Edmund Booth

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He was a vigorous writer and sharp critic, and indifferent to whether or not a thing was popular. He was held in high esteem by all who knew him, especially by his intimate friends who were constantly the beneficiaries of his kindly disposition and generosity. As a citizen he was an important factor in the life of Cedar Rapids, and a beneficial influence in the politics of Iowa, because of the vigorous work which he constantly did in furthering the interests of his home city and better politics and government in the State.

Edward F. Winslow was born in Kennebeck, Maine, Sept. 28, 1837; he died while traveling in Egypt, Feb. 13, 1905. He came to Iowa in 1856, locating at Mt. Pleasant. He followed mercantile pursuits until the breaking out of the civil war when he recruited a company at Ottumwa, of which he was commissioned captain when it was incorporated in the 4th Iowa Cavalry. This regiment had no little fame as the only cavalry troop that remained with Grant continuously from the beginning to the end of the Vicksburg campaign. His career in the army was noteworthy and meritorious. In January, 1863, he was promoted to the position of major, and in July following received his commission as colonel. Later on he was given commands of brigades and rendered valuable services in the armies of Sherman, Grant, Sturgis and Wilson. At one time in the latter part of the war Col. Winslow was chief of the cavalry service of the 15th Army Corps. He was brevetted brigadier-general in 1864, in recognition of the high character of his services as a soldier and officer. After the war Gen. Winslow became practically interested in the construction and management of railroads. He was closely connected with the management of the B. C. R. & N. R. R., and later was associated in the construction of the Union Pacific R. R.

Edmund Booth was born in Springfield, Mass., Aug. 24, 1810; he died in Anamosa, Iowa, March 29, 1905. He lost his hearing at the age of four years, and was educated at the American School for the Deaf at Hartford, Conn. He came to Iowa in 1839, and engaged in farming near Anamosa. He was one of the famous California "Forty-niners," but returned to his Jones county farm five years later. He named the county seat "Anamosa," for a beautiful Indian girl who came there in early days. He was for a time associated with the late Hon. Matt Parrott in the publication of The Anamosa Eureka, one of the oldest and most widely known Iowa weekly papers. In later years he has been associated in that enterprise with his son, Thomas E. Booth. While his deafness had been a life-long hindrance, Mr. Booth wielded a powerful influence in his town and county and had a wide acquaintance abroad. He was especially noted for his well directed efforts to better the condition of the deaf and dumb.

Jesse A. Runkle was born in Lisbon, Iowa, July 12, 1863; he died in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Jan. 19, 1905. He was educated at Western College, Toledo, Iowa, and the State University, graduating from the law department of the last-named institution. Settling in Cedar Rapids he had built up a good law practice, and had become especially well known in the club life and educational work of that thriving city. He was one of the founders and a leading member of the Linn County Historical Society, and had been especially active in starting it upon its useful career. He took a deep interest in the State Historical Department, and at the time of his death was making a study of a historico-legal subject upon which he was preparing a paper for this magazine. His death came suddenly from heart failure. His loss was a serious one to the city and county of his residence, and to the State, and was deeply deplored by a wide circle of friends.