

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Hells, George Senator \_\_\_\_\_

Represented Grandy County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 14 May 1821 Darlington, Connecticut

2. Marriage (s) date place

Sarah Underwood 27 Nov 1848 Montville, Ohio

3. Significant events for example:

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

B. Civic responsibilities \_\_\_\_\_

C. Profession Farmer

4. Church membership Presbyterian

5. Sessions served 17<sup>th</sup> General Assembly 1878

6. Public Offices

A. Local \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

7. Death 2 Aug 1906 Hillsburg, Iowa; Buried Rose Hill Cemetery, Grandy County, Iowa

8. Children Frank G. (deceased 10 July 1861)

9. Names of parents Ralph and Julia (Roberts) Hells

Wells, George

10. Education

11. Degrees

12. Other applicable information

*Annexed*

- His parents died when he was 17 and 18. He then moved to Ohio when he was married and his son was born.
- His interest in Iowa began around 1856 and he began breaking the land and which he has owned and cultivated since in Grundy County, Iowa.
- In 1867 he brought his family to the home that was his comfort and pride.
- His wife, Sarah, died 9 Nov 1895. He never completely recovered from her loss.
- Sometimes before his wife's death, her sister Mrs. Amstock provided comfort for Mr. Wells in his declining years.
- He was taken ill in Mar 1902 and never recovered. He died 2 Aug 1906 at the age of 85 years, 2 months and 18 days.
- When the railroad was built through Grundy County, he took an active interest and built a village called Wellsburg, named for him.
- He was considered Iowa's wealthiest farmer and Grundy County's only millionaire.
- At one time he owned about 9000 acres of Grundy County land.

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

| Source | Non Applicable     | Applicable   | Information obtained   |
|--------|--------------------|--|--|
| -      | Obituary           | -  | <u>The Grundy Republican</u> , Grundy Center, Iowa,<br>Thurs. Aug 9, 1906, p. 1, col. 1, 2   |
| -      | Obituary           | -  | <u>The Grundy County Democrat</u> , Grundy Center, Iowa<br>Thurs Aug 9, 1906, p. 1; col. 1, 2, 3   |
| -      | Annals of Iowa     | Vol 7, 3rd Series, 1906-1907, p. 560   |  |
| -      | Kells to Hollsburg | Wonderful 100, Pictorial History of Hollsburg, Iowa<br>1880-1980, p. 6, 7, 8 |  |
| -      | ancestry.com       | account 15 Apr 2009  |  |
| -      | Obituary           | -  | <u>The Estherville Enterprise</u> , Estherville, Iowa<br>Wed 8 Aug 1906, p. 1, col. 3  |
| -      | Obituary           | -  | <u>The Waterloo Daily Courier</u> , Waterloo, Iowa<br>Wed. Aug 8, 1906, p. 1, col. 4   |
| -      | Article            | -  | <u>The Cedar Rapids Republican</u> , Cedar Rapids, Iowa<br>Thu. 10 Aug 1906, p. 3, col. 2  |
| -      | Article            | -  | <u>The Semi-Weekly Reporter</u> , Waterloo, Iowa<br>Thu 10 Aug 1906, p. 1, col. 3 and Tues. Aug 14 1906, p. 6, col. 1<br>and Tues. Aug 21, 1906, p. 14, col. 2 |
| -      | Findagrave.com     | account 15 Apr 2009  |  |

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AWK TOWNSHIP.

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- L B Hathaway
- B N Robinson
- F Albert
- C C Powderly
- J Maehrlein
- W W Gaston

TON TOWNSHIP

- J F Richmond
- J M Shafstahl
- H C Downey

T TOWNSHIP

- L L Henningsen
- Joe Condon
- Fred Gauger

X TOWNSHIP

- C Dirks
- J Franken
- John Lingelbach
- Geo Schmidt

VALLEY TOWNSHIP

- T M Bergman
- Barney Hook

TOWNSHIP

- D Bockes
- W N Conrad
- Geo Frederick
- F W Alexander

SE TOWNSHIP

- G N Schwarek
- Bert La Rue

H TOWNSHIP

- D J Riekema
- Henry Lutterman
- A Meyer
- Geerdes

N TOWNSHIP

- Ubbo Beving

TO TOWNSHIP

- T H Holck
- Robert Vasey
- Robert Brown
- Henry Bockes

on J R Lamb

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R TOWNSHIP

- John Girkana

CAME TO GRUNDY COUNTY 50 YEARS  
AGO.

Mr. Wells came to Grundy County in 1855. His keen insight told him that this was one of the best spots in the world to invest in real estate and he began his land speculations at once and at one time owned about 9000 acres of Grundy County land.

entitled to an equal portion of their father's share in the will. These four heirs are Flora G. Atkins, Will Atkins and Mrs. Lillian Faggart of Indianapolis, Ind., and Frank Atkins of Seattle, Washington.

WILL TO BE CONTESTED

Notice has been given that Mr. Wells last will will be contested by the relatives of Mr. Well's wife

IOWA'S MILLIONAIRE FARMER.



HON. GEO. WELLS.

HIS WEALTH

Mr Well's wealth is estimated at a million dollars. It is represented in bank deposits. At the time of his death he owned about 8000 acres of Iowa

These relatives are Mrs. Comstock of Wellsburg, Mrs. G. H. Wheelock and Geo. Murray of Germania. The first two are children of Mrs. Wells and the last two are children of Mrs. Well's sister.

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# IOWA'S WEALTHI- EST FARMER DEAD

**Geo. Wells, Grundy County's  
Millionaire, Died Thursday  
Night.**

## WILLS FORTUNE TO 10 HEIRS

Notice Given That Will is to Be Contested.

George Wells, Iowa's wealthiest farmer and Grundy County's only millionaire died at his home near Wellsburg last Thursday evening at 8 o'clock. His death came as a gradual snuffing out of life's candle. For several years he has been failing both physically and mentally and during the past year his death was expected to come at any time.

Mr. Wells was born in Connecticut, at a place known as the "Ten Rod Farm" which he owned at the time of his death.

CAME TO GRUNDY COUNTY 50 YEARS  
AGO.

Mr. Wells came to Grundy County in 1855. His keen insight told him that this was one of the best spots in the world to invest in real estate and he began his land speculations at once and at one time owned about 9000 acres of Grundy County land.

erty or about \$50,000 is claimed by the state as inheritance tax.

His last will was made in 1903, in this he leaves \$50,000 to Mrs. Comstock, his wife's sister, and of the remainder he makes an equal division among ten heirs, his sisters or his sister's children.

Mr. Wells had five sisters. Three of these are living and the two who are dead have left children who are allowed the mother's portion in the will.

The heirs are as follows:

Mrs. Mary Nelson, Fairbault, Minn., a sister.

Mrs. Sophia Robinson, Bristol, Conn., a sister

Mrs. Elizabeth Briggs, Chicago, a sister.

One of the deceased sister's, Mrs. Sara Wells Atkens left but one daughter, Mrs. Harriett McMahon of Colorado Springs.

Julia Wells Atkens, the other deceased sister, left a son and a daughter. The daughter is Mrs. J. Ellen Perkins of Medford, Oregon. Mr. Atkens is dead. He has left four children and each of these as heir is entitled to an equal portion of their father's share in the will. These four heirs are Flora G. Atkens, Will Atkens and Mrs. Lillian Faggart of Indianapolis, Ind., and Frank Atkens of Seattle, Washington.

### WILL TO BE CONTESTED

Notice has been given that Mr. Wells last will will be contested by the relatives of Mr. Well's wife

has owned and cultivated ever since.

In 1857 he brought his family to the home which has always been his comfort and pride where he ever had a warm and hearty welcome for his friends. Nov. 9, 1895 the companion of his joys and sorrows was taken from his side by death and he never fully recovered from the loss sustained by the separation. Some time before the death of Mrs. Wells, her sister Mrs. Comstock had come to make her home with them and she has remained in charge of the house, thus providing for the comfort of Mr. Wells in his declining years, ministering to his every want with the tenderness and devotion due the husband of her lamented sister.

In March 1902 Mr. Wells was taken seriously ill from which he never fully recovered and gradually declining, the end came in the evening of Aug. 2, 1906 at the good old age of 85 years, two months and eighteen days.

When the railroad was built through Grundy county, Mr. Wells took an active interest in its location and it was for him that the village of Wellsburg was named.

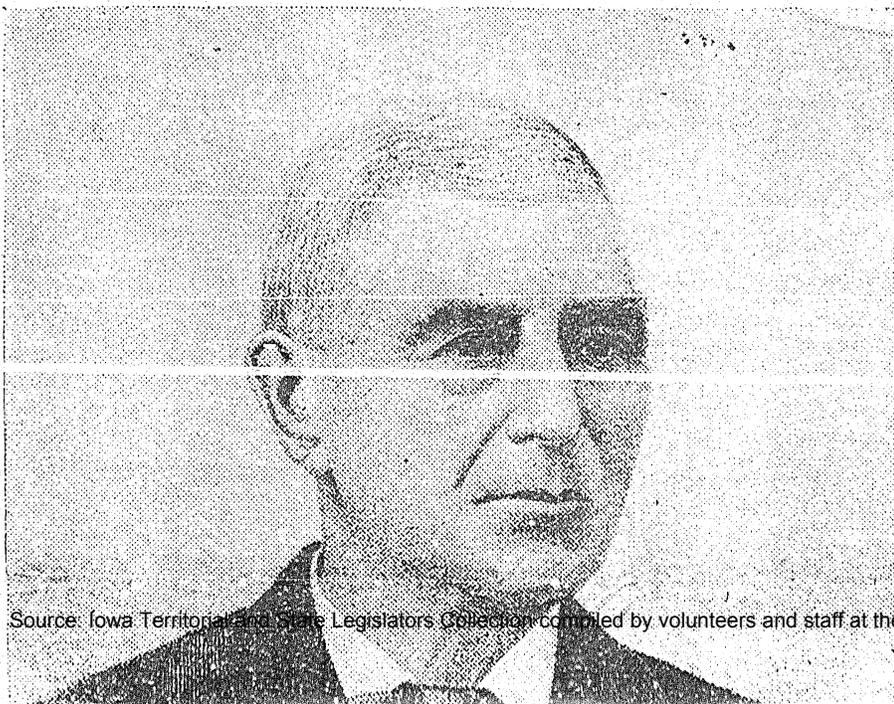
Nov. 4, 1898, a Presbyterian church was organized at Wellsburg at which time Mr. Wells publicly confessed Christ and was baptized. At various times since he expressed to his pastor his faith in God's mercy, and his assurance of his personal salvation through the merits of Jesus Christ. He was always interested in everything that was for the betterment of society and progress and development of the commonwealth.

He served one term as representative in the legislature of Iowa and there as elsewhere, his public service was invoked by excellent judgment and desire for a wise administration of law and justice for the best interests of the common people.

He had a wide acquaintance in the business world but was always unassuming in hearing and manner and those who knew him best loved him most. No better proof of his kindness of heart can be given than is shown by the deep grief of those who have been for many years in his employ.

As citizen, neighbor, and friend he will be missed for his seat will be empty. His death casts a gloom over his brother and many near relatives. The funeral service was held Monday afternoon Aug. 5, at the

## IOWA'S MILLIONAIRE FARMER.



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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HON. GEO. WELLS.

HIS WEALTH

Mr Well's wealth is estimated at a million dollars. It is represented by real estate, bank stock and bank deposits. At the time of his death he owned about 8000 acres of Iowa land.

An inventory of his wealth was filed in the county clerk's office the 27th day of last September and the following figures are taken from that report.

REAL ESTATE

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Emmet County,   | 2840 acres |
| Kossuth County,   | 3500 acres |
| Grundy County,  | 1560 acres |
| In town Wellsburg,  | 40 lots    |
| In town Germania  | 2 lots     |
| In town Steamboat Rock,   | 2 lots     |
| Wells Homestead near Bristol, Connecticut, known as the "Ten Rod" farm, | 100 acres. |

NOTES

There are \$72,074 in notes secured by chattle mortgages.

BANK DEPOSITS

|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| First National, Grundy Center         | \$ 2675 44 |
| Wellsburg Savings Bank                | 5188 22    |
| Continental National Bank of Chicago  | 127595 68  |
| First Trust & Savings Bank of Chicago | 71612 85   |

CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

First National Bank, Grundy Center

These relatives are Mrs. Comstock of Wellsburg, Mrs. G. H. Wheelock and Geo. Murray of Germania. The first named is a sister of Mr. Wells and the last two are children of Mrs. Well's sister.

Before Mrs. Wells' death a will was made by Mr. Wells bequeathing all of his fortune to his wife.

The wife's relatives now claim that Mr Wells was not sound in mind when he signed his last will in 1903.

The wife's relatives have retained as their attorneys Sullivan & McMahon of Algona and Judge M. J. Wade of Iowa City. The contest promises to bring on a legal battle such as we have not had before in this county.

Obituary.

George Wells was born in Newington, Conn., May 14, 1821. His opportunities for education were limited to the first eighteen years of his life. When but seventeen he met with the loss of his mother and his father died the year following.

He entered at once upon the activities of a business career which continued during the many years of his life, revealing exceptional ability and keen foresight based upon principles of sterling integrity and uprightness.

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As citizen, neighbor, and friend he will be missed for his seat will be empty. His death casts a gloom over the lives of three sisters, one brother and many near relatives.

The funeral service was held Monday afternoon Aug. 5, at the late residence conducted by Rev. L. M. Beebe, pastor of the Presbyterian church of Seymour, Iowa, assisted by Revs. Dye and Theilken. Interment was in the family lot in the cemetery at Grundy Center, Iowa.

Buys Four Cars of Horses.

Harry Gill bought eighty-four head of horses here last Saturday. He left about \$12,000 in the county for them. It was the biggest day's horse business that was ever done here.

The buying opened early and the horses came from all parts of the county.

The prices paid were as high as \$240 per head. John DesMarias sold one at that price. Ben Bloxhyl sold three head for which he was paid \$625.

This makes the third time that Gill has been buying horses here. The last time he bought nearly three times as he got on his first trip here. Gill claims this county has as fine horse flesh as any place in which he has ever done business and he is willing to pay what they are worth. The horses were all shipped out to Chicago Sunday morning.

Mr. Gill expects to be back here in about a month to do a bigger day's business than any he has ever done here.

Items of General Interest.

A company is being organized a Traer for the manufacture of the Kostland washing machine. The company will have a capital of \$10000.

Grain rates between the Missouri river and Chicago are to be cut to eight cents on wheat, and to seven cents on coarse grains. The announcement has been made by the Great Western railroad that any cut would be met. The former rate was 10 1/2 cents per bushel to Chicago.

The town of Parkersburg is agitating the proposition of putting in a sewerage system.

James Cavanaugh, living near Blessing has been seriously ill for the past few days, suffering from the effects of a sunstroke. Thursday afternoon he was taken to Knoxville to a sanitarium for treatment.

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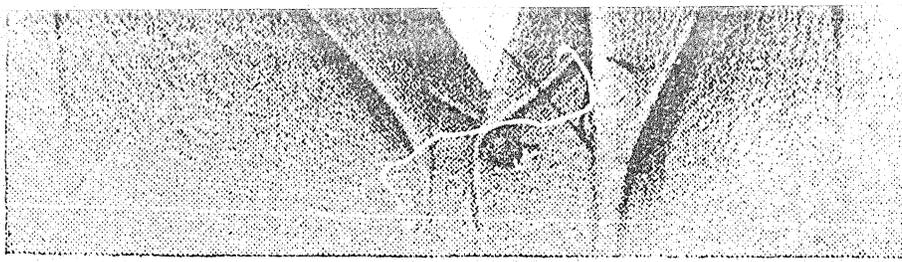
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**Death of Mrs. Frantzen.**

Mrs. R. Frantzen died at her home in this city last Sunday evening, having reached the ripe old age of eighty-one years. She had been suffering for about a year with diabetes and has been very low for some time. She moved here from Ackley a few years ago and has since made her home, with her husband. The funeral was held at the German Baptist church at this place yesterday afternoon, conducted by Rev. Willims of Buck Grove church, and the remains laid to rest in Pleasant View cemetery. Parkersburg Eclipse.

Miss Frantzen was the mother of Peter Bonk of Washington township.



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| First Trust & Savings Bank of Chicago..... | 71612 35   |

**CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT**

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| First National Bank, Grundy Center..... | 55075 00    |
| Wellsburg Savings Bank..                | 12000 00    |
| Farmers & Drovers State of Germania.... | 33427 51    |
| Total .....                             | \$317574 70 |

**BANK STOCK**

|                                    |          |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| First National, Grundy Center..... | 32700 00 |
| Wellsburg Savings Bank             | 1000 00  |
| Farmers & Drovers of Germania....  | 17000 00 |
| Total.....                         | 52700 00 |

**THE HEIRS**

Mr. Wells leaves no children therefore five per cent of his prop-

These relatives are Mrs. Comstock of Wellsburg, Mrs. G. H. Wheelock and Geo. Murray of Germania. The first named is a sister of Mr. Wells and the last two are children of Mrs. Wells's sister.

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The wife's relatives now claim that Mr Wells was not sound in mind when he signed his last will in 1903.

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He entered at once upon the activities of a business career which continued during the many years of his life, revealing exceptional ability and keen foresight, based upon principles of sterling integrity and uprightness.

In an early day he saw the great opportunities which the then new West offered to the pioneer, and with large faith in Iowa, laid the foundation for his financial success by investing in the land which he knew was sure to become more valuable from year to year.

He located first in Ohio and on November 27, 1848, was married at Montville to Miss Sarah Underwood. One son, George Frank, was born to them in 1853 and the first great sorrow came to the father's heart in the death of his boy which occurred July 10, 1761.

His active interest in Iowa began in about the year 1856 when he commenced breaking the land which he

## GEORGE WELLS DIED THURSDAY

Wealthy Grundy County Man  
Passes Away at Wellsburg

### TWO WILLS HAVE BEEN FILED

Big Legal Fight Promised over Last  
Which Gives Property to Wells'  
Heirs.

Hon. George Wells died at his residence one mile south of Wellsburg, Ia., Thursday evening at 8 o'clock.

Mr. Wells had been failing for some time, so much so that guardians of his property had been appointed by the court. He was one of the oldest settlers in this county, and was 85 years old. He left surviving him three sisters, Mrs. Nelson of Minnesota, Mrs. Briggs of Chicago, Mrs. Robinson of Bristol, Conn., and one brother who resides in Minnesota, and also several nephews and nieces. Mr. Wells served one term in the Iowa legislature.

George Wells was one of Iowa's wealthiest men. He has been a resident of Grundy county for half a century. He came from Connecticut and still owns the old family estate in the "Nutmeg State." At one time he owned 9,000 acres of Grundy soil, and in the early days it could virtually be had for the asking, but of the vast estate of 1,500 acres that he now owns, not an acre is obtainable for less than \$100, and it has only been within the last ten years he has consented to part with any of the real estate at that high figure. In addition to his extensive interests at Wellsburg he has vast tracts of valuable lands in Palo Alto and Kossuth counties, and in many banks. There are no children of direct issue and the heirs are either brothers, sisters or more distantly connected.

The total value of Mr. Wells' estate is estimated at upward of \$1,000,000 and it is expected that his death will precipitate one of the biggest legal fights over an estate that has ever occurred in this part of Iowa. Two wills, with several years intervening, seem to be the basis for the impending contest, and even during his last sickness there were evidence that his relatives would institute proceedings as soon as his death occurred.

It is understood that twenty-five years ago a will was made by which his earthly possessions were willed to his wife. She being several years his junior, the natural supposition was that she would survive him, but a few years ago the wife died, and in 1902 another will was signed by Mr. Wells, at the age of 81.

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| ago, .....                                      | 127595 08 |
| First Trust and Savings Bank, Chicago, .....    | 71612 85  |
| Certificates of Deposit First Nat'l Bank, ..... | 55075 00  |
| Wellsburg Savings Bank, .....                   | 12000 00  |
| Farmers and Drovers State Bank, .....           | 33427 51  |

It was supposed that Mr. Well owned land also in Texas but none appears in the inventory.

In brief the estate consists of upwards of \$500,000 cash and bank stock and the balance in real estate, the Grundy county land being worth \$150,000 and the balance of the land nearly 7,000 acres, worth from \$40 to \$60 per acre.

The state will get from the estate in collateral inheritance tax in the neighborhood of \$50,000.

Altogether it makes a nice sum of money and it is better for all concerned that it be distributed where it will do some good. It has never been worth anything to Grundy county or Grundy Center.

A third will dated 1861 which is practically the same as the will of 1881 was filed with the clerk to be used as evidence on Wednesday.

### Special Administrators Appointed.

On Tuesday R. M. Finlayson and Chas. Biebesheimer, who have been guardians of Mr. Wells for several months, were appointed special administrators to act until court meets. Their bonds were fixed at \$1,000,000.

Mrs. John Woodmency is very ill.

At the county fair hear Brush the world's greatest magician and sleight-of-hand performer.

### FLIGHT OF AN AIRSHIP

Sensational Feature of a Great Amusement Program for State Fair Week.

That the genius of man has at last accomplished the seemingly impossible, the imitation of the flight of birds, will be demonstrated to thousands of credulous Iowa people at Des Moines on Monday, August 27, when a daring aerialist in the famous Knabenshue Airship makes the journey, over 500 feet in the air, from the State Fair grounds to the city over the dome of the capitol and return. This the only successful American air craft. The demonstration will be by the winner of the prizes at the Portland and St. Louis expositions and who recently went air-shipping over the dome of the national capitol and encircling the Washington monument.

The four evening entertainments for fair visitors will have for background a gayety especially designed for the Iowa State Fair. The fireworks will be the finest ever seen in Iowa.

## THE DEMOCRAT NOMINATE

Name But Treasurer—Will Peppern

### PASS BRYAN R

R. E. Lynn Turned Down by Black Hawk and Heye Geerdes

The democrats of Grundy convention assembled made but two nominations and recorder. All the were passed.

The effect of this will an Hunter for Treasurer Pepperman carry the name for recorder. Although permanent refuses to say evident he doesn't like it.

The convention was presided by J. Vanderwicken with man Miller of Reinbeck. After several nominations were made and refused finally forced the office of Lynn, with J. Vanderwicken. On motion a credential three was appointed by the following: Walter Neessen, 1 son, M. H. Steelsmith.

On permanent organ Richmond, J. Vanderwicken Geerdes were named.

The committee on resolutions composed of Frank Alexander, Riebkes and J. H. Richmond.

The committee on organization recommended that organization be made permanent.

The committee on credentials reported that all township sent except Fairfield and of the names was dispensed.

On motion it was decided fourteen delegates to the convention instead of seven each delegate one-half vote.

The following committee chosen to select delegates congressional and judicial each one representing the districts in the order named Engelkes, T. M. Bergum, Swarck, P. A. Meyer, C. Theo. Holck, C. M. Buegh.

The committee reported State convention held Williamson, T. H. Holck, ssen, L. L. Bausman, O. A. Meyer, T. M. Bergum, smith, A. Vasey, J. F. R. Vanderwicken, S. W. D.

insane proceedings as soon as his

death occurred. It is understood that twenty-five years ago a will was made by which his property was divided between his son, John Wells, Jr., the natural supposition was that she would survive her husband, but a few years ago the wife died, and in 1902 another will was signed by Mr. Wells, at the age of 81.

It is said this last will gives \$50,000 to Mrs. Comstock, a sister of Mrs. Wells, \$1,000 to a servant, Rebecca Wilder and the balance of the estate is given to the heirs of Mr. Wells.

The will made in 1881 is said to be witnessed by S. Bagg of Waterloo and Chris Shuler of Grundy Center. The will of 1902 is said to be witnessed by A. N. Wood and R. M. Finlayson.

The heirs of Mrs. Wells will probably endeavor to show that when Mr. Wells made his last will he was not in a condition mentally to do so. If successful that would make the will of 1881 the legal will and give the property to Mrs. Comstock and her relatives. The prospects for a big legal battle are good. And Grundy Center may soon become famous for the biggest legal fight that has been conducted in this part of Iowa for years.

The heirs of Mrs. Wells are Mrs. Comstock, the only surviving sister of Mrs. Wells and Mrs. Wheelock and Geo. Murray of Kossuth county.

The inventory of the estate as filed by the guardians recently appointed show that Mr. Wells owned about 8,300 acres of land in Iowa. The land is located in Emmett county, 3160 acres; Kossuth county 3800 acres; Grundy county about 1500 acres. He also owned 39 lots in the town of Wellsburg and a small piece of land near Steamboat Rock. In Bristol, Conn., he owned the old homestead of 100 acres. In addition to the foregoing he in partnership with E. G. Seymour of Kossuth owned about 760 acres in that county.

Among his personal property appeared a lot of cattle and farm machinery on his various farms, and notes secured by mortgage to the amount of about \$50,058. Notes not secured by mortgage \$26,915.

In bank stock he owns \$32,700 in the First National Bank of Grundy Center, \$1000 in the Wellsburg Savings Bank, and \$17,000 in the Farmers and Drovers Bank of Germania.

He also had on deposit in different banks subject to check.

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| First National Bank, Grundy Center, ..... | \$ 2675 44 |
| Wellsburg Savings Bank, ...               | 5188 22    |
| Continental National, Chic-               |            |

at the Portland and St. Louis exhibitions and who recently went air-shipping over the dome of the national capitol and encircling the Washington monument means entertainments for fair visitors will have for background a garden scene on canvas 300 feet long, especially designed for the Iowa State Fair. The fireworks will be the finest ever seen in Iowa. The management has spared no expense in procuring the best music and the highest class vaudeville, and the latter includes the wonderful Miller performing elephants; the Allison troupe the greatest acrobatic act ever brought to this country from Europe; Castellane and Volo, in the "double gap of death," a marvellous death-defying feat; the four Pickards, in extraordinary casting and return exhibitions of skill; the Buckeye trio, in acrobatic grotesque contortion work; the Pekin zouaves, in soul stirring drills and wall-scaling exhibitions; Martinette and Sylvester, famous as modern acrobats; and the Darktown fun making circus.

The chief music will be by Liberati's military band, of international reputation, assisted by the Fifty-sixth Regiment band of Fort Dodge.

It will thus be seen that the strictly amusement feature of the Iowa State Fair this year will be better than ever before—literally a complete show in itself, more entertaining than could be got anywhere else in the world for the price of admission.

### Fire at the Jail.

Ernest Long was arrested Monday night for drunkenness and placed in the town jail. A pipe and a few matches were overlooked when he was left there by the marshal and others who assisted in taking care of him and a few moments later the jail was a fire whether from an accident or otherwise is not certain. The inside of the jail was soon ablaze and the alarm given which called out the fire company and the rest of the town. When the jail door was open Long shot out as if from a catapult and has not been seen since. If he is found a charge of incendiarism will probably be made against him and if found guilty he may get about five years in the pen. If the threat will keep him away from this town it will not be in vain.

### Marriage Licenses

|                       |    |
|-----------------------|----|
| M. Henningsen.....    | 23 |
| Henrietta Hoirup..... | 19 |
| Jesse A. Hamor.....   | 25 |
| Jeanetta Cooper.....  | 25 |
| Adel Petersen.....    | 23 |
| Ella Junger.....      | 25 |

Engelkes, T. M. Ber Swarck, P. A. Meyer. Theo. Holck, C. M. Be The committee chair Williamson, T. H. H. asen, L. L. Bausman, A. Meyer, F. M. Bergn smith, A. Vasey, J. F Vanderwicken, S. W. I Congressional: Heru Lamb, T. H. Holck, H F. W. Alexander, J. Arend Meyer.

Judicial: S. W. DeV iamson, J. W. Pepp Steelsmith, J. F. B Lynn, Walter Neessen. Senatorial: S. W. B Miller, Thos Emmett, William Miller, Chas B derwicken.

The resolution com: the following resolutio: unanimsly adopted: Resolved—By the demo county in delegate ssembled

That we hereby exp confidence in the wisdo: sistency and patriotis Jennings Bryan.

We congratulate ours: tour around the world: not only brought addi: his own name but he ha: upon the democratic pr: upon his country.

Believing as we do: leadership we earnest: him for nomination for: United States in 1908.

Henry Riebk I. F. Richme F. W. Alexan

On motion the conver: to the nomination of co: All officers were pass: urer was reached and J: was unanimously nomin: urer.

The popular treasurer: by Frank Alexander wh: stance that you often see: and bill boards a big: Whisky: That's All." say was "Jake Peppers: But Frank didn't ex: teetotaller like Jake had: whisky. But Jake was:

When the office of: reached four names were: nomination: Ole Ne: Geerdes, Ralph Lyn Swarck.

The chair appointed: Walter Neessen and S: tellers.

ablest writers on a gentleman of wide-gence and his obser- to the Philippines intensely interesting The writer heard part- ven before an edi- last winter and we in urging our readers Young's story of his mission fee of 25 cents for children will

A. V. Storm will lecap- tist church Friday account of a trip to United States. Prof. red several of this n Estherville and all opportunity to hear

#### WED TOMORROW.

to Wed Miss Kather- y at Madison.

s, one of Estherville's ney's, will be married nsin, tomorrow even- rine Harvey, a promi- n of that city. They for Estherville and city over the M. & 11:08 o'clock Friday. just completed a fine Maple street between streets. He left for rday and in the mean- ave been busy decor- with large placards ct that the owner has 1, Wisconsin, to get it he "wants all his d see him" when he ous other signs cover ouse and the attorney given warm words of h good advice. Lines m the house to the of the walk and in- of discarded brogans s of dilapidation are A good sized family ully and artistically rns the line. s been practicing law ast eighteen months. of both the collegiate nts of the state uni- sin. His bride is also nd the two met while ison institution.

#### ESTHERVILLE.

of Stockdale & Dietz blihes Office Here.

, vice president of the z company, grain, live r dealers, has leased e Coon block and will narters for northern any in this city. & Dietz company oper- elevators on the lines d railway and has a : Walcott, near Daven- s are John Stockdale, Stockdale, vice presi- k, secretary, and Guy urer. Mr. Stockdale t Iowa City but finds ore central point and all facilities for con- ra of his company and kes the change. ; mother and two sis- home with him. He sidence of Mrs. Emma ast Lincoln street and ame about September

#### and Grow Fat.

plenty of it is found in section of the Sunday The legislators' Col- ling illustrations free and mischievous sug-

## GEORGE WELLS DEAD

Millionaire Land Owner Passed Away at Wellsburg Last Thursday.

### MUCH EMMET COUNTY LAND HIS

Legal Contest Over His Property Likely as Two Wills are Said to Exist— Left no Direct Heirs.

George Wells, one of the wealthiest landowners in Iowa, died last Thursday evening at his home near Wellsburg in his eighty-fifth year. The death of this well known citizen is of local interest from the fact that he owned about 8,500 acres of land in Emmet county, nearly four sections being located in Swan Lake township, near Maple Hill, some of the land bordering on Swan lake, and about two sections in Lincoln town- ship, northwest of Dolliver. Robert Hamilton of Maple Hill is superintend- ent of the Wells farms in this county.

The following special despatch from Grundy Center in Saturday's Register and Leader will be of interest to Enter- prise readers:

"Hon. George Wells died at his resi- dence one mile south of Wellsburg, Ia., Thursday evening at 8 o'clock.

"Mr. Wells had been failing for some time, so much so that guardians of his property had been appointed by the court. He was one of the oldest settlers in the county, and was 85 years old. He left surviving him three sisters, Mrs. Nelson of Minnesota, Mrs. Briggs of Chicago, Mrs. Robinson of Bristol, Conn., and one brother who re- sides in Minnesota, and also several nephews and nieces. Mr. Wells served one term in the Iowa legislature.

"George Wells was one of Iowa's wealthiest men. He has been a resi- dent of Grundy county for half a cen- tury. He came from Connecticut and still owns the old family estate in the "Nutmeg State." At one time he owned 9,000 acres of Grundy soil, and in the early days it could virtually be had for the asking, but of the vast es- tate of 1,500 acres that he now owns, not an acre is obtainable for less than \$150, and it has only been within the last ten years he has consented to part with any of the real estate at that high figure. In addition to his extensive interests at Wellsburg he has vast tracts of valuable lands in Emmet and Kossuth counties, and in many banks. There are no children of direct issue and the heirs are either brothers, sisters or more distantly connected.

"The total value of Mr. Wells' estate is estimated at upward of \$1,000,000, and it is expected that his death will pre- cipitate one of the biggest legal fights over an estate that has ever occurred in this part of Iowa. Two wills, with several years intervening, seem to be the basis for the impending contest, and even during his last sickness there were evidences that his relatives would insti- tute proceedings as soon as his death occurred.

"It is understood that fifteen years ago a will was made by which his earth- ly possessions were willed to his wife. She being several years his junior, the natural supposition was that she would survive her husband, but a few years ago the wife died, and within the past year another will was signed by Mr. Wells, at the age of 85. It is declared to be a very interesting document, the property this time being distributed on Mr. Wells' side of the house to his rela- tives. The contest is expected to origi- nate with relatives of the deceased wife.

REV. McCOLLEY WRITES.

The houses are very large and long, much larger than the average house in Estherville. In nearly every case there is a barn connected with the house, one or two rooms back of the kitchen con- necting the house and barn. The yards are large and well kept and are much larger than I expected to find from my previous knowledge of the east.

"Madison has quite an historical interest. Near here a monument marks the spot where a tribe of Indians were exterminated by English soldiers. I'll be glad to write you about the incident later. Here also Benedict Arnold en- camped on his way to Canada. The falls of the Kennebec here necessitated a portage of several miles before he could again navigate the river with his boats.

"Friday I took a drive in the country and was surprised at the farms we passed. East of Madison there are at least a dozen or fifteen farms, all of them as level and as free from stones as the farms northeast of Estherville. They have large barns and houses. The houses are in good condition and invariably painted white, as are nearly all the barns. I saw a field of corn of at least twenty acres and the ground was as level as any western field. West and north of Madison the country is very hilly and several mountains of considerable height can be seen. The side hills and valleys are farmed and there is a ready market in Madison for all their produce.

"There are three immense mills here, two woolen mills and a pulp or paper mill. Spruce logs are brought down the Kennebec river and reduced to pulp by means of acids and made into paper. The river men are just going down the river now, loosing and floating all the logs that had lodged on the river bank. Earl and I got to the river bridge just in time to see the last of the logs go over the dam. They have an immense water power here which may be more fully utilized some day, and there is good prospects that it will be.

"The local railroad "The Somerset" is just extending its line and tapping the lumber district never before touched. The railroad men are having great sport with baby moose up there. The papers say there are lots of them up in that region. It is only twenty- five miles from here to the deer hunting grounds.

"I think we shall like it here very much. The people we have met are very kind and hospitable. One of our members, a physician, took me out to a garden which he had planted and tended himself (he hires his own garden tended) and gave it to me. It is all ready to use. I don't know when I have been more agreeably surprised.

"The prospects in the church are excellent. My Sunday morning audi- ences are the largest I ever had.

"Again thanking you for the Enter- prise and hoping this letter may find a place in its columns, I am

"Yours very truly,

"CHAS. E. MCCOLLEY."

#### SEEING THE NORTHWEST.

J. W. Daniels and Family Make Overland Trip to Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Bath correspondence in Aberdeen (S. D.) Daily American: J. W. Daniels and family of Estherville, Iowa, were guests at the parsonage yesterday. They were on their way to Aber- deen, having traveled the whole distance, 850 miles, by team and surrey. The trip was made in eight days, the longest day's journey being fifty-five miles. They report their trip as being a most delightful one, passing between continuous fields of grain all the way, through portions of the State Historical Society Dakota. They most emphatically pro- nounce the crops through which they

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net they had not had to partake of the food they were served free table by Landhe hotel. The meetings of the committee the same time, both termination.

organized by chairman of Des Moines I. C. B. Walters of secretary.

Even announced that d to hear from each committee, by called with reference to the nature and conformation. All agreed should be brief and language and then the different planks be-

It was easily disposed agreed upon this dictated by Gen. James included the usual line on the subject of

It was also quickly a paragraph, de- or Cummins for his laws, was unanim- by all the members.

o railway rate regu- considerable discussion hour was consumed its important matter.

ink and election of ator by direct vote control of inter-state framed without dis- came the discussion tion.

his question that the the larger portion deliberation. At the bers of the commit- se Matthews of Du- e insertion of a high option clause. This

Gen. J. B. Weaver livan, both of whom allowing the liquor where it was and ex- es as in favor of ence to the liquor e platform. Claude ee agreed with and Weaver. Mr. er. was not willing liquor question from with Mr. Ray of the ke earnestly in fav- which would permit distillers of Iowa port to their patrons own the products of

Miller of the state l the committee at proceedings and asked to address the

He favored placing the platform and und at some length ee give this matter eration. He stated test victories of the in Iowa had been estion. He cited the conditions in Iowa dar attention to the too and other cities

ing that here in this doonkeepers follow- mufel law as close- e keepers of the re bounded and ar- lightest technicality. ts of Waterloo and ty had been humili- and one even driv- by the persecutions

ers, who, taking ad- w. had prosecuted ted these dealers.

few weeks. hundreds of dollars of damage was done.

## SECOND WILL FILED TODAY

### George Wells' of Grundy County Had Made Two.

### Last One Leaves Most of His Property to His Heirs.

(Grundy Center, Aug. 8.—(Special.)—The second will made by the late George Wells of Wellsburg, this county, was filed for probate today in the district court here. It was made four years ago and leaves the bulk of his immense fortune, amounting to about a million dollars, to his heirs. It provides a bequest of \$50,000 to his wife's sister, who lives at Algona. His property is made up of cash and bank stock to the amount of \$500,000 and about \$500,000 in real estate, mostly agricultural lands.

The first will, which was filed last Monday, was made in 1881. It left all of the property to his wife, who has since died. After her death he made a second instrument. If the terms of the first will stand the entire fortune will go to Mrs. Wells' sister and her niece and nephew.

#### Will Contest Last Will.

The legality of the terms of the last will and testament will be attacked by attorneys representing Mrs. Wells' sister's heirs. It will be claimed that Mr. Wells was not of sound mind when he drew the last document. It will be alleged that he has been failing in both body and mind for the past few years, and that when the last will was drawn, which was four years ago, he was non-composmentis. Last summer steps were taken by his heirs to have a guardian appointed, and Judge Blair, after hearing the evidence, granted the prayer of this petition. It was disclosed that he was weakening in body and mind and the court thought best that a guardian should be named to look after his extensive business affairs. Cashiers of two banks of which Mr. Wells was president were appointed by the court.

#### Relatives Already Here.

Relatives of Mr. and Mrs. Wells are already here and have engaged legal counsel to look after their interests. There is little doubt that this will be one of the hardest fought legal battles in Grundy county's history because of the large sum of money in litigation.

## IT'S DIFFERENT IN IOWA FALLS

### Municipal Printing is Let to the Lowest Bidder.

For secretary of Guthrie Center  
For treasurer north of Lake City  
For auditor of Oskaloosa.  
For attorney send of Albia.  
For superintendent—W. S. Wills  
For railroad Carpenter of Des Moines  
For Mount Pleasant  
For supreme Manchester, La. port.

For clerk of Keenan of Shenandoah  
For reporter M. Parker of Muscatine  
With the non the fourth ballot evening's Courier a large portion of voters, and the Denison of Dubuque for lieutenant garrison, delayed the number only a few

Following the that gentleman w and made a bric cheered to the ce and the motion the nomination o be made unanim delegate to his five vote, while C his gavel in unis of the multitude.

There were no nominations for Hicket being mad on the first ballot J. S. McLaen o nominated for s acclamation.

C. J. Amuroc was nominated to way.

L. F. Danforth was nominated I E. M. Carr and nominated for st being four candid votes as follows: Davenport, 547; Ely, 405; E. C. Herri E. M. Carr of Ma

For railroad con nominations were ma and E. K. Stoll b vote follows: W. Moines, 296; W. Valley, 291; E. Pleasant, 327; Jo county, 291; C. S. ty, 102. J. J. Ryan nominated, but w T. W. Keenan nominated for el court.

H. M. Parker of inated for reports court.

#### Gubernator

After the nomi closed and the Charles Diekson ed recognition, speech which cau to indulge in n placed in nomina Waterloo. In his limited to five n vention rule, he the two magnifice ace Boies and e that the son of man" could lead Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa. It was sever Chairman Sells

Opera House



ANDERSON - - Manager  
 GER. Business Manager

Commencing

12th

THE  
 ERLING  
 STOCK  
 CO.

Select Repertoire  
 the late plays.

Bill the Great See-  
 Production of

AUST

lete line of Refined  
 Vaudeville.

RESERVED SEATS AT 10c

and first 4 rows in  
 ess Circle 25c.

le opens Saturday  
 ing at 9 o'clock

LITIGANTS PLAY  
 FOR A RICH STAKE

TWO SETS OF RELATIVES AFTER  
 IOWA MAN'S MILLION.

ESTATE OF GEORGE WELLS IS  
 CLAIMED BY HIS RELATIVES.

They Have Not Produced a Will in  
 Their Behalf—Heirs of Dead  
 Wife on Other Side.

Grundy Center, Aug. 31.—A big legal battle over the disposition of an estate is likely to follow the death of George Wells, one of Iowa's wealthiest men. Mr. Wells died last Thursday at his home one mile south of Wellsburg, at the age of 65. He had been failing for some time, and recently guardians were appointed. He left no direct issue, but is survived by three sisters and one brother. The brother and one sister live in Minnesota, while the other sisters live in Chicago and Bristol, Conn.

The total value of the estate is estimated at more than a million dollars. Two wills, with several years intervening between them, seem to be the basis for the impending contest. It is understood that about fifteen years ago Mr. Wells made a will bequeathing all of his property to his wife.

As she was several years his junior, the natural supposition was that she would survive him. This, however, was not the case, Mrs. Wells dying a few years ago.

In the past year another will was signed by Mr. Wells, and it is said disposed of his property to his own relatives. This will, if offered for probate, is expected to be contested by relatives of Mrs. Wells.

Their contention is understood to be that the latest will is invalid for the reason that Mr. Wells, being under guardianship, was not competent to dispose of his property. They contend that the will bequeathing the estate to his wife is still effective, and that, as her heirs, they succeed to the property.

The will made in 1881, in which all of his estate is left to his wife, was filed for probate yesterday, but as yet the second will, which Wells is alleged to have made, has not been filed, and some doubt is raised as to its existence.

CALL FOR CONVENTION.

Hardin County Democrats to Meet  
 September 5th.

Eldora, Aug. 31.—Special:—Chaletman J. D. Storer of the Hardin county democratic central committee, this morning, issued a call for the county democratic convention. It will be held at Eldora, September 5th. It is not thought that the convention will name a full ticket, but will name

A WOMAN'S  
 DREADS DOCTOR'S

Thousands Write to Mrs. P. Pinkham, and Receive Val. Absolutely Confidential

There can be no more I than to be obliged to a questions in regard to be even when those quest by her family physicia



continue to suffer rather to examinations which cians propose in order t treat the disease; and son why so many phy cure female disease.

This is also the reason upon thousands of we spreading with Mrs. Pink in-law of Lydia E. 1901 Mass. To her they can detail of their illness, great knowledge, obial of experience in treat Mrs. Pinkham can adv more wisely than the l

Read how Mrs. Pinkha G. Willardson of Manning Dear Mrs. Pinkham:

"I can truly say that re life, and I cannot expres words. Before I wrote t how I felt, I had doctored; finally, and spent lots of r besides, but if all failed I had female trouble, and was ing spells, headache, becom my monthly periods were finally ceased. I wrote to you and received a letter I just what to do, and after Lydia E. Pinkham's Veg and I have been restored. Had it not been for you I in my grave to-day."

Mountains of proof e that no medicine in th Lydia E. Pinkham's pound for restoring we

the fact that he had h legislative experience, the legislature is a criticism.

Refused Lieutenant "I had no thought nomination for lieutenant after Porter had been I was urged to take it declined positively. I in the convention, he that it did not matter and the upset was Iowa followed manim

9.—Special: Os-  
Jacob Welch, two  
Indianapolis, are in  
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und at noon near  
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**LECTS OFFICERS**

ix City is Chosen  
incellor.

1, Aug. 9.—The  
rand lodge yester-  
lcers:

—F. L. Ferris,

flor—Walter Tur-

ecord and seals—  
Pleasant.

Eschequer—Frank  
on.

am DoImage, Vic-

ms—A. C. Strawn

—E. E. Diedrich,

—Dr. W. H. Mer-

W. Beebe, Hamp-  
on, Nora Springs.

**TROW ESCAPE**

me of Mayor in-  
-shaltown.

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**WELLS WILLS FILED**

**GRUNDY COUNTY CROESUS LEFT  
TWO TESTAMENTS DISPOSING  
OF HIS WORLDLY WEALTH**

**BULK GOES TO LEGAL HEIRS**

Wife's Sister Was Left \$50,000 in  
Second Will and Domestic Was  
Given \$1,000.

Grundy Center, Iowa, Aug. 9.—The  
funeral of Hon. George Wells was  
held at his late residence south of  
Wellsburg and his remains were  
brought to the cemetery west of this  
city for burial.

Mr. Wells left two wills, which have  
been filed with the county clerk's of-  
fice in this city. The first will was  
executed in 1881, in which all of the  
property was left to his wife. Mrs.  
Wells died Nov. 9, 1895. Mr. Wells  
executed a second will in 1903, in  
which he made two bequests, one of  
\$50,000 to Mrs. Martha Comstock, his  
wife's sister, and another of \$1,000 to  
Rebecca Wilkey, a girl who had work-  
ed in the family for a number of  
years. The balance of his estate he  
left to his legal heirs.

**Estate Widely Distributed.**

R. M. Finlayson, president of the  
First National bank of this city, and  
Charles Biebesheimer, cashier of the  
Wellsburg Savings bank, who were  
guardians of George Wells for the  
past year, have been appointed spe-  
cial administrators of the estate.  
Their bonds were fixed at \$1,000,000,  
which have been filed and approved.  
Mr. Wells' estate consists of about  
7,900 acres of land situated in Em-  
met, Kossuth and Grundy counties,  
and personal property in different  
banks in Iowa and Chicago. He was  
largely interested in the First Nation-  
al bank of this city, and was president  
of the bank for a number of years.  
He was also interested in the bank  
of Wellsburg, Iowa, and his estate is  
valued at about \$1,000,000.

**DIED IN COLORADO**

Mrs. David E. Hume Passed Away at  
Lamar, Wednesday Evening  
Mrs. David E. Hume died at Lamar,

**MEETING WA  
Clear Lake Cha  
Crowds**

Rev. E. G. Ca  
Grace M. E. chur  
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Prof. Moody. He  
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**A New Son to**

Rev. and Mrs. E.  
their home in St. P

# INVENTORY OF WELLS ESTATE

STATEMENT FILED IN COURT  
SHOWS VALUE OF \$1,000,000.

HELD 10,000 ACRES OF LAND

UPWARDS OF \$500,000 IN CASH AND  
BANK STOCK.

Grundy County Farms Worth \$150,000

—State Will Get About \$50,000  
In Inheritance Tax.

Grundy Center, Aug. 10.—The inventory of the estate of the late George Wells as filed by the guardians recently appointed shows that Mr. Wells owned about 8,360 acres of land in Iowa. The land is located in Emmet county, 3,180 acres; Kossuth county, 3,800 acres; Grundy county about 1,500 acres. He also owned 29 lots in the town of Wellsburg and a small piece of land near Steamboat Rock. In Bristol, Conn., he owned the old homestead of 100 acres. In addition to the foregoing he in partnership with E. G. Seymour of Kossuth county owned about 750 acres in that county. Among his personal property appeared a lot of cattle and farm machinery on his various farms, and notes secured by mortgage to the amount of about \$50,058. Notes not secured by mortgage, \$26,915.

In bank stock he owns \$32,700 in the First National bank of Grundy Center, \$1,000 in the Wellsburg Savings bank, and \$17,000 in the Farmers and Drivers bank of Germania.

He also had on deposit in different banks subject to check:

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| First National bank, Grundy                 | 2,675.44   |
| Wellsburg Savings bank                      | 5,188.22   |
| Continental National, Chicago               | 127,595.68 |
| First Trust and Savings bank, Chicago       | 71,612.85  |
| Certificates of deposit First National bank | 55,075.00  |
| Wellsburg Savings bank                      | 12,000.00  |
| Farmers and Drivers State bank              | 33,427.51  |

It was supposed that Mr. Wells owned land also in Texas, but none appears in the inventory.

In brief the estate consists of upwards of \$500,000 cash and bank stock and the balance in real estate, the Grundy county land being worth \$150,000 and the balance of the land nearly 7,000 acres, worth from \$40 to \$60 per acre.

The state will get from the estate in collateral inheritance tax in the neighborhood of \$50,000.

Altogether it makes a nice sum of money and it is better for all concerned that it be distributed where it will do some good. It has never been worth anything to Grundy county or Grundy Center.

A third will dated 1861 which is practically the same as the will of 1851 was filed with the clerk to be used as evidence on Wednesday.

The third will of the late George Wells was filed in the clerk's office Wednesday. This will was executed in 1861 and leaves all the property to Mrs. Wells and names her as executrix. Mrs. Wells left three heirs surviving her, Mrs. Martha Comstock, who lives near Wellsburg, Iowa; and a nephew and niece, George Murray and Mrs. Wheelock, children of a deceased sister, who reside at Germania, Iowa. They have employed Judge Wade of Iowa City and Attorney Sullivan of Algona, Iowa, to represent them. The heirs of George Wells have employed Hon. C. W. Mullan of Des Moines and Williamson & Willoughby of this city to represent them. Court convenes in this city Sept. 3.

## WANTED MONEY FOR TALK.

Attorney E. H. Mallory, of Hampton, Buss Bell Telephone Co.

Hampton, Aug. 10.—Attorney E. H. Mallory, of this city, has filed a petition in the clerk's office against the Bell Telephone company, alleging that on May 23d they refused to allow him to talk over the Bell phone until he had paid a bill of \$3.10 which was disputed. The amount of the damages asked is \$4,000. The petition alleges that Mallory had occasion to call up Attorney Ellis of Charles City, and when the operator notified him that Ellis was at the other end ready to talk he started to step into the booth when he was presented with the bill and payment demanded. Upon his refusal to pay the bill, which he claims he does not owe, Mallory was refused the right to use the phone. Upon the grounds of the telephone being a public convenience and that anyone who has the price should be allowed to use it Mallory has commenced action for damages against the company. The case is set for the September term of court.

## CITY 30 YEARS AGO

DR. W. H. THROWER HAS GOOD  
PHOTOGRAPHS OF RIVER AND  
EAST FOURTH STREET.

## THREE BUILDINGS OF BRICK

Were Erected on East Fourth Street—  
The Old Wooden, the Iron and  
the Concrete Bridges.

Dr. W. H. Thrower has a series of pictures of Waterloo taken over thirty years ago, showing East Fourth street and the old wooden and iron bridge across the river. The pictures are of the utmost interest today and will be loaned for use at the old settlers picnic to be held at Chautauqua park a week from tomorrow. One view shows the old iron bridge which saw service until displaced by the present concrete structures. On the west end of the bridge is the old woolen mill and the flour mill together with the other old frame structures built near the river bank. All of these buildings have now been displaced and large brick structures erected in their place, except the one just torn down at the west end of the dam.

The business houses on East Fourth street were nearly all of the frame style of architecture—only three brick buildings being erected at the time. One of these is the Myers three story block located in the first block from the bridge, known as Union block, a section of the present Logan house, and the Burnham building, which was on the present site of the Commercial block. At that time only that portion of the Logan reaching back about seventy-five feet to where a division line is noticeable was erected.

One of the other pictures is of the old wooden bridge which was displaced when the iron bridge was erected. The photograph showing the iron bridge shows that the present mill office and storage building on the southeasterly end of the bridge was not erected, there not even being a sidewalk laid to the bridge. The ground was much lower there than now and the street sloped several feet. These pictures have been preserved by Dr. Thrower's father and are practically as good as ever at this time. They are made in duplicate form and arranged to be used in a stereoscope. The pictures are valuable and are being cherished with zealous care by the possessor. Similar views of the city of today should be taken to form the contrast and impress the workings of time more thoroughly upon the memory of all beholders.

## SPRY OCTOGENARIAN.

Walks From Waterloo to His Home,  
Charles City. Aug. 10.—An old man

## FOR HAMILTON'S

DUBUQUE BAR SAID TO EN  
THE PROPOSAL OF NON-  
TIZAN JUDICIARY.

## TWO JUDGES IN FAVOR

Judge Lenahan and Former  
Husted Endorse Taking the  
Clary Out of Politics.

Dubuque, Aug. 10.—There is a sentiment among local democrats in favor of the selection of a partisan judiciary, a proposition was the subject of extended no the address of Hon. W. D. Han temporary chairman of the dem convention which recently convened Waterloo. Many of the members of the Dubuque County Bar association are willing to go publicly on record in favor of the change, from present system. Others favor change, but for various reasons do not care to make a statement to that effect. There will be opposition to the program, but if of the Dubuque county bar were today an overwhelming majority the members would be found to voted in favor of taking the judiciary out of politics.

### Views of Judge Lenahan.

Asked about the matter, former Judge D. J. Lenahan said: "I am much in favor of taking the judiciary out of politics and putting the matter in the hands of the bar association. Assuredly the members thereof are the best qualified to judge as to who would and who would not make a good judge." Judge Lenahan mentioned to instance Scott county, where the nominations are made by the bar and where the system has unden worked for years to the satisfaction of the people who have anything to do with the courts.

### An "Iridescent Dream."

Former Judge James L. Husted spoke on the matter as follows: "There is no doubt in my mind we ought to have a non-partisan judiciary, and that the judgeships are to be taken entirely out of politics. But under the present leadership of the Dubuque county democracy I guard the outlook for it as what I call an 'iridescent dream,' and it will so continue as long as the lawyers and the citizens who do business in the courts wake up to the lively sense of their interest and take part in good government. It doubtless be conceded by every one that the lawyers as a body are the best judges of the respective capacities of the individual members of the bar for judicial positions, and that unbiased judgment should have great weight."

### A BIG INCUBATOR.

Whittamora Citizen Builds One With  
Capacity of Over 7,000 Eggs.

Algona, Aug. 10.—An incubator with a capacity of 7,600 eggs, is one of the interesting sights at the town of Whittamora, just east of here. H. O. Hanson, of that place, is owner and builder. The Whittamora Champion this week gives an interesting account of the big incubator. Mr. Hanson's experience in operating it. The incubator, which was Hanson's own design and constructed is twenty feet long, three feet wide and four feet high. The heating is done by hot water, and a gas stove is used.

The first trial of the incubator with 1,200 eggs in April, and the chickens were hatched. The second brood came off in June, when 2,000 chickens were hatched from 3,000 eggs. The machine was loaded a third time in July with 1,600 eggs. The interest is so far, however, the big machine is as successful as small ones will average. The brooder is 100

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ceived the following from Valparaiso.  
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ticulars later when the shakes cease."  
The dispatch was timed 3:55 a. m.,  
but it is not known whether it was  
filed yesterday morning or this morn-  
ing.

**WELLS GAVE NO  
TITLE TO LOTS**

Grundy Center, Aug. 18.—Since the  
death of George Wells, the eccentric  
Iowa millionaire at his home here, it  
has developed that houses at  
Wellsburg, the thriving German  
town in Grundy county, are  
built on lots for which the owners have  
no title except that which comes from  
verbal agreement, and the fact of  
occupancy in peaceful possession for  
many years.

It appears that Mr. Wells had a  
great habit of deferring action in some  
of his deals, trades and transactions;  
that he disposed of lots, gave the buy-  
er possession and stated he would  
make a deed some day, being always  
"too busy" to attend to the trivial work  
of executing the deed.

Mr. Wells carried his books in his  
head, so to speak, and many of his  
old time friends look his word for  
many things, expecting, of course, to  
receive the deed in time, but realizing  
after the old man's death that they  
had no title to their lots.

It is claimed that there will be no  
trouble, as the special administrators  
understand the situation and can exe-  
cute administrator's deeds which will  
convey the title correctly to the own-  
ers of lots who failed to do business  
properly with the old gentleman.

**Want Iowa G. A. R.**

Des Moines, Aug. 18.—Perry, Ia.,  
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# THE ANNALS OF IOWA.

A HISTORICAL QUARTERLY.

VOLUME SEVEN—THIRD SERIES.

EDITED BY

CHARLES ALDRICH, A. M.,

Curator and Secretary of the Historical Department of Iowa; Corresponding Member of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin; Corresponding Member of the Minnesota Historical Society; Corresponding Member of the Washington State Historical Society; and One of the Founders of the American Ornithologists' Union.

PUBLISHED BY THE  
HISTORICAL DEPARTMENT OF IOWA.  
DES MOINES.  
1906-7.

24966a

officers of the Cedar Rapids Savings Bank, an institution to which he devoted much of his time and attention. By the death of Mr. Daniel, the last member of a family which began business in Marion and Cedar Rapids in the early forties has been removed.

B. L. W.

GEORGE WELLS was born in Newington, Conn., May 14, 1821; he died at his home near Wellsburg, Grundy county, Iowa, Aug. 2, 1906. He came to Iowa in 1855 and invested heavily in lands, realizing he values would increase. At one time he owned about 9,000 acres in Grundy county, and he left an immense fortune at the time of his death. He took an active interest in the first railroad built in that county and the village of Wellsburg was named for him. He represented Grundy county in the 17th General Assembly.

E. G. PERROTT was born in Northport, N. Y., Sep. 4, 1832; he died in Emergency Hospital, Los Angeles, Cal., April 17, 1906. He received his schooling in New York City. At the age of 11 he went to sea and remained for three years. From 15 until the age of 40 he was engaged in ship-building, helping to build the boat "America" that won the first cup in the International Yacht Race. After locating in Iowa he engaged for a time in farming. He was a member of the 26th General Assembly and was re-elected to the 27th.

WILLIAM D. MILLS was born in Medina county, Ohio, in 1838; he died in Chicago in July, 1906. Throughout the civil war he served in Company I, 12th Illinois Infantry; in 1862 he was promoted to the captaincy. From 1865 to 1897 he resided in Marshall county, Iowa. He served one term as sheriff. He represented Marshall county in the 16th General Assembly, and was a member of the senate in the 22d and 23d General Assemblies.

WILLIAM F. POWELL was born in Kent county, Delaware, in 1849; his lifeless body was found near Panora, Kansas, June 24, 1906. More than thirty years of his life were spent in Indianola, Iowa, where he settled in 1871. In 1873 he graduated from Simpson College; he was admitted to the bar in 1875, and elected mayor in 1876. He represented Warren county in the 19th General Assembly.

JOHN CLARK was born in Oxford, Mass., Dec. 9, 1817; he died in Albia, Iowa, Aug. 2, 1906. In 1841 he removed to Iowa, and in 1843 settled in Kishkekosh, now Monroe county, where he afterward resided. He was elected the first sheriff of the county in 1845, and for many years filled the office of county supervisor. He represented Monroe county in the 10th General Assembly.

1880-1980

# Wells to Wellsburg Wonderful 100



## PICTORIAL HISTORY of WELLSBURG

*Compiled by:*

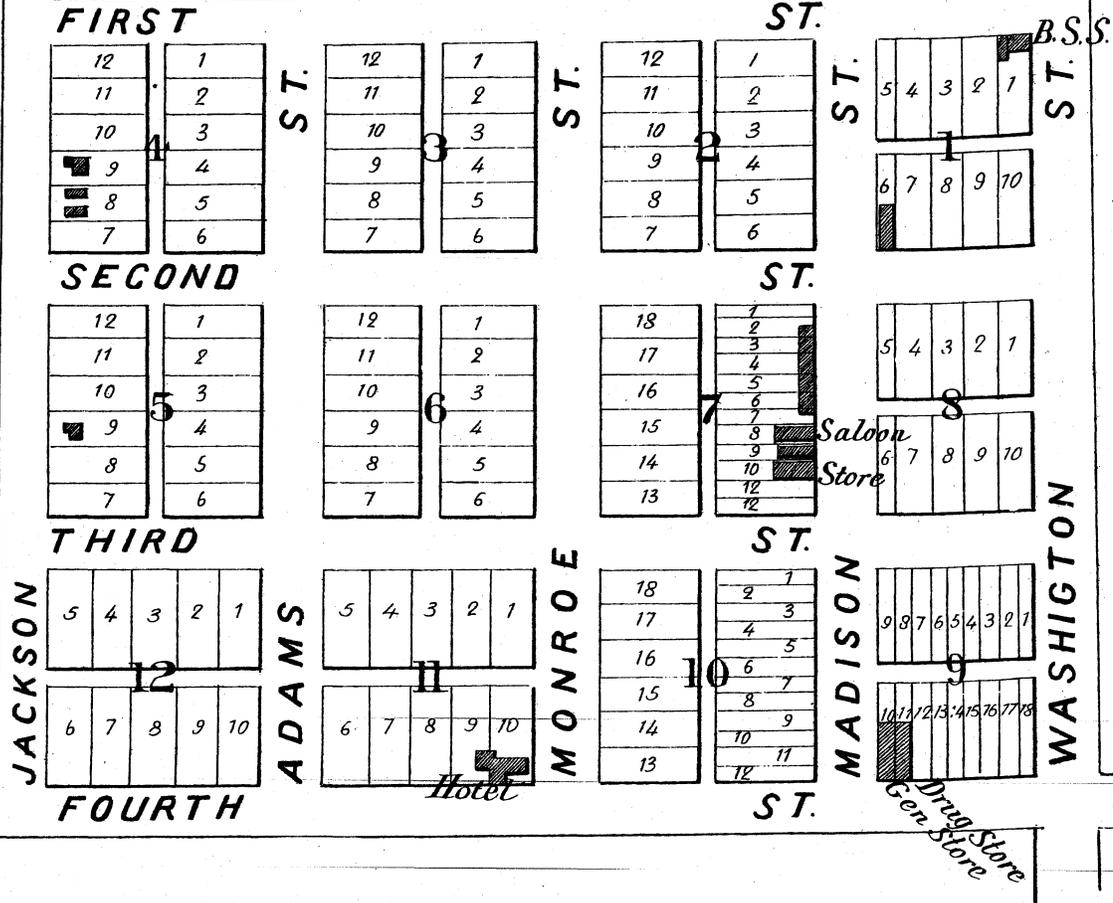
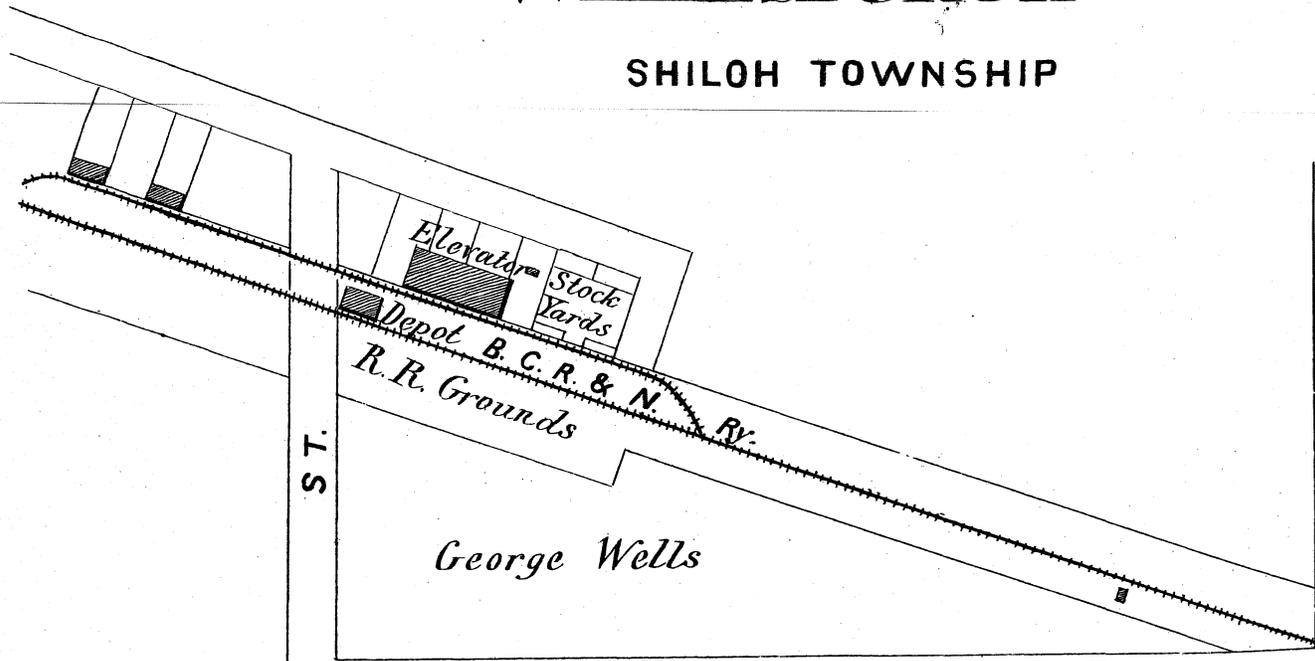
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G. W. Wells

# WELLSBURGH

## SHILOH TOWNSHIP



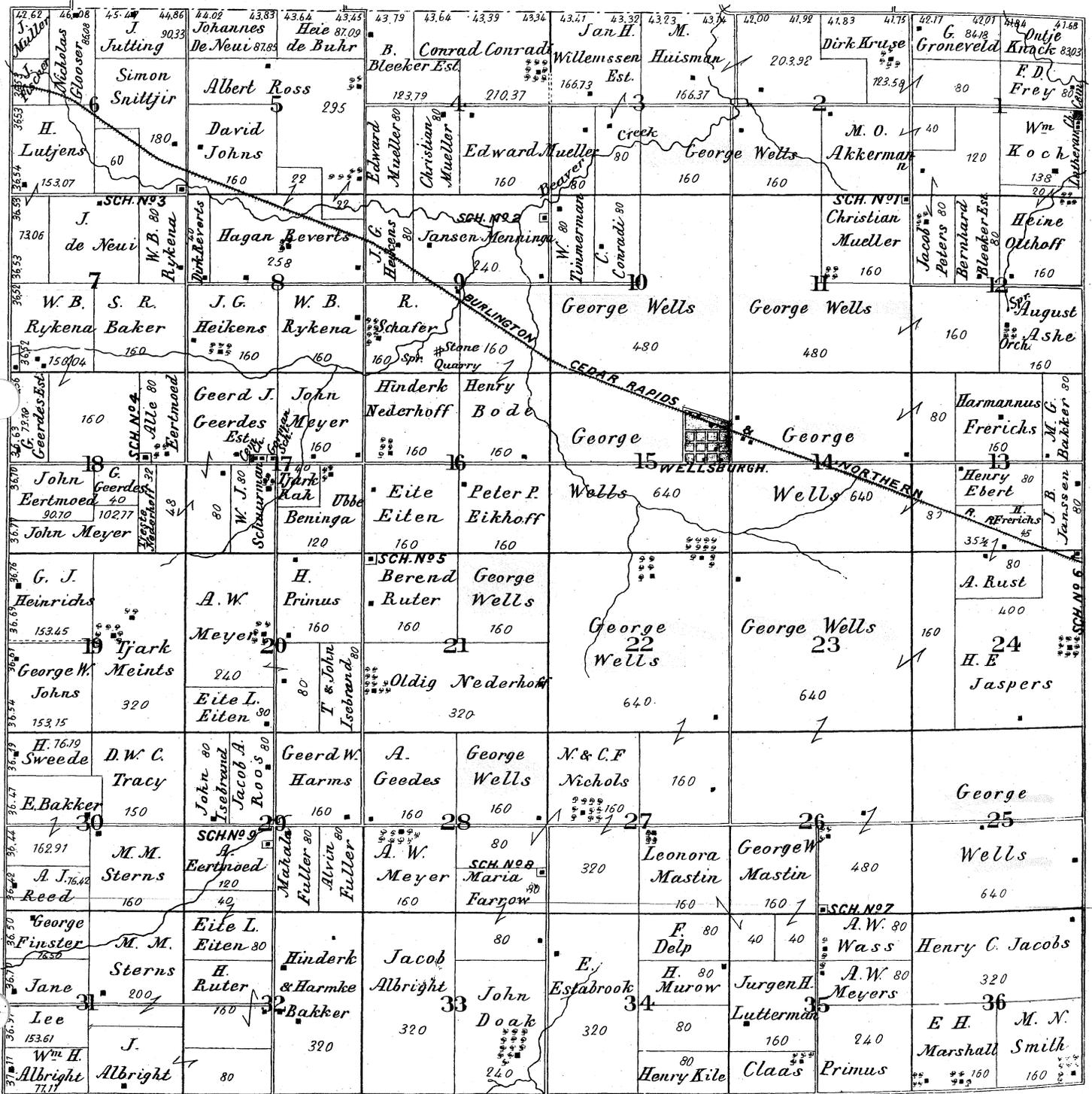
Plat of 1884

# Wells property in 1884

GRUNDY COUNTY PLAT BOOK

## SHILOH

Township 88 North Range 18 West of 5<sup>th</sup> Principal Meridian.  
Scale 2 Inches to a Mile.



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You searched for **George Wells** in **Iowa** [All Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925 Results](#)

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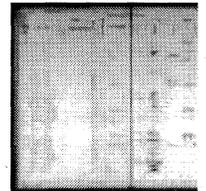
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Not sure where to start? Often it's helpful to contact others who share your research interests:

[Find others searching for George Wells](#)

## Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925

| Name:              | <b>George Wells</b>   |      |     |              |    |             |    |           |    |              |    |
|--------------------|---|------|-----|--------------|----|-------------|----|-----------|----|--------------|----|
| Birth Year:        | abt 1822  |      |     |              |    |             |    |           |    |              |    |
| Birth Place:       | Conn  |      |     |              |    |             |    |           |    |              |    |
| Gender:            | Male  |      |     |              |    |             |    |           |    |              |    |
| Race:              | White   |      |     |              |    |             |    |           |    |              |    |
| Marital Status:    | Married   |      |     |              |    |             |    |           |    |              |    |
| Census Date:       | 1885  |      |     |              |    |             |    |           |    |              |    |
| Residence State:   | Iowa  |      |     |              |    |             |    |           |    |              |    |
| Residence County:  | Grundy  |      |     |              |    |             |    |           |    |              |    |
| Locality:          | Shiloh  |      |     |              |    |             |    |           |    |              |    |
| Roll:              | IA1885_190  |      |     |              |    |             |    |           |    |              |    |
| Line:              | 1   |      |     |              |    |             |    |           |    |              |    |
| Family Number:     | 128   |      |     |              |    |             |    |           |    |              |    |
| Neighbors:         | <a href="#">View others on page</a>   |      |     |              |    |             |    |           |    |              |    |
| Household Members: | <table> <thead> <tr><th>Name</th><th>Age</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>George Wells</td><td>63</td></tr> <tr><td>Sarah Wélls</td><td>57</td></tr> <tr><td>Lena Flut</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>Mabel Aschel</td><td>16</td></tr> </tbody> </table> | Name | Age | George Wells | 63 | Sarah Wélls | 57 | Lena Flut | 17 | Mabel Aschel | 16 |
| Name               | Age   |      |     |              |    |             |    |           |    |              |    |
| George Wells       | 63  |      |     |              |    |             |    |           |    |              |    |
| Sarah Wélls        | 57  |      |     |              |    |             |    |           |    |              |    |
| Lena Flut          | 17  |      |     |              |    |             |    |           |    |              |    |
| Mabel Aschel       | 16  |      |     |              |    |             |    |           |    |              |    |

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#### Source Information:

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

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George

Last Name:

Wells

State:

Nationwide

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- Death
- Cemetery
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- Divorce

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All States

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### George A Wells

[\[Suggest a correction\]](#)

**Birth:** May 14, 1821  
 Newington  
 Hartford County  
 Connecticut, USA

**Death:** Aug. 2, 1906  
 Grundy County  
 Iowa, USA

**Parents:** Ralph & Julia Roberts Wells  
**Married:** Sarah Underwood Nov. 27, 1848 at  
 Montville, Ohio  
**Child:** Frank G.

City of Wellsburg Ia was named after George Wells

**Burial:**  
 Rose Hill Cemetery  
 Grundy Center  
 Grundy County  
 Iowa, USA  
 Plot: Section A, Lot 8, Space 3

Created by: Kathy Brown  
 Record added: Nov 13, 2003  
 Find A Grave Memorial# 8082814



Cemetery Photo

Added by: [Gerhardt Leffler](#)

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for this person

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Leave flowers  
and a note

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