James Madison De Armond

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Mrs. Agnes McCully Parvin, wife of Hon. Theodore S. Parvin, died at Cedar Rapids, from a cancerous affection, Nov. 20, 1896, at the age of 75 years. She was born in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, March 11, 1819, and was therefore in her 76th year. She was educated at Steubenville, Ohio, Female Seminary, and was married to Professor Parvin, at Muscatine, Iowa, May 17, 1843. The Parvins long since became a historic family—prominent in the early political and official life of Iowa Territory, in the annals of Education and Free Masonry, and in the work too long neglected of historical collecting. She became widely known as a most accomplished and faithful helper of her distinguished husband in all his useful and diversified labors. He was for twelve years connected with the Iowa State University, one of the most active and laborious of its founders and professors. The demands of social life, her home cares, and the generous hospitality for which they were always celebrated, imposed heavy burdens upon Mrs. Parvin. But precious recollections—and none other—of this devoted pioneer wife and mother are treasured by thousands of the best people throughout the Middle West, and especially by students of the State University from 1860 to 1872. She was fifty-eight years an active and useful member of the Presbyterian church. Wherever she has lived she has been distinguished for her kindness to the poor and for her consistent and exemplary Christian life. The sincerest sympathy for Mr. Parvin is universal throughout his wide acquaintance.

Mrs. Sarah Taylor Hutchison, wife of Ex-Senator J. G. Hutchison, was born in Trumbull county, Ohio, May 17, 1845; she died at her home in Ottumwa, November 3, 1896. She was a graduate of the State University, a lady of rare culture and refinement, who became extensively acquainted throughout the State. Her influence was always exerted in behalf of church, charity and reform. Among the enterprises at her home which especially enlisted her sympathies, were the Young Woman's Christian Association, and the City Hospital. Gov. William Larrabee, appointed her one of the Board of Trustees of the Iowa Soldier's Orphans' Home at Davenport, and later the Legislature elected her to the same position. At one time she conducted a department in the Iowa State Register. Her days were filled with usefulness.

Philander D. Gillette, who died in this city, October 8, 1896, was born at Patchogue, Long Island, in 1833. He settled in Des Moines in 1857. In May 1861 he enlisted in Co. "D" Second Iowa Infantry Volunteers, and served with the regiment until mustered out at the close of the war. He was severely wounded in Georgia in 1864. After the war he returned to Des Moines and engaged in business a number of years, until the failure of his health, from the effects of his service in the army. He was an honored and respected citizen, a member of the Methodist Episcopal church since 1865.

James Madison De Armond was born in Blair county, Pennsylvania, September 7, 1846, and died at Davenport, Iowa, June 4, 1896. He came to Davenport with his father's family in 1866, and graduated from the city High School in 1869. In September of the last year he was appointed Principal of the High School, in which capacity he continued until 1885, when he was appointed Post Master. In the autumn of 1890 he returned to his place at the head of the Davenport Schools, where he remained until his death. He early attained a prominent position among the leading educators of our State.