

## Leroy Titus Weeks

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## NOTABLE DEATHS

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WILLIS G. HASKELL was born in Bradford, Chickasaw County, Iowa, June 5, 1857, and died in Des Moines April 17, 1927. Burial was in Oak Hill Cemetery, Cedar Rapids. His parents were Edwin A. and Eliza (Holmes) Haskell. The family removed to Cedar Falls and there the son attended public school. When a youth he learned telegraphy, and from 1873 until 1893 was in the employ of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids and Northern Railroad Company as telegraph operator, station agent at different places in northeastern Iowa, and finally as traveling freight and passenger agent. In 1893 he resigned, and located at Cedar Rapids, entering the wholesale and retail coal business. He associated with others in manufacturing, dealing in real estate, and in banking. He applied his energy to various activities. He served as a member of Cedar Rapids City Council, was chairman of the city park commission, was president of the Cedar Rapids Commercial Club, was Fifth District member of the Republican State Committee in 1908, and was postmaster at Cedar Rapids from 1909 to 1912. He was elected senator in 1916, re-elected in 1920 and in 1924, and served in the General Assembly from the Thirty-seventh to the Forty-second inclusive, his death occurring in the closing days of the session of the Forty-second. He was chairman of the Committee on Cities and Towns during his last three sessions, and during his last session was vice chairman of the Committee on Highways. The legislative subjects which made the greatest appeal to him were in behalf of the Children's Hospital at the State University, good roads, and state parks. In 1922 he was a member of the State Board of Conservation. The same year he was president of a syndicate composed of himself, Col. W. G. Dows, Isaac B. Smith, H. M. Havner, J. S. Farquhar, and R. G. Grassfield that purchased and conducted the *Cedar Rapids Republican* until it was consolidated with the *Gazette*. He was a man of energy, successful in business, and a useful legislator and citizen.

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LEROY TITUS WEEKS, dean of Tabor College, Iowa, was born at Mount Vernon, Iowa, February 1, 1854, and died in Jennie Edmundson Hospital, Council Bluffs, March 4, 1927. Burial was at Mount Vernon. In 1872 he journeyed in a covered wagon with his parents to Kansas. After a few years in Kansas he returned to Iowa, supporting himself by farm work in Cedar County. He entered Cornell College, where he received his Bachelor's degree in 1883 and a Master's degree in 1902. He studied also at the University of Chicago, at Oxford University (1899), and at Denver University, receiving from the latter institution the Ph. D. degree in 1905. His major study in school was English, a subject which he taught in Southwestern College, Winfield, Kansas, in McKendric Col-

lege, Lebanon, Illinois, and in Tabor College, Tabor, Iowa. For ten years 1915-1925, Doctor Weeks was rector of the Protestant Episcopal Trinity Church in Emmetsburg, Iowa. While well known as a teacher and pastor, he will probably be longest remembered as a poet and naturalist. He was especially a lover and student of birds, all his life, and his ability to express himself in stalwart, original verse also was characteristic of his whole career. Many of his best poems, the second edition of which appeared in 1923, are on the subject of birds, though he was also a master of sonnet and other forms of wide content. In his later years he lectured frequently and read from his poems. From its beginning in 1919 he was lecturer on birds and hike leader on the staff of The American School of Wild Life Protection at McGregor. He was a member of The American Ornithologists Union, Book Fellows Club of Chicago, and the Iowa Poets and Authors Club.—Charles R. Keyes.

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PARLEY FINCH was born in Windham, Bradford County, Pennsylvania, September 24, 1844, and died at a hospital in Fort Dodge, Iowa, February 16, 1927. Burial was at Humboldt. His parents were James and Lucia Johnson Finch. He attended common school and in 1862 began teaching, which he continued for nine terms. He read law with his brother, Ira Finch. In 1871 he removed to Iowa, read law with Oren Miller at Waterloo and was admitted to the bar the same year. In 1872 he located at Humboldt and engaged in the practice of the law which he followed until 1912. He served several years as councilman of Humboldt, and for three terms as mayor. He was elected representative in 1893 and was re-elected in 1895, serving in the Twenty-fifth, Twenty-sixth, and Twenty-sixth Extra general assemblies, the last being the Code Revision session of 1897 during which he was a member and was secretary of the Code Revision Committee of the House. In 1897 he was elected senator and served in the Twenty-seventh and Twenty-eighth general assemblies. He was a useful and an influential legislator. Besides his law practice he was actively engaged in real estate business, became a large land owner, was president of the Humboldt State Bank many years, and did much for the development of his town and county. During the World War he assisted in local patriotic activities.

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THOMAS TEALE was born in Greenwich, England, January 10, 1842, and died in Leon, Iowa, March 7, 1923. Burial was in Leon Cemetery. His parents, Frederick and Diana C. Teale, immigrated to the United States with their family in 1843, lived first in Orleans County, New York, later in Wisconsin, in Cleveland, Ohio, and in 1855 removed to Jo Daviess County, Illinois. Thomas attended local schools and secured a good common school education. In 1861 he enlisted in Company E, Fifteenth Illinois Infantry, was wounded at Shiloh, was sent home on furlough, rejoined his company later, but in August, 1863, was given

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