

William L. Davis

ISSN 0003-4827

No known copyright restrictions.

Recommended Citation

"William L. Davis." *The Annals of Iowa* 15 (1926), 235-235.

Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0003-4827.4964>

Hosted by Iowa Research Online

mous deadlock when the House failed to organize for over a month, when finally Mr. Hamilton was elected speaker. In 1890 he was elected to Congress, defeating the Republican nominee, George R. Struble, and served in the Fifty-second Congress, but in 1892 he was defeated for re-election by Robert G. Cousins. On the death of L. G. Kinne, Governor Cummins appointed Mr. Hamilton a member of the Board of Control of State Institutions for the remainder of Mr. Kinne's term, and appointed him for a full six-year term beginning April 5, 1908, but he resigned October 1, 1909. In 1914 he was the Democratic candidate for governor, but was defeated by Governor George W. Clarke who was running for his second term. Mr. Hamilton was an able public man and a citizen of the highest type.

WILLIAM L. DAVIS was born near South Bend, Indiana, August 4, 1843, and died in Washington, D. C., March 5, 1925. Burial was at Cedar Rapids, Iowa. His parents were Rev. William and Charlotte (Miller) Davis. His father was a minister of the United Brethren church and, during the son's youth, served charges in various towns in Indiana and Ohio. William L. had the advantage of a common school and academic education. In 1861 he went with two of his brothers to Illinois where they farmed. In 1862 the family removed to Muscatine, Iowa, and August 7, 1862, he enlisted in Company B, Thirty-fifth Iowa Infantry, and was with his command in their great campaigns under Grant, Sherman, Thomas, A. J. Smith and others. He became a lieutenant in the Fifty-ninth United States Colored Infantry in 1865 and was mustered out March 31, 1866. He then came to the vicinity of Cedar Rapids and engaged in various occupations but in the late '60's bought the *Lisbon Sun* and for ten years was its owner and editor. In 1869 he was appointed postmaster at Lisbon and was continued in that position for sixteen years, or until during Cleveland's administration. While at Lisbon he organized a company of Iowa National Guard and became its captain. He advanced to lieutenant-colonel, and then colonel of the First Regiment. At the inauguration of President Harrison in 1889 he commanded a battalion of I. N. G., and in 1893 at the dedication of the Iowa Building at the Columbian Exposition he, having been promoted to brigadier-general, commanded a brigade, consisting of the First and Second regiments. During the thirty years of his later active life he was an employee of the money order department of the Cedar Rapids postoffice.

EDWIN E. LUCAS was born near Hillsboro, Iowa, March 30, 1866, and died at Stockport August 24, 1922. Burial was at Keosauqua. His parents were Francis Marion and Mary Elizabeth Lazenby Lucas. He attended common school and was graduated from Pierce's Business College, Keokuk, in 1888. He held various positions with mercantile houses in Fairfield until in 1894 when he entered mercantile business for him-

self. During 1899 to 1902 he served as deputy clerk of the District Court for Jefferson County and in 1902 was elected clerk, re-elected two years later, and served four years. In 1909 he removed to Des Moines. He enlisted at Fairfield January 25, 1897, in Company M, Second Infantry, I. N. G. He was promoted to first sergeant of Company M, Fiftieth Volunteer Infantry, May 17, 1898, and served during the Spanish-American War with that organization from that date to November 30, 1898. He was appointed first lieutenant of Company M, Fiftieth Infantry, I. N. G., February 21, 1899, and promoted to captain August 3, 1900, and served as such until August 3, 1905, when he was reappointed captain of Company M, Fifty-fourth Infantry; promoted to major March 17, 1908; appointed colonel and assistant adjutant-general February 1, 1909; transferred to quartermaster's corps May 31, 1917, with rank of major; transferred to the adjutant-general's department September 1, 1918, as United States property and disbursing officer; reappointed assistant adjutant-general with rank of major July 4, 1919; and resigned because of illness June 8, 1922, to become effective June 30, 1922. He was efficient and honorable both as citizen and soldier.

JOSEPH REA REED was born in Ashland County, Ohio, March 12, 1835, and died in Council Bluffs, Iowa, April 2, 1925. His parents were William and Rosanna Lyle Reed. He attended common school, and Hayesville Academy, alternating the latter with school-teaching. In 1857 he removed to Adel, Iowa, became a student in the law office of Dodge & Boyle, was admitted to the bar in 1859 and began practice. On August 8, 1861, he was mustered in as first lieutenant of the Second Battery, Iowa Light Artillery, commanded the battery after December 1, 1862, was promoted to captain August 31, 1864, and was mustered out June 10, 1865. The battery was engaged at New Madrid, Island No. 10, Corinth, Vicksburg, Nashville, Mobile and in many other important actions. Captain Reed returned to Adel and resumed law practice. In 1865 he was elected senator and served in the Eleventh and Twelfth general assemblies. In 1869 he removed to Council Bluffs and practiced there until September 1, 1872, when Governor Carpenter appointed him a judge of the Thirteenth Judicial District. By reason of elections he served until January, 1884, when he assumed the duties of a judge of the Supreme Court, having been elected to that office the previous October. He served in this position until he resigned February 28, 1889, having been elected to Congress the previous November. He served in the Fifty-first Congress, ending in 1891, and in that year was appointed by President Harrison chief justice of the Private Land Claims, which court had jurisdiction of claims of lands received under grants from Spain and Mexico in the territory acquired by the United States from Mexico. After that service was completed he resumed his law practice at Council Bluffs. In 1901 he became president of the Commercial Bank of Council Bluffs.

Copyright of Annals of Iowa is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.