Charles F. Saylor

ISSN 0003-4827

Material in the public domain. No restrictions on use.
This work has been identified with a Creative Commons Public Domain Mark 1.0.

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://doi.org/10.17077/0003-4827.3731

Hosted by Iowa Research Online
of himself: "* * * his name is thoroughly associated in the popular mind with the building of the capitol. For the present generation it is his memorial." In 1879 Mr. Dey was appointed railroad commissioner by Governor Gear, and successively reappointed by Governors Sherman and Larrabee. The office became elective in 1889. The members elected were Mr. Dey, Spencer Smith of Pottawattamie county, and Frank T. Campbell of Jasper county. Upon drawing lots, the two year term fell to Mr. Dey. At its end, in 1892, he was re-elected, although he was a Democrat, and the Republican presidential candidate carried the State by 50,000. Mr. Dey was an invaluable member of the Iowa State Historical Society at Iowa City and for twelve years served as its president.

FATHER WINFRED SCHMIDT was born in Siedlinghausen, Westphalia, Germany, March 31, 1851; he died in Des Moines, July 16, 1911. Educated in parochial schools and Paderborn university, from which he graduated in 1871, he emigrated to America in the same year and engaged for six years as a teacher in St. Vincent's college, Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania. He was then called to the chair of theology and philosophy in the Benedictine college at Atchison, Kansas. In 1883 he became rector of St. Mary's church in Des Moines, which had then been but recently transferred from the bishop's charge to that of the Benedictine fathers. His work in the congregation was most faithful and effective the remainder of his life. As a scientist Father Schmidt was widely known. His collection of botanical and entymological specimens and literature was very extensive and valuable. Some years ago he presented this collection to St. Benedict college. His body was interred in the abbey of the Benedictine fathers at Atchison.

CHARLES F. SAYLOR was born in Polk county, Iowa, on September 8, 1857; he died at Des Moines, Iowa, April 20, 1911. The parents of Mr. Saylor, who survive him, were among the earliest settlers of Polk county, their homestead being on Saylor prairie above Des Moines. He was educated in the public schools of the city of Des Moines and was a graduate of the Iowa State Agricultural College at Ames. He was a teacher in the Polk county and Des Moines public schools for a number of years and was elected county superintendent of public schools for Polk county, serving six years. He was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Agricultural college at Ames for a number of years. During this time Hon. James Wilson, now Secretary of Agriculture, was a member of the faculty. Immediately after President McKinley called Professor Wilson to be head of the Department of Agriculture, Mr. Saylor was made a special agent of the Department. He was assigned the duty of special investigation and report upon the sugar industry, and for more than ten years assiduously devoted his time and talent to the consideration of this great subject. His travels and investigations embraced every State in the Union in which the culture or manufacture of beet sugar or cane sugar is a factor. He visited the Sandwich Islands, Porto Rico and Cuba, where sugar production and commerce are a factor in the American trade. He collected exhaustive information from all States and colonies of other govern-
ments where sugar producing is a matter of any importance. His reports are the basis of text study in many agricultural courses. They are the foundation of much of the debate in Congress and of the popular literature of the present day on the sugar industry.

**Horace W. Gleason** was born in Warren, New Hampshire, May 2, 1846; he died at Oskaloosa, Iowa, April 20, 1911. He was the son of a Methodist minister, of Revolutionary stock. He had special educational advantages in his youth. A collegiate career at Dartmouth was interrupted by his enlistment as a private soldier in Company G, Twelfth New Hampshire United States Volunteers. He participated in the battles of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, the last engagement at Fair Oaks and in the Appomattox campaign. He was in the second battle of Bull Run, the engagements of Cold Harbour, Antietam and in the siege of Richmond. He was mustered out in 1865 with a commission of First Lieutenant of his company.

Upon his return to his home in the fall of 1865, he removed to Mankato, Minnesota, where he taught school and studied law. He came to Iowa in 1867, and at various places taught school and studied law, until in 1872 he established himself at Oskaloosa. He removed to Hutchinson, Kansas, in 1887, where he practiced law until 1896, then removed to Chicago for a residence of five years, after which he returned to Oskaloosa, remaining there until his death. While a resident of Chicago he was a director of the Hamilton Club, and during his last residence in Oskaloosa was city solicitor and later United States commissioner for southern Iowa. He was a representative from Mahaska county, in the Seventeenth General Assembly of Iowa, being assigned to the chairmanship of the Committee on Public Lands, and to membership on the Committees of Judiciary, Banks and Banking, and Insurance.

**Andrew Jackson Baker** was born in Ohio county, now Marshall county, near Moundsville, West Virginia, June 6, 1832; he died at Centerville, Iowa, April 24, 1911. He was a son of George and Margaret Reager Baker, who removed to Hamilton, Ohio, thence to Burlington, Iowa, in 1848. Mr. Baker taught school near Mount Pleasant, Iowa, and attended Howe's Academy, then studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1856, locating in practice at Winterset, Iowa. Gen. Baker organized a company of the Seventeenth Iowa Infantry in 1861 and served as First Lieutenant until 1863. Following his honorable discharge he settled in Lancaster, Missouri, where he took up the practice of law. He had been a Democrat prior to the Civil war, but became a Republican upon or soon after the formation of that party, and after the war was elected a representative from Schuyler county to the Missouri Legislature. His election was at the hands of the Liberal Republicans, so called because they favored the restoration to the Confederates of the franchise, and to this end Mr. Baker introduced a bill in the General Assembly. In 1869 he was elected Attorney General of Missouri, which office he filled for two years. In 1875 General Baker removed to Centerville, Iowa, forming with Gen.