Voltaire P. Twombly
employed by the Clarksons, the proprietors of the State Register, for three years, except for a short time he spent in Denver working on the Rocky Mountain News. In 1873 he assisted in establishing the Indian Leader, but in 1879 became a partner in the ownership of the Vinton Eagle. In 1880 he became the sole owner of the Eagle, and continued as such until 1913 when his son became part owner with him. For some years he was a member of the city council of Vinton. He was postmaster at Vinton from 1887 to 1901, and state printer from 1901 to 1906. He was an alternate delegate to the Republican national convention at Minneapolis in 1892 and was a presidential elector on the Republican ticket in 1904. He was grand chancellor of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, Knights of Pythias, in 1901 and was representative to the supreme lodge of that order from 1912 until the time of his death. He was active in his work for the Iowa College for the Blind at Vinton, and his work for Minnie Hagwood, the blind and deaf girl, the Helen Keller of Iowa, will long be remembered. His interest in education was such that he was appointed as a member of the Better School Commission. His greatest work, however, was on the editorial page of his paper. His originality and his creative and constructive power he was not excelled by any writer in the state. He took an active part in district and state editorial association meetings, and for years alternated them and always gave interest and inspiration to his presence. He was also a well known figure at Republican district and state conventions where he had a large influence. He had good judgment, good ability, rugged honesty, a sense of humor and a love of his fellow men that made of him a real leader in Iowa.

A. T. Woodward was born near Burlington, Van Buren County, Iowa, February 21, 1842, and died at the Moline, February 24, 1908. His parents had emigrated from Massachusetts with the first Tipton Company formed by Oliver Knapp and near Burlington in 1839 and named Sandle. A few months later his birth father died and he was raised with his infant son removed to Keokuk. There he attended public school and James Academy. He volunteered as a private in Company F, 2nd Iowa Infantry and was mustered in at Des Moines, May 27, 1861. In October, 1861, he was promoted to a first corporal and was detailed as a color bearer. In the famous charge on Ft. Donelson, he was the bearer of the colors and was shot down in succession, when he caught up the colors and although lamed down by a spent ball, succeeded in carrying them forward and placing them on top of the enemy's works. He was then promoted to lieutenant. At Corinth he was severely wounded and again at Shiloh. In June, 1864, he was promoted to adjutant of the regiment and in November became captain of Company K. In 1873 he was acting inspector-general of the 15th Army Corps. He was mustered out July 12, 1865, returned home, attended Bryant & Stratton's Business College at Burlington for
awhile, and then was two years at Ottumwa in the grain, flour and grocery business. Returning to Pittsburg, Van Buren County, he followed milling nine years, when he removed to Keokuk and engaged in the mercantile business. In 1880 he was elected county treasurer of Van Buren County and was re-elected two years later. In 1884 he was elected treasurer of state and was twice re-elected, serving until January, 1890. Soon thereafter he entered the House Savings Bank of Des Moines as its president and acted in that capacity for ten years. The last few years of his life were spent in retirement. He was quiet and unobtrusive, but was held in high esteem because of his integrity and good judgment.

Eowlum Hoomah Grantor was born at Bloomfield, Connecticut, October 14, 1846, and died at his home near Valley Junction, Iowa, August 11, 1918. He graduated from the Hartford, Connecticut, High School and the New York State Agricultural College at Ovid, New York. Intending to devote himself to agriculture, on leaving college in 1867 he came to Iowa, bought a farm in Dallas county and engaged in raising high feed stock. Shortly thereafter he bought a farm immediately west of Des Moines at the end of Grand Avenue and adjoining what is now the city of Valley Junction. He made his home for a while in Des Moines and was interested not only in farming but in manufacturing and in other business enterprises. He became active in farmers' organizations, especially in their contests with railroad corporations and with the barbed wire trusts. He was an active member of the Anti-monopoly party in 1871 and the Greenback party in 1876. In 1876 he was a delegate to the national convention of the Greenback party, that nominated Peter Cooper Jr. for president, and that year he took an active part in the campaign, speaking in many states. In 1878 the Greenback party of the Seventh Iowa District nominated him for Congress and the Democratic party, voting with it, was elected and served in the Forty-sixth Congress. In 1879 he was renominated but was defeated by John A. Houston. Mr. Gillette and General Wolf having started the State Reform, Mr. Gillette became its editor in 1884 and remained until 1894. For over twenty years he was active in parties, speaking in practically every state in the union. He was chairman of the national committee of the Greenback party at one time and chairman of the state committee of the Union Labor party for several years. He was the leader of the Democratic party in 1898 for auditor of state. The later years of his life were spent in quiet retirement at his home near Valley Junction.

Ninian B. Parson was born at Andover, Massachusetts, September 7, 1834, and died at Tucson, Arizona, February 14, 1928. Burial was at Davenport, Iowa. When a child he removed with his parents to Davenport. There he attended common school and Griswold College and completed his education at Harvard and Heidelberg universities.