Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative: Lacey, John Stith

1. Birthday and place: 30 May 1841, New Martinsville, Virginia

2. Marriage(s) date place

3. Significant events for example:
   A. Business
      Admitted to bar in 1863; president of the Iowa State Bar Association.
   B. Civic responsibilities
   C. Profession
      Lawyer; farmer; bricklayer; plasterer;

4. Church membership

5. Sessions served: 13th General Assembly 1870

6. Public Offices
   A. Local
      Oklahoma City Councilman, city solicitor
   B. State
      Member of the Iowa State Republican Convention 1898
   C. National
      Elected to the United States Congress 52nd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th assemblies

7. Death: 29 Sept. 1917, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

8. Children
   Mrs. James B. Brumton; Mrs. A.E. Duncan

9. Names of parents: John M. and Eleanor (Pitty) Lacey
10. Education

Educated in select schools at Oskaloosa, and
attended the Oskaloosa Academy

11. Degrees

12. Other applicable information

- He came with his family to Mahaska County from West Virginia where he had been a school boy. They settled at Oskaloosa, Iowa in 1855.
- He studied law under Samuel A. Rice, who later served under in the Civil War.
  - Was pinned after parole, re-enlisted in Co. D, 33rd Infantry.
- After the war he returned to Oskaloosa.
- He practiced law in Oskaloosa.
- After serving in the United States Congress he returned to his law practice in Oskaloosa.

Republican
## Sources Log For Legislation Entries

### Applicability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Non Applicable</th>
<th>Applicable Information obtained</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Obituary - <em>The Oskaloosa Herald</em>, <em>Oskaloosa</em></td>
<td>Oct. 4, 1913, p.1, col. 6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obituary - <em>The Oskaloosa Herald</em>, <em>Oskaloosa</em></td>
<td>Oct. 12, 1913, p.4, col. 4, 5, 6, 7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Suddenly Summoned by Death Monday Afternoon

MAJOR JOHN F. LACEY

In the enjoyment of robust health and without warning, Oskaloosa's Most Distinguished Citizen was suddenly called to his reward at 12:37 o'clock Monday afternoon. His death felt like a pall over the community and left nearly every citizen in tears.
Major J. F. Lacey Dies Suddenly

Stricken down at his home shortly after noon.

Surrounded by his family

End came almost without warning, shortly after he reached home from his office—had been in robust health.

John Fletcher Lacey, one of Oskaloosa's most distinguished citizens, a pioneer resident, old soldier, lawyer of national reputation, and former representative of the Sixth Iowa district in Congress, died almost instantly at his home at 12:37 o'clock Monday afternoon, of apoplexy.

Major Lacey left his office a little after twelve o'clock and walked to his home, corner North Market street and B avenue. He stopped on the way to say a word and to converse with friends and acquaintances. He seemed in his usual good health and spirits and not a word came from his lips of any indisposition. He walked down the street in his accustomed sprightly manner but did not stop at the Sherburger house for his luncheon as was his usual custom. He continued down the street a half block distant to his residence as he met a member of the family, and then said, "I am not feeling well." I believe I will lie down here for a few moments. Please bring me a glass of water."

The water was at his hand almost on the instant. He seemed in pain as he reached for the water. He held the glass for a moment then his hold relaxed, the glass fell to the floor and the Major dropped back on the couch, dead.

As his distress was noted, those about him became alarmed and one of the family called for the Sherburger home where Dr. E. D. McClean was at lunch. He responded instantly, but before he could reach the house life had fled. The cause of death is given as apoplexy.

Mrs. Lacey was in the room with James B. Brewer of San Francisco, and Mrs. C. E. Sawyer of Oskaloosa.
Major Lacey was a democrat—not in the political sense; but as favoring in all ways a government for the people and by the people. He had implicit faith in American citizenship, and was always ready to bow to the decision of the majority. In the local field he was a citizen of the community in which he lived, he was kind and helpful to all; and he made no social distinctions in his intercourse with men; the poor and the rich, the scholar and the unlettered shared alike in his respect. And so his death is a public loss, and appeals to the sympathy of all our people.

Judge J. L. Waltie in the Burlington Hawk-Eye: "The announcement from Oskaloosa of the sudden death of Major John F. Lacey is a shock to the people of Iowa and to a wide circle of friends and acquaintances in other states. Major Lacey, in his prime, was in the front rank of useful and influential legislators at Washington and was in demand in national campaigns as a platform speaker at republican rallies. The major’s political addresses were always instructive and at the same time interesting to voters. He discussed public questions with candor and fairness, but with an earnestness that commanded respect for sincerity and positiveness of convictions.

"Major Lacey was a prominent member of the strong and famous delegation which Iowa maintained at Washington for many years in the Senate, house and cabinet, and in military and naval circles and subordinate civil positions. The standing and influence of the Iowa delegation in legislation, in home and foreign affairs and, in national politics was no greater than during that period when Senators Allison and Gear, Speaker Henderson and the exceptionally strong representation in the house, Secretaries Wilson and Shaw in the cabinet, and other prominent Iowans and the leaders of the state departments shed lustre upon the proud Hawkeye state. Of this galaxy

As his distress was noted, those about him became alarmed and one of the family called for the Sherburger home where Dr. E. D. McClean was at lunch. He responded instantly, but before he could reach the house life had fled. The cause of death is given as apoplexy.

Mrs. Lacey was in the room with him, as also were his daughters, Mrs. James B. Brewer of San Francisco, and Mrs. C. E. Sawyer of Oskaloosa, and his grand-daughter, Miss Doris Brewer, of San Francisco. His brother and law partner, W. R. Lacy, was summoned and was immediately at the home.

Mr. Lacey seemed suffering: with distress of some character as he entered the house, and put his hand to his breast, but said little; if anything. The happening was all so sudden that no one had a moment’s warning nor could they do anything to relieve him.

Mr. Lacey suffered from a slight indisposition in his office during the forenoon and complained to his stenographer, Miss Lena Rowe, of pain in the region of the stomach. He was twice seized with sickness of the stomach and was relieved by vomiting.

John F. Lacey was a son of John M. and Eleanor Patten Lacey, born at New Martinsville, Virginia, May 30, 1841, and was 72 years, 3 months and 29 days of age at the date of death. The Lacey family came to Mahaska county and Oskaloosa from Wheeling, West Virginia, where John had been a school boy. He continued his study in "select school" in the new home, Oskaloosa, gaining an academic course, and then entered upon the study of law in the office of Gen. Samuel A. Rice, under whom he later served as a major in the Civil war. When a call for troops was sent out, John Lacey was the fifth man in Oskaloosa to get down his name in response, enlisting as a private in Company H of the Third Iowa. As a corporal he was taken prisoner at the battle of Blue Mills and later paroled. He re-enlisted as a private in Company D, 33rd Iowa, Colonel Rice commanding, later became major in the service, and at date of death was honorary colonel of the reunion organization of the survivors of the regiment.

Immediately following his active and varied military career, Major Lacey returned to his home in Oskaloosa and soon after was admitted to the bar. His law practice was as active and busy as his previous life and he accomplished things. He became the author of several works, "Lacey's Railway Digest" being one of the most extensive and best known.

Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.
Judge J. L. Waite in the Burlington
Hawk Eye: "The announcement from
Oskaloosa of the sudden death of Major
John F. Lacey is a shock to the people of Iowa and to a wide circle of
friends and acquaintances in other
states. Major Lacey, in his prime,
was in the front rank of useful
influential legislators at Washington
and was in demand in national
campaigns as a platform speaker at
Republican rallies. The major's political
addresses were always instructive
and at the same time interesting to
voters. He discussed public
questions with candor and fairness, but
with an earnestness that commanded
respect for sincerity and positiveness
of convictions.

"Major Lacey was a prominent
member of the strong and famous
delegation which Iowa maintained at
Washington for many years in the
cabinet and, in military and naval
circles and subordinate
positions. The standing of
influence of Iowa delegations
in legislation, in home and foreign
affairs and in national politics was
never greater than during that period
when Senators Allison and Gear,
Speaker Henderson and the
exceptionally strong representation in
the house, Secretaries Wilson and Shaw
in the cabinet, and other prominent
people on the bench and in other
departments shed lustre upon the
proud Hawkeye state. Of this galaxy
of statesmen, legislators, jurists,
executive officers, and political leaders
Major Lacey was a potent factor.

"Major Lacey was the author of the
Iowa Digest, which bears his name,
published in Des Moines, Iowa
Railway Digest 1875-89. He has contributed
to various publications, on
professional and literary topics, and in
various ways has been a most useful
citizen, and gained a wide circle of
steadfast friends who will mourn his
death.

Made in Mahaska County.
The manufacturers never had as
good a chance to do some splendid
advertising as they will by making
a display in Exhibition Hall at the
Fall Festival. Those who speak
first will get the best place. Mail
that card you received at once.
Don't keep your light hidden under
a bushel. Let the people know that
you are in business.

Prominent Woman Dead
Iowa City, Sept. 30.—Mrs. Annie
Keller, wife of Dr. T. F. Keller,
is dead — the result of an operation
for injuries. Death came unforeseen
hours after the operation. She is the
daughter of Dr. T. F. Keller
and his wife.

The family are in receipt of
a number of telegrams from the
family at the burial service.

He was elected president of the
State Bar Association in June, this
year, at the Sioux City meeting.

John Lacey was a hard worker, a
man of tireless energy, and death stilled
his activities. He was widely traveled
both at home and abroad and
possessed a wonderful knowledge of
his country. His resources and its
needs. He will be missed by the state in

Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.
TRIBUTES TO MAJOR LACEY.

Major S. H. M. Byers: "I am deeply shocked at Major Lacey's sudden and unexpected death. I knew him inti- mately since boyhood. We were boys together in the public schools-

Major Lacey was one of the brightest men I have ever known. For twenty years we were thrown together in our law practice, he at Ossebuck and I at Lacey. We were lifelong friends, and I was proud to have been associated with him.

Major Lacey was one of the most in-

hnfluent men in Congress. He was a man of fine character and was active in the conservation fight.

As chairman of the committee on forestry he showed himself to be a skillful and able manager of the country's forest and wildlife preserve. He was a man of splendid ability.

Re. H. V.: "The passing away of our valued fellow citizen and friend, Major John P. Lacey, has ap-

An eloquent tribute to Major Lacey was made by S. H. M. Byers, who said: "Major Lacey was one of the most influential men in Congress. He was of fine character and was active in the conservation fight. As chairman of the committee on forestry he showed himself to be a skillful and able manager of the country's forest and wildlife preserve. He was a man of splendid ability.

Made in Mahaska County.

The citizens of Mahaska County had the good fortune to have so many fine men, and among them was a deeply respected citizen of all ages and stations. When the news of Major Lacey's death spread throughout the county, it was with sadness and mourning that the people of Mahaska County learned of the passing of their beloved leader. The citizens of Mahaska County paid tribute to Major Lacey as a man of high character and great ability. His death was a loss to the county and to the nation.

Prominent Woman Dead.

Des Moines, Aug. 30—Mrs. Anna S. Lacey, 57, died at her home in Des Moines on Tuesday morning. Mrs. Lacey was the wife of the late John P. Lacey, who was a well-known lawyer and politician in the state. Mrs. Lacey was a prominent figure in the political life of the state and was widely respected for her contribution to public service. She was a member of the Democratic party and was active in many political campaigns. Mrs. Lacey was also a prominent businesswoman who owned and operated a successful business in Des Moines. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and was active in many community organizations.

She was the mother of three children and was survived by her husband, John P. Lacey; a son, John S. Lacey; and a daughter, Anna Lacey.

Mrs. Lacey's death was a great loss to the community, and her memory will be long remembered.
WOMAN IS URGED TO TAKE POISON

HER BABE GIVEN THE DRUG BY MASKED FIEND FIRST.

CHILD DEAD; MOTHER MAY DIE

Fire of Unknown Origin Destroys Ice House of Rock Island Ry., at Valley Junction—Three Other Ice Houses Badly Scorched.

Mason City, Oct. 3.—After telling the police that a mysterious man with a flour sack on his head had poisoned her and her baby because she refused to place poison in the food of Lewis Chlirikis, a boarder, Mrs. Alda Holcomb Burgess confessed to the police that she killed her child and took the poison herself because of threats from Chlirikis, who was the father of the child. Mrs. Burgess admitted improper relations with Chlirikis before her marriage to Allen E. Burgess, March 31st. The child was born July 1st. Mrs. Burgess is in the hospital recovering from a small amount of poison taken when she killed the child late yesterday. Her parents live at Anwood, Minnesota.

Ice House Destroyed at Des Moines.

Des Moines, Oct. 3.—Fire of unknown origin burned to the ground an ice house in the Valley Junction yards of the Rock Island lines about 3 a.m. today. The fire destroyed wires between the shops and Des Moines which stopped communication for several hours. The Rock Island had three other ice houses which were scorched. The building was about 75 by 30 and the loss was over $5,000.

Convicted of Lewdness.

LeMars, Oct. 3.—After a four days trial James DeViney was convicted in district court of lewd acts. The case is one of those started last spring when a clean up crusade was inaugurated. Ed Sineord pleaded guilty to arson and was sentenced to five years in a neighbor against whom he set fire to the hay stacks.
LACEY, John Fletcher, 1841-1913

LACEY, John Fletcher, a Representative from Iowa; born in New Martinsville, Va. (now West Virginia), May 30, 1841; moved to Iowa in 1855 with his parents, who settled in Oskaloosa; attended the common schools and pursued classical studies; engaged in agricultural pursuits; learned the trades of bricklaying and plastering; enlisted in Company H, Third Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Infantry, in May 1861 and afterward served in Company D, Thirty-third Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Infantry, as sergeant major, and as lieutenant in Company C of that regiment; promoted to assistant adjutant general; studied law; was admitted to the bar in 1865 and commenced practice in Oskaloosa, Iowa; member of the Iowa house of representatives in 1870; elected city councilman in 1880; served one term as city solicitor; temporary chairman of the Republican State convention in 1898; served on the city council 1880-1883; elected as a Republican to the Fifty-first Congress (March 4, 1889-March 3, 1891); unsuccessful candidate for reelection; elected to the Fifty-third and to the six succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1893-March 3, 1907); chairman, Committee on Public Lands (Fifty-fourth through Fifty-ninth Congresses); was an unsuccessful candidate for reelection; resumed the practice of law; died in Oskaloosa, Iowa, September 29, 1913; interment in Forest Cemetery.
Bibliography