

Thomas E. Johns

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Fifth Iowa Infantry, and was with it through its arduous campaigns. In the spring of 1863 he was rendered unfit for hard duty by malarial fever, but remained in service until the expiration of his enlistment, being mustered out in August, 1864. Returning to Jasper County he engaged in mercantile business, but in 1873 removed to Shelby County, and settled near Harlan on unimproved land. In 1875 he was elected representative for the district comprising Audubon, Shelby, Adair and Cass counties and served in the Sixteenth General Assembly. In 1881 he removed to Harlan and engaged in real estate business until August, 1883, when he was chosen cashier of the Shelby County Bank. He later became president but retired from business in 1905 when he and his associates sold the bank to other parties. Soon thereafter he removed to San Diego, California, and later to Pomona.

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JOHN A. GUIHER was born in Waynesburg, Pennsylvania, December 10, 1858; and died in Miami, Florida, February 26, 1929. Burial was at Winterset, Iowa. He was a son of Doctor and Mrs. James Guiher. He attended college at Waynesburg, studied law one year in the University of Pennsylvania, and in the law office of Richard Vaux in Philadelphia, was admitted to the bar in Waynesburg in 1881 and practiced there two years. In 1883 he removed to Winterset and engaged in practice, forming a partnership with A. R. Dabner, but later with his brother, W. T. Guiher. He was the first county attorney of Madison County, elected in 1886, was re-elected two years later and served four years. On January 20, 1915, he was appointed a member of the Railroad Commission to succeed N. S. Ketchum, was elected at the next election and served until 1921. After retiring from the commission he served for a time as western representative of the Interstate Commerce Commission and at different times acted under the Federal Court as master in chancery. He was an active and useful citizen of his local community and was a lawyer of high standing and ability.

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THOMAS E. JOHNS was born in Glamorganshire, Wales, July 31, 1846, and died in a hospital in Rochester, Minnesota, March 15, 1929. Burial was in Glendale Cemetery, Des Moines. He emigrated to America in 1865, located in Johnson County, Iowa, and began farming. In 1872 he removed to Keokuk County near where Thornburg now stands and continued farming. In 1878 he engaged in merchandising at Aurora and later when the B. C. R. & N. R. R. was built through that section he removed his store to the newly established village of Keswick. In 1881 he was elected representative and served in the Nineteenth General Assembly. He added banking to his interests at Keswick but in 1901 he disposed of his properties there and removed to Des Moines. Not long thereafter he purchased a controlling interest in the Prairie City State Bank, assumed its management, but continued his residence in Des Moines.

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