

Cyrus L. Stratton

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1849, when he removed his family to Albany, Illinois, later to Savannah, Illinois, and to Wapello, Iowa, as he held pastorates at those places. In 1860 he removed to Grinnell in order to educate his children. Here Gershom, then fourteen years old, attended school, and taught several terms of school in the country. On May 24, 1864, he enlisted in Company B, Forty-sixth Iowa Infantry, and was mustered out at the end of his service, September 23, 1864. He was graduated from Iowa (now Grinnell) College in 1871 with the degree of A. B., and from Rush Medical College, Chicago, with the degree of M. D. in 1874. He began the practice of medicine at Moline, Illinois, but in December, 1874, was elected assistant superintendent of the State Hospital for the Insane at Independence, and in 1881 became superintendent. He thoroughly qualified himself for this work, taking postgraduate work at Bellevue Hospital Medical College of New York in 1878, and at Harvard Medical School, Boston, in 1890. In 1902 he removed to Des Moines and engaged in practice as an alienist. In 1905, in conjunction with Dr. John C. Doolittle, he established a private hospital for nervous and mental invalids, which was known as The Retreat, and of which Dr. Hill was superintendent. In 1924, owing to failing health, he sold his interest in this hospital to Drs. John C. and Russell Doolittle. Dr. Hill lectured on insanity at the College of Medicine, State University of Iowa, 1890-1906, and was professor of mental diseases in College of Medicine, Drake University, 1903-1913. He had many activities outside his profession, was a trustee of Grinnell College from 1888, was for a time president of the Anti-Saloon League of Iowa, was a member of the Executive Committee of Associated Charities of Des Moines, was a past commander of Crocker Post, Grand Army of the Republic, Des Moines, a past president of the State Society, Sons of the American Revolution, was the senior deacon in Plymouth Congregational church, Des Moines, and belonged to many organizations connected with his profession and with civic and benevolent affairs.

CYRUS L. STRATTON was born in Wayne County, Ohio, December 18, 1843, and died in Red Oak, Iowa, July 6, 1923. He was educated in public school, at Canaan Academy, and at Mount Union College Alliance, Ohio. He taught school some years, then in 1872 removed to Montgomery County, Iowa, and engaged in farming north of Red Oak. He was a local preacher in the Methodist Episcopal church, and when a country church was built in his neighborhood it was named "Stratton Church." He was elected a member of the Board of Supervisors in 1887, and was re-elected in 1890, serving six years, or from January, 1888, to January, 1894. During that time the present Montgomery County Courthouse was built, much of the responsibility of the supervision of construction devolving on Mr. Stratton. He was elected representative in 1899, and was re-elected in 1901, serving in the Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth general assemblies.

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