

Henry Vollmer

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NOTABLE DEATHS

WINFIELD SCOTT WITHROW was born at Salem, Henry County, Iowa, September 28, 1855, and died in Mount Pleasant February 7, 1930. Burial was in Forest Home Cemetery, Mount Pleasant. His parents were Adoniram Judson and Libertatia (Arnold) Withrow. He attended public school in Salem and was graduated from Whittier College, Salem, with the degree of Sc. B. Having learned the printing trade he alternated for a time between work in the local printing office and school-teaching. In 1880 he was graduated from the Law Department of the State University of Iowa, admitted to the bar and began practice at Salem. He soon thereafter purchased the *Salem News* and edited it in connection with his law practice. Two years later he disposed of the *News* and became assistant cashier of the Salem Savings Bank. In 1883 he went to Mankato, Minnesota, as editorial assistant on the *Free Press*. However, in 1884 he returned to Salem and resumed his duties in the bank and looked after his law practice. In 1884 he was elected representative and served in the Twenty-first General Assembly. He served on the town council and was also mayor. In 1887 he removed to Mount Pleasant and devoted himself to the practice of law, first in partnership with William J. Jeffries, later with W. F. Kopp, and finally with W. I. Babb. June 15, 1896, Governor Drake appointed him a judge of the newly created Twentieth Judicial District. By reason of elections he continued in that position until April 19, 1913, when he resigned to accept the appointment by Governor Clarke as a justice of the Supreme Court, in which position he served until January, 1915, when he returned to law practice at Mount Pleasant. July 8, 1916, Governor Clarke appointed him a member of the State Board of Parole. He resigned from that position March 31, 1921, when he resumed his practice. In the meantime he had been active in and officially connected with many of the public affairs of his city and county. He had been for years a director in the Henry County Savings Bank and in 1922 became its president and so continued until his death. He was a director of the First National Bank of Mount Pleasant and chairman of its board. He was chairman of the official board of the Methodist church and was for many years a trustee of Iowa Wesleyan College. He was a very useful and highly honored citizen.

HENRY VOLLMER was born in Davenport, Iowa, July 28, 1867, and died in Piedmont, California, August 25, 1930, where he was temporarily sojourning. He attended public school in Davenport and studied law at the State University of Iowa and at Georgetown University, Washington, D. C. During the sessions of the Fiftieth Congress, 1887 and 1888, he was a distributing clerk in the House of Representatives. On admission to the bar in 1889 he began practice in

Davenport in a partnership with William O. Schmidt which continued until the latter's death in 1908, after which he practiced alone until about a year before his death when Edward O. Doerr became his partner. He became an alderman of the city the same year he began practicing law, 1889, and was elected mayor in 1893 when only twenty-six years old. He was three times re-elected, the terms then being but one year each. He was a member of the Board of Education from 1898 to 1901, and was corporation counsel of the city from 1913 to 1914. Besides these local activities he took part in larger political affairs. In 1893, the same year he was elected mayor, he was permanent chairman of the Democratic State Convention. In 1900 he was the Democratic candidate for Congress from the Second District, but was defeated by J. N. W. Rumble. In 1912 he was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention, and on February 10, 1914, was elected to Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the death of I. S. Pepper, and served from that date to March 3, 1915, having in 1914 declined to be a candidate for re-election. He was a man of strong convictions, fearless in speech and action. In 1896 he bolted the free silver wing of the Democratic party under the leadership of W. J. Bryan, but when his party dropped that issue he resumed his party allegiance. He was a brilliant and persuasive orator and a charming conversationalist. He was for many years a prominent member of the Davenport Turners and was honored with the presidency of the National Turners' Association.

WILLIAM O. MITCHELL was born in Van Buren County, Iowa, April 4, 1846, and died in New York City July 29, 1930, two days after he was struck by an automobile there. He enlisted in Company C, Thirtieth Iowa Infantry, August 9, 1862, when but sixteen years old, was promoted to sixth corporal January 22, 1864, taken prisoner near Atlanta, Georgia, July 22, 1864, exchanged, and mustered out at Davenport July 21, 1865. He was graduated in liberal arts from Cornell College, Mount Vernon, in 1871, was admitted to the bar in 1872 and began the practice of law at Corning. In 1891 he was elected representative from Adams County and was elected speaker of the House of that assembly, the Twenty-fourth, it being the only instance in the last two-thirds of a century, or since Civil War times, that a member was chosen speaker in his first term. He was re-elected two years later, and that session, the Twenty-fifth, was chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. In 1895 he was elected senator and served in the Twenty-sixth, Twenty-sixth Extra (Code revision session) and the Twenty-seventh general assemblies. In the Twenty-sixth he was a member of the Public Libraries Committee and introduced the measure which resulted in the Traveling Library. In 1903 he removed to Oklahoma City where he had land interests and engaged there in the practice of law, having as partner C. Porter Johnson in the firm of Mitchell & Johnson. For the last three years of his life he and his wife resided with a daughter in New York City.

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