

Abner H. Gale

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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

City Building and Loan Company, and the Modern Brotherhood of America. In 1903 he was elected senator and served in the Thirtieth, Thirty-first and Thirty-second general assemblies.

GEORGE L. FINN was born at Middletown, New York, in 1846, and died in Los Angeles, California, January 20, 1929. His parents were William E. and E. J. Finn. When a boy he worked on his father's farm and attended common school. Later he attended Walkeley Academy, New York. He removed to Bedford, Iowa, in 1869 and in 1872 was graduated from the Law Department of the State University of Iowa, was admitted to the bar and began practice at Bedford. In 1885 he was elected representative and served in the Twenty-first General Assembly. He took a leading part in the election of Albert Head for speaker, was made chairman of the Committee on Railroads, and became at once an active legislator. In 1887 he was elected senator and was re-elected in 1891, serving as senator in the Twenty-second, Twenty-third, Twenty-fourth, and Twenty-fifth general assemblies. In the first two of these assemblies he was chairman of the Schools Committee and in the last, chairman of the Committee on Educational Institutions, as well as being president pro tem of the Senate. During all these years he was somewhat of a free lance, although he classified as a Republican, but soon after retiring from the Senate in 1895 he affiliated with the Democrats. For years, besides practicing law, Mr. Finn had dealt largely in land properties in Taylor County and in Kansas. In 1900 he removed to Los Angeles where he continued his operations in real estate and as a capitalist, and was successful in accumulating a large amount of property.

JOHN A. McINTOSH was born in Mercer County, Missouri, April 23, 1870, and died in Leon, Iowa, July 16, 1929. He was with his parents, William and Polly (Rebecca) Griffin McIntosh in their removal to Decatur County, Iowa, in 1882. He attended common school, the Davis City High School, Central Normal University, Humeston, from which he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Science, and the State Teachers College, Cedar Falls. He taught school several years and was elected county superintendent of Decatur County in 1899 and served four years. In 1909 he engaged in the retail clothing business in Leon in which he was quite successful. He served as chairman of the Republican County Central Committee, was secretary of the Leon Carnegie Library Board, and was active in local affairs. In 1920 he was elected senator and served in the Thirty-ninth and Fortieth general assemblies.

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