Jacob Hugh Harrison

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MARY M. MILLER was born in Clarion county, Pennsylvania, July 24, 1842; she died in Des Moines, March 28, 1904. In 1862 she came to Iowa and taught in the public schools of Eddyville and Ottumwa. In 1867 she was married to Lieut. Samuel Miller of the 4th Iowa Cavalry, who died in 1872. After her husband's death she taught for a time in the Des Moines schools. In 1888 Mrs. Miller was appointed State Librarian by Governor Larrabee, succeeding Mrs. S. B. Maxwell. Mrs. Miller had an experience in her office that was quite different from that of most librarians of years ago. This was the fact that Governor Boies, a democrat, allowed her to remain throughout his administration, though very strong pressure was brought to bear upon him to secure her removal, for purely political reasons. In 1896 she became Matron of the Business Women's Home in Des Moines; in 1898 she took the position of Matron in the Soldiers' Home at Marshalltown, where she remained until failing health obliged her to resign.

JACOB HUGH HARRISON was born in Carrollton, Ky., December 25, 1840; he died in Davenport, Iowa, January 1, 1904. For more than 35 years he had been a resident of Davenport and identified with the best interests of the town. For many years he was engaged in the drug business. He was appointed commissioner of pharmacy under Gov. Boies, and was at one time President of the Iowa Pharmaceutical Association. He was for a time president and for many years a member of the board of trustees of the old Davenport Library Association. He helped to organize the Davenport Crematory; was a trustee of the Davenport Academy of Sciences and an active member of the University Extension Society. He was interested in collecting historical documents relating to Iowa and became a warm friend of the Historical Department at Des Moines. He was instrumental in securing Gov. Lucas' commission as Captain in the regular army, issued in 1812, for this Department.

WARD LAMSON was born in Sterling, Mass., September 7, 1820: he died in Fairfield, Iowa, April 6, 1904. He was one of the earliest pioneers of the State, having arrived in Burlington, then the capital of Wisconsin Territory, December 6, 1837. He remained there until 1852, when he removed to Fairfield. As a business man he was active and thorough. In the early 50's he was engaged in the real estate business, and some of the methods he devised for keeping entries of land in his own office were adopted by the Land Department, in Washington, D. C., as superior to those in use. By nature he was a student, an independent and original thinker, and especially interested in scientific investigations. The honor of founding the Jefferson County Library Association in March, 1853, belongs to him; that institution has developed into the splendid Fairfield Free Public Library, in the building up of which Mr. Lamson was closely associated with the late Senator James F. Wilson.