

## James Taggart Priestley

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JOSEPH G. HOBSON was born near Bartlett, Washington County, Ohio, April 12, 1848, and died at Sioux City, Iowa, February 21, 1926. His parents were Stephen and Lydia (Watt) Hobson, Quakers (Friends). In his boyhood he attended during winters Friends' primary school near his home. Later he attended Bartlett Academy, and from there went to the National Normal School at Lebanon, Ohio, from which he was graduated. He taught school in Ohio for several years, then removed to Howard Lake, Minnesota, where he and a brother conducted a store. In 1884 he taught at Hawarden, Iowa. He obtained a position in Webster School, Sioux City, in 1885, and removed to that city. Six years later he became principal of Worcester School, Sioux City, and retained this position for thirty-five years, or until his death. He was one of the organizers of Wall Street Mission, Sioux City, and led in its development, becoming president of its board of trustees. The mission grew into an important community center, and recently a \$35,000 structure was erected, to which he and his wife contributed \$10,000. He assisted in other activities, religious, social and educational, and exerted an unusual influence for good, especially among the boys in his portion of the city. Since his death the name of the school in which he served so long has been changed from Worcester to Hobson.

JAMES D. GLASGOW was born in Jackson Township, Washington County, Iowa, August 23, 1866, and died in Des Moines, Iowa, April 22, 1926. Burial was at Washington, Iowa. His parents were Robert B. and Matilda (Campbell) Glasgow. He was educated in country schools and the Washington Academy. He studied medicine with Dr. A. A. Rodman of Washington, became a pharmacist in the Rodman drug store, and later purchased the store and conducted it many years. He enlisted as a private in Company D, Second Regiment Infantry, Iowa National Guard, May 4, 1885. He received promotions until June 26, 1896, when he became a major in the Second Regiment, but at the time of the Spanish-American War he was unable to pass the physical examination and received an honorable discharge. He was for a time a member of the Washington City Council, for six years was mayor of the city, served as president of the Iowa League of Municipalities, was president of the local Red Cross organization, and was active in church and fraternal organizations. In 1916 he was elected clerk of the District Court of Washington County and by reason of re-elections served for nearly eight years, resigning in 1924 to become inheritance tax examiner in the office of the treasurer of state at Des Moines, which position he continued to hold until his death.

DR. JAMES TAGGART PRIESTLEY was born at Northumberland, Pennsylvania, July 19, 1852, and died in Des Moines, Iowa, December 11, 1925. His parents were Marks B. and Mary Taggart Priestley. His great-grandfather, Joseph Priestley, D. D., an eminent divine, philosopher,

and scientist of England, immigrated to Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, in 1794 and achieved fame throughout the scientific world as the discoverer of oxygen gas. James Taggart Priestley was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1874 and began the practice of medicine in his home town. In 1876 he removed to Des Moines and entered the practice there which he continued almost continuously until his death. In 1881 he was appointed surgeon of the Third Regiment, Iowa National Guard, with the rank of major. In 1885 he became surgeon of the First Brigade, and from 1894 to 1902 he was surgeon general. He kept well abreast of the progress of medical science, achieved prominence in his profession, was president of the Iowa State Medical Society in 1900, and was a member of the Board of Trustees of the American Medical Society from 1894 to 1900.

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MICHAEL VALENTINE GANNON was born in Dublin, Ireland, February 14, 1846, and died at Davenport, Iowa, March 7, 1926. His parents were Michael and Catherine (O'Brien) Gannon. In 1866 he immigrated to the United States, coming to Davenport, Iowa. For a few years he taught school in Rock Island. In the early seventies he established and edited the *Catholic Advocate*. In 1873 he was admitted to the bar and began practice in Davenport. In 1877 he was elected a member of the Davenport City Council. In 1878 he was the Democratic nominee for clerk of the Supreme Court. In 1882 he was elected district attorney for the Seventh Judicial District and served for the following four years. In 1884 he was the Democratic candidate for attorney general of the state. In 1887 he removed to Omaha, Nebraska, and a few years thereafter to Chicago, Illinois, and became a noted figure at the bar of that city. In 1905 he returned to Davenport and was in partnership in the practice with A. P. McGuirk. In 1891 he became president of the Irish National Land League, an organization of national scope whose purpose was to render assistance to the people of Ireland in acquiring from landlords the ownership of the lands they had so long occupied. Mr. Gannon was an orator of brilliance and power.

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JOHN ROBERT SMITH was born at Roxbury, Delaware County, New York, January 27, 1838, and died in Eagle Grove, Iowa, March 19, 1926. He was a son of Robert and Jeannette Lyle Smith. He attended common school and Delaware Literary Institute, taught school two years, and for many years followed cattle buying. In 1881 he removed to Wright County, Iowa, and with his brother, W. C. Smith, engaged in the cattle business. In 1890 he became cashier of the State Bank of Eagle Grove, continuing as such until 1905. In 1906 he was elected representative, and was re-elected in 1908, serving in the Thirty-second and Thirty-third general assemblies. He also served as city treasurer of Eagle Grove, and as a member of the Board of Education.

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