

**Stephen B. Packard**

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and professor of agriculture in Iowa State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, where for the next six years he did a great work in spreading helpful information on farming and stockraising. He was appointed secretary of agriculture by President McKinley March 5, 1897, and served continuously in that position throughout the entire administrations of McKinley, Roosevelt, and Taft, sixteen years, the longest service in the cabinet of any one in our country's history. His work as head of the Agricultural Department was monumental and far reaching in its influence on the prosperity of the country. What science and research and experiment by skilled helpers could do for agriculture in its various activities was done, and the department became recognized in America and Europe as being most efficient in aiding agriculture. On retiring from the cabinet in 1913 he returned to Traer. In June Governor Clarke appointed him with Henry Wallace to investigate agricultural conditions in Great Britain. A number of colleges and universities conferred on him the honorary degree of LL. D. The last few years of his life were spent in comparative retirement.

STEPHEN B. PACKARD was born at Auburn, Maine, April 25, 1839, and died at Seattle, Washington, January 31, 1922. He was a son of Stephen and Roxanna (Briggs) Packard. His education was obtained in common school and in Westbrook Seminary. He read law one year and in October, 1861, enlisted in Company C, Twelfth Maine Infantry, and was commissioned first lieutenant. He was afterwards promoted to captain of Company B of the same regiment. He was detached and put on special courtmartial duty administering the oath of allegiance to captured Confederates in 1862 and 1863, and also served for a time as judge advocate. He saw much active service at the front, especially in Virginia, and was honorably discharged in December, 1864. He removed to New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1865 and began the practice of law, which he continued for five years. In 1867 he was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention of the state, was later appointed chairman of registration, and after that service was appointed register of conveyances. In 1869 President Grant appointed him United States marshal for Louisiana, which position he filled for nearly eight years. In 1876 he was the Republican nominee for governor and was declared elected by the returning board. Francis T. Nichols, the Democratic nominee, on the face of the returns also claimed election. Both Packard and Nichols were inaugurated on January 8, 1877. Packard had possession of the building in New Orleans, the St. Louis Hotel, that had been used for a few years as the state capitol, and also had possession of the papers belonging to the office. Governor Nichols maintained his office in the Odd Fellows Building in the same city. The Republican portion of the legislature met in one building and the Democratic portion in another, each body endeavoring to function. Confusion was worse confounded by the existence of rival supreme courts. Only the presence of Federal troops prevented open conflict. President Hayes

who was inaugurated March 4, 1877, appointed a commission, which reached New Orleans April 6, to try to secure a peaceable adjustment. It soon became apparent that the only way the Packard government could be maintained was by the force of the Federal troops, and the administration declined to use the troops to longer uphold either claimant in a contested election. The Nichols legislature made some overtures to members of the other body, so that desertions from one body to the other soon resulted in giving the Nichols faction a quorum and it became a functioning body. Then on April 24 the Federal troops were withdrawn and the Packard government melted away. The next day Governor Packard issued a statement saying he yielded to superior force, but waived none of his legal rights. However, he made no further efforts to secure them. In 1878 he was appointed consul at Liverpool, England, which place he held seven years. In 1885 he removed to Marshall County, Iowa, purchased about one thousand acres of land and became an extensive and successful breeder of fine stock. In 1893 he served as one of the Iowa Commission to the Columbian Exposition in Chicago, and in 1898 served in the same capacity to the Trans-Mississippi Exposition in Omaha. From 1901 to 1909 he was the Fifth District member of the State Board of Agriculture. He was a very useful and public spirited citizen of the state during the quarter of a century he resided in it. In 1909 he removed to Seattle, Washington, where he lived in comparative retirement.

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WILLIAM FLETCHER KING was born near Zanesville, Ohio, December 20, 1830, and died at Mount Vernon, Iowa, October 23, 1921. Burial was at Chillicothe, Ohio. His parents were James J. and Mariam (Coffman) King. He grew to manhood on his parents' farm near Zanesville, attending school during winters. He studied Latin under a private tutor and in 1851 entered Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware, where he studied a year before entering the freshman class. He taught a year at Unionville, Tennessee, and returned to Ohio Wesleyan and was graduated with the degree of A. B. in 1857. The following five years he devoted to tutoring in his Alma Mater and doing post-graduate work. In 1862 he was drilling and planning to enlist in the Union Army when insistent calls came to him to go to Cornell College, Mount Vernon, Iowa, to teach Latin and Greek, which he consented to do for one year. Before the end of the year the president, Dr. S. M. Fellows, was so incapacitated by what proved to be a fatal illness that the young Latin professor, in 1863, became the acting president. Soon thereafter he became president and remained such until 1908, a period of forty-five years, a length of service said to excel that of any other college president of his time. From 1908 until his death he bore the title of president emeritus. President King was given the degree of A. M. by Ohio Wesleyan in 1869, D. D. by Illinois Wesleyan in 1870, and LL. D. by the State University of Iowa and by Ohio Wesleyan in 1887. He was a delegate to the General Conference of the Metho-

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