

Monias E. Bitterman

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sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered out August 15, 1865, at Camp Irwin, Texas. He was graduated from the University of Ohio in 1872, taught for three years in Willoughby College, and spent the school year of 1875-6 in Union Theological Seminary, New York. He then returned to Willoughby College and taught four years, and for one year was pastor of two rural churches. From 1881 to 1887 he had a professorship in Coe College, from 1887 to 1892 he was pastor of the First Congregational church in Marion, and from 1892 to 1899 was pastor of the First Congregational church at Osage. He then returned one year to Coe and in 1900 went to the English Department of Iowa State Teachers College at Cedar Falls where he remained as an instructor until his death. He was chaplain of the State Encampment, Department of Iowa, G. A. R., in 1919, and of the National Encampment in 1920. On June 7, 1923, he was elected commander of the Department of Iowa, was installed, but on returning home died the following day.

CHARLES W. KEPLER was born in Frederick County, Maryland, January 1, 1841, and died at a hospital in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, March 23, 1923. His father was Conrad Kepler. He was brought by his parents in 1843 to Franklin Township, Linn County, Iowa. On a farm there he grew to manhood, attended common school and Cornell College, and on September 18, 1861, enlisted as a private in Company A, Thirteenth Iowa Infantry. He was wounded October 3, 1862, at Corinth and promoted to first sergeant. He was promoted to second lieutenant February 2, 1863, and to captain January 9, 1865. He was mustered out July 21, 1865, at Louisville, Kentucky. He had commenced the study of law while in the army, was admitted to practice soon after returning home, opened an office in Mount Vernon and practiced there continuously until his death, a period of over fifty years. For the last several years his son, Louis H. Kepler, was associated with him. He had a large practice, was a man of energy and ability, and was a potent factor in local, county, and district affairs. He was prominent in the Grand Army, was president at Crocker's Brigade, was an active member of the Methodist church, a trustee of Cornell College for a number of years, and was mayor of Mount Vernon at different times.

MONIAS E. BETTERMAN was born in Canton, Ohio, August 16, 1843, and died at Nora Springs, Iowa, December 23, 1919. At the age of sixteen he removed to near Joliet, Illinois, and in 1870 to a farm in Portland Township, Cerro Gordo County, Iowa. He was a public-spirited and useful citizen, held many township offices, and was treasurer of the school district for over thirty years. In 1891 he was elected representative from Cerro Gordo County, and was re-elected two years later, serving in the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth general assemblies. Shortly before his death he retired and removed to Nora Springs.

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