

John Wesley Akers

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JOHN WESLEY AKERS was born at New Athens, Ohio, November 5, 1841, and died at Pasadena, California, December 13, 1923. His parents with their family removed to a farm near Millersburg, Iowa County, Iowa, in 1849. He enlisted as second corporal in Company G, Seventh Iowa Infantry, on June 6, 1861, was promoted to musician March 1, 1862, to fifth major June 1, 1863, and was mustered out at the end of his service August 9, 1864. He was graduated from Cornell College in 1870 as Bachelor of Science, and in 1873 as Master of Science. He was superintendent of schools at Vinton from 1870 to 1872, at Waterloo from 1872 to 1876, and at Cedar Rapids from 1876 to 1882. In 1881 he was elected state superintendent of public instruction and was twice re-elected, serving inclusively from 1882 to 1887. In 1893 he went to Reinbeck in education work, and in 1896 he became principal of Walter Scott Public School, Chicago, remaining there twenty-two years. In 1918 he became vice-president and professor of theology and sacred history in Olivet University, Olivet, Illinois, an institution sponsored by the Church of the Nazarine. He became acting president, was given the title of Doctor of Divinity, and in 1922 was transferred to Pasadena University, Pasadena, California, which is under the same denomination, where he continued as a lecturer on theology and sacred history until shortly before his death.

CHARLES RICHMOND BRENTON was born near Dallas Center, Iowa, January 30, 1864, and died at Battle Creek, Michigan, September 1, 1924. Burial was at Dallas Center. When he was fourteen years old his parents, William and Mary Elizabeth Brenton, removed to Dallas Center, and there Charles grew to manhood and was educated. He became a banker and business man of extensive interests. With his brother, Clyde E. Brenton, he owned several thousand acres of Iowa land, and owned a controlling interest in several banks and other corporations in Dallas County. Charles R. was for many years a member of the Dallas Center Board of Education, a member of the Board of Trustees of Simpson College, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Iowa Methodist Hospital. In 1908 he was a delegate to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, which met that year in Baltimore. From 1906 to 1909 he was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Iowa State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, and when in 1909 the college came under control of the newly created State Board of Education, Governor Carroll appointed him a member of that board, and by reappointment he remained a member until his death. He had many activities, and was very useful to his community and state.

JAMES H. TEDFORD was born in White County, Indiana, March 4, 1833, and died at Kennelworth Hospital, Clarinda, Iowa, September 13, 1924. Burial was at Mount Ayr, Iowa. He obtained his elementary education through hardships, then taught school, and worked his way through

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