appanoose County, Iowa, when a young man, and engaged in farming. In 1879 he was elected state senator and served in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth general assemblies. In 1895 he removed to Centerville. He was a Democrat in politics until the last few years of his life when he affiliated with the Socialist party.

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