

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Copy of
- from file
1864?

Name of Representative Asford Wilkerson P. Senator Asford Wilkerson P.
Represented Butler, Moys, Mitchell and Cass Counties, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 1824 New Milford, Connecticut

2. Marriage (s) date place
Israh Elizabeth Gator

3. Significant events for example:
A. Business _____
B. Civic responsibilities _____
C. Profession Lawyer; farmer

4. Church membership _____

5. Sessions served 10th 12th General Assemblies 1864 1865 House of Representatives

6. Public Offices 15th General Assembly 1869 - Senate

A. Local Postmaster at New Spring for several years
B. State _____
C. National _____

7. Death 27 Apr 1880 New Spring Iowa; buried Rock Grove Cemetery, New Spring Iowa

8. Children Barnes Witt (died 1849); Mary E. (died 1871); Harriet Aurelia; Bessie Theda; Laura A. (died 1865); George; Abner Irena; Jennie Bell; Maggie Elizabeth

9. Names of parents Samuel and Betsey (Jackson) Bayland

10. Education _____

11. Degrees _____

12. Other applicable information _____

Republican

- In spring 1854 he came to Lloyd County, Iowa staying early in the fall when he went to Thosmin. He returned to Lloyd County.
- On 5 Dec 1853 he was fined by his wife and family who had remained in New Jersey while he came to Iowa to learn of pioneer life.
- He located his family where Neal Springs, Iowa is now located.
- He began practicing law at Neal Springs, Iowa.
- He later was an editor of The Neal Springs Telephone newspaper but only for the love of the work as well as The Charles City Advocate, Charles City Intelligencer and The Rockford Reveille.

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Contact: Beverly Miles

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- ID: I17815
- Name: Wilberforce P. GAYLORD
- Given Name: Wilberforce P.
- Surname: Gaylord
- Sex: M
- UID: 1438BE227F1A744E8C2EC11717CA07AFB010
- Change Date: 22 Sep 2003
- Note:

Wilberforce P. Gaylord was a lawyer and a state senator. He wrote the history of Floyd County, Iowa. A copy of this book (now out of print) is in the hands of a descendant, Miss Margaret Severe, Minneapolis, Minnesota. She also has a number of pictures some of which were graciously shared to be included in the Gaylord Family Tree. Other information about the Gaylord family can be found in the MacNider Museum in Mason City, Iowa. (See *Gaylord Family Tree*, pgs. 19-23.)

History of Floyd County reads in part:

CHAPTER XV, pgs. 634-640. [partially reproduced, some portions not included]
EMINENT DEAD

Hon. W. P. Gaylord

The ancestors of the Gaylord family originated in Normandy, France. The first name appears in Johnville's memoirs of Louis IX, in the

thirteenth century. Some of the Gaylords moved to England in 1550 or 1551. William Gaylord was a native of Exeter, England, and came to Massachusetts in the ship "Mary and John," arriving in Boston Bay, May 30, 1630, and settled in Dorchester. He died in 1673. Then followed four generations, thus: Walter, Joseph, Joseph, Jr., and Samuel. W. P.'s great-grandfather, born in 1709, who had a son Agar, a grandfather born 1730, died 1818, aged 88 years, and who settled in Norfolk, Connecticut. His brothers and sisters were Justus, Anna Mamie, Joseph, Thankful, Samuel, Timothy, Giles and Esther.

Agar Gaylord had two wives, had two daughters by his first wife, and then married a widow Jerome, by whom he had three children, namely: Sarah, Esther, and Samuel. The latter was born January 6, 1776 in Norfolk, Connecticut and died in the summer of 1861, aged 75 years. His wife's mother's maiden name was Betsey Jackson, born in Brookfield, Connecticut. She died in July 1859.

Samuel Gaylord's children were eight in number, as follows: Jane, Lyman, J. Jay, Wilberforce P., Edson, Jackson, Harriet and Johnson. Deaths: Harriet, Jane, Wilberforce.

W.P. Gaylord was born in New Milford, Conn. Sarah Elizabeth, his wife, was born in Stillwater, New Jersey. Their children were as follows: Buena Vista, born January 9, 1847 in Sussex, New Jersey; died September 25, 1849, in Green, New Jersey; Mary E., born February 18, 1850 in Green, New Jersey, died September 29, 1871 in Nora Springs; Harriet Aurelia, born December 25, 1853, in Frelinghuysen, New Jersey; Buena Vista 2d, born February 22, 1856 in Rock Grove, Iowa; Laura A. born July 23, 1858, in Rock Grove, Iowa, died January 15, 1865, in Rock Grove. George, born February 25, 1861 in Rock Grove; Chloe Irena, born February 21, 1863 in Rock Grove. Jennie Bell, born Aug. 19, 1865 in Nora Springs; Minnie Elizabeth, born June 27, 1869, near Nora Springs.

In the spring of 1854, he came to Floyd County, stayed until early in the fall when he went to Wisconsin, returning again in about a year. December 5, 1855, he was joined by his wife and family, whom he had left in New Jersey, and who came to share with him his Western home, and the vicissitudes of pioneer life in the wild region of Northern Iowa.

He located on the Shell Rock, near where Nora Springs now stands. Soon after settling there he commenced the practice of law, and was admitted to the bar at Mason City, about the time of the organization of Cerro Gordo County. He was always a prominent actor in nearly all the history of the county. Being a man of great activity and perseverance, he was ever one of the foremost men in all matters affecting his county and its welfare. During the early days of the county a very bitter county-seat war was waged between the east and west sides. Prominent among the leaders was Mr. Gaylord in the interest of the west side. After they had gained the victory, a

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celebration of the event was held at the geographical center of the county to rejoice over the event. The speed of congratulation by Mr. Gaylord was one of the wittiest and best of his life. So good-humored and jolly was the speech that it tended largely to disarm those of the other side.

He was elected a member of the Eleventh General Assembly for Floyd and Cerro Gordo counties, and of the Twelfth for Floyd County. For several years he was Postmaster at Nora Springs, resigning the office to accept the position of State Senator for the 45th District in the Eighteenth General Assembly, where he served one session, with great credit. The bills which he originated the sustained to a passage, and the position which he promptly took on the woman suffrage question made his name familiar throughout the State, and the strictures of his brethren of the press on the latter point were boldly and ably met, and in a tone which promised animated discussion had he lived to again meet that subject in the Senate. At the re-assembling of the Senate, resolutions of respect and condolence, in honor of his sterling merits, were offered by Senator Wheley, as follows:

"Resolved, That this preamble and resolutions be spread upon the journal: that the secretary of the Senate be, and is hereby, directed to forward a copy of the same to the family of the deceased; and

Resolved, as a further mark of respect of the deceased Senator, the Senate do now adjourn."

He was editor of the Nora Springs *Telephone*, not for a salary or pay, but because he loved the work. His pen was racy, spicy and vigorous. When he applied the lash to an opponent, there was always a sting to it, and yet so tempered with good nature that he rarely made an enemy of his adversary. He was also correspondent for the *Advocate* and *Intelligencer*, of Charles City, the *Rockford Reveille* and other papers. In style he was easy and direct. Fearless in his criticism, severe in his denunciation, but always and just as to the rights of persons--always condemning wrong and applauding right.

He frequently discussed death and the future. Often did he say that the only thing he feared or dreaded was death. The future was a mystery to him, one of which he could not form a satisfactory opinion. His idea was that God is a part of man and man is a part of God. So closely connected that neither can get along without the other. He was a very decided believer in the pre-existence of man and at death he will return to his former habitation of the realms of God.

His death was almost instantaneous and probably painless. In the quietude of his home and the bosom of his family the dread angel, who must sooner or later visit all mankind, came unannounced and unheralded. He was in robust health up to the very moment of his decease. In the midst of the strength and vigor of manhood, and in the

rapid development of an onward and upward career, was he cut down.

On that day of his death, in his usual off-hand, friendly manner, he was meeting his associates, throwing a jest at one, wrestling with another, and exhibiting a vitality unequaled by most men.

During the evening he was as well as usual, and at about half past nine o'clock retired for the night. In fifteen or twenty minutes Mrs. Gaylord also retired. Soon after getting into bed she discovered that something unusual was the matter with Mr. Gaylord. Before she could procure a light and call for help, he was dead. An autopsy on the body by Drs. S.G., and T.D. Blythe showed that the cause of death was heart disease.

The following poem was written by Wilberforce P. Gaylord and published in the Nora Springs, Iowa *Advertiser*, Thursday, February 28, 1974:

Then and Now

Eighteen years ago (and few are here to know)
This country was wild and romantic
Prairies, like the Sea of Old Galilee
Breezes that swept like gales off the Atlantic.

The pioneers came and slaughtered the game,
They cut down the trees and made houses;
They hewed out their floors, their windows, their doors
and deer skins they made into trousers.

With reliance on god, they turned o'er the sod,
They planted their seed in the ground;
They fenced in their lots and their crude cots
And whatever went wrong was easily righted.

One house was for all, the church and the hall
The Sunday School, day school and 'election.
They all huddled together, whatever the weather
No critics were there to make inspection.

No jewels or laces adorned their faces
But innocence, virtue and manhood were there;
Ladies wore calico dresses, their own curls and tresses
No flax or chignons in place of their hair.

No quarrels occurred, their bond was their word,
Their pledges were always redeemed,
They borrowed and lent, with an honest intent
And everybody then was just what they seemed.

Their children learned work, without learning to shirk
They were strong, healthy and shrewd;
They earned the salt that they ate as well as their meat
While this wilderness wild they subdued.

Whether funeral or marriage, no fine horse or carriage
No waiter to bring them around;
Their hoses astride, they did reverently ride,
Or plodded on foot o'er the ground.

No cities were here, nor vendors of beer,
Nor law suits so hotly contended;
We lived here in peace, without aid of police
When troubles began they were quietly ended.

When anguish or sorrow, one wanted to borrow,
Their neighbors stood ready to lend;
When afflicted or sick, all were ready and quick
To go to relieve - or substitute send.

Contracts were made without written larade,
Whatever was said was every time meant.
In a promise to pay, here was never delay,
Whether money was borrowed or confidence lent.

Skill is displayed and railroads were made,
And towns sprung up on their lines;
Strangers came in with piety and sin,
Gentlemen, loafers and preachers divine.

It seems strange somehow, but everything now
Goes on like the style of the City;
The gentlemen swell and so does the belle
And the "old settlers' look on in pity.

How a bargain or note must be carefully wrote
The language must be well perfected;
With security approved, before goods are removed,
And every barrier of safety strongly erected.

And even a receipt must be written complete,
The contents carefully guarded,
Or at some future day, a lawyer to pay,
And the whole thing entirely discarded.

The old spinning wheel, the loom and the reel
Give way to more modern inventions,
While music and dancing and elegant prancing
Claim much of our time and attention.

On credit or cash, the gentlemen dash,

Their fathers are rich -- who cares!
 But by my steel yards, beer, whiskey and billiards,
 Are the kind of wild oats that grow into tares!

But life is a tussle, go in on your muscle
 And swing out with a trump or a jack,
 You will be high or low, remember 'tis so
 But the game will be found with the rest of the pack!!

1

- *Birth*: 1824 in New Milford, Connecticut ²
- *Death*: 27 APR 1880 ²
- *Burial*: 1880 Rock Grove Cemetery, Nora Springs, Iowa ²

Father: Samuel GAYLORD b: 6 JAN 1776 in Norfolk, Connecticut

Mother: Betsy JACKSON b: in Brookfield, Connecticut, USA

Marriage 1 Sarah Elizabeth SLATER b: 17 JAN 1807 in Stillwater, New Jersey

- *Married*: ²

Children

1. Buena Vista GAYLORD b: 9 JAN 1847 in , Sussex, New Jersey
2. Mary E. GAYLORD b: 18 FEB 1850 in Green, New Jersey
3. Harriet Aurelia GAYLORD b: 25 DEC 1853 in Frelinghuysen, New Jersey
4. Buena Vista GAYLORD b: 22 FEB 1856 in Rock Grove, Iowa
5. Laura A. GAYLORD b: 23 JUL 1858 in Rock Grove, Iowa
6. George L. GAYLORD b: 25 FEB 1861 in Rock Grove, Iowa
7. Chloe Irena GAYLORD b: 21 FEB 1863 in Rock Grove, Iowa
8. Jennie Bell GAYLORD b: 19 AUG 1865 in Nora Springs, Iowa
9. Minnie Elizabeth GAYLORD b: 27 JUN 1869 in Nora Springs, Iowa

Sources:

1. Abbrev: Gaylord Family Tree
 Title: Mrs. Eloise Severe, *Gaylord Family Tree* (Grand Junction, Colorado:, 1986)do:, 1986.
 Page: pg. 11
2. Abbrev: Gaylord Family Tree
 Title: Mrs. Eloise Severe, *Gaylord Family Tree* (Grand Junction, Colorado:, 1986)do:, 1986.

[Index](#) | [Descendancy](#) | [Register](#) | [Pedigree](#) | [Ahnentafel](#) | [Download GEDCOM](#) | [Add Post-em](#)

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ness inducements to men of means and ability of any town of its size in the whole State of Iowa. Come and take a birds-eye view of the surroundings for yourself. Here, in this picturesque little city is a mine of wealth for the prospecting capitalist. And who will be the first to begin one of the above mentioned requirements?

Senator Gaylord Dead.

The intelligence of the sudden death of the Hon. Wilberforce P. Gaylord, Senator from this District, was received by his many admirers and friends in this place last week, with the deepest and keenest sorrow. His death occurred on Tuesday evening, April 27th. He was a robust healthy man. The evening of his death he was unusually lively, and spent the time reading and joking with his family at home. He laid aside his paper about 1/4 past 9 o'clock, and said he would "go to bed and take a good rest." Accordingly he retired. Soon after retiring his wife was disturbed by his hard breathing and discovered that he was choking. She sprang from bed, procured a light and found him wholly insensible, and in five minutes more he was dead. His last moments of life were no doubt quiet and without pain, and he passed away without a struggle. The cause of his death is said to be heart disease.— Mr. Gaylord was one of the editors of the *Nora Springs Telephone*. He was a vigorous and spicy writer. Senator Gaylord was one of the self-made men of our country, and in his various positions in public life, showed himself to be a man of true grit and positiveness. In the death of Senator Gaylord the people of the 4th District have lost a valuable and able citizen, and whose death will be mourned by his friends everywhere. He was a near relative of Mr. ... A ... member of ...

for nothing. And, too, is it excusable in any one to smile when a lady, in her eagerness to take her seat beside her husband—with whom she seldom sits at church—should come near sitting upon the young man's lap who sat next to her. In the first instance it might have been the "good man" who took for his text something of this sentiment: "Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed, lest he fall." In the next: "I say unto you, love one another." The third: "Lead us not into temptation," and fourthly, perhaps the subject was concerning the "rich man and Lazarus."— If so, perhaps she was somewhat excusable for the "dive" she made.

Well, Mr. editor, we must admit that at temperance meetings people are allowed to laugh a little, though it be on Sabbath evening. Nevertheless I think it would be well for the male members of the choir to, "Beware of the bottle, beware of the cup," for if we do not it might prove "no laughing matter."

PROPRIETY.

In the report of the convention of the Woman's National Christian Temperance Union, at Indianapolis, is the following:

Inasmuch as we hold the Christian Sabbath to be the safeguard of our republican institutions, and since God hath said, "By my Sabbath do I satisfy you," therefore

Resolved, That we will persistently resist all encroachments upon its sacredness, and that we will make necessary efforts in every avenue and through every channel of power for the prevention of Sabbath desecration; also that we give all honor to the railroad men, who have refused to have part in this iniquity, in the face of threatened loss of place, and means of sustenance.

At this time a committee was appointed on the "Relation of Intemperance

stricken occupants the hill.

"Take cultivated bang her! nose looks a colored uniform of you have London present mode."

just jam like a bant hurricane like the dog, "cau,

7 foot into three inches—at the American present me

And no Gambetta, ting marrie

a man to hobgoblin allow him t

Why don on him, or idea os any though they conflict with and preach offender sh without "be

"Wine drink—can't town like Sl are just bul at any saloon

"John C. Polk, Zachar Abraham I were chosen