

William Mansfield Walker

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WILLIAM MANSFIELD WALKER was born in Van Buren County, Iowa, August 22, 1852, and died in Keosauqua March 19, 1930. His parents, Dr. Peter Walker and Christiann (Schuyler) Walker, died when William was a small boy. He thereafter lived with relatives, attended country school, early began teaching during winters, working on farms during summers. He took up the study of law, was admitted to the bar in 1881 and in 1884 located in Keosauqua as a member of the firm of Lea, Wherry & Walker. In 1885 he was elected representative and served in the Twenty-first General Assembly. After the death of Mr. Lea in 1885 the firm remained Wherry & Walker until the removal of Mr. Wherry to Los Angeles, California, when the firm became Walker & McBeth and so remained until Mr. Walker was elected a judge of the Second Judicial District in 1922. He was re-elected four years later and was serving in that position at the time of his death. He was an ardent Republican and frequently shared actively in political campaigns. His principal interest, however, was in his profession in which he gained distinction for his thorough knowledge of the law, his professional rectitude, his fairness of judgment and his courage.

GODFREY S. BLOCKLINGER was born in Dubuque, Iowa, October 23, 1847, and died in Dubuque May 19, 1930. Burial was in Linwood Cemetery, Dubuque. His parents were Godfrey J. and Ursula Hilti Blocklinger, both natives of Switzerland. In 1864 William B. Allison, then a representative in Congress, secured the boy's appointment as a cadet in the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, from which he was graduated in 1868, having in the meantime rendered active service in the Navy during the later portion of the Civil War. He advanced regularly through the lower grades of service until he became a lieutenant commander in 1895, a commander in 1899, a captain in 1904, and a rear admiral before he retired in 1908. His duties took him to all parts of the world. In 1881 he was in command of an expedition sent by the government to survey the Madeiro River, one of the principal tributaries of the Amazon. He was in the Pacific at the time Dewey captured Manilla, co-operating with that commander. In his varied career in the Navy he brought credit to his native city and state.

CHRISTOPHER C. CRONBAUGH was born at Coldwater, Michigan, October 14, 1845, and died in Marengo, Iowa, February 10, 1930. He was with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Cronbaugh, as they removed to Honey Creek Township, Iowa County, Iowa, in 1854. When a youth he availed himself of what school advantages pioneer times afforded in that locality. Farming was his vocation. In 1910 he retired and removed to Marengo. He held several local offices and in 1912 was elected representative and served in the Thirty-fifth General Assembly. He was a Democrat in politics.

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