Levi Beardsley Raymond

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LEVI BEARDSLEY RAYMOND was born in Allegheny county, New York, July 3, 1836; he died at Hampton, Iowa, April 18, 1911. From a eulogy delivered by Hon. W. D. Evans of the Iowa Supreme Court, we select the following touching Col Raymond’s life:

He was educated at Beloit High School and Beloit College. Before he was twenty he learned the printers’ trade and from 1858 to 1860 was a reporter on the Chicago Times and Chicago Post. In 1861 he enlisted in Company G, Sixth Wisconsin Volunteers, which was a part of the famous Iron Brigade. He was honorably discharged on account of wounds in 1863. He removed to Butler county, Iowa, in 1864, engaged in newspaper work on the Hampton Record in 1866 and served as county superintendent of schools from 1867 to 1869. After that service he became editor of the Hampton Free Press, continuing until 1872, when he removed to the northern part of Iowa, establishing the Cherokee Leader. He immediately acquired the O’Brien Pioneer and established an office from which the same was issued in O’Brien county, it having been printed in Cherokee prior to his acquisition of it. He acquired the Sioux County Herald and established it at Orange City. During the same year he started a paper at Doon, called the Lyon County Press, and one at Newell, Buena Vista county, called the Mirror. In January, 1873, he issued the first number of the Sheldon Mail. In 1874 he closed out his newspaper enterprises and returned to Hampton, again serving as county superintendent of schools in 1876 and 1877. In 1879 he became editor and publisher of the Franklin County Record, in which service he continued until his death. His life was constantly devoted to social as well as public service. Besides being a member of the Iowa National Guard for fifteen years, a part of the time as Lieutenant-colonel of the Sixth Regiment, he was commander of McKenzie Post, G. A. R., and of the Iowa Department G. A. R., in 1903 and 1904, and served on the National Committee on Pensions, 1904 to 1906. He was president of the Iowa State Society, Sons of the American Revolution, and of a number of fraternal organizations. He was instrumental in securing for Hampton the Carnegie Library, for a long time serving on the Library Board, as president for the most of the time. He was a candidate for Lieutenant-governor in the Republican Convention in 1906. A paragraph of Judge Evans’ address is descriptive of his type:

“This distinguished citizen whom we commemorate with such honor was always a poor man. His scantiness of property did not come to him through indolence. On the contrary, his life was a busy one; he never loafed; his industry never flagged; his helpfulness never slept. Who in this wide community has not leaned on him for something. He was our county historian; our information bureau; our general director of public occasions; our chronicler of private and public events; our sympathizer in bereavement; our citizen of every utility to whom all helpless distress was first referred. Did an old soldier or soldier’s widow need information and advice? ‘You had better see Raymond.’ Was there an obituary to be written? ‘Go and see Raymond.’ Was there to be an old settlers’ meeting? ‘Let us go and see Raymond.’ * * * He was poor because the spirit within him compelled him to do the unremunerative work of the community. His talents were not those of a financier. A part of the talent of the financier is to do the thing that pays, pays money. If there be needful things to do which have no profit let others do them. All honor to the man
whose life has been an industrious and helpful one and who has
done the gratuities of the world and who comes down to the grave
with empty purse. Such a life dignifies privation and poverty
above the dignity of kings, and such is the growing sentiment of
the world."

WILLIAM HERON REEDER was born at Muscatine, Iowa, August 4,
1848; he died at Paris, January 24, 1911. He was appointed from
Iowa to the Naval Academy at Annapolis and was graduated in 1867.
He was made an Ensign, December 18, 1868; Master, March 31, 1871;
Lieutenant Commander, December 4, 1892; Commander, August 10,
1898, and Captain, December 2, 1902. He was retired as Rear Admiral
June 30, 1907. He was in active service during the Civil war and in
the summer of 1863, on board the Marion, in the pursuit of the Con-
 federate steamer Tacony. He served on the Piscataqua and Dela-
ware in 1867-1870; on the Wabash and Shenandoah from 1871-1874.
He was stationed at the navy yard at Philadelphia during the year
of 1874-1875, and was on the Alliance 1875-1877, the Powhatan, 1877-
1880. He was then transferred to the navy yards at Portsmouth in
1881 and remained there for two years and was on the Despatch,
1884-1885. He served as an aide on an expedition to the Isthmus of
Panama. In 1894 he commanded a naval brigade in the railroad
strike at Oakland, Cal., and opened up the Southern Pacific railroad.
He was executive officer on the Charleston in Luzon and Japan dur-
ing the Chinese Japanese war, and returned to the navy yards in
Washington for the years 1896-1897. He was the commander of
the St. Mary during 1897-1898 and of the Marcellus in 1898, a
year later returning to the St. Mary for a period of three years.
He commanded the Hartford during 1901-1903. In 1904 he was
assigned to the Naval War College and in 1904-1905 he com-
manded the Alabama. He was in charge of the navy yards, New York, 1906-
1907, and was commander of the Hancock until June 30, 1907.

GEORGE M. HIPPEE was born in Canton, Ohio, March 6, 1831; he
died at Des Moines, Iowa, April 29, 1911. After acquiring a rudim-
entary education he entered the drug trade as a clerk in Canton,
then went to Philadelphia, Pa., serving as a clerk in a drug store
until he removed to the city of Des Moines in 1855. He soon opened
a drug stock, thereafter remaining a leader in active business cir-
cles. He was a founder of or officer in nearly every financial and in-
dustrial institution of note in the capital city during his active
career, his connections of most importance being as an organizer and
president of the Second National Bank, merged in 1870 with the First
National Bank into the National State Bank, and in 1873 as founder
and president of the Valley Bank, later changed to the Valley Na-
tional Bank. In 1881 he was one of the organizers of the Des
Molnes Bank, which became the Des Moines Savings Bank and was
later absorbed by the Iowa National Bank. In 1889 he was associ-
ated with Jefferson S. Folk in the re-organization of the Des Moines
City Railway of which he became a director and vice-president, re-
taining his connection with the company until 1910. At the time of
his death he was a director of the Iowa National Bank and of the
Iowa Loan and Trust Company.