

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Richardson, Albert Fairfield Senator \_\_\_\_\_

Represented Jackson County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 13 Sept 1850 Fairfield Township, Jackson County, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place  
(1) Velvet Jennison Blesley 18 Feb 1886  
(2) Agnes Emily Blesley ca. 1889

3. Significant events for example:

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

B. Civic responsibilities Moran; Eagle; Modern History of America

C. Profession Farmer

4. Church membership Church of England

5. Sessions served 18<sup>th</sup> General Assembly 1886

6. Public Offices 25<sup>th</sup> General Assembly 1894

A. Local Township assessor; justice of the Peace; school board secretary

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

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

7. Death 28 Mar 1919 Jackson County, Iowa; Union & Railroad Cemetery, Magnolia, Iowa

8. Children By 1<sup>st</sup> wife - Kathie (deceased by 1889); by 2<sup>nd</sup> wife - Ruby Maria (Mrs. L. H. Clark); Jean Jennison; William Jennings Bryan

9. Names of parents Samuel Anderson and Lois Bayford (Hull) Richardson

10. Education He was educated in the district schools of Johnson County,  
and in his neighborhood

11. Degrees He was a graduate of a business college (not named)

12. Other applicable information Democrat

- In 1865 he took his parents and brother on an overland trip across the plains and mountains. They were gone some seasons and then returned to their farm settlement.
- His wife, Agnes Emily, died 4 Feb 1903 and is also buried in Rathbun Cemetery, Magokita, Iowa
- His first wife, Helen Jennie, born 1859, died 10 Aug 1882, also buried at Rathbun Cemetery, Magokita, Iowa



# ULA BOMB LOT A FAILURE

How it Escapes Death  
and by Some Un-  
known Enemy.

It is seemingly not the on-  
ly county that can pro-  
viseational happenings and  
be before the public. She  
her share in the past, but  
ng to hand the banner ov-  
in the eastern part of  
Who comes to the front  
with something a little out  
linary. It is something in  
a plot on somebody's part  
to the next world a man  
ust returned from service  
y. The happening is about

sters, aged 30, living about  
west of Sabula, was dis-  
om the service the first of  
n he returned to his home.  
he owner of a Cadillac car  
keeps in his garage at  
since his return he has  
sachine a few times. The  
st week he had it out and  
ed it no more until Thurs-  
ig of last week when he  
take a little spin. When  
ted. Frank the machine  
o sta is it should and in  
ound to see what was the  
discovered a wire hang-  
under the hood which did  
there. Upon investigation  
the wire back he found  
something that looked like  
al machine under the seat

didn't only look like an in-  
chline, but it proved to be  
thing. It was made of a  
perhaps an inch and a half  
er and about eight inches  
s pipe was filled with not  
half a pint of blasting pow-  
as connected up with wires  
ctrical part of the machine  
been designed to take care  
ition of the heavy charge.  
anism was an ingenious de-  
after the engine had been  
nd the driver should at-  
hift the clutch to a certain  
his would have made a con-  
the wires and there would  
been no man, no machine  
ng but a hole in the ground  
l the tale. It was very for-  
Mr. Peters that the engine  
res to his efforts to

mb was brought to this city  
ad placed in charge of Sher-  
thy, and the writer in ex-  
it took off the top and plac-  
tion of the powder on the  
Deputy Sheriff in Iowa Territorial  
match to demonstrate what  
able of doing. It was the

amb was brought to this city  
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thy, and the writer in ex-  
it took off the top and plac-  
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## A. W. RICHARDSON IS STRICKEN.

Influential Farmer of This County  
Passes away Saturday Afternoon.  
Funeral Held Today.

Albert Winfield Richardson, a  
prominent and influential resident of  
this county passed away Saturday  
afternoon at three o'clock after suf-  
fering several strokes of paralysis.

He was born in Fairfield township,  
on September 13, 1850, and for the  
greater part of his life had been ac-  
tively and honorably associated with  
the agricultural interests of this sec-  
tion.

He obtained his early education in  
the district schools and was after-  
ward graduated from a business col-  
lege. At an early age he became in-  
terested along agricultural lines and  
always remained true to this work.

In 1865, in company with his par-  
ents and brothers, he took an over-  
land trip across the plains and moun-  
tains. In many places, finding the  
road unfitted for wagon travel, they  
would abandon the wagons and build  
pack saddles. After spending one  
season in the far west, they returned  
to their old Iowa homestead.

Mr. Richardson was united in mar-  
riage to Miss Agnes Emily Blakely,  
on February 18th, 1886, who passed  
away in the year 1902.

He not only won a prominent place  
in business circles, but also entered  
politics at an early age and took an  
active part in public interests. He  
filled various township, county and  
state offices, being elected to the  
state legislature in 1880 and again in  
1894, ably representing his district  
in the lawmaking body of the com-  
monwealth. He served as township  
Assessor, Justice of the Peace, and  
Secretary of the school board, dis-  
charging all duties with promptness  
and fidelity, looking ever to the best  
interests of the public.

He was a member of the Masonic  
lodge, the M. W. A. and the Eagles.

The deceased was a man whose ac-  
quaintance extended over the entire  
county and his friends were limited  
only by his acquaintances. He was a  
man of genial and cordial disposi-  
tion and had traveled extensively in  
different parts of the United States,  
gaining the culture and knowledge  
which only travel brings.

He is survived by three children,  
Mrs. L. W. Clark of Chester, Iowa,  
J. J., who is with the 88th Div. over-  
seas and who has also been bereft of  
his young wife since his departure,  
and Bryan, at home.

Funeral services will be held this  
morning at 11 o'clock from the Un-  
ion Center church, Rev. L. C. Smith  
of Preston officiating. Interment  
will be made in Union Center ceme-  
tery.

and State Legislators Collection compiled by

MUST BE ALWAYS READY.

# Community Hospital Wins By 159

FIRST WARD	For	Against
Men .....	57	59
Women .....	33	18
<b>SECOND WARD</b>		
Men .....	83	50
Women .....	72	19
<b>THIRD WARD</b>		
Men .....	46	40
Women .....	41	14
<b>FOURTH WARD</b>		
Men .....	72	67
Women .....	82	60
<b>TOTAL, men and women</b> .....	<b>486</b>	<b>327</b>
Majority, men and women .....	<b>159</b>	
<b>TOTAL MEN</b> .....	<b>258</b>	<b>216</b>
Majority, men .....	<b>42</b>	
<b>TOTAL WOMEN</b> .....	<b>228</b>	<b>111</b>
Majority, women .....	<b>117</b>	

## BIG GREEN ISLAND LAND DEAL IS MADE.

Herman Krabbenhoft has sold his  
big Green Island farm of 500 acres to  
Chas. Schaffer of Green Island and  
Thos. Swaney of Bellevue. It is said  
the purchase price is in the neigh-  
borhood of \$50,000. The new pro-  
prietors plan to conduct the farm on  
a large scale, it is said.

Mr. Krabbenhoft, so we are inform-  
ed, will probably make the purchase  
of a smaller farm for himself and  
continue the business in a more sat-  
isfactory manner on a smaller scale,  
but as yet is undecided.—Preston  
Times.

## COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION.

A meeting of the presidents of the  
school districts of this county will  
be held at the court-house Monday,  
April 7, at which time a county board  
of education of five members will be  
formed.

## GOES TO WATERLOO.

Chas. M. Fisher was in the city a  
couple of days last week. He left  
Saturday for Waterloo where he has  
accepted a position as county engi-

## IT WAS A MEAN TRICK BUT JULY 1 IS JULY

All Wayne county over in Mi-  
gan is chuckling over the disc-  
figure of the constable in a near  
village.

When the recent run on liq-  
from Ohio was on, a resident of  
village imported a barrel of whi-  
by express. It was unloaded at  
station platform and rolled into  
baggage room. The constable sme-  
of it, decided it was whisky and  
terminated to arrest the purchaser

For three days and nights, with  
sleep he watched it. Finally, th-  
of his vigil he gave the barrel a  
lous kick. It toppled over and a h-  
in the bottom disclosed why the o-  
er hadn't called for it.

With the connivance of the stat-  
agent he had bored through the fl-  
into the barrel from the basem-  
and removed the liquor.

## GOVERNMENT APPROVES OF SAVING FOR A PURPOSE

The idea of accumulating war s-  
of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa,  
ess stamps, earning interest, to  
cashed in at a future time for se-  
doubtless proved to be a very good

2

PORTRAIT AND  
BIOGRAPHICAL

ALBUM

-OF-

JACKSON COUNTY, IOWA,

CONTAINING

Full Page Portraits and Biographical Sketches of Prominent  
and Representative Citizens of the County,

TOGETHER WITH

PORTRAITS AND BIOGRAPHIES OF ALL THE GOVERNORS OF THE STATE, AND  
OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

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CHICAGO:

CHAPMAN BROTHERS,

1889. D

to New York. He assisted his father in the management of his hotel, and after marriage settled on a farm in Brunswick, of which town he was a resident until his death. The maiden name of Mrs. Decker's mother was Hannah Bucklin. She was born in Brunswick, and spent her last years with a daughter in Troy. Her father, Sylvanus Bucklin, was a native of Vermont, and a pioneer of Brunswick, where he was a large land owner. He cleared a farm from the wilderness, and there passed the remainder of his life. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Decker has made her home with our subject, her only remaining son. She is enjoying a serene old age, surrounded by all the comforts that filial love can devise, and all the luxuries that wealth can buy.

Leonard W. Decker, the subject of this sketch, was given all the advantages to be derived from a liberal education by kind and indulgent parents. He obtained his early education in the city schools of Troy, and subsequently attended Denmark Academy, where he pursued an excellent course of study, and he was then a student in the Genesee Model School in Lima, Livingston Co., N. Y. After leaving school he was for a time engaged in the mercantile business. A few years before his father's death he was called home to assist him in the management of his property, being given power of attorney to transact business for him in New York and Iowa. In 1885, in consideration of the large interests that he has in this State, Mr. Decker came here to live, and has since made his home in the Decker House.

He was married in October, 1862, to Miss Mary H. Reynolds. She is a native of New York City, and is a daughter of James and Lucy Reynolds. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Decker: Leonora Victoria, Ada Azubah, and James Leonard. The son, who was born Jan. 5, 1876, died March 29, 1876. The daughters have been finely educated at Oberlin, and at St. Catherine's Hall, Davenport, Iowa. Mr. Decker seems to have inherited from his honored father, in a large measure, the wisdom, talent, and executive ability that enabled him to build up a large fortune, and he has handled his father's large estate and the property that he has himself accumulated, with the

utmost skill and discretion so as to increase it. He is a man of large enterprise and public spirit, who has made the highest interests of his adopted city his own, and has sought to promote them in various ways.



**S**AMUEL A. RICHARDSON, of Fairfield Township, represents a goodly portion of its wealth and prosperity, being the owner of a fine estate, comprising 320 acres of land with first-class buildings and all modern improvements. He carries on general agriculture, making a specialty of live-stock, horses, cattle and swine. A man, enterprising and energetic, he is at once recognized as possessing more than ordinary ability, while his resolution and perseverance have overcome a host of obstacles before which many would have retreated in dismay. He came to this county during the period of its early settlement, and while watching its growth and development, has contributed in no small degree to bring it to its present condition. He has tilled a goodly portion of its soil, erected some of its most creditable buildings, and thus enhanced largely the value of its taxable property.

A native of Ulster County, N. Y., our subject was born near the town of Peterboro, Nov. 20, 1820, but two years later was taken by his parents to Keene, N. H. Later, however, they returned to New York State, settling near Woodstock, Ulster County, and from there subsequently removed to Sand Lake, ten miles east of the city of Troy. They lived there four years, then returned to Woodstock, where they sojourned two years, and next going into the Dominion of Canada, settled near Chatham, where they resided fourteen years. At the expiration of this time, they set out for Iowa, and located in Fairfield Township, this county, at a time when there were no settlers between Deep Creek and the present site of Maquoketa. The father put up the first house of logs, which was covered with clapboards, and hung the door on wooden hinges. The little lumber which they obtained, had to be hauled a long distance, and then brought up the Maquoketa River in a canoe or dug-out. They took up a claim of 160 acres of prairie land, to which our

subject added later, making his present fine farm a half-section in extent. Mr. Richardson assisted in the organization of the township, and was one of its first Trustees, which office he held three terms, and has been the incumbent of all the other township offices. Both he and his sons politically, are staunch supporters of the Democratic party, and uniformly perform their duty at the polls.

Mr. Richardson, while a resident of Canada, came to Michigan, and was married Jan. 11, 1844, to Miss Lois G. Hull, daughter of Benjamin F. Lucy (Wait) Hull, of Franklin County, Vt., the father being a farmer by occupation. The mother died in 1840, and the father subsequently, in 1844, came to Iowa, locating in Fairfield Township, this county, where his death took place in 1862. His family consisted of the children who are recorded as follows: Milton C. married Nancy Stalleup, of Clinton County, and is now deceased; Mr. S. resides at Center Point, retired from active labor. They were the parents of eight children. Benjamin F. married Hannah M. Blakely, of Union Center, lives on a farm, and has four children; Sophia became the wife of Sapha Reynolds, of Clinton County, and is the mother of four children; Helen M. married Timothy Hall, became the mother of four children, and is now deceased; Mary and her husband, Amos B. Smith, of Chelsea, are deceased; they had eight children. The wife of our subject, died Aug. 10, 1882.

To Mr. and Mrs. Richardson, there were born four children, of whom only two are living, William E., and Albert W. The first mentioned married Miss Clara Bell Blakely, of Union Center, and occupies himself as a farmer and stock-raiser in Fairfield Township. He has two children, Helen S. and Mary E. He is a prominent and highly respected citizen, and bids fair to follow in the footsteps of his honored father. Albert W. was first married to Miss Helen J. Blakely, of Union Center, who died leaving one child, Kathie, now deceased. He was then married to Agnes E. Blakely; they have one child, Ruby Marie, and live at the homestead. This son has been the Assessor of his township for the last ten years, and is now Justice of the Peace.

The father of our subject, Asa Richardson, was

a native of New York State, and married Miss Elizabeth Wright, a native of Vermont, and whose parents were from New York State. The paternal grandparents of our subject emigrated from Connecticut to New York, at a very early day. To Asa and Elizabeth Richardson, there were born the children recorded as follows: Mary J. became the wife of William Wells, who is now deceased, and she at present is a resident of Portland, Oregon; they had no children. Asa K. married Martha Desmond, of Canada West, and is operating a ranch in Washington; They had eight children, only five of whom are living. Amba married John Spencer, a ranchman of Oregon, and to them were born three children; Sarah is the wife of Mr. Hazelton, a hardware merchant of Portland, Oregon; Daniel is unmarried, and lives in Washington; Nathan C. married Eliza Stewart, of Ireland, and they are deceased; their only child, Archibald, is a farmer by occupation, and lives in Adair County, this State. The father of our subject was a glass-blower by trade, which he followed through life, and died at Sand Lake, N. Y. The mother later came with her children to this county, and died at the home of her son, Nathan, in 1872, at the age of seventy-four years. The old dinner table of home manufacture, and which the family used during the first years of their residence in this county, is still preserved as a relic of the past, and it is to be hoped will be carefully treasured for generations to come.



WILLARD B. SWIGART, of the firm of Swigart & Sons, editors and proprietors of the Jackson *Sentinel*, has been engaged in the journalistic profession almost from boyhood; has displayed a marked talent for the work, and has already won an enviable position among his editorial brethren in this county. He is a native-born citizen of Maquoketa, his birth occurring here June 22, 1857, he being the third son of William and Martha (Gage) Swigart. His father, is the Postmaster of the city and a prominent man in this county, (of whom see sketch on another page of this biographical volume).

HISTORY  
OF  
JACKSON COUNTY  
IOWA

BY  
HON. JAMES W. ELLIS

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VOLUME II

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ILLUSTRATED

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CHICAGO  
S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING CO.  
1910

## ALBERT WINFIELD RICHARDSON.

Albert Winfield Richardson, who throughout the greater part of his life has been closely, actively and honorably associated with agricultural interests in Jackson county, was born in Fairfield township, this county, on the 13th of September, 1850. His father, Samuel Anderson Richardson, was born at Peterboro, Madison county, New York, November 20, 1820, and later removed to Canada, on the Thames river. He afterward went to Michigan and was there married to Lois Gaylord Hull, a daughter of Benjamin F. Hull, of Fairfield, Franklin county, Vermont. From Michigan Mr. and Mrs. Richardson removed to Iowa, settling in Jackson county, where they took active part in organizing the township of Fairfield, named in honor of the old Hull home in Vermont. Mr. Richardson was a farmer and stockraiser and a part of the present farm owned by his son is the land which he homesteaded on coming to Iowa in 1844. Here he spent his remaining days with the exception of a few years passed on the Pacific coast. Unto him and his wife were born four children, all of whom are now deceased with the exception of Albert W. Richardson. The maternal grandparents of our subject were Benjamin Franklin and Lucy Wait Hull, who were residents of Fairfield, Franklin county, Vermont, and were of English descent. The paternal grandparents were Asa and Elizabeth Richardson, residents of Connecticut and also of English lineage. The Richardson family was founded in America in colonial days and was represented in the colonial army during the Revolutionary war.

Albert W. Richardson pursued his early education in the district schools of this county and afterward was graduated from a business college. He had the usual athletic taste of the youth of his day and participated in all outdoor sports, such as hunting, fishing, wrestling, etc. At an early age he also became active in agricultural lines and has since been closely identified with the work of the farm. In his business he was always closely associated with his father and his brother, W. E. Richardson, and they always made their home together until the father's death in 1903. The sons then conducted the work which the father had instituted and were widely and favorably known as the firm of Richardson Brothers. They always made the old homestead their place of residence with the exception of two years spent on the Pacific coast. In 1865, in company with his parents and brother, Albert W. Richardson took an overland trip across the plains. At that time there were no railroads to the far west. They started from home on the 18th of May and met the United States train of emigrant wagons at Fort Kearney, Nebraska, in the early part of June. At that place the government compelled the emigrants to form a company of one hundred wagons and elect a captain and guide. From that point they were safely piloted over the plains and rivers and through the Rockies, and finally, in September, after four months of hard travel, arrived at their destination—Shoal Water bay—remaining at the home of Captain William Wells, an uncle of our subject, who was the pioneer steamboat captain of the Columbia river, during the winter. They then returned to Walla Walla, where a farm was purchased, but after spending one season in the far west they returned to their old Iowa home, still having to make the trip overland. This time they followed the old Mullen trail by way of Penderville lake, Idaho, at which point they took passage on a steamer, proceeding up the river to the Falls, where they

were compelled to disembark and take the trail again across the mountains. They found the road so unfitted for wagon travel that they were forced to build pack saddles and proceed in that manner, leaving the abandoned wagons behind on the banks of Snake river. They continued on their way across Commas plain to Fort Gibson on the Missouri, where they took passage for Sioux City on the steamer Little Rock, and thence proceeded overland across the state to their home in Jackson county, Iowa, still using the same old faithful horses which had been with them on all of their travels. On the return trip they could see evidences of civilization creeping westward, but going back over the same route now one could scarcely realize that the great prosperous country of the west, with its busy cities, was only a desolate wilderness in the late '60s.

Albert W. Richardson not only won a prominent place in business circles but also entered politics at an early age and has taken an active part in public interests ever since. He has filled various township, county and state offices and has ever given stalwart support to the democracy. In 1880 he was elected to the state legislature and again in 1894, ably representing his district in the lawmaking body of the commonwealth. He has served as township assessor, justice of the peace, secretary of the school board and in various other positions, in which he has discharged his duties with promptness and fidelity, looking ever to the best interests of the community rather than to personal aggrandizement.

On the 18th of February, 1886, Mr. Richardson was married to Miss Agnes Emily Blakely, now deceased, a daughter of David and Rebecca Blakely, pioneer settlers of Jackson county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Richardson were born three children, all living: Rubie Marie, Jean Jenus and William Jennings Bryan. Mr. Richardson became a member of the Masonic lodge on the 29th of April, 1882, and has taken the degrees of the chapter, the commandery and the Mystic Shrine. He also holds membership with the Woodmen and the Eagles, and his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Church of England. He is a man of genial disposition and sociability and well read. His interests center in his farm, his live stock and his private library, yet he has traveled extensively in different parts of the United States, gaining thereby the culture and knowledge which only travel brings. His labors have been an influencing element in the life and progress of the community and he is most highly honored where best known.

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#### DANIEL SULLIVAN.

Daniel Sullivan, a well known, progressive and enterprising agriculturist of Fairfield township, was born on the farm where he now resides, his natal day being January 15, 1870. His parents, Timothy and Catherine (Dearlin) Sullivan, both of whom are natives of Ireland, emigrated to the United States in 1856 and first took up their abode in Clinton county, Iowa. About 1859 they came to Jackson county, purchasing and locating on the farm which is now the home of our subject. They are still living and are now numbered among the worthy and respected residents of Lyons, Iowa. Unto them were born the following children: Michael, who is a resident of O'Brien county, Iowa; Ellen, the wife of Mat Hqrn,

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## Albert W. Richardson

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Birth: 1851  
Death: Mar. 28, 1919

Burial:  
[Union Center Cemetery](#) *also known as*  
Maquoketa *Roth bun*  
Jackson County *Cemetery*  
Iowa, USA

Created by: [Thomas Henning](#)  
Record added: Dec 21, 2005  
Find A Grave Memorial# 12758894



Cemetery Photo

Added by: Thomas Henning

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## RICHARDSON, Albert

**Born:** 1848  
**Died:** 1919  
**Cemetery:** RATHBUN  
**Location:** MAQUOKETA  
**County:** JACKSON CO. - IOWA  
**Record Notes:**

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## RICHARDSON, Helen J. (Mrs. A.W.)

**Born:** 1859  
**Died:** 10 AUG 1882  
**Cemetery:** RATHBUN  
**Location:** MAQUOKETA  
**County:** JACKSON CO. - IOWA

**Record Notes:**

The information contained on this website was originally recorded by Iowa WPA (Works Progress Administration) workers during late 1930's. In 2006 it was transcribed into a searchable electronic format.

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