Tacitus Hussey was born in Terre Haute, Indiana, October 10, 1832, and died at the Home for the Aged in Des Moines, Iowa, August 9, 1919. In his youth he attended country school in a log school house during winters. When sixteen years old he commenced work in a printing office in Terre Haute and continued it for four years. On November 9, 1855, he arrived at Fort Des Moines, later called Des Moines, on a stage coach, and lived there continuously from that date until his death. He commenced work in Des Moines in the printing office of the Statesman, and worked in other offices, but in 1857 took employment as a job printer with N. W. Mills & Co., becoming their foreman. In 1864 he became a member of the firm of Carter, Hussey & Curl, job printers, continuing actively in business until 1901. During all this time he did more or less writing, editing the New Broom, published by Carter, Hussey & Curl in the interests of their business, editing the Mail and Times for two or three years, assisting in editing Plain Talk for some time, and contributing many articles to the Register and other papers. He was the author of the songs, "Iowa, Beautiful Land," "My Country, Oh, My Country," and "When the Mists Have Passed Away"; "The River Bend and other poems," "History of Steamboating on the Des Moines River," "Story of the Central Presbyterian Church," and many other poems, sketches, etc. He had in manuscript at the time of his death "Beginnings; being Reminiscences of Early Des Moines," which has since been published by his friends in a volume of over 200 pages. Mr. Hussey was a member of Central Presbyterian Church, Des Moines, from the time of his arrival in 1855. Printer, philosopher, pioneer, nature lover and poet, he was a remarkable character and was loved by all who knew him. He left his large and valuable collection of clippings, books and manuscripts to the Historical Department of Iowa.

Frederick Edward White was born in Prussia, Germany, January 19, 1844, and died at Sigourney, Iowa, February 14, 1920. With his widowed mother and two sisters he emigrated to America in 1857, coming to the north part of Keokuk County, Iowa. For four years he worked in that vicinity as a farm hand, part of the time attending common school. In 1861 he enlisted in the Eighth Iowa Infantry but was rejected on account of his youth. In February, 1862, he re-enlisted, this time in Company I, Thirteenth Iowa Infantry, served as a private until the end of the war, and was mustered out in August, 1865. He returned home and again engaged in farm labor. In 1866 he was married and settled on a farm of his own. For the next forty-five years he lived on that farm, adding to it from time to time and becoming successful as a farmer and stockman. He was a great reader and an intense student of political subjects. He early adopted the theories of Thomas Jeffer-