

**James H. Tedford**

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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 fife 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.

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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.

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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

Hanover College, Hanover, Indiana, from which he was graduated in 1856. He studied in Xenia Theological Seminary, Xenia, Ohio, for three years, served a pastorate at Greenville, Pennsylvania, three years, one at Tipton, Indiana, twelve years, and in 1879 removed to Mount Ayr where he was pastor of the United Presbyterian church for six years. In 1885 he formed a partnership with Robert Williams in publishing the *Ringgold Republican*, afterward consolidating it with the *Ringgold Record*. In 1907 the *Record* and *News* were consolidated with Mr. Tedford as editor in partnership with the present owner, Sam Spurrier. Mr. Tedford later sold his interest in the paper to his partner, but remained as editorial writer until age and illness caused him to relinquish his work. For nearly half a century, a few years as preacher, then as editor, he exerted a positive influence for good in that community.

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WILLIAM MYRON BROOKS was born at Laporte, Ohio, March 5, 1835, and died in Los Angeles, California, November 22, 1924. His parents were Samuel and Sophia (Johnson) Brooks. He was graduated from Oberlin College with the degree of A. B. in 1857, and of A. M. in 1861, and in 1893 his Alma Mater gave him the degree of D. D. He removed to Tabor, Iowa, in 1857 and became principal of Tabor Literary Institute, and held that position until 1866. He was also county superintendent of schools of Fremont County from 1860 to 1865. In 1866 when the institute was changed to Tabor College, Mr. Brooks became its first president, serving until 1896. In 1875 he was elected representative and served in the Sixteenth General Assembly, and in 1876 he was chosen as a presidential elector on the Hayes ticket. He was president of the Iowa State Teachers' Association in 1886, was twice moderator of the Iowa Congregational Association, and was president of the Tabor and Northern Railroad from 1891 to 1898, when the road belonged to the college. Soon after relinquishing the presidency of Tabor College he removed to Los Angeles. He was the author of "The Story of Tabor College," "Glimpses of Four Score Years," and other publications.

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JOHN F. KEMPKER was born at West Point, Iowa, in April, 1847, and died at Davenport, Iowa, June 21, 1924. His parents were immigrants from Germany. He attended Catholic school at West Point and, as a boy who knew German and English, taught catechism to children of the neighborhood. He finished his course in theology in Milwaukee and was ordained to the priesthood in 1872. He was located at Council Bluffs and worked from there organizing churches and ministering to those communities who spoke German. After a few years he was made private secretary to Archbishop Hennessy of Dubuque. He later served charges at Fort Madison, Burlington, Iowa City, Victor and many other places. He had a true missionary spirit, was a cultured scholar, linguist, and historian. At his death he bequeathed most of his estate to Mercy Hospital, Davenport.

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