

William Vance Willcox

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WILLIAM VANCE WILLCOX was born in Franklin County, Ohio, December 17, 1846, and died in Des Moines, Iowa, October 12, 1925. His parents, Edmond and Elizabeth Ingham Willcox, removed in 1854 to Big Grove Township, Johnson County, Iowa, to where Solon now is located, and established the Halfway House, midway between Cedar Rapids and Iowa City. When not quite seventeen years old he left home, and at Wapello enlisted on August 5, 1863, as bugler in Company H, Eighth Iowa Cavalry. He was mustered out at Davenport, Iowa, July 7, 1865. In 1868 he located at Eldora, clerked in a store for a year, then entered general merchandising and grain buying, but a few years later engaged in fire insurance work. The fall of 1881 he was elected sheriff of Hardin County, and was twice re-elected, serving six years commencing with 1882, which was during the noted era of the conviction of the Rainsbarger brothers. In 1889 he removed to Des Moines and continued in the fire insurance business, the later years of his life being senior member of the Willcox, Howell, Hopkins & Mulock Agency. He was active in county, district and state politics, and was United States pension agent for Iowa and Nebraska from 1906 to 1909. He was also active in Grand Army organizations and in civic welfare work.

JOHN P. CARROLL was born in Dubuque, Iowa, February 22, 1864, and died at Fribourg, Switzerland, November 5, 1925. Burial was at Helena, Montana. He received his early education at St. Raphael's School, Dubuque, and was graduated from St. Joseph's College (now Columbia College), Dubuque. He received his theological training at Grand Seminary, Montreal, Canada, was ordained priest there in 1889, and appointed to the chair of philosophy in St. Joseph's College. In 1894 he became president of St. Joseph's College. On December 21, 1904, he was consecrated bishop of the Helena See, removed to Helena and took charge in January, 1905. He was on a trip to Rome when death overtook him.

HENRY C. BRANDES was born in Brunswick, Germany, April 14, 1852, and died in a hospital in Council Bluffs, Iowa, October 24, 1925. Burial was near Hancock, Pottawattamie County. His parents were Henry C. and Dorothy (Ketz) Brandes. He immigrated to America in 1868, settling at La Salle, Illinois. He attended common school both in Germany and in La Salle. His vocation was that of a farm hand, and in 1874 he purchased a farm in James Township, Pottawattamie County. However he remained at La Salle until 1877 when he removed to his farm. That fall he was elected a township trustee and continued to hold that position until in 1896 when he was elected a member of the Board of Supervisors of Pottawattamie County. He served in that capacity until 1906 when he was elected representative. He was re-elected two years later, and served in the Thirty-second and Thirty-third general assemblies. He was a Republican in politics.

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