

**William M. McFarland**

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He was not mustered out until August 29, 1865, after a most creditable career in the army of four years, during which time he was constantly in active service. At this time he was offered a commission in the regular army, which he did not accept. He returned to Mt. Pleasant, where he was employed by the C., B. & Q. R. R. Co. In this field of effort he rose to a prominent and responsible position. He became a railroad contractor in 1879, and followed that business for several years. Upon his retirement he engaged in farming, stock-raising and manufacturing. He was one of the most prominent citizens in southern Iowa, a man of high character and great usefulness.

WILLIAM M. MCFARLAND was born in Posey county, Ind., April 1, 1848; he died in St. Paul, Minn., July 15, 1905. He was graduated at the Wesleyan University, at Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, in 1873. Shortly afterward he started *The Brooklyn (Iowa) Chronicle*, with which he continued until 1884, when he removed to Estherville, Emmet county, where he engaged in the publication of *The Vindicator*. He was elected to represent his county in the house of representatives of the 22d general assembly, and re-elected two years later. In 1890 he was elected Secretary of State. He held this office three terms. Mr. McFarland was a man of decided ability, and in whatever public position he occupied created a most favorable impression. He was able and versatile as an editor, active and influential in the legislature, growing constantly in the public esteem until he reached the second office in the gift of the people of the State. At one time it seemed not improbable that he would easily reach the governorship. He possessed many elements of popularity. He was a model of hearty cordiality in his address, a graceful and pleasing writer, and a ready and eloquent speaker. To these qualities he added the wide and versatile information which distinguishes the born journalist. That he was three times elected to the high office of Secretary of State speaks volumes regarding the estimate placed upon his character and ability. Retiring from this last position, he settled in Indianola, where he resided at the time of his death. The last few years of his life had been devoted to editorial work, or to traveling in various business interests. He died very suddenly in St. Paul as he was entering a private car bound for Des Moines. His death was attributed to heart failure.

JOHN H. KEATLEY was born in Center county, Pa., Dec. 1, 1838; he died at Washington, D. C., June 20, 1905. Col. Keatley grew up on a farm and educated himself through his own exertions. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1860. Soon after commencing his legal practice he became editor of *The Blair County Whig*, a newspaper which supported the administration of Abraham Lincoln. When the call for 300,000 volunteers came, he enlisted in the 125th Pa. Infantry, which was soon after engaged in the second battle of Bull Run, at South Mountain, and Antietam. He participated in the Gettysburg campaign, where he was assistant adjutant general on the staff of Gen. Higgins. Later, he was actively engaged in the campaigns with General Grant which resulted in the capture of Gen. Lee and his army. After the war he was connected for a time with the freedman's bureau for five counties in southeastern Virginia, and later became a judge in the military court at Norfolk. He removed to Iowa in 1867, locating at Cedar Falls. In 1868 he settled in Council Bluffs, where he became editor of *The Nonpareil*, serving until April, 1870. In the campaign of 1872 he supported Horace Greeley for President against Gen. Grant. He ran for attorney-general in 1874, and in 1878 for congress in the 8th district, but was both times defeated. In 1876 he was chosen Mayor of Council Bluffs. In 1892 he was appointed commandant of the Iowa Soldiers' Home, at Marshalltown, which position he held for two

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