Clarence Eugene Whitehill
parents were Gottfried Wilhelm and Wilhelmina (Rakow) Witte, who migrated to America in 1864 with their family and located first at Galena, Illinois, and later a few miles south of Bellevue, Iowa, where the father operated a blacksmith shop and where Max attended rural public school. He later was a student at German Lutheran College at Galena, Illinois, for two years. He was graduated with the degree of M. D. from the University of Iowa in 1881, was assistant physician at Mount Pleasant State Hospital from 1881 to 1898, and was superintendent of the Clarinda State Hospital from 1898 until his death. For several years he was a lecturer on mental diseases at the College of Medicine at the State University of Iowa. He was a member and former president of the Page County Medical Association, was a member and former president of the Iowa State Medical Society, was a member of the American Medical Society and held memberships in several other national psychological societies. Dr. Witte was an outstanding man in his profession—an able scientist, a good business administrator, and a sympathetic manager of the thousands of mental unfortunates who came under his care in the half century of his work among them.

Clarence Eugene Whitehill was born on a farm south of Marengo, Iowa, November 5, 1871, and died in New York City, December 19, 1932. His parents were William and Elizabeth Dawson (McLaughlin) Whitehill. He attended public school in the country and was graduated from Marengo High School in 1890. At this time his singing in the Presbyterian choir in Marengo caused his friends to recognize the rare quality of his voice and urge him to take special training. He studied under L. A. Phelps in Chicago, at the same time singing regularly in an Episcopal choir and in a Jewish synagogue, and driving an express wagon thus supporting himself. Madame Melba and others became interested in him and friends financed him so that he went to Europe in 1896 and studied five years. After appearing in opera in Brussels and in Paris, he was leading baritone in Cologne, Germany, in 1903-08. He joined the Metropolitan Opera Company, New York, in 1909. Later he studied Wagnerian roles in Germany for several years. During the later years of his life he resided in New York, was a member of the Metropolitan Opera Company, and conducted a private studio. He was one of America’s greatest baritones. He played the part of George Washington in the official Bicentennial talking picture of George Washington, and appeared in that role several times at festivals celebrating the Bicentennial, and when dressed in Colonial costume looked amazingly like portraits of the first president.

Joel Tuttle was born in Des Moines, Iowa, April 4, 1872, and died in Des Moines July 30, 1932. Burial was in Woodland Cemetery. His parents were James Madison Tuttle and Laura Maria Tuttle. He lived most of his life in Des Moines, being in rotation a clerk for the Des