

George Melville Christian

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Des Moines. He naturally came to a place of great leadership in his own church, was president of the American Christian Missionary Society at its centennial convention at Pittsburg in 1909, was a member of the Board of Directors of the Christian Board of Publication at Saint Louis, at the time of his death was president of the International Convention of the Disciples of Christ, which is to meet in Indianapolis this year, and was also vice president of the World Convention of the Disciples of Christ which is scheduled to convene in Leicester, England, in 1935. He was an orator of unquestioned power, and his tact, exalted character, unselfishness, love for all mankind and glowing personality, made him a great moral and religious leader.

GEORGE MELVILLE CHRISTIAN was born in Chicago, Illinois, June 19, 1847, and died in Grinnell, Iowa, May 3, 1932. His parents were David William and Lucy Ann (Patrick) Christian. He attended public school in Chicago and was early thrown on his own resources earning his way at various occupations. When only a boy he acted as news agent on the Rock Island Railway running between Chicago and Kellogg. He took a course in Bryant & Stratton's Business College at Davenport, ran a restaurant in Chicago in 1868, became a telegraph operator and in 1870 located at Grinnell as station agent for the Rock Island. Soon thereafter he became part owner of the Grinnell House, and in 1877 purchased the Chapin House, Grinnell, and ran it until 1890. From 1885 to 1888 he leased and operated the big summer hotel at Colfax. He early entered public life, was a member of the Grinnell City Council, and also served as mayor. He was chairman of the Poweshiek County Republican Central Committee, was the Sixth District member of the Republican State Central Committee, and in 1888 was a delegate to the Republican National Convention which met in Chicago, was chairman of the finance committee of the Iowa delegation and had charge of the campaign of William B. Allison for the presidential nomination during the sessions of the convention. In 1889 he was appointed assistant superintendent of the railway mail service and in 1890 became a post-office inspector, serving until he became United States marshal for the Southern District of Iowa in May, 1898. He remained marshal until 1906 when he retired from public service. He with his partner, Howard L. Hedrick, operated a chain of hotels, the Allison Hotel at Cedar Rapids, the Lacey at Oskaloosa, the Keokuk at Keokuk, and the Elliott at Des Moines. He retired from active work some years ago and resided at Grinnell. He was held in high esteem as an officer and as a man.

HARRY CARROLL EVANS was born in Bloomfield, Iowa, July 14, 1858, and died in Des Moines April 13, 1932. Burial was in Glendale Cemetery. His parents were Joseph Vance and Nancy Ellen (Childers) Evans. He attended public school and was one term in Southern Iowa Normal School at Bloomfield. He was editor of the *Bloomfield Democrat* from 1883 to 1890, and four years of that time, 1885 to 1889, was

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