

Ben Edwards

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JOHN W. WRIGHT was born at Oskaloosa, Iowa, May 4, 1860, and died at Knoxville, February 23, 1926. His parents were Quakers, Dillon and Susanna (Frazier) Wright. He attended common school, intermittently, until twelve years of age, went through the primary grades, and then began work as a coal miner's helper in winter, and a brickyard laborer in summer. In 1879 he removed to Knoxville, continuing his labor in coal mines and brickyards. Having been deprived largely of school privileges, he was all these years pursuing self education. In 1887 he took charge of the "Questions and Answers" department of the *Des Moines Leader*, and of a similar department of the *American Rural Home*, both of which he continued for over twenty years. In 1888 he also took the editorship of the "Notes for the Curious" department of the *St. Louis Republic*. This he continued for over ten years, and also did regular editorial work for the *Sunday Republic* for three years, 1895-97. From 1901 until his death he was connected with the *Knoxville Journal* as news editor, and also did feature writing for it, and for many years contributed "Nature Snap Shots." He was a life student of nature, science, and of many departments of human knowledge, and was a prolific writer. He was author of "Christ in Myth and Legend," Cranston & Curtis, Cincinnati, 1894, and was supervising editor of "Marion County History," S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., Chicago, 1915. Being deeply interested in historical and scientific subjects, he became a collector along these lines and left a museum of much value and interest.

BEN EDWARDS was born in Scranton, Pennsylvania, May 19, 1864, and died at Ames, Iowa, January 31, 1926. His parents removed with their family to Beacon, Mahaska County, Iowa, in 1873, and to a farm in Carroll County in 1875. Ben was educated in common school and on reaching manhood followed farming until 1889, when he removed to Dedham and entered the hardware business. After several years he sold this business and engaged in general merchandising in Carrollton. In 1905 he removed to Ames and became superintendent of the state college grounds and buildings. In 1910 he entered the coal and ice business. While at Dedham he served as township trustee, as a member of the town council, and as mayor, and at Ames he was a city councilman. In 1915 he was elected senator and served in the Thirty-seventh and Thirty-eighth general assemblies.

ALBERT G. STEWART was born in Green County, Wisconsin, March 1, 1854, and died in Chicago, Illinois, March 2, 1926. Burial was at Waukon, Iowa. He removed to Waukon in 1875, studied law with H. H. Stillwell and was admitted to the bar in 1876. He became partner of C. S. Stillwell in January, 1877, but two years later bought his partner's interest. In 1880 he became attorney for the board of supervisors of Allamakee County and held the position several years. He also served

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