

## Emerson Solomon Wells

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1905 Iowa Wesleyan awarded him the degree of LL. D. He was admitted to the Iowa Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1870, after which he held many pastorates, the principal ones being at Burlington, Muscatine, Fairfield, Albia, Keokuk, Washington, Ottumwa, Bloomfield, West Liberty and Wilton. From 1883 to 1889 he was presiding elder of the Muscatine District, from 1891 to 1899 he was president of Iowa Wesleyan College, and from 1908 to 1912 he was district superintendent of the Oskaloosa District. He was a delegate to the General Conference of his church in 1892, 1896, 1900, and 1912. He retired from active duty in 1918, making his home in Muscatine. He exercised a fine influence over the people with whom he came in contact. His wife was Miss Mary Allen, whom he married at Mount Pleasant in 1871. She was one of the founders of the P E O sisterhood, now a national organization. She died July 11, 1927.

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EMERSON SOLOMON WELLS was born in Cedar Township, Lucas County, Iowa, October 9, 1867, and died in Chariton May 5, 1930. His parents were Sidney and Sarah Wells. He attended public school and the Teachers Normal Training School at Humeston, and followed that by teaching in rural schools for a time, and by acting as superintendent of the public schools of the town of Lucas for eight years. In 1910 he was elected clerk of the District Court of Lucas County, after which he made his home in Chariton. He was re-elected in 1902 and while still serving as clerk was on May 15, 1903, admitted to the bar. In 1904 he was elected county attorney of Lucas County in which office he served two years. At the beginning of his practice in 1905 he formed a partnership with S. C. Hickman, as Hickman & Wells, which partnership continued until November 19, 1923, when Governor Kendall appointed him district judge of the Second Judicial District to succeed Judge Vermilion who had been advanced to the Supreme Court, and was occupying that position at the time of his death.

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THOMPSON DICKSON DOKE was born in Ohio, May 6, 1835, and died at the home of his son, Odie Doke, at Ephriam, Utah, June 8, 1930. Burial was at Bloomfield, Iowa. When six months old his parents removed to Kosciusko County, Indiana. He enlisted in the Forty-fourth Indiana Infantry early in the Civil War, in which he served over four years, was soon made first lieutenant and later promoted to captain. In 1867 he removed to Bloomfield where he engaged in and pursued with few interruptions until over eighty years old the livery business and in buying and selling horses and mules. He was very useful to his city and community, his most conspicuous service being to the Davis County Fair and to the Bloomfield Public Library. "Major" Doke had a state-wide acquaintance, was marshal of the Iowa State Fair many years, and was sergeant at arms of the Iowa Senate during the sessions of 1923, 1925, and 1927.

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