

James E. Bruce

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that time on he was a strong factor in Republican state politics and was frequently urged to become a candidate for governor or United States senator, but declined, but actively supported the party. In 1908 he was a delegate at large to the Republican National Convention. He was not only an able and successful lawyer, but was equally strong as a business man. He was for years not only counsel for a large number of the leading corporations of Davenport, but was a stockholder and officer in many of them. He was also a leader in public matters, such as the loan drives during the World War, the raising of funds for hospitals, or whatever seemed for the welfare of the city. He was powerful physically, full of energy, and had the confidence of the public. He was an active member of the Episcopal church.

WILLIAM FOSTER MUSE was born at Milan, Illinois, July 14, 1860, and died in San Antonio, Texas, May 10, 1931. Burial was at Elmwood Cemetery, Mason City, Iowa. His parents were John Watters and Elizabeth (Millikin) Muse. He received the degree of B. S. from Cornell College, Mount Vernon, in 1883, and later the degree of A. B. and A. M. from Illinois Wesleyan University, and LL. D. from Cornell College. He began newspaper work as a reporter on the *Rock Island Union* in 1883, and was with the *Fremont* (Nebraska) *Tribune*, and later with the *Cedar Rapids Gazette* as city editor. In 1890 he went to the *Ottumwa Courier* as editor, and later became business manager. In 1898 he went to Mason City as part owner and editor of the *Mason City Globe-Gazette* in which work he remained for a third of a century. He was very successful as a newspaper man—reporter, city editor, editorial writer, business man. His fine personal qualities were a great asset. He was social and companionable. His bubbling humor was mixed with fine judgment. He was noted from college days as being a good singer and until 1927 he was the basso in a noted quartet. He belonged to many fraternal, social and commercial organizations. He was postmaster at Mason City from 1910 to 1915. He was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church, being on the local church board for twenty-seven years, and was a delegate to the General Conference of 1924. He became a great traveler in his later years, going to the West Indies, to Alaska, around the world in 1926, to South America in 1928, and always contributing to his paper delightful articles about his travels.

JAMES E. BRUCE was born at Brooklyn, Iowa, April 14, 1860, and died in a hospital in Santa Monica, California, February 26, 1931. Burial was in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Beverly Hills, California. He attended public school near and at Brooklyn, and was graduated from the Law Department of the State University of Iowa in 1881. He began practice of the law at Anita in partnership with A. H. F. Ziegler, and added insurance and real estate to his business. He was elected county attorney of Cass County in 1892 and served two years. In 1894 he organ-

ized the Citizens Bank of Anita, and in 1903 the Farmers Supply Company of Anita. That same year he purchased the Commercial Bank of Atlantic, and as its successor organized the Iowa Trust and Savings Bank of Atlantic. He removed to Atlantic that year and later operated a chain of banks in Cass and adjoining counties, but continued his law business, being then in partnership with T. B. Swan. In 1901 he was elected senator over J. M. Emmert, securing his seat after a contest before the Senate. He was re-elected in 1906, and served inclusively from the Twenty-ninth to the Thirty-third General Assembly. The last two sessions he was chairman of the Committee on Agriculture. In 1910 he disposed of his banking properties and purchased the controlling interest in the Neal Liquor Cure Company with its branch institutes. For some years he conducted at Atlantic the *Farmers Messenger*, later called *Bruce's Optimist*, published in the interest of the Neal Cure Company. He removed to Chicago about 1916, still operating the liquor cure business. Following the World War he removed to Tampa, Florida, and with his son, C. W. Bruce, engaged in the real estate business. About six years before his death he removed to Beverly Hills.

CAMDEN AMBOY MEREDITH was born near Corydon, Iowa, December 10, 1863, and died in Atlantic March 9, 1931. His parents were A. R. and Margaret Meredith. He attended country school and Allerton High School, was graduated from Fort Edward Collegiate Institute, Fort Edward, New York, and in 1885 from the Law Department of the State University of Iowa. He located in Atlantic for the practice of law and in 1892 formed a partnership with L. L. DeLano as DeLano & Meredith that continued until Mr. DeLano's death in November, 1905. Mr. Meredith was elected city attorney of Atlantic in 1892, and was re-elected in 1894. In 1896 he was elected county attorney of Cass County and was re-elected in 1898. At a special election held December 19, 1905, he was elected representative to fill the unexpired term caused by the death of L. L. DeLano. He was re-elected representative in 1906 and in 1908, serving in the Thirty-first, Thirty-second and Thirty-third general assemblies. In the Thirty-second he was chairman of the Committee on Railroads and Commerce, and in the Thirty-third, chairman of the Committee on Printing. He continued his law practice until shortly before his death. He was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and a man held in high esteem by the public.

WILLARD COLDREN STUCKSLAGER was born in Lisbon, Iowa, October 24, 1869, and died in Winnetka, Illinois, at the home of a daughter February 23, 1931. Burial was at Lisbon. His parents were Harrison and Mary (Coldren) Stuckslager. He was graduated from Lisbon High School in 1886, attended Cornell College five years, and Chicago University one year, specializing in political economy at the latter institution. In 1894 he engaged in banking with the bank established by his father, the

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