

## William M. Christie

B. L. W.

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ARTEUS ELLSWORTH KEPFORD was born near Independence, Iowa, June 18, 1867, and died in Gladbrook August 16, 1930. Burial was in the Wilson Cemetery east of Independence. His parents were Joseph C. and Anna M. Kepford. He attended college at Findlay, Ohio, where he prepared himself for the ministry, after which he served churches as pastor at Fort Scott, Kansas, and Glidden, and Ida Grove, Iowa. He was reading clerk of the Iowa House of Representatives in the Thirtieth and Thirty-first general assemblies, 1904 and 1906. In 1907 the Thirty-second General Assembly authorized the employment of a lecturer on tuberculosis under direction of the Board of Control. Dr. Kepford was employed and for the following fourteen years he was engaged most of the time in that work, delivering many hundreds of addresses all over Iowa on the prevention and cure of that disease. In 1920 when the State Juvenile Home was established at Toledo he became its first superintendent and served until September, 1928. In June, 1929, he became pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church, at Gladbrook, where he was serving at the time of his death. He did distinguished work in social welfare, not only as a lecturer on tuberculosis and preventive diseases, but in boy scout organizations and Red Cross work, being state director for Iowa for the American Red Cross from 1917 to 1919.

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WILLIAM F. SCHIRMER was born in Bellevue, Iowa, June 16, 1873, and died in that town August 26, 1930. His parents were Frank and Bertha Schirmer. He was graduated from the Bellevue High School in 1889. In 1890 he entered the printing office of the *Bellevue Leader* in the humblest position, learned the business thoroughly, became managing editor of the paper in 1895, owner and editor in 1907, and was actively engaged in conducting the business at the time of his death. He was an elder in the Presbyterian church, was superintendent of its Sunday school for thirty-two years, was a member of the school board, was a member of the Masonic lodge, and was active in the chamber of commerce and in all civic affairs. He was a Republican in politics and in 1920 was elected representative, was re-elected in 1922, and served in the Thirty-ninth and Fortieth general assemblies.

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WILLIAM M. CHRISTIE was born in Perth, Scotland, March 10, 1850, and died July 14, 1930, at his home in Chicago, Illinois. From early life he was trained as a miller. His ancestors for three hundred years had owned and operated grist mills. As a young man he was sent to Rangoon, Burma, to operate certain rice mills for a Scotch company, and remained there for a few years, but had to return on account of climatic conditions of that country.

On his return to Scotland he decided to emigrate to America, leaving his native land in December, 1878, coming directly to Iowa. He was first employed by Douglas & Stuart of Cedar Rapids in their oatmeal mills, later removing to Dubuque and then to Sioux City, Iowa, where

he erected his own grist mill. He later disposed of his milling interests, and was employed by the Chicago Board of Trade in the grain business confining himself to the Iowa territory. For the last twenty years he was a member of the firm of J. H. Dole & Co., and traveled extensively in the interests of his firm. Mr. Christie was skilled in the grain trade, and made reports on the condition of crops for the Chicago Board which were accepted as fully reliable. He also attended all the meetings of the grain interests in the middle west. He was a splendid type of an adopted citizen, and known by thousands of grain dealers with whom he came in contact all over Iowa. He is survived by his widow and four children.—B. L. W.

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BENJAMIN FRANKLIN CUMMINGS was born in Windsor, Broome County, New York, April 5, 1864, and died in Marshalltown, Iowa, August 25, 1930. His parents were Dr. William C. and Mary Hannah Lounsbury Cummings. The family removed to Eddyville, Iowa, when the future judge was but three weeks old, and after a short residence there and later at Oskaloosa, settled in Marshalltown in 1865. B. F. was graduated from the Marshalltown High School in 1880 and from the Law Department of the University of Michigan in 1885. Beginning practice at Marshalltown he was elected city attorney in 1887 and served four years. In 1894 he was elected county attorney of Marshall County and was re-elected and served four years. In 1901 he was elected representative, and was re-elected two years later, serving in the Twenty-ninth, Thirtieth and Thirty-first general assemblies, being speaker pro tem in the latter two. In 1913 Governor Clarke appointed him judge of the Seventeenth Judicial District and by reason of elections he served until he resigned in February, 1930, to resume private practice. He was a member of the local school board several years and attained the rank of lieutenant in the Iowa National Guard. He was an able lawyer and a successful business man.

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ROSA E. LEWIS died May 19, 1930, at seventy-six years of age. She was educated in Iowa and obtained degrees from Chicago University, Bryn Mawr, and the University of California. She began teaching in Penn College, Oskaloosa, Iowa, in 1874, and taught until 1927 when she retired as professor emeritus. She had been one of the leaders and the oldest member of the faculty of that institution. Dr. Lewis was one of the best teachers in Iowa, and was versed in literature and understood how to impart a love of literature to her students. She traveled much during her vacations, and spent one year in Europe in perfecting herself in her chosen field, that of English literature. She attended nearly all the teachers' conventions, and frequently gave lectures on literary subjects in many parts of the state, and was well known in college circles. She was a keen student, a lover of nature, and possessed a personality which attracted students and others to her.—B. L. W.

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