

Will M. Narvis

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other states besides Iowa. He was a most useful citizen to his adopted city, leading in its enterprises and benefactions. He was a member of the Shenandoah City Council in 1894 and 1895. He had a rare faculty of making friends. A Democrat in a strong Republican district, he was elected senator in 1910, and gave useful service in the Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth general assemblies. He favored every bill introduced during his service which proposed larger cultural opportunity to the youth of Iowa.

JOSEPH A. MILLS was born near Streator, Illinois, December 4, 1855, and died in Nevada, Iowa, June 27, 1928. He was educated in rural schools, removed to Nevada when a young man and took employment first as deputy county auditor, and later as deputy county treasurer. In 1881 he was elected county treasurer and by reason of that and of re-elections, served in that position from January, 1882, until January, 1892. He then entered the Farmers Bank, Nevada, as cashier and served as such until 1928. In 1896 he was an alternate delegate from the Seventh Congressional District to the Republican National Convention in St. Louis. Owing to the absence of C. D. Bevington, who was Seventh District delegate, Mr. Mills acted in his place, and was one of five of the Iowa delegation who voted for the out-and-out gold plank that was finally adopted as part of the platform, the others being A. B. Cummins, James C. Davis, George W. French, and Frank H. Helsel.

ROLLIN J. WILSON was born in Fairfield, Iowa, October 18, 1853, and died in the same city October 23, 1928. His parents were James F. and Mary A. K. (Jewett) Wilson. He attended the public schools of Fairfield, was graduated from the State University of Iowa in 1875, studied law in the office of his father, was admitted to the bar in 1877 and followed the practice of law in his home city throughout his life. He was the first county attorney of Jefferson County under the law providing for such an official, being elected in 1886 and was re-elected in 1888, serving four years. He was for many years the local attorney for the Rock Island and the Burlington railroads. In his later years he was president of the Jefferson County Bar Association. Since 1906 he was president of the First National Bank of Fairfield. He was an ardent temperance man and helped rid his town of saloons, was for years a member of the Library Board, as well as of the School Board, and was a member of the Board of Trustees of Parsons College.

WILL M. NARVIS was born in Muscatine, Iowa, June 10, 1861, and died in that city December 30, 1928. His parents were John and Mary Reuling Narvis. He was early left an orphan, attended public school and in 1879 entered the office of the *Muscatine Journal* as "printers devil." He remained with the *Journal* until 1884 when he became city editor of the *Muscatine Tribune*. When it was sold in 1889 he went

back to the *Journal* as its city editor, advanced to business manager in 1891, and to managing editor in 1894. In 1899 he resigned and devoted himself to the service of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, having been elected grand master workman of Iowa. In 1901 he established the Record Printing Company which became under his direction a prosperous concern. In 1905 he was elected supreme master workman and retained that position until his death, thus closing a remarkable career among large fraternal associations. He was an active Republican, but did not aspire to official political position. He was grand chancellor of the Knights of Pythias of Iowa for the year 1891-92.

ELI EUPHRATES DOTSON was born in Edgar County, Illinois, February 20, 1847, and died in Colfax, Iowa, December 26, 1928. His parents were Charles A. and Miriam (York) Dotson, who removed with their family to Poweshick Township, Jasper County, Iowa, in 1848. Eli E. attended public school and Grinnell College, taught school several years in the country and later in Colfax. He engaged in farming and stock raising. He removed to Colfax in 1897, was vice president of the First National Bank, was cashier for a time, and was a director at the time of his death. In 1879 he was elected representative and was re-elected in 1881, serving in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth general assemblies.

EDWARD HANFORD KNICKERBOCKER was born near Cedar Rapids, Iowa, November 18, 1855, and died at Fairfax January 8, 1929. His parents were William B. and Sarah M. (Hanford) Knickerbocker. He attended country school, Fairfax High School, and Western College (later, Leander Clarke College, Toledo). He followed farming and stock raising, and became an extensive importer and breeder of Belgian and Percheron horses. He was elected representative in 1916 and was re-elected in 1918 and 1920, serving in the Thirty-seventh, Thirty-eighth, and Thirty-ninth general assemblies. He was a man of integrity and of more than usual courage in his convictions.

DAVID LESTER LYONS was born near Detroit, Michigan, January 13, 1851, and died in Clarion, Iowa, November 20, 1928. When he was four years old his parents with their family removed to Mahaska County, Iowa, and located on land in the northeast part of the county. David L. attended common school and on maturity engaged in farming. In 1885 he was elected representative and served in the Twenty-first General Assembly. In 1892 he removed to Clarion and entered the grain business, but in 1894 took up farming near there. Later he returned to Clarion and operated a dray line, but for the last few years of his life, was retired from active business.

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