Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Seeley, Homer Senator _____

Represented Guthrie County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 1 Oct 1822 Wayne County, New York

2. Marriage (s) date place

May Parrish 8 Jan 1857 Guthrie Center, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business When the Oklahoma Territory opened for settlement, he went there to keep a claim and lived within days with death

B. Civic responsibilities G.A.R.

C. Profession Farmer; surveyor

4. Church membership _____

5. Sessions served 17th General Assembly 1878

6. Public Offices

A. Local Guthrie County surveyor in 1854; Guthrie County treasurer;

B. State Delegate to the 3rd Constitutional Convention serving Dallas Polk and Guthrie Counties in 1856; in 1861 appointed register of land office at Fort Dodge for 3 years

C. National Delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1860 in Chicago that nominated Abraham Lincoln

7. Death 12 Nov 1890 Pawnee, Oklahoma; buried at Guthrie, Oklahoma

8. Children Clarence (died in early manhood 15 Nov 1880); Horace; Roy; Otis; Marguerite Kate; Curtiss P. (died in infancy); Roy (died in infancy)

9. Names of parents Samuel and Susan (Clinine) Seeley

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

Seeley, Thomas

10. Education Educated in the schools and academies of Oakland County, Michigan

11. Degrees

12. Other applicable information Republican

- He moved in early childhood with his parents to Oakland County, Michigan where he grew to manhood.
- He taught school for a time
- He then spent time lumbering in the pine woods with brother, John.
- In 1849 he went to Washington City to serve in a government appointment but returned to Michigan in 1850 where he moved in the Lake Superior region.
- He moved to Guthrie County, Iowa in early spring 1853 locating at Bear Grove Township.
- Military service - Civil War - Co. H, 14th Iowa Volunteer Infantry
- He was a founder of the town of Guthrie Center, Iowa.
- When the Oklahoma Territory opened he went there with a daughter and took up claims.
- Seeley Township and Seeley Creek commemorate his residence in Guthrie County.

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

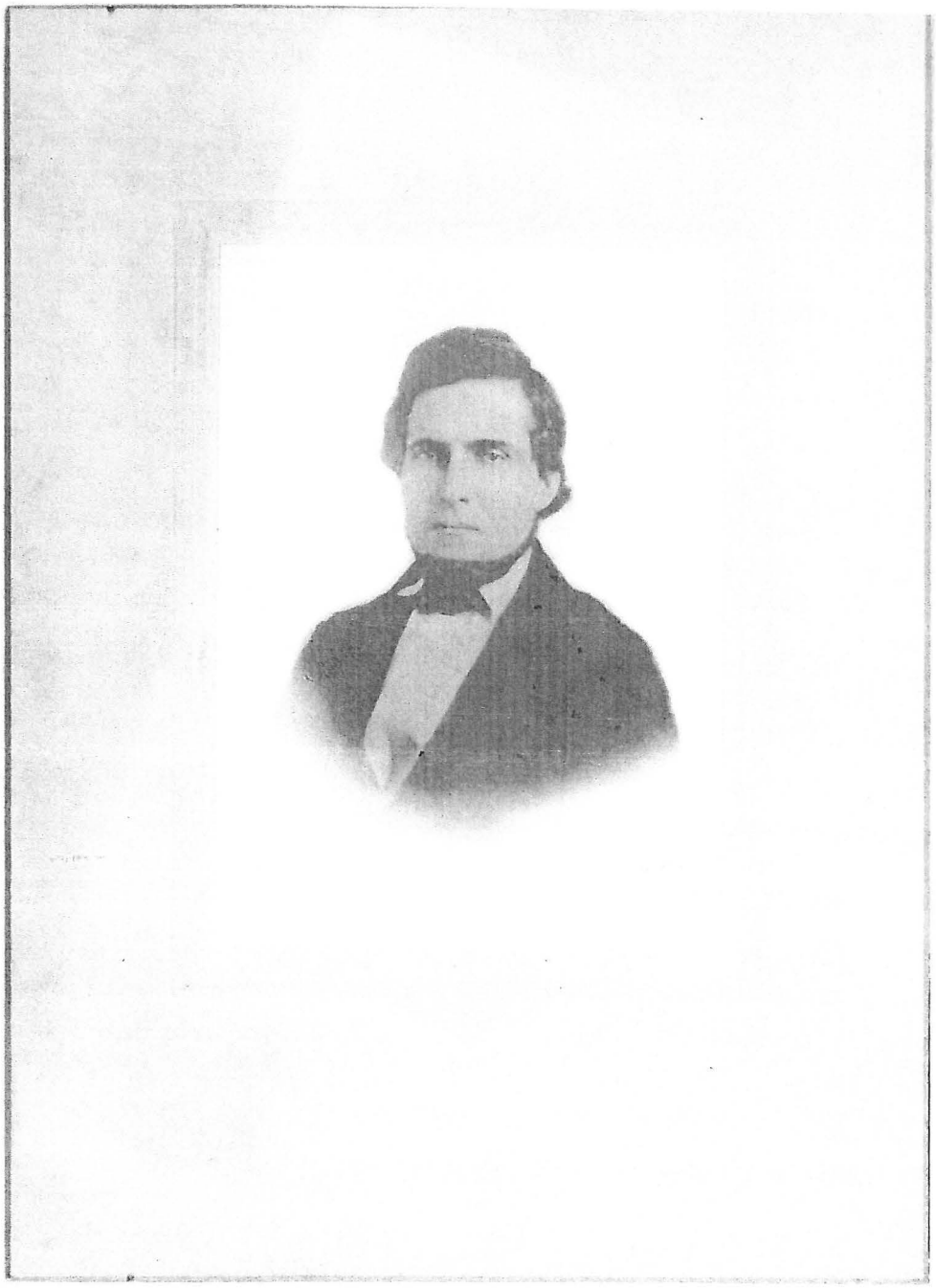
Seely, Thomas

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

Source	Non Applicable	Applicable	Information obtained
Obituary - The Guthrian, Guthrie Center, Iowa, Thurs. Nov 19, 1890, p 2, col. 3, 4			
Article - The Guthrie County Centennial Supplement, 1953		✓	
GAR Records			
The History of Guthrie and Adair Counties, Iowa 1884, p. 317-318			
familysearch.org (accessed 21 May 2010)			
ancestry.com (accessed 21 May 2010)			
Portrait - the original is located in the archives of the State of Iowa Historical Library, 600 E. Locust, Des Moines, Iowa			

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



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

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IN MEMORIAM.

Last Friday we received the following dispatch dated on that day, November 13. at Guthrie, Oklahoma Ter.

Father died Thursday morning. Buried here today. Will write.

HORACE SEELEY.

That brief message told of the close of the life of one of the most active and prominent pioneer settlers of this county, Capt. Thos. Seeley. He was the son of Samuel and Susan (Clinin) Seeley was born in Wayne county, New York and died at the age of seventy-five years, one month and eleven days.

In his early childhood his parents removing west, located in Oakland county, Michigan, where he grew to manhood and was given a good English education in the schools and academies of the county. Reaching manhood he taught school for sometime, and then spent some time lumbering in the pineries. In 1849 he went to Washington city to serve in a government appointment but returned to Michigan the following year going into the mining regions of Lake Superior. He came to Guthrie county in the early spring of 1853 and was one one of the pioneer settlers of the western portion of the county locating at Bear Grove that spring. In 1854 he served here in the office of county surveyor. The following year he was appointed to fill a vacancy in the office of county treasurer. In the fall of 1856 he was elected from the district formed of Dallas, Polk and Guthrie counties as a delegate to the third constitutional convention of the state in which he assisted in forming the present state constitution. He was appointed as commissioner and and discharged the duty of selecting the swamp lands in this county under the congressional swamp land grant. In 1877 he was elected in this county as a member of the 17th general asssembly in which office he served with credit to his county. In 1864 he was appointed register of the U. S. land office at Des Moines in which position he served three years. He was a delegate to the republican national convention in 1860 which met in Chicago and nominated Abraham Lincoln for the presidency.

In the spring of 1861 he volunteered and assisted in recruiting Co H. 4th Iowa vol, infantry. He was elected to its command and led it until he was impelled by ill health to resign and return home in the winter of 1862,

He was one of the founders of this town and we believe surveyed its original platt,

On the eigth day of January 1857 he was united in marriage with Miss May Parrish, daughter of Isaac and Rachel Parrish, their marriage occurring in this then new town. To them were born eight children. Two died in early childhood and one, a son Clarence

one of his years and have passed through so many hardships in early days. He was seventy-five years old Oct. 1, 1896 Had arrived at Pawnee in company with a young minister who held services at Pawnee, Sunday evening Nov. 8th and had invited father, if not too tired to go and hear him. After the service and nearly all had left father made a misstep going out and fell, striking on his neck and shoulders. He was parylized at once from his neck down. He did not suffer and did as he had expressed his desires to me in his last visit in Iowa in September last, without lingering long or suffering.

I did not arrive in time to see him before his death. Of his children, Ray, Maggie, myself and wife were at the funeral, we arriving at Guthrie on the same train Uncle Silas did with the remains."

So one after another the pioneers of this now finely improved region are passing away. Truly their works live after them and they are worthy of perpetuation in the memories of those who shall inhabit the homes they founded and the institution they originated. They endured privations of which the present generation are without experience. When they came in to possess this region two score years ago, there was but little signs of its present wonderfully changed condition in the superior social and business conditions we today enjoy. It is said that Mr. Seeley, as a member of the convention, originated the idea embodied in our present state constitution that no representative district shall contain more than four organized counties and that every county which shall have a number of inhabitants equal to one half the ratio fixed by law shall be entitled to one representative.

If our popocratic friends will calmly look back through the past campaign they can see the folly of their blowing and profit by the retrospection. The boast of the travelling braggart of the World Herald of the conversion of such numbers of Republicans to Bryanite free silverism in this and surrounding counties was the silliest of rot. The bragging of the popocratic national chairman, Jones, as to the states that Bryan would carry, demonstrates that he didn't have any knowledge of the real state of public feeling or else that he did a wonderful lot of deliberate falsfying to deceive the masses They did a wonderful lot of howling about Mark Hanna but it is now evident to all that Mark had business sense enough to know where he was at and how the matter was going to count out. In this county the friends of Mr. Bryan boasted that they would carry it. The Republicans however knew where they were at. They counted on a very largely increased vote, but they knew that they could poll an honest vote and win the county and the leaders worked through the campaign with a firm assurance of success. The popular majorities

J. D. BR

ATTORNEY at LAW

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

ayers of the county. ast being forced upon county by the action leading in forcing people against their r they shall longer to the unjust exact- them for the past the ner in which ee. anaged and is In the beginning of school this year fifty- were furnished by the trict of Panora to almost every one of should be in a high t in their own town if that town main on the same grade Ienio and other towns maintaining theirs. the establishment of o make it a High county, not for Pa- township. It begins that board of High assuming to be al- atter and that the rhts which they are are intent on driving press to seek redress ctment that will se- ection from the four rs who show a deter- force that three mill the people. Such had if the people

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On the eigth day of January 1857 he was united in marriage with Miss May Parrish, daughter of Isaac and Rachel Parrish, their marriage occurring in this then new town. To them were born eight children. Two died in early childhood and one, a son Clarence in his early manhood. One son, Horace, is now commercial agent of the Wabash lines of railroad and located in Des Moines. The youngest son, Ray, has a good position with another railroad in the state. One daughter, Etta, married, resides in Seattle, Washington. Two others are living, one we think with the father in Oklahoma, the other we think resides in Des Moines.

On the opening of the Oklahoma territory for settlement the deceased went there with his daughter and took up claims. He has since continued his residence there.

Mr. Seeley won such prominence in the early affairs of this county and of western Iowa that the history of this county cannot be written without mention of his name. Seeley township and Seeley creek monument his memory. In 1859 he located upon the east one-half of section 8, 79, 31, the farm now owned by William Wilson one mile south-east of this place which he improved into a solid farm home, on which he reared his children giving all a good education. He continued to reside there until 1881 when, disposing of it to its present owner, he built the house in which Charles Hammond now resides and became a citizen of this place. Here he suffered a degree of mental derangement which excuses some of the seemingly strange actions of his later years.

In the rearing and education of their children he was ably assisted by his excellent and intelligent wife. As with many others in political life he met with disappointment in his plans and desires. These things may have had something to do with his seemingly strange conduct in later years. We ever found him as a citizen intelligent, desiring improved intellectual and social conditions in his surroundings. Kind as a neighbor and a parent, desiring the largest welfare of his children. He was wonderfully informed in relation to the affairs of the state. In his day he was an active useful citizen and did much to make his memory respected.

The cause of his death, and his funeral services are stated in the following letter from his son Horace received by us on Tuesday.

As telegraphed you on the 13th, father passed away on the 12th inst at 9:45 a. m. at Pawnee, Oklahoma Ter. Was burried the 13th at Guthrie. The services were from Uncle Silas E. Seeley's residence.

He had gone over into the Indian territory to look after some recently discovered oil lands. He was on his return and was in very good health for

friends of Mr. Bryan boasted that they would carry it. The Republicans however know where they were at. They counted on a very largely increased vote, but they knew that they could poll at least 2500 votes in the county and the leaders worked through the campaign with a firm assurance of success. The populist campaign was carried on by blow from the national committee down. They took it for granted that the crowds going out to hear Mr. Bryan were all going to vote for him. The truth was that only a small proportion of those thousands had such purpose. They only went as a boy goes to a penny show, merely to see. Our popocratic friends can learn much from the past campaign if they will study it.

We are asked what the republican party will do with the currency when congress meets. We dont know that there is any pressing necessity to do anything at all with the currency in the coming session of congress. The mints are now running and turning out over $60,000,009 in new coins yearly. That furnishes enough money to meet all demands if people will quit shsieking go to work and get the money now in the country into use.

We suppose that the most pressing need of legislation is a revision of the revenue system so that enough revenue may be collected to meet the expenses of government and produce something yearly for the payment of the public debt so as to secure its reduction in place of its increase. The repuulican party will attend to that duty.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT.

Notice of appointment of John D. Lonsdale (Executor).

State of Iowa, Guthrie County. SS.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been duly appointed and qualified as Executor of the Estate of Thomas Towler late of Guthrie County, deceased. All persons indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate payment; and those having claims against the same will present them duly authenticated, to the undersigned for allowance.

JOHN D. LONSDALE.

Dated, Oct. 5th. 1896. 27g

Highway Notices.

To record owners and occupants and all whom it may concern:

The commissioner appointed to vacate a highway, described as follows, to wit: All that pert of Reed road that lies and runs diagonally across the the South-West Quarter, of the South-East Quarter of Section four of Township Eighty North Range Thirty-one, West of the 4th P. M., Guthrie County, Iowa, said described property being owned by Aaron Marchant, has reported in favor of the vacation thereof, and all objections thereto or claims for damages must be filed in the Auditor's office, on or before noon of the 5th day of January A. D, 1897, or such highway will be vacated without reference thereto:

C. LEMON,
Auditor of Guthrie County, Iowa.
(See Sec. 936, Code of 1873.)

CHOLERA

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There are many large breeders and feed feeding and shipping hogs for many years w this "just luck?" No not by any means: it good feed and the constant use of the best a

There are at least three types of disease toms and effects correspond with the dread Cholera which effect the human race. Ou cal men are now able to hold in check and scourges among people: similar scientific m lar results among the hogs, providing they and intelligent care.

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A large package for $1. Do not neglect package now and

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This modern and scientific cure i trace of Opium, Morphine, Prusic oform. Most of the old fashione one or two of these poisons and thei very harmful.

MAGNETIC COUGH CURE can be u rection without the slightest danger cate child; it is prepared from the best Physicians in this country and

Pure, Harmless

Its effect upon the system are gen and it is pleasant to take.

All druggists should have it; do because there is nothing as good. for you if you insist upon having it.

BUY IT &

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

I thank God for the fascinating, interesting, instructive country,
I thank God for all that is lovely, good and true;
thank God for a lovely country childhood home;
I thank God, dear Father and Mother, most of all, for YOU.
—Rachel Revelle

* * *

District No. 4—Valley Township Builders

"A community that forgets its past has no future." School District No. 4 has had an interesting, progressive past, doesn't intend to be forgotten and hopes to have a future.

Settlers—The first settler in the district was William James Revelle, coming in 1853; Thomas Seely in 1854; Isaac Parrish in 1856-7, George Harlan and John Parrish in May, 1856.

The second schoolhouse and the first one on the present site of Valley No. 4 is located on the Wm. Webb farm now owned by Frank Stetzel.

The present school building was built about 1900 and remodeled in the early twenties. Trees, shrubs and flowers have always made these school grounds unusually beautiful rural school grounds. Arbor Day was always a great occasion in the district, both men and women turning out "en masse" to celebrate it.

The large tree in front of the school building is known as the "Beatty Ash," planted by the Beatty family. The large tree at the extreme left is known as the "Davis Elm," planted by the Dave Davis family. An elm in the southeast corner and a group of trees in the southwest corner were planted by the Wm. Baden family.

Mrs. Baden was always especially interested in having attractive surroundings as a most valuable aid in education and character formation. She was always planting bulbs, flowers, shrubs and trees so to her belongs most of the credit for this schoolyard being one of the most beautiful rural school grounds in the state.

The first school in the township, outside of the town of Guthrie Center, was taught by Mrs. George Harlan in a small log cabin near the residence of John Parrish, in 1858. At times this school has forty-five and fifty pupils. Estella Baden was teacher the past year.

Mills—In 1861 Derwin Willey and Thomas Seely started a saw mill on the south side of the South Racoon River, in Section 17. Thomas G. Young from Ohio ran the sawmill from April, 1865 to July, 1866, when he purchased it with 40 acres of land. In 1872 Mr. Young built a flour mill on the site of the old sawmill.

The Youngs had four daughters: Ida (Mrs. W. S. Jacoby), Zella (Mrs. J. W. Boston), Hattie E. (Mrs. T. F. Hupp), and Libbie (Mrs. Will Ruch). Later Wm. Haight was in business with Mr. Young. He had a daughter Alice who married Charles Overton and afterwards married Edward Yeager. Young and Berry (Ed) then owned the mill but leased it to Hupp, Jacoby and Co. Thomas Hupp had three children: Alice, Allen and George. Allen is now living in Omaha, Nebraska. Other names associated with the mill were: Matt Whetstone and a Mr. Straight. The Straights had three children: Harry, Grace and Nellie. Grace married Clyde Shreffler.

The mill was in operation until the dam was washed away by high waters, soon after the turn of the century. Later the structure was torn down. One of the burrs is in the courthouse park and two are at the entrance to Mitchell's Park in Guthrie Center. It was at this mill on August 10, 1880, the train stopped to pick up the last passenger on the way to Guthrie Center for the big celebration in honor of the "coming of the railroad"—the railroad having reached town July 22nd.

Coal—About 55 years ago Mart Schoonover and Frank Shaffer drilled test holes and found coal on the Jake Neff farm, now owned by Mrs. George Ohm. At one time there were ten to twelve families living and working at the mine.

Threshing Machines—Wm. J. Revelle and Derwin Willey had the first threshing machine in Valley Township. Others to own machines later were Edward Parrish, the Bosier brothers, Tom Parkison, George Ohm, Add Hurlbut, Harry and Emery Olmsted, Sherd Goff, John and Jimmie Patterson, Jess Leaper, Jim Crawley and Nelson Rummelhart, Mart Sumner, Park Nelson and George Thompson and Ora Pittman.

In 1919 the Valley No. 4 Threshing Company was organized and purchased the Pittman rig, running it one year; then buying a new Case engine. Marion Baden was the engineer; Harve Davis, separator man; and Jim Hoyt was water hauler. Later separator men in the company were: W. E. Moore, Henry Schwab, Vic Benton, Lee Baden, and George Ohm who ran it the longest time. Among the water haulers were: Roy McKibben, Frank Winston, Herman Davis, Bill Headlee, Ray and Walter Luckinbill, Roy and Fory Cameron, Marvin and Lamoine Lyall, Melvin Ohm and Emery Davis.

The threshing company is still in existence but the power has changed from the steam engine to the large tractor. Since the change in power, the tractor operators have been: Ossie Weber, Boyd Rutherford, and Ivyl and Duaine Kent.

Rock Chair—Many know the natural "rock chair" which stands in the courthouse park. This chair originally came from the Derwin Willey farm now owned by Wilford Jackson. The chair was taken to the old Reed Elevator and later placed in the courthouse park. In 1932 the Lions Club inserted a placque memoralizing several Guthrie Center pioneer women. From this district, Mary Parrish Seely's name appears on this placque.

Most everyone knows that Guthrie County was named in honor of Captain Wm. Guthrie who lead the only Iowa regiment in the Mexican war. But very few know how "Center Township" was changed to "Valley Township" by Thomas Seely so that on roll call it would be among the last and its delegates could therefore vote with knowledge of the standing of the candidates and matters of business voted upon, and perhaps hold a "balance of power," an advantage, and which to the politician is a valuable asset.

Thomas Seely—Came to Guthrie County about 1854. In 1849 he was in Washington, D. C., on a government appointment for his home state, New York. In 1854 he did surveying in Guthrie County, helping to lay out the town of Dalmanutha. In 1857 he was a delegate from the 27th district to the celebrated Constitutional Convention held at Iowa City and helped draft our State Constitution. In 1859 he was a member of the committee to organize the Republican Party in Iowa. In 1860 he was sent as delegate to the national Republican Convention and helped nominate Abraham Lincoln for President.

In 1861 he organized and equipped the first company (Co. C-4th Iowa Infantry) in Guthrie County and was made Captain of this company. In 1864 he was appointed register of the U. S. Land Office in Des Moines and was, for years, commissioner of Swamp Land funds for Central Iowa. In 1877 he was Guthrie County State Representative to the 17th General Assembly. He was appointed on a committee by the Governor to help check the financial affairs of the state. Seely township was named after him.

Township Trustees—E. J. Davis served as township trustee and Wm. Baden was township trustee for many years. He was president of the Farmers' Cooperative Creamery and Produce Company for years and years. He was also president of the rural telephone company, and was followed by L. B. (Bert) Herriott. C. A. Hanes (Chad) was also president, from this district, of the Farmers' Cooperative Creamery and Produce Co. James Finnegan has been township trustee for years. He is also a county committee member of the PMA. His son Marvin is township alternate member of the PMA.

Periodicals—were unknown but every home had the Family Bible. Every home had an Almanac, either Ayers or Miles and a most valuable source of information were the little books. They contained most valuable information on almost everything and every family used them constantly. Books were few and carefully used. Father took the "Farm and Fireside" and later, when the "Iowa Homestead" came out, he subscribed to it. The whole family enjoyed the almanacs for they had material suited to all ages and types of minds.

Frontier Fun—there was and everyone enjoyed himself after work was over. Neighbors helped each other with "house-raisings," husking bees, quilting parties, sewing bees, country dances, lyceums (literary societies), singing schools, Sunday Schools, shooting matches, horseshoe throwing contests, parties and later, clubs. All these activities were well attended, for everyone attended, and thoroughly enjoyed by all, grown-ups and children, alike.

R & I Club (Recreation and Instruction) was the first club organized in the community in 1910 with Mrs. Mary Baden (Mrs. Wm.), Mrs. Inez Cahail (Mrs. Claude), Mrs. Mary

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

HISTORY

OF

Guthrie and Adair Counties,

IOWA,

TOGETHER WITH SKETCHES OF THEIR TOWNS, VILLAGES AND TOWNSHIPS, EDUCATIONAL, CIVIL, MILITARY AND POLITICAL HISTORY; PORTRAITS OF PROMINENT PERSONS, AND BIOGRAPHIES OF OLD SETTLERS AND REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS.

HISTORY OF IOWA,

EMBRACING ACCOUNTS OF THE PRE-HISTORIC RACES, AND A BRIEF REVIEW OF ITS CIVIL, POLITICAL AND MILITARY HISTORY.

ILLUSTRATED.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.
CONTINENTAL HISTORICAL COMPANY.
1884.

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

tive of New York city, and a lineal descendant of the Holland Dutch stock, and whose ancestors were among the early settlers of Manhattan. When Samuel D. was about four years and a half old, the family removed to New York, where he was reared and educated until he had attained the age of fourteen, when they removed to Hancock county, Ohio. Here he taught the district schools before he had numbered his seventeenth year, and on attaining that age he entered upon the study of law, in the office of J. M. Coffinberry. A close application to his study for two years now ensued, and then S. D. made a trip to South Carolina, in which state he taught school for about six months. He then journeyed to Loudoun county, Virginia, where he remained about eighteen months, still engaged in teaching the young idea how to shoot. In 1857 he came West, and located at Panora, and being admitted to the bar, commenced the practice of law, opening an office for that purpose. Having given some attention to the study of surveying he combined that business with his law practice. He had attained a considerable practice in 1861, when, in company with Houston and Hoxsie, he started the Guthrie County *Ledger*, in Panora, acting as editor-in-chief. But these were too thrilling times for a man of his temperament to sit supinely by when the tocsin of war was sounding and the country was in danger, so on the 26th of May, 1861, he enlisted in a company raised in the county of Guthrie, and which was afterward known as Company C, 4th Iowa volunteer infantry regiment.

On the organization of the company he was elected to the position of first lieutenant. By gallant conduct in the field and close attention to duty, and an inherent bravery, he rose to the command of the regiment, and although made colonel, was mustered out of the service as lieutenant-colonel, his commission for the higher office not having arrived. A fuller history of his military career is interwoven with the annals of his famous regiment, in the war chapter in this volume. On his return to the more peaceful scenes of life he took up the practice of his profession. He was appointed district attorney of this judicial district, which then comprised some ten counties. In 1865 he was elected to the same office, filling it satisfactorily for some three years, when he resigned and resumed his private practice. In the meantime, in 1864, Mr. Nichols had purchased a half interest in the mill at Panora, with J. H. Hanyon, his father-in-law, which in 1878 he became sole owner of, and of which he is the present proprietor. In 1875 he was elected by the suffrages of his fellow-citizens to the exalted position of state senator, and four years later re-elected to the same, holding it for eight years, ending January 1, 1884. He was united in marriage on the 2d of May, 1859, to Miss Esther A. Hanyon, a native of New York, and four children have blessed their union—Cora B., Frank H., Clarence F. and Harry M. The colonel, as he is familiarly called, is a prominent member of the Odd Fellows' order, and of the Grand Army of the Republic, the post of which order in Panora he was the first post-commander.

In 1877 Thomas Seely, of Guthrie Center, was elected by a handsome majority to the house of representatives, from this, the fortieth district.

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

Thomas Seely was born in Wayne county, New York, October 1, 1822. His parents emigrated West and settled in Oakland county, Michigan, when he was about eight years of age. His mother, whose maiden name was Susan Clinin, died in 1846. His father, Samuel Seely, died in 1855. Both died in the state of Michigan.

Thomas Seely received a good education in the schools and academies of the county in which he resided. Reaching a proper age he taught school for a short time and then went into the Grand river country, where for some time, with his brother John Seely, he was engaged in the lumber business.

In the fall of 1849 he went to Washington city, having an appointment under the government. He remained there until the following spring. Afterward went to the Lake Superior country as an agent for a mining company. He remained there until he came to Guthrie county, locating in Bear Grove township in the spring of 1853. He was married January 8, 1857, in Guthrie Center by Rev. J. W. Anderson, to Miss May, daughter of Isaac and Rachel Parrish; eight children have been born to them, three of whom are dead—Curtis P. and Roy died in infancy; Clarence died November 15, 1880, aged 21 years; five are still living, namely Horace, Etta, Kate, Margueretta and Ray.

In 1861, he entered the army in the service of his country. He organized Company C, 4th Iowa infantry, and served in its command until he was compelled by ill health, in the winter of 1862, to resign and return home.

In 1854, he served as surveyor of Guthrie county, and in 1855 was appointed by the county judge to fill a vacancy in the office of county treasurer.

In the fall of 1856, he was elected by the district formed of the counties of Guthrie, Dallas and Polk, to the constitutional convention, and served in that body in forming the present constitution of the state.

In 1858, he, with J. N. Griffith and Hon. John A. Kasson, were appointed a committee to investigate the state funds.

In 1860, he was appointed to select the swamp lands and locate the swamp-land scrip belonging to Guthrie county.

In 1864, he was appointed register of the United States land office, and resigned the position in the fall of 1867.

He was a delegate to the republican national convention, and assisted in the nomination of Abraham Lincoln.

He was elected in the fall of 1878 to represent Guthrie county in the lower house of the general assemby, and served with honor during the session.

Mr. Seely was one of the original proprietors of the town of Guthrie Center, and has always been diligent in promoting its interests.

He settled in 1859 upon the east half of section 8, in Valley township, improved the property into a fine farm home, residing upon it until 1881, when he sold it to William Willson and then built himself his present pleasant home in Guthrie Center, which his many friends hope he may happily enjoy through many years of honored age.

In 1879, Colonel S. D. Nichols was reelected to the senate, and J. L. Palmer, the republican candidate, was elected to the lower house.

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

Sources:

Department of Iowa
Grand Army of the Republic

Veteran's name Seely, Thomas

War

Residence

Battles, etc.

Occupation

Nearest relatives

Date birth 1845 Place N.Y.

Father — Nativity

Date death — Place
Cause — Place burial

Mother — Nativity

War record Capt C 4 Iowa Inf
Rank Company Regiment State Organization

Wife

Children

Enlisted Age 36 Res.Guthrie Center
Apptd.Capt.26 Je '61
Date Place

Must.8 Ag 1861
Resigned 20 D 1861

Sources Roster Iowa Soldiers.:Seely
Ex.Soldiers living Ia.1886:Seeley-
Chaplain-Guthrie Center./

Discharged
Date Place

Department of Iowa
Grand Army of the Republic

Veteran's name Seely, Thomas

Record Membership and Dues Paid

Offices of honor in G. A. R.

Post name	Post No.	Place	Date Joined
Tracy	52(1)	Guthrie Center	

Year	Date Paid	Amount	Year	Date Paid	Amount

Member-at-Large

Year	Date Paid	Amount

Suspended Died

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

ancestry.com

You searched for **Thomas Seeley** in **Iowa**

1860 United States Federal Census

Name:	**Thomas Seeley**
Age in 1860:	36
Birth Year:	abt 1824
Birthplace:	New York
Home in 1860:	Center, Guthrie, Iowa
Gender:	Male
Post Office:	Guthrie Center
Value of real estate:	View image

Household Members:

Name	Age
Thomas Seeley	36
Mary Seeley	25
Clarence Seeley	1
Sarah Hess	18
Daniel Bates	26
Filena Jordan	20

Source Citation: Year: *1860*; Census Place: *Center, Guthrie, Iowa*; Roll *M653_323*; Page: *546*; Image: *64*; Family History Library Film: *803323*.

Source Information:

Ancestry.com. *1860 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.

Original data: 1860 U.S. census, population schedule. NARA microfilm publication M653, 1,438 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.

Description:
This database is an index to individuals enumerated in the 1860 United States Federal Census, the Eighth Census of the United States. Census takers recorded many details including each person's name, age as of the census day, sex, color; birthplace, occupation of males over age fifteen, 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 1860 Federal Census. Learn more...

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FamilySearch™ International Genealogical Index v5.0 North America

Family Group Record

Husband

Thomas Seeley Pedigree

Birth: 01 OCT 1822 , Wayne, New York
Christening:
Marriage: 08 JAN 1857 Center, , Guthrie, Iowa
Death: 11 NOV 1890 Guthrie, Logan, Oklahoma
Burial:

Wife

Mary Parrish Pedigree

Birth:
Christening:
Marriage:
Death:
Burial:

Children

1. Curtis P. Parrish Pedigree
Male

Birth: About 1848 Center, , Guthrie, Iowa
Christening:
Death: About 1848
Burial:

2. Roy Seeley Pedigree
Male

Birth: About 1850 Center, , Guthrie, Iowa
Christening:
Death: About 1850
Burial:

3. Clarence Seeley Pedigree
Male

Birth: About 1858 Center, , Guthrie, Iowa
Christening:
Death:
Burial:

4. Horance Seeley Pedigree
Male

Birth: About 1860 Center, , Guthrie, Iowa
Christening:
Death: 15 NOV 1880
Burial:

5. Etta Seeley Pedigree
Female

Birth: DEC 1862 Center, , Guthrie, Iowa
Christening:

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

Death:
Burial:

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6. Kate Seeley Pedigree
Female

Birth: About 1864 Center, , Guthrie, Iowa
Christening:
Death:
Burial:

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7. Marguertta Seeley Pedigree
Female

Birth: About 1867 Center, , Guthrie, Iowa
Christening:
Death:
Burial:

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8. Ray Seeley Pedigree
Male

Birth: About 1869 Center, , Guthrie, Iowa
Christening:
Death: 15 NOV 1880
Burial:

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