

Thomas Milton Fee

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across Iowa. He was of a cultured and studious turn of mind, and secured an elementary education with very little assistance. He taught school between the age of fifteen and twenty, and with funds thus earned attended the State Agricultural College at Ames, graduating therefrom in 1872. He then went to Cornell University, where he took a course in law, and later attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, securing a most liberal education before he became attached to the faculty of the college at Ames as professor of mathematics. This work he continued for five years. He then removed to Des Moines and engaged in the practice of law. He was soon elected city attorney, and some of the litigation which he instituted and successfully prosecuted has been of permanent value to the city and State. A similar capacity for effective work was exemplified in his administration of the office of county attorney of Polk county. He was a strong candidate before the Polk county primaries for judge of the district court at the time of his death.

GEORGE HENRY WILLIAMS was born in Columbia county, New York, March 23, 1823; he died at Portland, Ore., April 4, 1910. He was educated at Pompey College, Onondaga county, New York, admitted to the bar in 1844, and removed to Ft. Madison, Iowa, soon thereafter. He soon formed a partnership with Daniel F. Miller, at that time prominent among the lawyers of Iowa territory. He was elected judge in the first Iowa district in 1847, serving until 1852. In the latter year he was democratic presidential elector and canvassed Iowa for Franklin Pierce in 1852. After his election President Pierce appointed Mr. Williams chief justice of the territory of Oregon. He was re-appointed to the office by President Buchanan, but declined. He was a member of the convention that framed the constitution of Oregon in 1858, and was chairman of the judiciary committee of that body; he was elected U. S. senator from Oregon as a union republican, serving from 1865 to 1871. He was a member of the Joint High Commission in 1871 which arranged the treaty at Washington for the adjustment of differences between Great Britain and the United States, growing out of the Alabama claims. He was Attorney-General of the United States from 1871 to 1875, and was nominated by President Grant as Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court in 1874, but his name was withdrawn. He was in the continuous practice of the law at Portland, Ore., after 1875. He served as mayor of Portland from 1902 to 1905, was president of the Business Girls Aid Society and of the Pattion Home for the Aged.

THOMAS MILTON FEE was born at Feesburg, Brown county, Ohio, April 18, 1839; he died at Centerville, Iowa, April 13, 1910. He was educated in the common schools of his native State and in the Academy at Perry, Ill. He removed with his family to Pike county, Illinois, in 1847. After finishing his education he became a teacher, his first experience being at Shibley's Point, Mo., in 1853. About this time he removed to Ottumwa, Iowa, where he became principal of schools. He took up the study of law in the office of Col. Samuel W. Summers, of Ottumwa, and was admitted to the bar in 1862. In May of that year he entered the practice of his pro-

profession at Centerville, continuing his residence and profession there the remainder of his life. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company G, Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry. He was chosen captain, receiving his commission from Governor Kirkwood October 4, 1862. He was captured with the entire brigade, of which his company was a part, at the battle of Mark's Mills, and for ten months was a prisoner at Tyler, Texas. He was exchanged in March, 1865; for a time was assistant inspector-general on the staff of Gen. Shaler, and also inspector-general of the Seventh Army Corps, commanded by Gen. J. J. Reynolds. He was mustered out at Duval's Bluffs, Ark., August 24, 1865. He was elected district attorney of the Second Iowa judicial district in 1874, and at the end of his service received the nomination of the Republican party for judge in the same district, but was defeated. In 1894 he was again nominated and elected, continuing on the bench until January 1, 1902, when he voluntarily retired. He was a prominent Mason, a member of the I. O. O. F., the Elks, the G. A. R. and the Loyal Legion.

LEWIS O. BLISS was born at Union Springs, Cayuga county, New York, July 29, 1826; he died at Iowa Falls, Iowa, April 21, 1910. He removed to Sheffield, Ohio, in 1834, and was educated at Kingsville Academy. He taught school for three years in Ohio and Kentucky, then engaged in the mercantile business in Ashtabula, Ohio. In 1854 he removed to Grant county, Wisconsin, where he engaged in business, but shortly afterward removed to Elliota, Minn., remaining until 1864, when he removed to Iowa Falls, Iowa. He established a mercantile business in Iowa Falls with William Wilde as his partner, continuing this partnership for many years. He was a member of the House of Representatives from Hardin county in the Fourteenth General Assembly.

JERRY M. WILSON was born near Canaan, Ind., July 16, 1842; he was killed by lightning near Winterset, Iowa, June 25, 1910. When he was about two years of age his parents removed to Adair county, Iowa, and established one of its earliest home circles. In 1862 he enlisted in Company I, 4th Iowa Cavalry, and served until the close of the war. With his regiment he participated in the siege of Vicksburg. In 1852 he removed to Union township, Adair county, to land upon which he resided for fifty-eight years and until his death. He was a strong, active citizen, serving as a member of the board of supervisors for a number of years and as chairman of that body when the Madison county court house was built in 1891. He was elected to the House of the Iowa Legislature in 1899, serving one term and refusing to be a candidate for a second nomination. At the time of his death he was president of the organization whose plan it is to build an electric traction line from Creston to Des Moines.

DAVID STEWART was born in Huntingdon county, Pa., March 24, 1830; he died at North Liberty, Jackson county, Iowa, June 10, 1910. He received a common school education and engaged with his father in the operation of a woolen mill at his native place, until 1852, when he began to read medicine in Pine Grove, Center

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