

Joseph Rea Reed

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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.

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