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Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Palmer, John Senator _____

Represented Butler County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 1820 Ohio

2. Marriage (s) date place

Mora Reid Lyle 2 Nov 1837 Greene Co., Ohio

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business _____

B. Civic responsibilities Mason; Eastern Star

C. Profession Lawyer; newspaperman

4. Church membership _____

5. Sessions served 16th General Assembly 1876

6. Public Offices

A. Local Clarksville city councilman in 1877; Mayor of Clarksville 1879;
Board of supervisors 1868; County judge in 1858; county treasurer;
county recorder

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death 1895 Belmont Otter Trail Missouri

8. Children William Lyle; Clayton; Edwin; James; Ellen Dwight;
Charles A.

9. Names of parents Joseph and Julia A. (Butler) Palmer

10. Education

11. Degrees

12. Other applicable information

Republican

- Came to Clarksville ca. 1854-1855
- Purchased the newspaper called "The Stiletta" in spring 1866 who sold it to his son, H. L. Palmer who removed it to Shell Rock and then joined with "The Clarksville Gazette"
- Trained as a millwright
- Came to Iowa from Ohio in 1849 or 1850 locating in Lewis County,
- He was the first judge of Butler County



from *The History of Butler and Bremer Counties, Iowa*, Illustrated. Springfield, Illinois, Union Publishing Company, 1883.

CHAPTER IX

THE NEWSPAPER PRESS

Butler county has had abundant opportunities to test the value of newspapers as aids in building its resources to the outer world, while the civilizing influence is almost unlimited; and, as a general thing; its citizens have always manifested a liberal spirit or purpose towards the various journalistic enterprises that have been inaugurated in their midst. It must be truthfully said, that in dispensing their patronage to the press, they have been tolerant and magnanimous, as they have been reasonably generous to journals of all parties. It may be difficult to correctly estimate the advantages derived by Butler county in a business point of view, from the influence of the press, which at various times has called into requisition respectable, if not eminent talent in the advocacy of local interests, which have had a tendency to inspire its citizens, as well as friends, far and near, with hope and confidence in its prosperity.

In every community there are shriveled souls, whose participation in the benefits of enterprise is greater than their efforts to promote the public welfare. These are the men who will never subscribe for a newspaper, but will always be on the alert to secure, gratuitously, the first persona of their neighbors' papers. These are the croakers, who predict evil and disparage enterprise. But, with very few exceptions the press of this region, or the community through which they circulate, has never been cursed with such drones. On the contrary, as patrons of the press, Butler county citizens have established a good name. As records of current history, the local press should be preserved by town and county governments in their archives for reference. As there papers are the repositories wherein are stored the facts and the events, the deeds and the sayings, the undertakings and achievements that go to make up final history. One by one these things are gathered and placed in type; one by one the papers are issued; one by one these papers are gathered together and bound, and another volume of local, general and individual history is laid away imperishable. The volumes thus collected, are sifted by the historian, and the book for the library is ready.

There should be some means devised by which press records might be preserved and made accessible. This of course is attempted in all offices; but as a general thing files are sadly deficient; still by diligent search and much enquiry, enough date has been gleaned to supply a tolerably accurate record of the county press; but if any inaccuracies or omissions are noticeable, they may be attributed to the absence of completeness in the files.

THE BUTLER TRANSCRIPT

This was the first newspaper established in Butler county. It first saw light in 1858, at Clarksville, which was then the county seat, under the management of Palmer & James. It was republican in politics, and was a spicy little sheet. But the county was too new to support it, and in 1860 it was suspended and the material moved to Winterset, Madison county, Iowa.

BUTLER COUNTY JEFFERSONIAN

This paper was the second to be issued in Butler county, and was published at Butler Center, in Jefferson township, so the name seems well bestowed. It was started by William Haddock, in August, 1860, and between that time and October, 1861, only about thirty-six numbers of the paper had been issued. In October, 1861, it was purchased by Martin Bailey, who, in January, 1862, changed the name to the

STARS AND STRIPES

And for two years it made its appearance regularly, and was one of the most able papers ever established in the county, as Mr. Bailey was a pungent writer and a well educated and well read man. Mr. Bailey then went to the war and the publication of the paper ceased. In August, 1865, the material and office furniture was purchased by McCormack & Francis, who with it established

THE BUTLER COUNTY ARGUS

They continued this newspaper for about six months, and in February, 1866, sold it to Judge John Palmer, who changed the name to

THE STILETTO

In the spring of 1866, Judge Palmer's interest in *The Stiletto* became the property of his son, W. L. Palmer, who removed it to Shell Rock. In the fall of 1866 it was consolidated with the *Clarksville Gazette*. A sketch of John Palmer is found in connection with the judicial history. W. L. Palmer was an able writer, and in addition to his newspaper writing compiled a history of Clarksville, which is an interesting little work.

THE CLARKSVILLE GAZETTE

This newsy representative of the press was brought into existence in the summer of 1866 by the efforts of Van E. Butler, a smooth and pithy writer, and one of the most capable newspaper men who ever handled a "stick" in the county. In the fall of 1866 it was consolidated with *The Stiletto*, which was then being published at Shell Rock by W. L. Palmer, and the publication was continued at Clarksville under the firm name of Butler & Palmer, and title of,

THE STAR OF THE WEST

In the winter following, of 1867 and 1868, the paper changed hands and became the property of Frank C. Case, who changed the name to

THE CLARKSVILLE STAR

It still retains that name. In April 1872, Mr. Case disposed of the *Star* to James O. Stewart, a gentleman of much newspaper ability, and who by enterprise and energy soon made it one of the leading newspapers in the county.

Mr. Stewart opened the year 1875 with a determination to let nothing remain unturned to make the *Star* an interesting and instructive paper. About the second issue in January he commenced publishing a complete history of Butler county, which ran through the paper after the manner of a continued story for the greater part of the year. For the historian he secured the services of Mr. Van E. Butler, one of the most able writers who have had been a resident of the county since boyhood and was therefore familiar with pioneer life in this part of the great Hawkeye State. The history was not only valuable as a history, but was also very interesting reading. This enterprise was indeed commendable in the *Star*, and was the only attempt at such ever made in the county. The history, too, was appreciated by the readers of the paper, as the writer, in his historical interviews and researches, has often had the matter called to his attention in most complimentary terms.

Mr. Stewart, in closing the year 1875, says:

With this number we close volume eight of the *Star*, fold it up and lay it away, and count it among the things of the past. How well we have suited our patrons we leave for them to say. We have tried to do so. That we have made some enemies and some friends during the year we are very well aware, but have the consciousness that in either case we have done so in carrying out what we honestly believed; hence we have no excuse or apologies to make. If we have been in the wrong we are willing to lay the ill feeling away with volume eight and the old year 1875, and wish all our patrons a happy new year.

Mr. Stewart continued in management of the paper until in June, 1882, when he sold out to Mr. L. O. Hull, who is the present proprietor. Mr. Stewart in leaving the paper in the new management, in the *Star's* issue of the 29th of June, 1882 said:

Good-by

With this issue the undersigned surrenders the pencil, scissors and paste-pot and vacates the editorial chair in the *Star* office, in favor of L. O. Hull, of Waterloo. Ten years ago we took charge of the *Star* with some hesitancy as to our ability to give you a readable paper, but with a full determination to do our best, and spare no efforts to do so. How well we have succeeded we leave our many readers to determine. However, we feel we will be pardoned for entertaining the thought that we have reasonably succeeded. What our future has in store we have no idea, but be what it may or where it may, we shall always hold in kindly remembrance the people of Clarksville and Butler county. To our friends we say, God bless you; to the other "fellers," look out for yourselves.

We heartily commend to the *Star* family and the people generally, our successor, Mr. Hull. He is a young man of ability, is a farmer's son, who, by dint of hard work, steady habits and a laudable ambition has already gained a creditable place in the editorial profession. He is a good writer, and an industrious news gatherer, and we have no doubt will make the *Star* a much more welcome guest than ever before. We ask for him all the favors you have extended to

John (Judge) Palmer

Birth **1820** in [Ohio](#)
Death **1895** in [Balmoral, Otter Trail, MN](#)

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Media Gallery

No photos, stories, audio or video have been added yet.

Timeline [\(View details\)](#)

1820 [Birth](#) [Ohio](#) [1 source citation](#)

1837 [Marriage to Flora Reid Lyle](#)
2 Nov [Greene County, Ohio, USA](#)
Age: 17 Married by Rev David Winters Located in Green County Ohio Marriage Records Vol A page 305 (slc 977.174v22s)

1885 [Residence](#) [Girard](#) [1 source citation](#)
1 May
Age: 65

1895 [Death](#) [Balmoral, Otter Trail, MN](#)
Age: 75

Comments

No comments have been added yet.

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Family Members

Parents

[Joseph PALMER](#)
1791 – 1864

[Julia A Butler](#)
1795 – 1859

[Show siblings](#)

Spouse & Children

[Flora Reid Lyle](#)
1822 –

[William Lyle Palmer](#)
1843 –

[Clayton Palmer](#)
1845 –

[Edwin Palmer](#)
1847 –

[Frances Palmer](#)
1849 –

[Ella Palmer](#)
1852 –

[Dwight Palmer](#)
1854 –

[Charles A Palmer](#)
1856 –

[Family group sheet](#)

Source Information

[view details](#)

Ancestry Family Trees

This citation provides evidence for John (Judge) Palmer

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

1 citation provides evidence for **Name, Residence, Birth**

Web Links

There are no weblinks available for this person.

[Search the web for John \(Judge\) Palmer](#)



Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925

Name: **John Palmer**
 Birth Year: **abt 1821**
 Birth Place: **Ohio**
 Gender: **Male**
 Marital Status: **Married**
 Census Date: **1856**
 Residence County: **Butler**
 Locality: **Butler**
 Roll: **IA_69**
 Line: **16**
 Family Number: **22**
 Neighbors: [View others on page](#)

Household Members:	Name	Age
	John Palmer	35
	Flora Palmer	34
	William Palmer	13
	Francis Palmer	5
	Ella Palmer	4
	Dwight Palmer	2

Source Information:

Ancestry.com. *Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2007.

Original data: Microfilm of Iowa State Censuses, 1856, 1885, 1895, 1905, 1915, 1925 as well various special censuses from 1836-1897 obtained from the State Historical Society of Iowa via Heritage Quest.

Description:

This database contains Iowa state censuses for the following years: 1856, 1885, 1895, 1905, 1915, and 1925. It also includes some head of household censuses and other special censuses from 1836-1897. Information available for an individual will vary according to the census year and the information requested on the census form. Some of the information contained in this database though includes: name, age, gender, race, birthplace, marital status, and place of enumeration. [Learn more...](#)

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Ancestry.com



You searched for **John Palmer** born in **Ohio** in **1816**

1870 United States Federal Census

Name: **John Palmer**
 Birth Year: **abt 1821**
 Age in 1870: **49**
 Birthplace: **Ohio**
 Home in 1870: **Butler, Butler, Iowa**
 Race: **White**
 Gender: **Male**
 Value of real estate: [View image](#)

Household Members:	Name	Age
	John Palmer	49
	Flora Palmer	47
	Ella Palmer	18
	Dwight Palmer	16
	Charles Palmer	4

Source Citation: Year: 1870; Census Place: *Butler, Butler, Iowa*; Roll: M593_379; Page: 637B; Image: 564; Family History Library Film: 545878.

Source Information:
 Ancestry.com. 1870 United States Federal Census [database online]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.

Original data:

- 1870 U.S. census, population schedules. NARA microfilm publication M593, 1,761 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.
- Minnesota census schedules for 1870. NARA microfilm publication T132, 13 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.

Description:
 This database is an index to individuals enumerated in the 1870 United States Federal Census, the Ninth Census of the United States. Census takers recorded many details including each person's name, age at last birthday, sex, color; birthplace, occupation, and more. No relationships were shown between members of a household. Additionally, the names of those listed on the population schedule are linked to actual images of the 1870 Federal Census. [Learn more...](#)

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Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Name: **Flora Palmer**
Census Date: **1 May 1885**
County: **Otter Tail**
Locality: **Girard**
Birth Location: **W VA**
Gender: **Female**
Estimated Birth Year: **abt 1823**
Race: **White**
Roll: **MNSC_36**

Source Information:

Ancestry.com. *Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905* [database online]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2007.
Original data:

- Minnesota Historical Society. *Minnesota State Population Census Schedules, 1865-1905*. St. Paul, MN, USA: Minnesota Historical Society, 1977. Microfilm. Reels 1-47 and 107-164.
- Minnesota. *Minnesota Territorial Census Schedules, 1849-1855*. St. Paul, MN, USA: Minnesota Historical Society, 2000. Microfilm.
- Minnesota. *Minnesota 1857 Territorial Census*. Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, MN, USA.

Description:

This database contains the Minnesota territorial and state censuses from 1849-1905. Information available for an individual will vary according to the census year and the information requested on the census form. Some of the information contained in this database though includes: name, enumeration place, age, gender, race, and birthplace. [Learn more...](#)

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