

Dennis A. Lyons

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SAMUEL M. LEACH was born in St. Clair County, Illinois, September 18, 1849, and died at Adel, Iowa, August 22, 1925. His parents were James W. and Elizabeth Anderson Leach. They removed to a farm in Clay County, Missouri, when Samuel was only a few months old. In 1864, at the age of fifteen years, he entered the academy at Bonaparte, Iowa, remaining three years. He then commenced to learn the printing business. For two years he was foreman of the *Keokuk Gate City*, but in 1874 purchased an interest in the *Osceola Sentinel* and edited it for seven years. In 1881 he removed to Adel and established the Adel State Bank, remaining its active head forty-four years. He was a man of strong personality and influence, useful to his community, and took a part in public affairs, but did not seek public position. He was the Seventh District member of the Republican State Central Committee from 1897 to 1900, and was the Seventh District member of the Iowa Commission to the Louisiana Exposition at St. Louis in 1904.

SAMUEL WESLEY KLAUS was born near Colesburg, Delaware County, Iowa, January 12, 1861, and died in an automobile accident near Earlville November 21, 1925. Burial was at Earlville. His parents were John D. and Elizabeth (Hartbeck) Klaus. He attended public school and was graduated from Northwestern College, Galena, Illinois, in 1882. He then taught school two terms, clerked in a store three years, and in 1887 established a store in Earlville, and for nearly forty years followed the vocation of merchant. He was for many years a member of the town council of Earlville, also served as mayor, member of the Board of Education, was for ten years chairman of the Republican County Central Committee, and in 1916 was elected representative, re-elected in 1918, and served with credit and ability in the Thirty-seventh and Thirty-eighth general assemblies. He was a prominent lay member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and a leader in Red Cross and other benevolent activities.

DENNIS A. LYONS was born at Blue Island, now a part of Chicago, Illinois, September 8, 1851, and died at Cresco, Iowa, March 24, 1925. When he was sixteen his parents removed with their family to a farm in Winneshiek County, Iowa. In addition to common school Dennis attended Breckenridge Institute at Decorah. In 1877 he formed a partnership with R. J. McHugh as McHugh & Lyons, dealers in farm implements, at Cresco and continued in that business until he retired in 1909. He was twice mayor of Cresco, and in 1897 was elected senator, and was re-elected in 1901, serving from the Twenty-seventh to the Thirty-first General Assembly inclusive. He also was a member of the Democratic State Central Committee for four years, beginning with 1900. He was a devoted member of the Roman Catholic church and a man of influence in his part of the state.

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