

Joseph DeForest Robbins

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District of his church in 1884-90, in the Decorah District in 1890-96, and again in the Dubuque District in 1898-1904. He was a delegate to General Conference in 1888 and again in 1900. Retiring from the ministry in 1904, he was a resident of Decorah from that date until 1918, then spent three years at Cedar Falls, after which he removed to Long Beach. He was an able minister and a popular man.

JOSEPH DEFOREST ROBBINS was born at Valparaiso, Indiana, December 4, 1854, and died in a hospital in Council Bluffs, Iowa, September 3, 1928. Burial was at Malvern. His parents were Samuel Putnam and Caroline Coe Robbins. He received his education in the public schools of Valparaiso, and in the Indiana Normal School of Valparaiso, being graduated from the commercial course of that institution. He followed farming in his home neighborhood for a few years, but in 1880 removed to Woodson County, Kansas, and engaged in cattle ranching. In 1883 he removed to near Hastings, Iowa, where he became owner and operator of a large stock ranch. He added the grain and lumber business at Hastings. In 1908 he removed to Malvern. He took an active interest in church and civic affairs, was a member of the Town Council, and was elected representative in 1910 and served in the Thirty-fourth General Assembly.

HENRY RITTER was born in Fort Madison, Iowa, October 19, 1852, and died in Burlington May 19, 1929. His parents were John and Mary C. Ritter. He received his education in parochial school and in Pierson's Business College, Fort Madison. His father being a brickmaker, Henry in vacations worked at brickmaking, and mastered the trade. In 1872 he took employment as a bookkeeper in a wholesale grocery house in Burlington, but in 1876 established a brickyard in a suburb of Burlington. This he conducted successfully for twenty-seven years, retiring in 1904. He was a Democrat in politics. He was four times elected alderman-at-large in Burlington, serving from 1888 to 1896. In 1903 he was elected representative and was three times re-elected, serving inclusively from the Thirtieth to the Thirty-fourth general assemblies.

ABNER H. GALE was born at Iowa Falls, Iowa, February 28, 1863, and died in Mason City April 30, 1923. He was with his parents in their removal to Mason City in 1870. He was graduated from Mason City High School and in 1884 from the State University of Iowa in a civil engineering course. For three years he was employed by the Union Pacific Railroad as a civil engineer at Cheyenne, Wyoming. For a time he was a railway mail clerk, running between Mason City and Albia, but in 1887 he entered the employment of the City National Bank of Mason City, and after several years became cashier, and finally president. He was active in several local enterprises, especially the Mason

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