

Howard Webster Byers

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ANNALS OF IOWA

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

NOTABLE DEATHS

HOWARD WEBSTER BYERS was born at Woodstock, Richland County, Wisconsin, December 25, 1856, and died in Des Moines, Iowa, March 24, 1928. Burial was at Harlan. His parents were Dr. Andrew Clinton and Mary Cadwallader Byers. His boyhood was spent near Hyland and Muscoda, Wisconsin. He received a common school education. The family removed to Hancock County, Iowa, in 1873, where H. W. continued in those early years of his life to be a farm laborer. In 1877 he located in Shelby County and taught school first at Shelby, then in Earling and later in Harlan. Then for five years he clerked in and conducted a general store. He read law in the office of Macy & Gammon for two years and was admitted to the practice in 1888. In 1893 he was elected representative 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. He was speaker of the House in the Twenty-sixth and Twenty-sixth Extra sessions. In 1898 he was a candidate for the Republican nomination for Congress in the Ninth District, and was within seven votes of the nomination for more than five hundred ballots, the nomination finally going to Smith McPherson. In 1899 he was again elected representative and served in the Twenty-eighth General Assembly. In 1901 he was permanent chairman of the Republican State Convention, which gave A. B. Cummins his first nomination for governor. In 1906 he was elected attorney general, and was re-elected in 1908, and served four years. In 1908 he was temporary chairman of the Republican State Convention. In 1910 he was again a candidate for the Republican nomination for Congress in the Ninth District, this time under the primary law, when he lost to the incumbent, Walter I. Smith. From 1911 to 1921 he was corporation counsel for the city of Des Moines, and for two years following he was special counsel for the city in various municipal litigations. In general practice during later years he was a member of the firm of Clark, Byers & Brunk. He was an able lawyer, an orator of ability, and both in his public and private life was guided by high ideals and principles.

HENRY BROWN HAWLEY was born in Gainsville, Wyoming County, New York, January 30, 1856, and died in St. Petersburg, Florida, February 4, 1928. Burial was in Des Moines. His parents were David Waldo and Julia Samantha (Brown) Hawley. Besides attending com-

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