

Laura V. Morris

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and joined in practice with John T. Moffit as Wheeler & Moffit. In 1895 he removed to Cedar Rapids and was in course of time associated as a partner with N. M. Hubbard, J. H. Preston, and F. F. Dawley. In his latest practice he was a member of the firm of Grimm, Wheeler & Elliott. In his practice of nearly half a century he was engaged as counsel in many noted cases, the Jones County calf case, the Bever will case, and several big cases for the Chicago & North Western Railway Company being among them, he appearing both in trial and appellate work. He was regarded as one of the foremost trial lawyers in Iowa, if not in the Middle West. He excelled both in the examination of witnesses and in his arguments to court or jury. He did not aspire to political honors or position.

JACOB HENRY WOLF was born near Washington, Pennsylvania, July 3, 1841, and died in Primghar, Iowa, December 3, 1927. His parents were John H. and Maria (Altar) Wolf. In 1859 he entered the office of the *Washington Examiner* and for four years worked for his board and clothes while he learned the trade of printer. In 1863 he volunteered in Company H, Forty-sixth Pennsylvania Infantry, and served until July, 1865. On returning home he resumed work as a printer. In 1873 he removed to O'Brien County, Iowa, settled on land in Franklin Township two miles from where Sanborn was later located, built a sod house and with his little family established the second home in the township. In 1883 he bought the *Sanborn Pioneer* and removed to Sanborn. In 1894 he with Thomas Gravenor bought the *O'Brien County Bell* at Primghar, but bought his partner's interest a few years later and removed to Primghar in about 1897. He continued to conduct that paper until January, 1925, when he sold it to his son, Fred B. Wolf. While helping many others to political position, he did not aspire for himself. However, he held many local positions where he served his community, and was a member of the O'Brien County Board of Supervisors in 1879-81, and was postmaster at Primghar for eight years during the McKinley and Roosevelt administrations. He was an able newspaper man and a useful citizen.

LAURA V. (STONE) MORRIS was born at Wyoming, Jones County, Iowa, in 1862, and died in Des Moines, November 13, 1927. She early began as an office worker, was a clerk in the office of Buren R. Sherman during his administration as governor, and later worked as a clerk in a Des Moines insurance company. In 1891 she was married to Charles H. Morris, a coal merchant of Des Moines. In 1893 she entered the office of Charles Hewitt & Sons, wholesale grocers, and was entrusted by them with important business administration. She withdrew from business work during the infancy and childhood of her two sons, but on the death of her husband in 1913 she for a time managed his coal business, and selling that, returned to her former position with Hewitt & Sons, being

with them in all twenty years. She was active in many women's organizations, being president of the Des Moines Women's Club in 1916. In 1922 she was elected a member of the Des Moines City Council, was re-elected in 1924 and again in 1926, and was nearing the end of her third term at the time of her death. During her service in that body she was superintendent of the Department of Finance, and her administration throughout was marked by high efficiency and integrity. She is said to have been the first woman in the United States to be honored by a vote of the people with a commissionership in a large city.

CHARLES WILLIAM VERMILION was born in Centerville, Iowa, November 6, 1866, and died in a hospital in Des Moines, September 2, 1927. Burial was at Centerville. His parents were William F. and Mary A. C. (Kemker), Vermilion. He attended De Pauw University, Greencastle, Indiana, for three years, following that by entering the Law Department of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, from which he was graduated in 1889. He was admitted to the Iowa bar in October of that year and began practice with his father in Centerville. In 1892 he was elected county attorney of Appanoose County and was re-elected in 1894, serving four years. In 1901 T. M. Fee resigned as a judge of the Second Judicial District and he was appointed by Governor Shaw to that position, and by reason of elections he continued in that position until the death of Justice S. M. Weaver of the Supreme Court of Iowa in November, 1923, when Governor Kendall appointed him to the vacancy. He was elected in 1924 for the remainder of the term, and in 1926 was elected for a full six-year term. He was a man of culture, of fine character, and of excellent qualities and qualifications, including a true judicial temperament.

JEFFERSON F. CLYDE was born in Jefferson County, Wisconsin, May 24, 1850, and died in Osage, Iowa, August 18, 1927. He was with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel A. Clyde, as they removed to near Saint Ansgar, Mitchell County, Iowa, in 1857. His early education was received from his mother, who had been a teacher, and from the rural schools. In 1871 he was graduated from the Cedar Valley Seminary at Osage in the first class graduated from that institution. In 1877 he was graduated from the Liberal Arts College and in 1882 from the Law Department of the State University of Iowa, and in 1883 began the practice of law at Osage. In 1889 he was elected senator from the district composed of Mitchell, Worth and Winnebago counties and served in the Twenty-third General Assembly. He served as a judge of the District Court of the Twelfth Judicial District from 1897 to 1912, after which he resumed practice at Osage, but retired a few years before his death because of failing health. He was an active member of the Baptist church for over forty years, was a trustee of Cedar Valley Seminary for many years, and was a man of usefulness in many avenues of life.

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