

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of **Representative** Birchard, Eugene Senator _____
Represented Scott County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 16 June 1839 Pleasant Valley Township Scott County, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place
Miss Annalson

3. Significant events for example:
A. Business _____

B. Civic responsibilities _____

C. Profession Farmer

4. Church membership _____

5. Sessions served 15th, 16th General Assemblies 1874, 1876

6. Public Offices

A. Local President of the Scott County Agricultural Society; township clerk; township trustee

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death 13 Dec 1879 Pleasant Valley Township, Scott County, Iowa; Carrol Oakdale Cemetery, Davenport, Iowa

8. Children _____

9. Names of parents Jabez A. Birchard, jr. and Lydia A. (Chamberlain) Birchard

Birchard, Eugene

10. Education

11. Degrees

He was educated at Lombard University, Galesburg, Illinois

12. Other applicable information

Democrat

- He was raised in Pleasant Valley Township, Scott County, Iowa
- After attending college, he returned to the family farm.
- After his father's death, he took over the family farm.
- He became ill with consumption. He went to Colorado in 1878 for relief. But it was of short relief, with his death on 13 Dec 1879.

A BIRD,

Bill Harp Turns
at in Colorado, is
d, and Sen-
a Old Har-
Rough.

Lincoln, Neb., of the
entenary there of one
ho was well-known to
ity a few years ago.
e from Linn county at
nt the harvesters and
for fun. When Chief
in, he had a desperate
Front street one day—
the year before that,
ann was Marshal, he
th the scoundrel.
Harp left this region
o, and went into the
e-territories, and got
r he went. At last he
to Samuel Arnold
s foot-pal and robber.
ow escapes. Once he
right shoulder by an
he attempted to rob
l placed in a hospital
ecame very low, and
ed of for two or three
e was to be tried as
ecovery. One night,
ht he was scarcely able
ared from the hospital
ld ever find out—and
gain by public authori-
October, when he
dville, with two pals,
Henson and William
gent work on a stage
to Leadville and
from the town. It is

CALLED HOME.

**Death of Hon. Eugene Birchard—A
Sketch of His Career—An Indus-
trious Life Ended—A Good
Man Gone.**

After several month's of illness with consumption, Hon. Eugene Birchard died at his home in Pleasant Valley township at 1 o'clock Saturday morning. In his death the county loses one of its most prominent citizens.

Mr. Birchard was born June 16, 1839, on the very farm on which he died—in a log house such as the pioneer settlers erected for their first homes here. He was the son of Jabez A. Birchard, who settled in Pleasant Valley in 1836. The family is of the good old Puritan Birchard stock which emigrated from New England to Pennsylvania over a hundred years ago. Eugene Birchard was reared in this county—never had a home anywhere else. In his youth he received his education at Lombard University, Galesburg, Ill., and when he returned home from that institution he settled down to his father's calling, that of a farmer. In his young manhood he married Miss Kittie Donaldson, daughter of James Donaldson, whom he had known from infancy. He filled the offices of township clerk and township trustee several years. He took an active interest in all local matters of importance—became a member of the Scott County Agricultural Society, and favored all efforts for the promotion of agriculture and improvement of live stock. He became attached to the Democratic party on reaching his majority, and had great influence in its counsels in the county—and when that party united with the Liberal Republicans and came into

PIONEER SCHOOL

**Those in Davenport Who Taug
Interesting Letter from Pr
Ficc. of St. Louis, a Pioneer
rr in Davenport.**

An interesting meeting of the section of the Academy was held last evening. The early schools of Iowa such as those taught by Dr. Blo Pelamorgues, James Thorington, and Eads, of St. Louis bridge and Mississippi jetties fame, formed the topic, and the following

LETTER FROM PROF. TIC
of St. Louis, the noted astronomer
teorologist, was read:

UNION, Hardin Co., Iowa, Dec
W. H. Pratt, Davenport, Iowa:

DEAR SIR:—Yours of the 19th
forwarded to and reached me
sorry that owing to the long time
since my residence in your city,
to furnish you but few data th
valuable for the object you have
I taught for six months, comm
May, 1842, and ending about
December, when I left for St. L
I have resided ever since. The
pupils I had in charge varied
31 or 32. No salaries were paid
tuition fees were charged. I ch
dollars per quarter per scholar,
lars for two. I cannot recall a
tant date the name of a single
find my memory is equally trea
to the names of pupils that at
public school at St. Louis, or
names of 300 or 500 teachers
charge during the twelve years
perintendent of Public Schoo
city; I now only know the nan
pils and teachers who have kept
quaintance with me ever since.

Davenport at that time had
menced. Had had been brok
prairie north of Duck Creek, a
the summer a few small frames

appeared from the hospital could ever find out—and again by public authority of last October, when he Leadville, with two pals, M. Jensen and William Ad-agent work on a stage going to Leadville and back from the town. It is reported that one of the gang was in the coach in which Mr. [Name] of this city, was passing the inmates fork over; a few days before the acts arrested were performed. Leadville says that the gang was arrested by a detective named [Name] and led into a plan with them to catch the coaches in one day; by the recognition of them by the passengers for the pur- sive's plot worked well, the gang were corralled and a trial came off on the 6th of the month, and they were sentenced to years confinement at the penitentiary at Lincoln. The residence near Center Point, Iowa—and it is likely that the first intelligence of their arrest received in at least three years of age, and was in- deed tried for the crime for years in the penitentiary.

those fine Cheviot Shirts—made at Fisher's Shirt Factory—as fine a stock as can be found from, and they are cheap,

kid Button Shoes, flannel-ling for winter wear, at 10 W. 2d st.

dress for a Christmas pres-ent—CUTTER'S.

a very elegant assortment of goods in Solid Silver and Sil- verware at Kircher & Corken's;

importance—became a member of the Scott County Agricultural Society, and favored all efforts for the promotion of agriculture and improvement of live stock. He became attached to the Democratic party on reaching his majority, and had great influence in its counsels in the county—and when that party united with the Liberal Republicans and came into power in 1873, Mr. Burchard was elected member of the 15th General Assembly; he served his constituents so well and honorably in that body, that two years later he was re-elected, becoming a member of the 16th General Assembly; in the latter body he served on some of the most important committees—and received the warm thanks of Speaker (now Governor) Gear for the manner in which he performed his committee duties. After his father's death, Mr. Burchard became possessor of the homestead farm, and entered into his pursuit still more earnestly. He succeeded to the Allen vacancy in the presidency of the Scott county agricultural society in 1875, and was elected president of that society in 1876 and 1877. Of course he was very efficient in that position.

But the time came when his manhood strength gave way, through long trouble with his lungs. In the fall of 1878 he went to Colorado for relief and cure, re- turning last June, feeling better and very hopeful. It was evident to his friends, however, that his course was nearly run. A few weeks ago he himself came to the conclusion that his end was near, and made preparations for the great change. And so, at the time named above, he died. He leaves a wife, three daughters and a son, all the children being in their teens except the younger daughter, who is four years old.

The funeral will take place next Monday forenoon. Services at the family residence at 11 o'clock. Rev. S. S. Hunting will officiate on the occasion.

public school at Mt. Louis, names of 300 or 500 teach-ers in charge during the twelve years as superintendent of Public Schools; I now only know the names of the pupils and teachers who have had acquaintance with me ever since

Davenport at that time be- ginned. Sod had been broken on the prairie north of Duck Creek the summer a few small farms were up on the breakings. There were fields at three or four places above creek and town that were Pleasant Valley, above the two or three farms just opened were some farms below town. A Mr. Stubbs led a heifer in a dug-out in a cave on the river bend above town. There was no produce to sell nor any money going on, consequently there was no labor and everything else was store orders. Tuition fees were liquidated in the same way.

I contemplated when I left to take Davenport and Rock Island as my return route, but I find it will be impossible. I will return home by the way I have appointments ahead at Eldora. I will most probably go by way of Burlington when I re- turn.

It is probable that my mind will be refreshed by conversing with students, should there be any thousands I have met since my only obliterated faces but in my memory. Yours truly,

John Tice
Prof. Tice once taught in a half frame building on Front street of Perry, near the site of the old bakery.

Mrs. Alfred Sanders delig-ent in her historical section by depositing a complete file of the Davenport papers from 1841 to 1862—the year of her husband, who was the port's most honored citizens.

THE FOOD OF

Where It May Be
Tempting Ar

HISTORY
OF
SCOTT COUNTY,
IOWA;

TOGETHER WITH SKETCHES OF ITS CITIES, VILLAGES AND TOWNSHIPS, EDUCATIONAL, RELIGIOUS, CIVIL, MILITARY, AND POLITICAL HISTORY; PORTRAITS OF PROMINENT PERSONS, AND BIOGRAPHIES OF REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS.

HISTORY OF IOWA,

EMBRACING ACCOUNTS OF THE PRE-HISTORIC RACES, ABORIGINES, FRENCH, ENGLISH AND AMERICAN CONQUESTS, AND A GENERAL REVIEW OF ITS CIVIL, POLITICAL AND MILITARY HISTORY.

ILLUSTRATED.

749a

CHICAGO:
INTER-STATE PUBLISHING CO.,
1882.

In 1846 District No. 3 was organized, and built a house near C. L. Meyer's. This house was burned in 1869, and in 1870 a new school-house was erected, which cost, including furniture, \$2,000. It is now called Belmont School-house.

District No. 4 was set off from No. 1 in 1855, and held school in private houses until 1869, when a house was built on the river road, near Duck Creek, at a cost (including furniture) of \$1,600.

District No. 5 was formed in 1873, of a portion of No. 2, and the northeast part of the township, which had been attached to a district in Le Claire Township. A neat school-house was erected, which cost, when furnished, \$1,500.

In 1873 the sub-districts, which had been under the township district system, all voted to become independent, and organized independent districts. No. 1 took the name of Pleasant Valley; No. 2, Hopewell; No. 3, Belmont; No. 4, Duck Creek; No. 5, Forest Grove. In the township there are 288 between the ages of 5 and 21, and an enrollment of 218.

RELIGIOUS.

The first religious service in the township was in 1835, at the house of J. B. Chamberlin. There is now in the township but one church edifice, owned by the Methodist denomination. This was the first organized Methodist church in Scott County.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

Pleasant Valley has furnished her quota of men to fill stations of public trust, and has had in times past, and has now within her borders, men who have reflected honor and credit, not only upon the valley, but county and State. In this connection are given biographical sketches of a number of old settlers and prominent men, the lives of whom are worthy a record in a work such as we here present to the citizens of Scott County.

Memoir of the Birchard Family.—The Birchards who settled in Pleasant Valley were descendants of pioneers. By the family record of Backus Birchard they trace on their father's side unbroken descent to Thomas Birchard, who came to Massachusetts about 1635, and who married Mary Robinson, (probably a daughter of John Robinson, pastor of the congregation of Dissenters, who to escape prosecution in England, emigrated to Holland in 1608, and whose family after his death came to New England to join that portion of his society who came over in the Mayflower and settled at Plymouth, Mass., in 1620). Their son, John Birchard, was one of the proprietors to whom Uncas and his sons by formal deed, in 1669, for a consideration of £70, granted a tract nine miles square, on which Norwich, Conn., was built, and in which he settled in 1660. On their mother's side they trace their descent from John Dixwell, who came from England in 1660, on account

of a little unpleasantness between himself and Charles II., in consequence of the part he took in acting as one of the judges that condemned and sentenced Charles I. to be executed in January, 1649.

John A. Birchard, Jr., born in 1804, who settled in Pleasant Valley in 1836; Backus Birchard, born in 1812, who came in 1839, and George Birchard, born in 1815, who arrived in 1840, were born at Birchardville, Susquehanna Co., Pa., and are sons of Jabez A. and Mary Birchard, *nee* Downee, who were married at Bozra, Conn., Jan. 27, 1799, and settled at Ruby, Luzerne Co., Pa., in 1800. Jabez A. Birchard, Sr., located in Pleasant Valley in the spring of 1846, and died at the residence of his son, Jabez A., Jr., on Dec. 18, 1848, aged 73 years. He was the first post-master in Birchardville and held that office through several administrations.

J. A. Birchard, Jr., was appointed post-master at Pleasant Valley in 1837, and held the office until 1856, when he resigned, recommending R. H. Spencer as his successor. He was a member of the first Territorial Legislature, and held many county and township offices. He died Oct. 20, 1871, aged 67 years, leaving his wife, Lydia A., daughter of Daniel Chamberlain, to whom he was married at Silver Lake, Pa., Jan. 1, 1829, and who survived him until July 17, 1881, when she died at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Samuel Heagy, in Hampton, Ill. They were farmers by occupation and lived on the land bought in 1840, on section 13.

Backus Birchard purchased a portion of section 12 at the land sale at Dubuque in 1840, on which he is now living. In the summer of 1840 he was engaged as foreman of the masonry of the Rock River improvements at Van Rupp's Island, now Milan, and returned to New York after the work was completed, and was engaged as foreman and contractor on various railroads in that State and Pennsylvania, for some time, when he commenced improvements on the land he had bought in 1840. In 1842 he married Marie, daughter of William J. and Lucy Marlette, at Glenville, N. Y. Of five children born of this union, three are living—Lucy (wife of W. A. Foster, resides in Davenport), William J. and Ida.

George Birchard married Elizabeth Stockwell in 1845, and settled in Le Claire.

Eugene Birchard, son of Jabez A., Jr., was born in 1840 and occupied the old homestead until his death, Dec. 12, 1879. He was a member of the 15th and 16th General Assembly of Iowa, and for several years president of the Scott County Agricultural Society. His widow, a daughter of James Donaldson, removed to Big Rock, in April, 1881.

Stephen S. Blackman was born in Seneca Co., N. Y., on the 14th day of March, 1815, son of Ebenezer and Mary (Smith) Blackman; father a native of Massachusetts, and mother of New York. They were married in Seneca Co., N. Y., about 1806. The fruit



Iowa Cemetery Records

Name: **Eugene Birchard**
Death Date: 14 Dec 1979
Page #: 43
Birth Date: 16 Jun 1839
Cemetery: Oakdale
Town: Dav.
Comment: son of: Jabez A.
Level Info: *Tombstone Records of Scott County, Iowa*

Source Information:

Ancestry.com. *Iowa Cemetery Records* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., 2000. Original data: Works Project Administration. *Graves Registration Project*. Washington, D.C.: n.p., n.d.

Description:

These cemetery records represent seventy-six counties and Graceland Cemetery of Sioux City, Iowa, in the United States, that were transcribed by the Works Project Administration. Records in this database generally include the page number where the record can be found in the WPA index, the name of the deceased, birth date, death date, age, cemetery name, town name, and additional comments if any. [Learn more...](#)