

Louis Hermann Pammell

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ANNALS OF IOWA

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

NOTABLE DEATHS

MARTIN JOSEPH WADE was born in Burlington, Vermont, October 20, 1861, and died in a hospital in Los Angeles, California, April 16, 1931. Burial was in Saint Joseph's Cemetery, Iowa City, Iowa. His parents were Michael and Mary (Breen) Wade. He attended common school and in the late seventies removed to Iowa, was graduated from Saint Joseph's College (now Columbia University), Dubuque, in the early eighties, and from the Law Department of the State University of Iowa in 1886. He practiced law in Iowa City from 1886 until 1893, being in partnership with C. S. Ranck as Ranck & Wade. On December 22, 1893, he was appointed judge of the Eighth Judicial District by Governor Boies to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of S. H. Fairall, was duly elected at the next election and continued in the position until 1902. In 1902 he was elected representative in Congress from the Second District and served in the Fifty-eighth Congress. He was a candidate for re-election in 1904, but was defeated by Albert F. Dawson. About the time he left Congress he helped form the law firm of Wade, Dutcher & Davis which attained a large and successful practice, and with which he remained until in February, 1915, when he was appointed by President Wilson judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa. This position he was holding at the time of his death. For some years, besides practicing law, or serving as district judge, he also was on the faculty of the State University, lecturing in the Law Department from 1891 to 1903, and acting as professor of medical jurisprudence from 1895 to 1905. When on the federal bench he became a great teacher of patriotism and of the Constitution, from the bench, by public address and by published writings. He was the author of "Short Constitution," "Lessons in Citizenship," "The Constitution and You," and "Down with the Constitution." Judge Wade was of fine and imposing personality, was an accomplished and able orator, a good lawyer and jurist, a companionable and popular man, abounding in humor and good fellowship. He was a devoted member of the Catholic church.

LOUIS HERMANN PAMMEL was born in La Crosse, Wisconsin, April 19, 1862, and died on a railway train between San Francisco and Salt Lake City March 23, 1931. Burial was in the College Cemetery at Ames, Iowa. His early years were spent on a farm near La Crosse. He attended rural school and later studied under a private tutor. From the University of Wisconsin he received the degree of B. Agr. in 1885, of

M. Sc. in 1889, and of D. Sc. in 1925. He also received from Washington University, Saint Louis, the degree of Ph. D. in 1898. He was a private assistant to Dr W. G Farlow of Harvard University in 1885 and 1886, and was an assistant to Dr. Trelease in the Shaw School of Botany at Saint Louis from 1886 to 1889. After doing special work for the United States Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry, in 1889, he that year removed to Ames and became professor of botany in Iowa State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, which position he held until 1929. He was president of the Iowa Academy of Science in 1893 and again in 1923, was president of Iowa Park and Forestry Association from 1905 to 1907, and was president of the Iowa Board of Conservation from its organization in 1918 to 1927. He was the author of "Weeds of the Farm and Garden," 1910; "Manual of Poisonous Plants," 1910; "Ecology"; "Weed Flora of Iowa," and had recently finished reading the proof of an 800-page book on "Honey Plants of Iowa." Besides these he was the author of a very large number of pamphlets, bulletins, etc., and numberless articles in newspapers and magazines mainly on scientific subjects, principally botanical. His contributions to the ANNALS OF IOWA were noteworthy, especially "Buffalo in Iowa" and "The Arbor Day, Park and Conservation Movement in Iowa" articles. During the last fifteen years thousands of Iowa people have listened to him talk on nature study and conservation. As an advocate of conservation and park establishment in Iowa, he, perhaps, became more widely known than any of the small group of men and women who led the movement. His influence as a teacher, lecturer and writer extended far beyond the borders of his adopted state. He was a devout member of the Episcopal church.

JOHN JOSEPH SEERLEY was born near Toulon, Stark County, Illinois, March 13, 1852, and died in Saint Petersburg, Florida, February 23, 1931. Burial was in Aspen Grove Cemetery, Burlington, Iowa. His parents, Thomas and Louisa Ann (Smith) Seerley, removed with their family to a farm near South English, Keokuk County, Iowa, in 1854. Homer H. Seerley, later president of Iowa State Teachers College, was an older brother. John Joseph attended public school, was graduated from the Liberal Arts Department of the State University of Iowa in 1875, was principal of the Iowa City High School in 1876, was graduated from the Law Department of the University in 1877, and began the practice the same year in Burlington. For several years he practiced alone, but later C. C. Clark joined with him as Seerley & Clark, and later the firm became Seerley, Clark & Hale. Mr. Seerley was city solicitor of Burlington in 1885-90, and again in 1893-95. He was the Democratic candidate for Congress from the First District three times, in 1888, 1890 and 1892, running against John H. Gear each time. He was successful in 1890 and served in the Fifty-third Congress. He was held in high esteem in Burlington, was president of the Merchants Life Association, a director of the National State Bank, president of the Burlington Hospital, and was owner of several farm properties.

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