

Martha Toll Hemenway

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tional Bank with Mr. Casady first vice president. In 1909 he retired from that bank and entered the Central State Bank, of which he became president. He retired as president in 1925 and became chairman of the Board of Directors. He helped organize the Bankers Life Insurance Company, was for years its treasurer, and was a director not only of it but also of the Equitable Life Insurance Company of Iowa. He was a past president of the Iowa Bankers' Association, and was the first president of the Des Moines Clearing House. His ability, character, poise and judgment were such as to create confidence. He was an authority on the early history of Des Moines.

JOHN FRANCIS WEBBER was born near Ferris, Hancock County, Illinois, September 26, 1874, and died in Ottumwa, Iowa, April 7, 1928. His parents were William J. and Mary Ann (Pilkington) Webber. As a boy he worked on his father's farm in summers and attended country school in winters, but when nineteen years old spent a year in the academic department of Carthage College, Carthage, Illinois. He entered the Law Department of the State University of Iowa in September, 1897, and was graduated and admitted to the bar in June, 1899. He was a traveling representative of a farm implement company with headquarters at Ottumwa for over two years, and in 1902 opened a law office in Ottumwa, giving particular attention to farm mortgages and investments. In 1910 he was elected senator and served in the Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth general assemblies and took a leading part in legislation, especially on the subjects of taxation and public utilities. He was a Democrat in politics, and was prominent in the party councils. He had early become interested in banking and in 1919 was made president of the Ottumwa National Bank, which position he relinquished January 1, 1928, but retained the presidency of the Wapello Savings Bank. He had extensive land holdings, was a keen student of farm conditions, and was a director of the Iowa Good Roads Association. His violent death was a tragedy precipitated by a deluded customer of a bank with which Mr. Webber was connected.

MARTHA TOLL HEMENWAY was born in Rushville, Illinois, December 10, 1840, and died at her home in Lansing, Iowa, December 10, 1927. She was the daughter of John Honey, Sr., and Fanney Honey. Mrs. Hemenway was the pioneer resident of Allamakee County, having come with her parents, October 14, 1848, to the site where the town of Lansing is now situated. Her father with his son James had come in the spring of 1848. He had secured from the government a grant of land in that locality and in conjunction with H. H. Houghton of Galena, Illinois, founded the town of Lansing, now one of the beauty spots of the upper Mississippi. Mrs. Hemenway received her education through private teachers and at Upper Iowa University, graduating in the famous "War Class" of 1861. On September 30, 1866, she was united in marriage with

Samuel W. Hemenway, captain of Company B, Twenty-seventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry. They had two sons and four daughters. She was an artist of ability and student of the best in art and literature. Possessing a remarkable and accurate memory she was an authority on the early history of northeastern Iowa. She recalled with pleasure the early Sunday morning in May, 1851, when the famous sculptress, Harriett Hosmer, a passenger on the packet plying between St. Louis and St. Paul, climbed the high bluff back of the Honey home. In honor of Miss Hosmer's feat that morning it was at once christened and has always been called Mount Hosmer. And in the shadow of this bluff Martha T. Hemenway spent seventy-nine years of her life.—M. H.

GRACE MORRIS ALLEN JONES was born in Keokuk, Iowa, January 7, 1876, and died at Piney Woods, Mississippi, March 2, 1928. Her parents, James Addison and Mary Ellen (Pyles) Morris, removed with their family to Burlington soon after Grace's birth. She attended school there and was the first colored person to graduate from the Burlington High School, which was in 1891. She attended the Burlington Normal School in 1894-95, Elliott's Business College, Burlington, in 1909, and Siegfried Musical College in 1910-12. On completing a year's study in the Burlington Normal School she taught school at Bethel, Missouri, a year, and followed this by acting as assistant teacher in the colored schools at Slater, Missouri. In 1902 she founded the Grace M. Allen Industrial School at Burlington where she employed both white and colored teachers, and accepted both white and colored pupils. In 1906 she discontinued the work of this school and for a few years traveled for Ambidexter Institute of Springfield, Illinois, and Eckstein-Norton Normal and Industrial Institute of Cane Springs, Kentucky, as financial agent. In 1912 she was married to Lawrence C. Jones, the founder of Piney Woods Country Life School, and became a teacher of English in and the executive secretary of that institution. From 1918 to 1923 she was president of the Mississippi Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, and was otherwise engaged in activities for the help of colored people. She exerted an unusual influence for good during her very active career.

JAMES C. MURTAGH was born at Waverly, Iowa, June 16, 1880, and died in Waterloo September 13, 1928. His parents were James X. and Mercy L. Murtagh. In 1884 the family removed to Shell Rock. Here James attended public school, being graduated from Shell Rock High School, after which he entered the Law Department of the State University of Iowa, from which he was graduated in 1901. He then attended law school one year in Yale University, following that by locating in December, 1902, in Waterloo, where he began practice. He attained considerable success as a criminal lawyer and was retained by the defense in several noted cases, especially in his section of the state. In 1906, then being but twenty-six years old, he was the Demo-

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