

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Harrison, Jesse Senator \_\_\_\_\_

Represented Black Hawk County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 22 Oct. 1821 Richmond, Indiana

2. Marriage (s) date place  
① Mary Cadwalller 1 Jan 1840 Indiana

② Jennie (Janie) Hahn 31 May 1855

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business \_\_\_\_\_

B. Civic responsibilities G.A.R.; Mason;

C. Profession Physician; merchant; newspaper editor

4. Church membership Belonged to no church

5. Sessions served 13<sup>th</sup> General Assembly 1870

6. Public Offices

A. Local Justice of the Peace of La Porte City; first postmaster; first merchant with Dr. Hahn as his clerk

B. State \_\_\_\_\_

C. National \_\_\_\_\_

7. Death 15 May 1889 La Porte City, Iowa; buried Historic Cemetery, La Porte City, Iowa

8. Children Navy; Elmer; Burton S.; Jesse C.; George H.; Alice (Mrs. H. H. Picknell); Addie (predeceased her father in death); Maudie (predeceased her father in death)

9. Names of parents Jahiel and Lydia (Bond) Harrison

10. Education

11. Degrees

He was a graduate of the Indiana Medical College in February 1847

12. Other applicable information

- Whig / Later Republican
- He first settled at Canton, Iowa
  - He came to the area in early spring of 1855. He moved the town La Porte City, Iowa) from his old home La Porte, Indiana. In Jan 1855 Wesley Whipple surveyed and platted the town site.
  - He erected the first building designed as a store and residence
  - In 1856 he erected a saw mill near the railroad bridge.
  - Military service - Civil War - 9<sup>th</sup> Iowa Cavalry Surgeon in 32<sup>nd</sup> Iowa Infantry, later surgeon in 8<sup>th</sup> Company 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry
  - He divorced his first wife, Mary (Caldwell) Hanson.
  - For many years he was proprietor of the La Porte City Progress newspaper

## Sources Log For Legislation Entries

## Applicability

- | Source  | Non Applicable | Applicable | Information obtained                        |
|---|----------------|------------|---|
| - <u>Obituary - The La Porte City Review, La Porte City, Iowa</u>                   |                |            |   |
|   |                |            | Thurs. May 16, 1889, p. 4, col. 4           |
|   |                |            | findagrave.com (accessed 28 Jan 2009)       |
| - <u>Obituary - The Waterloo Courier, Waterloo, Iowa</u>                            |                |            |   |
|   |                |            | Wed. May 22, 1889, p. 8, col. 6             |
| - <u>GAR Records</u>  |                |            |   |
| - <u>ancestry.com (accessed 21 Feb 2009)</u>  |                |            |   |
| - <u>rootsweb.com (accessed 21 Feb 2009)</u>  |                |            |   |
| - <u>Obituary - The Waterloo Courier, Waterloo, Iowa</u>                            |                |            |   |
|   |                |            | Wed. May 22, 1889, p. 8, col. 6             |
| - <u>Historical and Biographical Record of Bland and Boone Counties, Iowa 1886,</u> |                |            |   |
|   |                |            | p. 430-433                                  |
| - <u>Historical Narratives of La Porte City, Iowa from rootsweb.com</u>             |                |            |   |
|   |                |            | (accessed 31 Feb 2009)                      |
| - <u>Obituary - The Iowa State Register, Waterloo, Iowa</u>                         |                |            |   |
|   |                |            | Thurs. May 16, 1889, p. 1, col. 3           |
| - <u>Article telling of death - The Waterloo Courier, Waterloo, Iowa</u>            |                |            |   |
|   |                |            | Wed. Dec. 11, 1889, p. 5, col. 5            |
| - <u>The United States Biographical Dictionary, Iowa Volume 1870, p. 348-349</u>    |                |            |   |
|   |                |            | Andrew Reid 1875, p. 182 - Jesse Foxon home |



*J. Adams*



they left here for Friday night.

R. C. Wangler has past week, at times tired of. On Monday she took a more yesterday she was air way for recovery. news to her many

of Mr. and Mrs. R. en very ill for sev- t was much better

en has been confined veral days with an ever, but is now get- ill be around again

The Chicago papers of ing all contained a the following which he *Inter Ocean*:

the name of a man Iowa, who, a few name to the city to as since mysterious- He was in the habit the office of E. C. ockery Building, but has not heard of ey's habits, so far as e most correct order. ightens the mystery disappearance. He is

ch name as A. C. y directory nor is he ostoffice. On Friday, was received here . A. C. Dooley." The he envelope was a it was postmarked e letter has not been

ersonals.

odruff, of Dubuque, ends in this city. She ractive ladies who is e Merchants, Carnival, of the extensive boot acturing establishment . Allentown, Pa., Sun- ving. We are indebted asant call.

f Sioux City, has been a few days past on om a trip east.

arrison, of Blooming- er of H. J. Harrison, city visiting his mother for several days past. ft Waterloo 22 years ago a visit six years since. rs past he has been in Graham Bros., of Chil- sling man. He handles perfumeries, &c.

yman and baby, of Min- isiting Mrs. W.'s par- Mrs. G. R. Crittenden,

ury has gone to Omaha tion of representative Rowell Grove Co. there. who has occupied that eturn to Waterloo.

leaves to-night for an eapan tour. He will interest in the British attend the Paris expo- ll return in August.

of Chicago, a brother of this city, has been here 's past on business.

Partridge, of Le Mars, g her parents, Mr. and Evans.

s. W. Mead, of Rockford, home yesterday morn- ings' visiting with

ron, of Davenport, for- City, was in town on last week.

Death of Dr. Jesse Wasson.

Our citizens were shocked to hear, last Wednesday afternoon, of the death of Dr. Jesse Wasson, which occurred at his home in La Porte City at 10 o'clock that morning. Dr. Wasson had been confined to his house for some time but it was reported that he had been somewhat better for a few days. Dr. Wasson was one of the earliest settlers of this section, coming to Vinton in 1853 and to this county in 1855. He was born in Richmond, Indiana, October 22, 1821. He studied medicine and graduated from the Indiana Medical College in February, 1847. In the spring of 1855 he came to this county from Vinton, and purchased 20 acres of land in Big Creek township, a part of which is included in the present location of La Porte City. In June, 1855, Dr. Wasson and a gentleman named Catlin engaged Wesley Whipple to survey and plat a townsite which the Doctor named La Porte City, in honor of La Porte, Indiana, where he had resided for some time before coming west. In July, 1855, the plat of the town was filed for record. In April of that year Dr. Wasson erected the first building on the townsite. It occupied the location where the postoffice building now stands and was designed as a store and residence. In 1856 he also erected a saw mill near the present railroad bridge.

Dr. Wasson was the first justice of the peace at La Porte City and the first postmaster and, during the first year of his term in the latter position, he paid for the carrying of the mail to La Porte City himself. He was also the first merchant in that place and ex-Gov. B. R. Sherman clerked in his store for several years.

Dr. Wasson entered the service in 1862, as Assistant Surgeon of the 23d Iowa and afterwards became Surgeon of the 9th Iowa Cavalry. In 1870 he established the La Porte City *Progress*, the first paper published there, and has been connected with it ever since. He was a member of the 13th General Assembly and was for three years, beginning in 1875, mayor of La Porte City. He was an esteemed member of the Masonic fraternity, being connected with Trowel Lodge, of La Porte City, and Tabernacle Chapter and Ascalon Commandery, of this city.

In 1840, Dr. Wasson was married to Miss Mary Cadwallader and to them six children were born, of whom one son and three daughters are living. In 1855 he was again married to Miss Jennie Haun, of Benton county, who survives him. To them were born three sons, who now reside in La Porte City, the eldest, Buren S., having been postmaster in La Porte City during the administration of Cleveland. Two daughters were also born, both of whom died during the past few years.

The funeral ceremonies were conducted from the late residence of the deceased at 11 a. m. last Friday and, in spite of the rain, there was a very large attendance. The services were conducted by the Masonic fraternity, and a large number of the members of Ascalon Commandery, of this city, were present. Business was generally suspended during the funeral, and the different organizations at La Porte City joined in showing respect to the memory of the deceased. Dr. Wasson was universally esteemed by all who knew him. In his home life he was kind and loving and to all he was obliging and courteous. In public affairs he was enterprising and always ready to aid in the upbuilding of town and county and will be greatly missed by every one.

Severe Hail Storm

Shortly after midnight 1 day morning, one of th storms that has visited this some time came up. The was almost continuous an fell in torrents. About 2:3 hail storm commenced about ten minutes. Hail si ing in size from a marble egg fell but, fortunately, th the wind. As it was, howe number of window lights w in different parts of the liams' green house suffere about 250 lights of glass be Skylights in a number of t blocks were badly shatter east side school building lo of lights. Garden stuff wa erally cut up and the trees leaves as though struck w Fruit was somewhat injur and other grains were fort far enough advanced to s The following reports froi ing towns show the ex storm:

The hail storm of las morning was quite genera of here, was very severe. shalltown *Times-Republica* day evening says:

"The conductor on the passenger going west this authority for the stateme ehaniessville was visited hail storm, at a little afte this morning. He says th fell measuring from five tc in circumference and n was done. All the wind the south side of No. 4 ed."

The Webster City *Free* the storm in Hamilton co

"During the rains th pretty generally througth cy last Thursday, hail stc as the yolk of a hen's egg ilton and Webster towns quantities, while in th Stratford chunks of ic pound and over were pic the rain."

A dispatch from C Thursday evening stat storm was very severe stones nearly covered th about two to the square this section were fully as eggs. Some measured seven and one-half inch ference. Reliable perso ing even larger ones. ground the hail stones er selves out of sight. Son of trees were cut off a was slightly injured. and photograph gallerie verely and there was con age done in general in small tornado did stig houses near town.

A Clinton, Iowa, disp the storm did much d: dows and skylights. O haps none remaining stones as large as wald even measuring five, eight inches in circ largest ever seen there. birds were killed, and s greatly damaged. Grai ed. One hot-house ir 10,000 panes of glass. Lyons, Comanche, Lo Clarence and Stanwood damage. The storm w miles in width and w quite low temperature.

Thursday afternoon small cyclone struck th ner, Bremer county. small buildings were roof of the bank build siderably damaged and

THE UNITED STATES  
BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY

AND

PORTRAIT GALLERY

OF

EMINENT AND SELF-MADE MEN.

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IOWA VOLUME.

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CHICAGO AND NEW YORK:  
AMERICAN BIOGRAPHICAL PUBLISHING COMPANY.

1878.

soon afterward becoming surgeon of the 37th Illinois Infantry, with which he served until May, 1866, when the regiment was mustered out. Although the war was nearly over when Dr. Morgan went into the service, he had considerable field practice, and it was a good school to him. While a student at Keokuk, where there was a general hospital during the civil war, he had excellent opportunities for hospital duties, and did not neglect them. He has since reaped the benefits of such opportunities.

In the summer of 1866 we find Dr. Morgan once more at De Witt, where he continues to practice with increasing skill and a growing reputation. In 1870 he spent a short time at the medical college at Keokuk, brushing up his knowledge and receiving a diploma. He is United States examining surgeon,

and has an excellent standing both as a medical practitioner and surgeon.

Dr. Morgan is a Freemason, an Odd-Fellow, and a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, but gives to such organizations no time that would interfere with his profession. He is a member of the county and state medical societies, has read several papers before the former body, and avails himself of every opportunity to improve in medical knowledge. In politics, he is a republican.

On the 6th of June, 1866, Miss Eliza Reed, of Mingo, Champaign county, Ohio, became his wife, and they have had three children, only two of whom are now living. Mrs. Morgan was educated at the high school at Marion, Ohio, and is a woman of more than ordinary intelligence.

## JESSE WASSON, M. D.,

### LAPORTE CITY.

THE founder of Laporte City, Black Hawk county, Iowa, Jesse Wasson, was the son of Jehiel and Lydia Wasson, and was born in Richmond, Indiana, on the 21st of October, 1821. Both parents were Friends, and early instilled into the mind of Jesse and the nine sisters whom he had the noblest principles of virtue and rectitude. Jehiel Wasson was a blacksmith, with very limited means, and as his son had to enter the shop at an early age to aid his father in supporting the family, he enjoyed but scanty educational privileges, so far as attending school furnished them, but he made the best use of all spare time, and at the age of eighteen prevailed on his father to take him into partnership, with the understanding that the son should work ten hours a day and have the rest of his time for study. Without any one to teach him he did the best he could, giving every leisure moment to books, scientific and historical. At the age of twenty he took up law books, but at the end of one year, in compliance with the wishes of his mother, who always had great influence over him, he exchanged them for medical works. He pursued his studies until his twenty-fifth year, and graduated at the Indiana Medical College, in February, 1847. He practiced in New Buffalo, Michigan, and La Porte, Indiana, until 1853, when he removed to Iowa and resumed practice in Vinton, Benton county. The next year Dr. Wasson purchased the land on which Laporte City now

stands, and which he laid out in June, 1855. He put up a store and filled it with a general variety of merchandise. He continued the mercantile business four or five years, in connection with medical practice, and then sold the store, continuing his profession.

Dr. Wasson is the publisher of the Laporte City "Progress," which he started in November, 1870, and which is devoted to the interests of the town and county.

In 1862 Dr. Wasson was appointed assistant surgeon of the 32d regiment of Iowa Infantry, serving in that capacity about nine months, when he became surgeon of the 9th regiment of Cavalry. After serving for eighteen months, owing to sickness, he was sent to Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, and in February, 1865, owing to physical disability, he was honorably discharged from the service.

Dr. Wasson was the first postmaster at Laporte City, and served four years, from June, 1855. He was the first supervisor of the township under the old system, and has since held the same office at different times. He represented Black Hawk county in the lower house of the general assembly in 1870-71. For the last two years he has been mayor of Laporte City.

Dr. Wasson is a member of the Masonic lodge in his place. He was a whig, then a republican, and since 1872 has voted the liberal and reform ticket.

He belongs to no church, but has a strong predilection for the religion of his parents.

On the 31st of May, 1855, he was married to Miss Junia Haun, of Benton county. They have had six children, five living.

Dr. Wasson is a "solid man." He weighs about three hundred and twenty pounds, yet his height

is only five feet and eleven inches. He has rendered good service to the country in the army, good service to the state in the legislature, good service to the county in various capacities, and good service to Laporte City in giving it a local habitation and a name, a newspaper, and a good reputation for intelligence.

## COLONEL TRISTRAM T. DOW,

DAVENPORT.

TRISTRAM THOMAS DOW, president of the First National Bank, Davenport, was born on the 2d of November, 1825, in Canterbury, New Hampshire, and is the son of Tristram C. and Susannah (Lyford) Dow, natives of the same state. On the paternal side our subject is descended from English stock, who settled in Canterbury about the beginning of the last century, and on the maternal side from Scotch ancestors, who came to reside in Massachusetts about the same period. His father was a farmer in good circumstances, a gentleman who stood high in the estimation of the community, and in which he exercised considerable influence. He was a captain in the war of 1812, and served throughout that campaign under command of General John A. Dix, of New York. His parents set a good example to their children, and are remembered by them with feelings of deepest reverence and admiration. They died in the fall of 1875, the father aged eighty-four and the mother seventy-eight years.

Tristram T. Dow was educated at the common schools of Boscawen and Franklin, New Hampshire, where he received a liberal education. His youth and early manhood were passed on his father's farm, where he obtained a practical knowledge of husbandry, as well as a taste for agricultural pursuits.

From the age of eighteen to twenty years he was clerk in a country store, where every variety of goods needed for the economy of house, person or farm was sold, so that ere he had attained his majority his mind had undergone a most thorough discipline, fitting him for almost any sphere of industry which in after life he might desire to adopt.

In the year 1854 he moved west with his parents, and settled in Bureau county, Illinois, where his father purchased a large farm, in the management of which he aided till 1854, when he opened a large

country store in Anawan, Henry county, Illinois, which was conducted with marked success for a period of thirteen years, and discontinued in 1867.

In August, 1862, he, feeling that he could no longer disregard the call of his country, then in the throes of a gigantic and causeless rebellion, enlisted as a private in the 112th Illinois Infantry, and on the organization of the regiment was elected to the command of company A, and commissioned as captain by Governor Yates. In the month of February following he was promoted to the rank of major, and from that period till the 1st of April, 1865, he was generally in command of the regiment, the original commander, Thomas J. Henderson, having been promoted to brigadier-general, and the lieutenant-colonel being on detached duty. At the last named date he was transferred to the regular army by the president, and placed on duty as inspector-general of the twenty-third army corps, General J. D. Cox, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, in which capacity he served till the 20th of June, 1865, when he resigned his commission and returned to Illinois. Soon after he received, unsolicited and without any previous intimation, from the war department, a commission as first-lieutenant in the 44th United States Regular Infantry, but declined it, on the exalted ground that he would never make a profession of arms, to which only principle could call him.

Colonel Dow's military record is not less brilliant and honorable than any of the distinguished soldiers furnished by the State of Illinois. He did his whole duty, and his services will be remembered by a grateful country, and cherished as a precious souvenir by his children and children's children. He led his regiment through all the campaigns of General Burnside and General Sherman. Fought on the bloody fields of Knoxville, Campbell's Station, and Philadelphia, in East Tennessee, and at Resaca,

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Like the faint music of our dreams  
 Their voices come to us to-day.

The sounding sea, and rocks, and hills,  
 Have echoed the grand march of time;  
 But life that human nature thrills  
 Has made the passing years sublime.  
 Waterloo, April 30, 1889. \*\*

**Death of Dr. Jesse Wasson.**

Dr. Jesse Wasson, one of the oldest residents of this county, died at his home in Laporte City yesterday morning. He has been in poor health for some time and his death was not unexpected. The deceased was born in Richmond, Indiana, October 22, 1821, his family afterwards moving to Laporte, same state, where he was educated and where he grew to manhood. In 1844 he entered the Indiana Medical College, and graduated in February, 1847. He came to Iowa in 1853, and lived for a short time at Vinton, moving to this county in 1855, purchasing twenty acres of land, a portion of which is now the present town of Laporte City, which was named after his old Indiana home. He was the first physician in that section and we believe the first merchant, conducting a mercantile establishment there for several years, with Ex-Gov. B. R. Sherman, then a young man, as principal clerk.

Dr. Wasson has always been an active citizen of his town, public-spirited and liberal-minded, aiding freely in public enterprises of all kinds. He was the first postmaster of the town, and his son has for four years filled the same position his father occupied over thirty years ago. He has also been justice of the peace, supervisor, and mayor of the town, and represented Blackhawk county in the thirteenth general assembly.

Dr. Wasson entered the service of his country in September, 1862, serving as assistant surgeon of the 32d Iowa regiment, and was afterwards promoted to surgeon of the 9th Iowa cavalry.

For a number of years he was the active editor of the Laporte City *Progress*, and was a vigorous writer and an earnest defender of his faith.

He was an active member of the Masonic fraternity, serving as master of his home lodge for many years. He was also a member of Ascalon Commandery, K. T., of this city.

The funeral will be held at Laporte City on Friday morning at 11 o'clock, and in accordance with his wishes the services will be conducted by Ascalon Commandery.

**Graduating Exercises.**

The twelfth annual graduating exercises of the east side high school will take place at Brown's opera house Friday evening, May 17th, at which time a class of ten, six boys and four girls will receive diplomas. Reserved

tion and commu  
 run during his

Thirty-two special trains of the Ill. Central Agent S. A was in the city Waverly. He evening.

The Illinois parations for a bridges on its I expected the wo early in June.

The C., St. special stock were thirty-five signed to Chicago from the St. Jo

Conductor T. Central, has taken Waterloo, having run from Cherokee. a run on the eas

Twelve refrigerators weekly for regular from this station quite an item of all cars coming plished from here.

The Diagonal bourne was robbed of clothes last Thursday five dollars of the funds, the remainder railroad company thief.

Sioux Falls of C. R. and N. and way companies : temsions of their this season. But said, are backbit companies.

A slight accident Ill. Central at N hand-hole plate No. 147 broke, w in the boiler to gine, No. 51, w the train had t hours until it ar

The Milwaukee company has made B., C. R. and N. business between Estherville, whi donment of the twenty-two mile Burlington, and ing business.

The contemplators running take place yesterday and the change v until about the fi tral folks have s tors that it is pre things fixed up s

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they cover a period ranging from Oct. 13, 1888, to Nov. 27. In some cases the children are nearly old enough to read the official announcement of their birth.

DEATHS REPORTED.

Baby Christiansen, Blackhawk, died Sept. 27th, cholera infantum, aged 4 months and 5 days.

Mary Rath, Laporte, died Sept. 24th, diphtheria, aged 5 years, 6 months.

Grover Rath, Laporte, diphtheria, aged 1 year, 5 months.

Sophia Rath, Laporte, pneumonia, aged 31 years.

Caroline Page, Laporte, entristis, died Jan. 4th, 1889, aged 72 years.

— Kolb, Laporte, died April 22d, 1889, pertussis, aged 6 months.

Bridget Emmet, Eagle, died July 28th, 1889, pelvic abscess, aged 39 years.

Jesse Wasson, Laporte, died May 15th, 1889, heart disease, aged 67 years.

— Taylor, Spring Creek, senility, died Sept. 14th, 1889, aged 79 years.

— Ranbanser, Laporte, apoplexy, died May 28th, 1889, aged 50 years.

Elizabeth Bahr, Laporte, cardiac paralysis, died May 15th, 1889, aged 69 years.

Christian Rusch, Waterloo, dropsy, died Jan. 7th, 1889, aged 63 years.

Mrs. C. L. Small, Waterloo, heart failure, died Jan. 8th, 1889, aged 28 years.

Mrs. Thomas Skillman, Waterloo, ovarian tumor, died April 28th, 1889, aged 40 years.

Katie A. Hirsh, Barclay, cholera infantum, died Sept. 18th, 1889, aged 6 months, 22 days.

Dr. Jaque's German Worm Cakes destroy worms and remove them from the system.

A man named Kelly, who was property man for McCabe & Young's minstrels which showed here recently, has got into trouble. On Tuesday night of last week, the company exhibited at DeWitt. During the afternoon a little three-year-old daughter of Alexander Barr, of that place, had sung for some of the minstrels, she being a musical prodigy. In the evening just before the show commenced it was discovered that the little one was missing and Kelly was gone also. After a long

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# HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL



OF

## Black Hawk County, Iowa.

CONTAINING PORTRAITS OF ALL THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES FROM WASHINGTON TO CLEVELAND, WITH ACCOMPANYING BIOGRAPHIES OF EACH; A CONDENSED HISTORY OF THE STATE OF IOWA; PORTRAITS AND BIOGRAPHIES OF THE GOVERNORS OF THE STATE; ENGRAVINGS OF THE PIONEERS AND MEN OF MARK IN BLACK HAWK COUNTY, WITH PERSONAL HISTORIES OF MANY OF THE LEADING FAMILIES, AND A COMPLETE HISTORY OF BLACK HAWK COUNTY, AND ITS CITIES AND VILLAGES.

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THE INTER-STATE PUBLISHING COMPANY,

113 ADAMS STREET, CHICAGO.

1886.

ther living in Central City, Iowa. Of the three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Clark but two are living—Minerva L., wife of Edward Haymond, and Lizzie J. Elliott is deceased. In politics Mr. Clark is a Democrat. He has served his township as school director and takes an active interest in educational matters. Mrs. Clark is a member of the Brethren church.



**W**ESSE WASSON, M. D.—To the faithful, skilled and successful labors of Dr. Wasson too high a tribute cannot be paid. Forty-five years' experience as a practitioner have given him a reputation of which any man might well be proud. Through all these years he has been devoted to his profession, and day and night has responded to the calls of the sick, bringing to their bedside a knowledge of disease, that was the result of close study and experience. His friends feared lest his arduous duties should undermine his own health, but his strong constitution and observance of sanitary laws enabled him to live to enjoy the highest walks to be obtained in the medical profession. Dr. Wasson was born in Richmond, Indiana, October 22, 1821, a son of Jehiel and Lydia Wasson, natives of North Carolina. He was reared to manhood in La Porte, Indiana, whither his parents moved when he was thirteen years of age. He received a good common-school education in his youth, and in 1844 entered the Indiana Medical College, at La Porte, from which he graduated in February, 1847. Soon after his graduation, he located in New Buffalo, Michigan, where for a time he practiced his profession, and then returned to La Porte, where he remained until 1853. In the latter year he came to Iowa and lived for a short time in Vinton, Benton County. In 1855 he came to Black

Hawk County, and bought twenty acres of land, a part of which is now the site of La Porte City, and the same year surveyed and laid out the town, naming it in honor of his old home in Indiana. For the first few years after coming to the county he engaged in the mercantile business in connection with his medical practice, ex-Governor B. R. Sherman, then a young man in his employ, conducting the business. He was the first physician to locate in his section of the county, and soon built up a good practice, which gradually increased as the country grew, and his skill became known. Since 1870 he has devoted considerable attention to journalism, being the editor of the *Progress*, a paper devoted to the interests of his town and county. In 1880, he with G. W. Hayzlett, bought the buildings and started a cheese factory and creamery, of which he became sole owner in 1884. As a citizen, Dr. Wasson has always been foremost in enterprises that have had for their object the bettering of the condition of the people by advancing their public and private interests, and La Porte City would have been far in advance of what it now is if more had been as diligent and liberal as he in the use of their time and means for its improvement. He was a member of the Thirteenth General Assembly of the State of Iowa, and by his untiring efforts secured for La Porte City, through the Legislature, the first convenient postal facilities. He was the first postmaster appointed at La Porte, serving from 1855 till 1860, and was also the first justice of the peace. He has served as mayor of La Porte City four years and has served several terms on the Board of Supervisors of Black Hawk County, and is an untiring worker in all interests of benefit to the county at large, his zeal not being confined alone to the city where he resides. He is at present interested in the building of a railroad, and is one of its leading promoters,

as it will be of lasting benefit to the city of La Porte, which it is hoped it will reach at no distant day. Thus it will be seen, that not alone as a skilled physician is Dr. Wasson esteemed, but his unselfish, noble character and liberal public-spiritedness have endeared him to the hearts of all, and long after his form has ceased to be seen on our streets and his voice heard in our homes will his memory be green in the hearts of those who have loved and honored him. Dr. Wasson enlisted in September, 1862, and was assigned to the Thirty-second Iowa Infantry as its Assistant Surgeon. He served in this capacity nine months, when he was promoted to Surgeon of the Ninth Iowa Cavalry, and served until February, 1865, when on account of physical disability he was obliged to resign. He is now a prominent member of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization in which he is much interested. In politics he has always been a staunch Democrat. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Trowel Lodge, No. 216. Dr. Wasson was married May 31, 1855, to Junia Haun, of Benton County, and to them have been born five children, four of whom are living—Buren S., Jesse G., George H. and Maud.

**T**HOMAS EDWARDS, farmer and stock-raiser, section 20, Big Creek Township, was born in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, January 2, 1822, a son of Everett and Anna (White) Edwards. He was reared in his native State, and there married, in 1850, to Sarah Haffer, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1830. In 1870 they went to Iowa and settled in Black Hawk County, and now have one of the best farms in Big Creek Township, containing 160 acres, valued at \$40 an acre. His residence and farm buildings are commodious and con-

venient, and his farm shows the result of having a thrifty and energetic owner. Mr. Edwards is a public-spirited citizen, taking an active interest in all that pertains to the benefit of his community, and a liberal supporter of all worthy enterprises. He has a family of ten children—Ellen, Lottie, Baker L., Hattie, Phœbe, Caroline, Asher D., Anisè, Ida and Emma. Baker L. is a young man of industrious and economical habits, and now has the management of the farm. Mr. Edwards is a member of the Methodist Episcopal, and his wife of the Lutheran church.

**R**L. LELAND, section 25, Mount Vernon Township, is a native of New York City, born December 11, 1833, a son of Ambrose and Elizabeth (Knapp) Leland. His father was born in Middlesex County, Massachusetts, January 2, 1803, and his mother was born January 27, 1803, in Nassau, Rensselaer County, New York. They came to Black Hawk County, Iowa, in the spring of 1855, with their three children—George, Henry P. and Ambrose, all of whom are now living in Waterloo Township. Their sister, Mrs. Sarah C. Link, came from her home in Rensselaer County, New York, in the fall of 1885 and bought a house in Waterloo where she intends to make her home. Our subject's mother is making her home with him. His father died in Waterloo, March 8, 1865, and is buried in Waterloo cemetery. R. L. was married February 22, 1852, to Rachel M. Cole, who was born in Nassau, Rensselaer County, New York, August 8, 1831, a daughter of John and Phœbe (Cook) Cole, natives of Dutchess County, New York, who are now deceased, the mother dying in February, 1882, in her eighty-ninth year. To Mr. and Mrs. Leland have been born



DISCOVER M

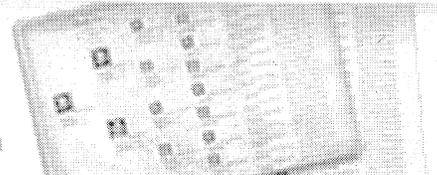
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**Entries:** 16659 **Updated:** Sun Jun 25 18:19:42 2000

**Contact:** Ned Horton, James Garner and cousins

[ned@hortongroup.com](mailto:ned@hortongroup.com)

**Home Page:** [Horton Family Genealogy](#) (includes WALTON, HENNEGAN, etc.)

1800 to 1900, Indiana and Ohio to Kansas; Plus New England Pilgrims and Ontario Settlers

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- **ID:** I1994
- **Name:** **Jesse WASSON**
- **Given Name:** Jesse
- **Surname:** Wasson
- **Sex:** M
- **Birth:** 22 OCT 1821
- **Death:** 15 MAY 1889 in Indiana
- **Reference Number:** 1148
- **Change Date:** 24 DEC 1999 at 08:11:30

**Father:** [Jehiel WASSON](#) b: 16 JAN 1800

**Mother:** [Lydia BOND](#) b: 3 FEB 1800 in North Carolina

**Marriage 1** [Mary CADWALLADER](#)

- **Married:** 1 JAN 1840 in Indiana

**Children**

1. [Henry WASSON](#)
2. [Elenora WASSON](#)
3. [Henry WASSON](#)
4. [Elenora WASSON](#)

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

Family Web Site : <http://www.hortongroup.com>

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



W

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You searched for **Jesse Wasson** in **Iowa**[All 1870 United States Federal Census Results](#)

## 1870 United States Federal Census

Name: **Jesse Wasson**

Estimated Birth: abt 1823  
Year:

Age in 1870: 47

Birthplace: Indiana

Home in 1870: Big Creek, Black Hawk, Iowa

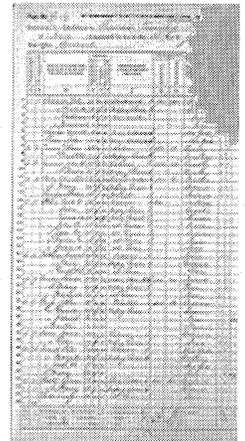
Race: White

Gender: Male

Value of real estate: [View Image](#)

Post Office: Waterloo

Household Members:	Name	Age
	<a href="#">Jesse Wasson</a>	47
	<a href="#">Jennie Wasson</a>	36
	<a href="#">Addie Wasson</a>	12
	<a href="#">Buren Wasson</a>	10
	<a href="#">Jesse Wasson</a>	6
	<a href="#">George Wasson</a>	2

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[Save](#)

**Source Citation:** Year: 1870; Census Place: Big Creek, Black Hawk, Iowa; Roll: M593\_37. Page: 321; Image: 48.

**Source Information:**

Ancestry.com. 1870 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., 2003. Original data: 1870.



PROFESSIONAL DISTRICT



RESIDENCE OF HON. J. WASSON M. D. LA PORTE CITY, IOWA.

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First Name

Last Name

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## Historical Narrative of La Porte City, IA

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Prior to 1850 the population of Black Hawk county was composed of people of a migratory disposition, and although the first settlements were made as early as 1844 the pioneers seem to have preferred to spend their time in hunting, trapping, and trading with the Indians. But that migratory and roving population soon disappeared and in its stead came a sturdy and determined class of men and women who went to work with a will to establish themselves permanently and to develop the resources of the country.

The first actual settler within what is now known as the corporate limits of La Porte City was one James Hamer, who settled here in 1853. He was like many of the first comers to the county - a rover, and after remaining here for a few years took up his journey westward. In the same year, 1853, George Cook located here and became owner of a large body of land, embracing that included in the original plat of La Porte City. In 1854 John A Dees platted a town site on the north side of Big Creek under the name of Ottawa, and soon afterwards opened up negotiations for the sale of the same to Dr. Jesse Wasson, then living in Vinton.

Dr. Wasson came here to investigate the site, but believing that the south side of the creek offered the best site for a town, he at once purchased a large acreage of ground including the land on which the original town of La Porte is located. His Vinton partner, Joel W Catlin, was associated with him in the deal. Both moved here in 1855 and by the middle of May of the same year they had erected a store room 18 x 50 feet on the corner where the K of P building now stands.

To supply this store they purchased goods in Boston and had them shipped to La Porte, Iowa, the name of the town being suggested by Dr. Wasson, whose early life had been spent in La Porte, Indiana.

The first plat of the town was made by Wesley Whipple on June 5th, 1855, the original proprietors being Dr. Jesse Wasson, Junia Wasson, Joel W Catlin and Rosella Catlin. The plat was filed for record July 16th 1855.

The first home of the Wasson's was in rooms at the rear of their storehouse where they lived while building a dwelling across the street. The Wasson homestead was erected on the lot where the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Arenholz is now. It was a small, one-story brick structure and had what might be termed as 'modified penthouse' in the center of the roof. The entire space on the four sides of this addition was filled with windows. This style of architecture is rarely seen now as it had not been used on houses built within the past 85 years. It is unfortunate that La Porte City did not have the foresight to buy the Wasson's old home and use it for a library, social center or some other public benefit, or even have preserved it as a memorial to the founder of the town.

Among the earliest settlers were George Bishop, the first attorney in the new town: W.L. Fox, Riley Moultrie, W.C. Kennedy and R.A. Brooks.

The first sawmill was put up on Big Creek in 1856 by Dr. Wasson. The first grist mill was constructed about the same time by Lewis Turner but the mill was destroyed by fire and was not replaced until the end of the Civil War.

George Banger Sr. located here in 1856 and engaged in the boot and shoe business. He was a shoemaker and filled a long felt need. John Ings came here with Mr. Banger and opened a harness shop, which he continued for several years. In the same year John Rolph and W.L. Fox built a story and half building, 12 x 12 feet, in the brush on the east side of Main Street, near Commercial, out of native timber.

## Banks

As a bank is supposed to be an index of the prosperity of a community, we may assume that this vicinity did well financially as three banks were chartered in La Porte City from 1884 to 1913. The Union State Bank was first organized on July 1st, 1884. The first officers were:

President, G.W. Hayzlett; Vice President, P. Bowman; cashier, A. Van Valkenburg; directors, G. W. Hayzlett, Jesse Oren, Henry Wiese, B. Stanton, W.A. Walker and Damon Mott.

The First National bank was organized August 12th, 1889. The officers chosen were: President, James F Camp; A.B. Elmer, A.E. Kline and E. Simpson. The Farmers Savings bank was organized march 18th, 1913, with O.A. Wallace as president; J.A. Winmoth as vice president; Jesse O. Kober, cashier; Catherine Gingrich, assistance cashier. Later the

Union State was merged with the Farmers Savings and business was conducted under the latter name.

### **First Railroad**

The first railroad built through La Porte City was in 1870, when the Burlington, Cedar Rapids and Minnesota line reached here in June. The first train passed through here December 1st, 1870.

### **The Old Mill**

The old mill was on creek by James Robertson's farm. Behind Mrs. Warren Sides, Sr. house (on locust). It was 10 feet high and if you go exploring, you may find dome of the old oak posts still standing.

### **First Newspaper**

The first newspaper to be published in La Porte City was the la Porte City Progress, which was started in 1869 by J.T. Metcalf. The next year the paper was sold to Dr. Wasson, Dr. G.W. Dickinson and Charles Vale. Late that year Dr. Wasson came into sole possession of the sheet and as he was a staunch Democrat he advocated the policies of that party. The second paper to be established in town was the La Porte City Republican, published by W.H. Brinkerhoff in 1872. After a few months this sheet died. In 1879 Dr. Wasson took his son, Buren, into his partnership in the Progress, and the same year the La Porte City Review was begun by W.E. Thorne and Sa.A. Wagoner. In 1892 the Progress and review were consolidated and published as The Register. in 1893 the plant was sold to E. Duke Naven who changed the name to Progress Review. In 1895 the La Porte City Press was established by Eilliam Chapple who continued as editor and proprietor until August, 1900, when he sold out to H. G. Adams and Clark Ravlin. These owners changed the policy of the publication to support the Democratic party. H. B. Lizer purchased the Progress-Review in 1901 and three years later secured possession of the rival sheet, which he merged with the one he already owned.

### **First State Road**

The state road through La Porte City was not located with the compass and most people have the impression that the surveyors followed the course of the Cedar River. But according to W.L. Fox the location was determined by the high-handed strategy of Dr. Wasson. The road was to extend from Cedar Rapids to Cedar Falls and would be a decided asset to La Porte City if it would pass through this town. Dr. Wasson

was to be informed by friends at Vinton when the surveyors reached that point. This was done and down went the Doctor to Vinton to get acquainted with Mr. Field, the surveying boss of the party as well as with the rest, and made himself generally agreeable and besides had his Vinton friends helping him. The fact is that the Doctor found out that the surveying party had a particular liking for good whiskey and he told them when they reached Mt. Auburn they would find a pole planted with a flag waving from it and that this would give them a point on the bank of Big Creek to which he would like the road to run; and that at the foot of the flag pole at Mr. Auburn they would find a jug of the best whiskey that money would buy and another jug when they got to Big Creek. And he kept his word and this assured the future success of La Porte City, for the state road which was run several miles out of line in order to strike a jug of whiskey is now the Main Street of La Porte City. By this road the town of La Porte was platted. La Porte had to raise \$10,000 to get that road through here and it was a mighty big task for the poor little town to raise that amount of money.

## **Paving - 1912**

Not too much information was published in the paper about the paving, such as the type, cost, etc., but there was a great deal about the character of the workers. Seems they were fine upstanding men of good moral character and the company (Turner Construction Co.) was reliable. Many local people would be hired to help. However, Mr. Halbfass could remember that 2 inches of concrete were first poured, then 2 inches of sand, and then 4 inches of bricks. Nelson Osborn used to work for ten cents an hour running errands and carrying water for the men. He'd work 10 hours a day and at the end of the week, he'd have earned \$6.00

Many of us feel the paving is a special part of La Porte City. It has helped well and is certainly a charming part of our city.

## **Opera House**

The old Opera House built about 1901 and torn down in 1945. A Mr. Sutton built it and put on a self supporting roof. Any traveling show played here. The school used it for their programs. Nelson Osborn can remember when he played the part of an Indian and his father made him a tomahawk. (I am surprised he'd make him that as Nelson "just happened" to go through the curved glass window on their new house.) Paul Bedard bought the Opera House and made it into a garage. Mr. N. Osborn bought it in 1919 and ran the garage until 1930.

It was torn down in 1945 and the Estep Ford Garage was built by Gale Ballhelm on the same location.

### **Marriage (Nov. 14, 1883)**

Back in the 1880's it was customary for the bride and groom to take some wedding cake and other treats to the printers office, the he (the printer's devil) would toast the happy couple and write an article on the wedding. Sometimes the writer would get carried away and almost forget to tell about the wedding as in the following article:

Ever since Adam led Eve from the altar in the Garden of Eden a blushing and happy bride, marriage has been in vogue. The union of hearts when united by love is the happiest period of human life. How beautiful to man, when he returns from his daily labor, to see a woman-one of God's loveliest of creations-stand on the threshold of her little home, with outstretched arms, ready to welcome him whom she has promised to love and honor. This to man is his Paradise on earth - a paradise where his whole heart finds comfort, peace and repose, where he is loved and loves in return. Marriage is promulgated and prompted by many different methods, the most popular begin the pleasantries of the buggy ride of the silent swinging to and fro of the old gate, when all nature is at rest save the moon, who occasionally hides herself beneath a cloud, in imitation of a tunnel on a railway - to let the young lovers osculate and drink the fountain of love from each rosebud lip. Or in some cases, as is now being proven, the rather marriageable young lady begins the erection of a little domicile just to give her suitors a pointer. But these are not all the ways, too, that life where single blessedness is exchanged evenly for that life, where two lives live as one. (Then follows in the article a description of the character of the happy couple.)

Or in this wedding - one of the biggest affairs of the year according to the write up; (Oh yes, the presents were always listed and their donors.)

A brilliant assemblage had found itself under the hospitable roof of Mr. and Mrs. B.S. Stanton yesterday. Beauty shone, and with sparkled at the gayest marriage of the season.

The occasion was the marriage of their daughter, Miss Alice Spaulding, to Mr. Albert Elwell, both of this city... Everybody seemed to be at home and acquainted; and so the formalities incident to a more pretentious affair, were happily conspicuous by their absence. ...

The presents were many and very costly. There never was a finer

display of costly presents, different from the general marriage presents given in this city. They were useful and costly, amounting to several thousand dollars...

Thus they were married. Yesterday morning Allie was a maid; this morning a wife. The marriage ceremony is the turning point in all our lives. Her old associates will know Allie Stanton no more. She is now Mrs. Elwell, she has adopted his name. She has given him all - her hopes, her love, the present, the past the future; promised to love, honor, and obey. He in return gave her his name, his home; promised to "to love, cherish and protect" until death doth part.

We trust his dreams of the past are realized; they are now on the shelves of the future. God grant they may blossom most beautiful.

## **The Bride**

Something old and something new, Something gold and something blue. If she should see a strange cat or hear a cat sneeze on her wedding day, then she will be very happy; and if on her wedding morning she steps from her bed onto something higher and again on something higher still she will from that moment rise in the world. For this purpose a table is placed beside the bed, and it can stand near the dresser or something higher than it, then she must step from the table to that which is higher. But who betide her should she fall. (this is exactly how it was stated in the article).

In leaving the house and church she must be careful to put her right foot forward, and on no account to allow anyone to speak to her husband until she has called him by name.

Seven out of every ten married women believe they could have done better by waiting for a second offer, and nine out of every ten married men wished to goodness they had.

## **Oldest Resident**

At one time La Porte City could boast of having, as a resident, the oldest woman in the state of Iowa. She was Mrs. Catherine Barrett, familiarly called "Granny" by every one in town. She came here from County Tipperary, Ireland, probably about 1875. She did not know how old she was, but estimating from historical events she recalled she must have been at least 85. She made her home in a small building that stood where the Skelly station is located. It was fortunate that there was no health officer here then for Granny kept her chickens and pig in the house. When she went about town., she

always carried a heavy cane and usually her body was bent forward at various angles. But as she happened to meet one of her convivial friends, who per chance offered her some liquid refreshments, she not only straightened up but she actually bend backwards.

## Remember When

**Santa Clause**, it seems, deals impartially this year. At some places he left no sign of his appearance, while at other places he displayed a lavish hand. At Kirk McQuilkinsz, for instance, he left a bright 9 pound boy. Success (December 25, 1888).

**The boys celebrated Halloween**, Saturday evening, by making it interesting for most of our citizens, throwing corn, filling stovepipes, confiscating gates, etc. and the worst act, cutting off the flag rope, on the pole, compelling our democratic friends to take the pole down to put the rope through the pulley. This is carrying a joke altogether too far, and some of our "smart" young men will do something "so smart" if they keep on, they themselves will smart. (From somewhere around 1880.)

**The Hick's Plumbing & Heating** building was hard maple floors. This used to be a marvelous roller skating area.

**Shoes were shined for ten cents.** Later known as Harry Esher's Barber Shop and presently occupied by the JayCeas.

**Line Ring Advertising!** Whenever a new shipment of peaches, pears, apples, or any lie of groceries came in, the proprietor would arrange to have the news go out over the telephones. One ring would go to several homes and the news told, then on to another group.

**We can have very little realization** of the privations of the early-day hard winters. The fierce blizzards sometimes began the last of November and continued through most of the winter. Potatoes would be frozen hard and rattle like walnuts in the sack. Hundreds of prairie chickens froze to death and the wolves would surround the house in gangs, making the most awful howls one ever heard.

**Mr. Fox gave an interesting and graphic description** of a Christmas party which he entertained in his hotel in 1859. The guests gathered at 8:00 o'clock, when nearly two feet of snow had fallen on the level. Archie Baker, the stage driver, took his coach and ran a free bus around town, taking the ladies to their homes. Darius Boyd acted as conductor. Offtimes the snow was so deep that Darius would carry the ladies in his arms to their doors, but he came to grief. While he

was lugging one lady across her dooryard he suddenly floundered into a hole three feet deep. To the surprise of the remaining party Darius and his passenger disappeared completely. They were soon rescued however. A good many of the people did not go home until afternoon and vowed "they never had such a good time before in all their lives."

## Germany Licked...The War is Over (Headlines of the Progress Review November 14, 1918)

Huns Brought to Terms. U.S. Forces Helped Turn the Trick.

Citizens of La Porte City and Vicinity Wild With Joy and Enthusiasm When News That Armistice Had Been Signed Was Made Known Here.

The dispatch conveying the news of the signing of the armistice was greeted by wild enthusiasm in La Porte City last Monday morning. Message came about 3:30 and before 4:00 all the bells in town were ringing and crowds of people lined the streets beginning to celebrate. A parade, headed by the band, was formed and went through the principle streets of town before daylight.

By five o'clock the Progress Review office had a special war end edition printed and by the efficient help of the girl scouts and the boy scouts this extra was delivered over town and was the first press dispatch to be received by the most people. This extra was printed and delivered free of charge, and the first half of the run had to be made by the lights of a lantern as the electric lights were off. The war chronology given in the extra edition had proven to be of much interest and as we have not been able to supply the calls for copies the same will be reprinted in this issue today.

Another parade was staged at ten o'clock and everything invented with which to make noise was in evidence. The boy scouts were on the job all day and by going in relays kept all the bells in town ringing all day long. Regular work of all kinds was abandoned with the exception of getting meals and most families were served cafeteria style.

By one o'clock in the afternoon the streets were thronged with people from both town and country and a line of marchers was begun at the interurban station and extended down main Street, thence up the Avenue and up to Main by way of Commercial Street. The band again led the procession and following were the members of the G.A.R., the surgical dressing class of the Red Cross, the Woman's Relief Corp., various floats, citizens on foot and in autos.

## Good Old Days

With all the teacher contract disputes hereabouts this fall, Constant Reader sends along a list of rules for teachers, circa 1872-

"Teachers each day will fill lamps, clean chimneys and trim wicks."

"Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for the day's session."

"After ten hours of school, the teacher should spend the remaining time reading the Bible or other good works."

"The teacher who performs his labors faithfully and without fault for five years will be given an increase of 25 cents per week in his pay if the Board of Education approves."

Remember Velie Vehicles housed in the building where Fose Produce was? You'd find washing machines, engines, and many more items. It was run by O.E. Miles, Elias Fos, and John Rahn.

## Hester V. Cummins Berry

1862 - 1953. Hester V. Cummins Berry, local poet, published two books "A Bundle of Twig" in 1893 and another book of poems for children. Her childhood was spent in the home of her grandfather at La Porte City. She was a sister of M.E. Cummins and taught school until she was married to Gordon Berry at Gladbrook.

Many of her poems are of home and family and friends. Her philosophy of life was refreshing in several of her writings:

Don't Worry	After School
<p>Well, what is the use to worry? The world will take care of its own; There are places abloom with flowers, Where the sun has never shone.</p> <p>Don't fret because your neighbor Has a finer house and lot; At the same time he may be longing For something you have got.</p> <p>If you envy other people For wealth, or joy, or fame; If your position was reversed, You'd be longing just the same.</p>	<p>Clara, my dear old schoolmate, I can hardly write a word; I feel so very lonesome-- Not as happy as a bird.</p> <p>I dare not think if my schoolmates, Or the old schoolroom at all For fear that in remembering, The bitter tears should fall.</p> <p>The winds sweep over the prairies, And a mist hides the light of the sun As it creeps over hill and meadow; And I, with my day's work done.</p>

<p>Don't worry if the seasons Are not just to suit your taste; Trust God to manage a little-- The earth will not all be waste.</p> <p>He alone can give the increase-- Can provide the abundant supply; And only when he chooseth, Shall a blossom fade and die.</p> <p>He can attend to the weather, And we need never fret; For He is wise and loving, And never can forget.</p> <p>So don't try to run the machinery, Of the whole world at once; For, instead of becoming a genius, You may only remain a dunce.</p> <p>There are other people, remember, In this world; nay, not a few, Who can get along without you, No matter what you do.</p>	<p>Start on my homeward journey, Not happy, and light, and free, For my life is dull and dreary-- Void of all ecstasy.</p> <p>I can't tell you about the children Just yet, for the little while, But I shall, when again I see you, Welcome you with a smile.</p> <p>So goodnight, dear friend, and God bless you; May the future years to us bring No more clouds than brightness, In this maze of wondering.</p>
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Here is a listing of all the images which I have found in my files associated with La Porte City.

John Fox and family, Ice man - 1890

Seeley and wife, laundry man - 1890

Dr. Jesse Wasson

Mrs. Catherine Barrett

Harry Kline and Ralph Hudson - 1912

Frank Bryant, groceryman

A. Van Valkenburg 1910

Quackenbush, milkman 1887

John Dowding, plasterer - 1898

Velie Vehicles. Remember Velie Vehicles housed in the building where Fosse Produce was? You'd find washing machines, engines, and many more items. It was run by O.E. Miles, Elias Fox, and John Rahn.

Opera House

Harry Esher's Barber Shop ... [smaller image](#)

Union State Bank K of P building

Miles, Fox and Rahn Implement

First Steam Engine ... [enlarged](#)

First threshing machine ... enlarged First threshing machine early 1900's. Driven by O.E. Miles from farm to farm. Too heavy for the bridge and down it went. The front end raised up and Mr. Miles jumped off. Took all day to get it out with all the farmers working. Then they got it back into running shape again.

Threshing Crew.

Creek Remember the old Ice House at the end of Bishop Avenue by the creek? (Allen Bell's house is now there.) Big blocks of ice were cut in winter and stored in the barn for use in the summer. Sawdust was layed on the bottome, sides, and top of each block to preserve them and keep them it did!.

Hamlin Wagoner Clothing Co - 1891

Cooper Endgate, Scoop Board Mfg. Co - 1898

Street Scene 1900

Street Scene 1910 ... people in street

C.A Brust grocery 1912

W.L. Kline and son Meat Market

Independent Hose Company ... smaller Independent Hose Company. 1912 -

Herb Halbfass (the Chief) on the motorcycle - Indian model. (notice the light!)

Some other members were Vern Lehman, Walt Fox, and Elmer Bitterly.

Fire Department - 1927 left to right: P. Haven, J. Kline, A. Brust, Unknown, R. Hair, S. Foss, H. Esher, W. Fox, G. Ponsofrd, Roy Wagner, W. Franklin, and John Bolte.

La Porte City Fire department - 1920

La Porte City Band 1910 Front row: left to right, Ed Unger, D. McCoy, Cap Have, Al Cole. 2nd row: Ernie Cole, G. Manwell, Bert White, Lewie Bitterly, Page. 3rd row: C.A. Brust, E. North, Ralph Kline

People in bank, 1915, pictured lef to right: R. Simpson, Ed Triem, John Lehman, Harvey Anderson, Hal Goodwin, Monty Blanchaine. F.E. Wettstein is the cashier.

Home

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**Dr. Jesse Wasson**  
**Founder of La Porte City**



**"Dr. Jesse Wasson Memorial"**

Life-size bronze  
City of LaPorte City, Iowa,  
1998

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You searched for **Jesse Wasson** in **Iowa**
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## American Civil War Soldiers

Name: **Jesse Wasson**

RESIDENCE: Laporte City, Iowa

Enlistment Date: 16 Sep 1862

Side Served: Union

State Served: Iowa

Service Record: Enlisted as a Assistant Surgeon on 16 September 1862 at the age of 40.

Commission in [Company S, 32nd Infantry Regiment Iowa](#) on 6 Oct 1862.Resigned [Company S, 32nd Infantry Regiment Iowa](#) Apr 1863 at St Louis, MO.

Sources: 71

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Try out the New Ancestry Search

You searched for **Jesse Wasson in Iowa**


[All American Civil War Soldiers Results](#)

## American Civil War Soldiers

Name: **Jesse Wasson**

RESIDENCE: Laporte, Iowa

Enlistment Date: 19 Oct 1863

Side Served: Union

State Served: Iowa

Service Record: Enlisted in Company S, 32nd Infantry Regiment Ia  
Enlisted as a Surgeon on 19 October 1863 at the ag  
42.

Commission in [Company S, 9th Cavalry Regiment](#)  
on 19 Oct 1863.

Resigned, disability [Company S, 9th Cavalry Regir](#)  
[Iowa](#) on 27 Jan 1865.

Sources: 71

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**Source Citation:** Side served: *Union*; State served: *Iowa*; Enlistment date: 19 Oct 1863..

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Jesse Wasson

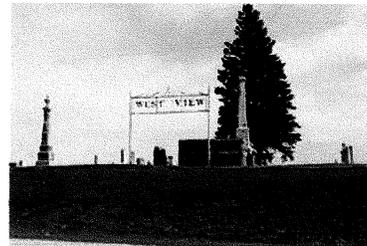
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Death: unknown

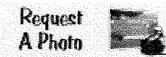
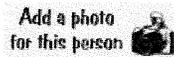
Inscription:  
C W Vet 9th IA Cav

Burial::  
Westview Cemetery  
La Porte City  
Black Hawk County  
Iowa, USA  
Plot:

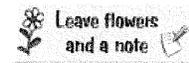
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Record added: Mar 4 2007  
Find A Grave Memorial# 18208310



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WASSON, JESSE. La Porte, Black  
Hawk Co., physician, born in In-  
diana, married, Universalist, Sur-  
geon 9th Iowa Cavalry, 16 years in  
Iowa, 48 years old, weighs 235 lbs.

*This article was located in the  
Magazine Episcopian newspaper, Iowa.  
Jan. 20, 1870, p. 1, col. 4, 5, 6, 7*