

William A. Spurrier

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in the mercantile business at Algona with his brother, John G. Smith, from 1866 to 1870, but in the latter year joined with W. H. Ingham in the banking business. In 1873 they established the Kossuth County Bank and he became its cashier. On Mr. Ingham's death in 1912 Mr. Smith became president, and retired to become chairman of the Board of Directors for a few of the later years of his life.

WILLIAM A. SPURRIER was born in Painesville, Ohio, March 12, 1853, and died on a railway train near Iowa Falls, Iowa, October 12, 1927. Burial was in Glendale Cemetery, Des Moines. He removed to Iowa during his boyhood, obtained a good common school education, and taught school for sixteen terms in Union and Adams counties. In 1875 he began reading law in the office of James H. Peregrine of Corning, and was admitted to the bar in 1876. He practiced for some time in Red Oak, also in Creston where he was prominent in prosecuting cases against violators of the prohibitory liquor laws. He then removed to California, living in Santa Ana, and later in Orange, for a brief time, but returned to Iowa and located in Des Moines in December, 1886. He was associated in practice at different times with C. C. Dowell, J. L. Parrish, Thomas Maxwell, Earl Mills, and E. D. Perry. He was elected county attorney of Polk County in 1890 and was re-elected in 1892, serving in 1891, 1892, 1893, and in 1894 until February of that year when he was appointed by Governor Jackson to fill the newly created position of additional judge of the District Court of the Ninth Judicial District. The following fall he was elected to the position, but resigned in November, 1897, and resumed practice. A few years before his death he removed to Pine River, Minnesota, where he conducted a law practice and a real estate business. In his later years he spent much time in Florida.

WILLIAM McNETT was born at Mount Morris, Illinois, March 10, 1845, and died in Ottumwa, Iowa, January 23, 1928. He received his education in public schools in Ogle and Stephenson counties, and Rock River Seminary. In 1867 he entered the law office of Thomas Turner of Freeport as a student and was admitted to the bar May 27, 1868. In June of that year he removed to Marshalltown, Iowa, where he began practice. However, in 1869 he removed to Eddyville where he practiced in partnership with Henry N. Clements. In 1871 he removed to Ottumwa and formed a partnership with Eugene Fawcett as Fawcett & McNett. Later he was in partnership with W. D. Tisdale, and in the later years of his practice, with his son, Walter McNett, as McNett & McNett. For many years he was corporation counsel for the White Breast Coal & Mining Company, for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, the Wabash Railway Company, the John Morrell Company, besides several other local companies. He was president of the Iowa State Bar Association for the year 1916-17.

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