

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Helstead Thomas Senator \_\_\_\_\_  
Represented Black Hawk County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 1837 Allegheny County, New York

2. Marriage (s) date place  
(1) Lucy E. Bennett Allegheny County, New York  
(2) Mrs. Ellen Howe

3. Significant events for example:

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

B. Civic responsibilities I.O.O.F.

C. Profession Farmer; Hog Raiser

4. Church membership Universalist

5. Sessions served 19<sup>th</sup> Grand Assembly 1882

6. Public Offices

A. Local Black Hawk County supervisor

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

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

7. Death 6 May 1922 Long Beach, California. Buried in Long Beach, California

8. Children Clarence L.; Frederick E.; Merta B. (Mrs. Jordan)

9. Names of parents John and Betsey Helstead

10. Education

11. Degrees

12. Other applicable information

Republican

- He grew to manhood in Alleghany County, New York
- When he was married he and his wife came west to Carroll County, Illinois in 1862 and then to Bennington Township, Black Hawk County, Iowa in 1865
- He farmed near Blakesville (now a ghost town) until 1884.
- He then moved to Waterloo, Iowa where he engaged in the stock raising business under the firm name of Jensen, Holstead and Company, later Holstead and Pad.
- His first wife, Lucy E., died 6 Mar 1906.
- He was active in road and school improvement, making and using the split log road drag. He was an advocate for gravel roads.
- He retired in 1909 and in 1911 moved to Long Beach, California





HON. THOMAS WELSTEAD

## Thomas Welstead Former Member of Legislature.

Thomas Welstead, 85 years of age, former state representative and a Black Hawk county supervisor for a number of terms, died at his home at Long Beach, Calif., at 9 p. m. Thursday. A son, Clarence H. Welstead, resides at 1815 Lafayette street.

The deceased was born in Allegheny county, New York, in 1837, and was married there to Lucy Bennett. He came to Illinois in 1862 and in 1865 came to Iowa, where he settled on a farm in Bennington township. Following his farming experience he was for a number of years engaged in hog buying in Waterloo. In 1909 he retired from active business and in 1911 went to Long Beach where he resided until his death. He served one term in the Iowa legislature, being elected in 1882.

Surviving are two sons and a daughter, Clarence of Waterloo, F. E. Welstead of San Diego, and Merta B. Johdan, Manville, Texas. His wife died fifteen years ago. Funeral services will be held at Long Beach and interment will be made in that city.

### SEINE RIVER MOUNTING FLOODS CAUSE DAMAGE

Paris, May 5.—Much damage is begin caused by the overflow of the Seine river which continues to rise. Navigation is at a standstill.

had  
on  
cat-  
ate  
can  
olu-  
con-  
uch  
the  
el-  
nit-  
un-  
ary  
ary  
and  
the  
art-  
n a  
asti-  
heir  
mit-  
nate  
is is  
  
have  
ad-  
in-  
eral  
no-  
heir  
the  
from  
solu-  
port  
the  
  
like  
Ro-  
asy-  
oted  
ecial  
rised  
d by  
Re-  
filled  
n of  
  
are  
reso-  
pital  
from  
  
:  
**CED**  
  
was  
this  
s in-  
car-  
waiv-  
g in  
ng a

marry him, because he already had a wife.

## Obituary

### THOMAS WELSTEAD.

Thomas Welstead died at his home, 1516 Second street east, Long Beach, Cal., at 9 p. m. Thursday. He was born in Allegheny county, New York, in 1837, and grew to young manhood in that vicinity. His father and mother, John and Betsy Welstead, came from England in their youth. Thomas Welstead was married to Lucy E. Bennett and came west to Carroll county, Illinois, in 1862 and to Bennington township, Black Hawk county, in 1865, farming near the now extinct village of Blakeville until about 1884, when he moved to Waterloo and engaged in the stock buying business under the firm name of Lennox, Welstead & Co., later Welstead & Paul.

His wife died March 6, 1906. Later he married Mrs. Ellen Rowe, who survives. A son, C. H. Welstead, resides in Waterloo, another, F. E., at San Diego, Cal., and a daughter, Mrs. Merta B. Jordan, Manvel, Tex.

In early days he was active in road and school improvement, making and using the split log road drag. He was a user of gravel and advocate of same back in the sixties. He served the county in the legislature and was for a number of years county supervisor. He was an active member of the Odd Fellows lodge and a member of the Universalist church.

Interment was in Long Beach today.

### JAMES F. HARDY.

James F. Hardy, age 63, died at 3 p. m. yesterday in St. Francis hospital, of dropsy. He had been ill for a year and the last four weeks confined to the hospital. His home was with a son, Frank Hardy, 319 Sumner street.

Mr. Hardy was born in Dubuque, Ia., Sept. 19, 1858. He came to Waterloo in 1895 and was employed by the Illinois Central until four years ago. Mrs. Hardy died in 1894. Surviving are two children, Mrs. Catherine Franz, Freeport, Ill., and Frank Hardy. Three

more g  
States  
been in  
Cannon  
"Som  
they?"  
erywher  
but wh  
in cong  
the ben  
whethe  
business  
be folk  
in the  
found  
govern  
flag th  
since A  
"Unc  
the far  
physica  
long se  
I.  
That  
when h  
eats lu  
he dow  
he wan  
If to  
have I  
said, r  
chew a  
Cannon  
he's 81  
ter."  
stiff pl  
sion.  
"Un  
celebra  
the ho  
den. H  
approp  
grew  
non's  
old fri  
honor.  
for on  
  
West  
Bldg., I  
  
Miss  
ed fro  
attend  
weddi  
Mrs  
Rober  
sister.  
Mullar  
atties.

27177  
5V83

# HISTORY

—OF—

## BLACK HAWK COUNTY, IOWA,

—AND—

## REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS.

---

EDITED AND COMPILED BY  
**ISAIAH VAN METRE**

5696

"History is Philosophy Teaching by Examples"  
1837-1903

---

PUBLISHED BY  
BIOGRAPHICAL PUBLISHING COMPANY.  
GEORGE RICHMOND, PRES.; C. R. ARNOLD, SEC'Y AND TREAS.  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS  
1904

new enterprises. In March, 1883, the institution became the Commercial National Bank, with a capital stock of \$50,000. The management of the institution exhibited commendable public spirit in encouraging and financing new enterprises, by which policy it won favor among the most enterprising citizens of Waterloo. The bank financed most of the wholesale houses and factories on the East Side since its organization, thereby securing a large clientage and at the same time promoting the general interests of this section. The stockholders of the bank are identified with the majority of the wholesale and manufacturing houses on the East Side.

In 1899 the capital stock was increased to \$100,000. In January of that year the bank was made a United States depository, being the first to be established between Cedar Rapids and St. Paul, thus evidencing its high standing abroad as well as at home. The \$50,000 deposits that were in the bank in 1884 had increased to \$600,000 by December 1, 1902. In January, 1903, the charter was renewed for two years and the capital increased to \$200,000, with a surplus of \$50,000.

W. W. Miller, the president of this strong financial institution, is a quiet and accommodating but withal a forceful gentleman, who has taken a most active interest in the promotion and securing of new manufacturing concerns for Waterloo. He has been a resident of Waterloo since he was 34 years old and has been for years an officer of the East Side School Board. He has taken part in many movements of public moment, and holds a high place among the solid citizens of the city.

**H**ON. THOMAS WELSTEAD, chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Black Hawk County, Iowa, ex-member of the State Legislature, and a very prominent and useful citizen of Waterloo, is one of the pioneer settlers of Bennington township. Mr. Welstead was born in Allegany County, New York, January 24, 1838, and is a son of John and Margaret (Wilcox) Welstead.

John Welstead and wife were both natives of England, where they were married just prior to removing to Canada. They made the voyage to Montreal in a sailing vessel. Later Mr. Welstead located in Allegany County, New York, where he followed his trade of shoemaking. Both parents died in New York, the mother when our subject was a lad of eight years. The family consisted of seven children, all of whom reached maturity, and five of whom still survive, one on the old home place and four in Western States.

Thomas Welstead was only a child of 10 years when he left the parental roof, which the loss of his mother made seem less a home. He went to school in Allegany County and was a classmate of United States Senator Teller, long before the great silver deposits were found in the West that made the latter a millionaire. Mr. Welstead remained in New York until he had attained his majority, working faithfully and industriously at whatever he found to do in the way of honest labor, but watching for an opening to better his condition. In 1863 he left the Empire State for the West and lived two years in Carroll County, Illinois, engaged in farm work, before he came to Black Hawk

County, Iowa, in the fall of 1865. At first his home was a log structure in Lester township, which he abandoned when he settled on his first tract of 80 acres, upon which he built a frame dwelling.

Mr. Welstead was one of the first settlers in Bennington township and at that time wild game was still plentiful, prairie chickens abundant and wild flowers decked the whole country with surpassing beauty. His first few years were filled with strenuous work and he was obliged, like others, to endure many of the privations necessarily attendant upon pioneer life, but perseverance and industry brought their reward. Soon acre was added to acre, the whole extent of the property under his control was put under cultivation, substantial buildings were erected, orchards and shade trees were set out, and comfort and plenty took up their abode. Mr. Welstead purchased land until he owned a farm of 240 acres, which he sold in order to remove to Waterloo, to give his children educational advantages. Later he purchased a farm of 160 acres in East Waterloo township, which he still retains.

After settling in Waterloo, Mr. Welstead engaged in the buying and shipping of stock, in which business he continued during 15 years. While residing on his farm in Bennington township he served as school director, township trustee and township assessor, and on all occasions displayed the public spirit and desire to be of service to his fellow citizens that has been one of his notable characteristics. In 1882 he was elected by the Republican party, of which he has always been a staunch adherent, to the

State House of Representatives, and during his term of office served his county well. He was on the school committee when the second appropriation was made for the Iowa State Normal School at Cedar Falls. In 1879 he was elected a member of the Board of County Supervisors, of which he is now chairman. He has served on the committee on county buildings; was chairman of the committee having in charge the building of the Court House; did the main superintending on the part of the Board of Supervisors of the work of building the Melan Arch Bridge across the Cedar River at Fourth street in Waterloo; and served also on the committees on the insane, the poor and Poor House. His energetic endeavors have enabled him to do much for Black Hawk County, and all his public services have been of such a nature as to increase the esteem in which he is held. He has also served as a director of the Board of Trade.

At Allegany, New York, Mr. Welstead was married to Lucy Bennett, a daughter of Henry Bennett, and three children were born to this union, viz.: Clarence H., of Waterloo, who married Katherine Schutzer, and has two children: Merta B., who is the wife of D. W. Jordan, who is interested in a manufacturing business in Waterloo; and Fred E., a graduate of the Waterloo High School and of Cornell College at Mount Vernon, who is now a teacher of science and geometry at the Decorah, Iowa, High School.

Mr. Welstead is now engaged in platting 12 acres near his home on Lafayette street in town lots. He owns considerable other city

property. Fraternally, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows lodge at Waterloo. His portrait accompanies this sketch.

**M**OSSES RICKER, deceased. In the prosperity of every community may be traced the controlling influence of a limited number of its citizens, who, by reason of peculiar business qualifications, and high personal characteristics, become unmistakably identified with its public and private life. The city of Waterloo has had such citizens, and perhaps few have been better known than the late Moses Ricker.

The birth of Moses Ricker took place in the little town of Winterport, Waldo County, Maine, on September 25, 1837. His father died many years ago, on the old family homestead, full of years and honors, and the death of his beloved mother occurred in 1884 at his home in Waterloo. The three surviving members of the family are: James Ricker, of Ottawa, Kansas; Henry Ricker, of Boston, Massachusetts; and Frank Ricker, of Bridgeport, Connecticut.

The details which have reached us concerning the boyhood and early youth of Mr. Ricker indicate that he was favored with the best educational advantages which his native locality afforded, and that he was reared in a home where frugality was encouraged and moral virtues extolled. In 1858, just after he had passed his 21st birthday, he yielded to a natural impulse, and sought in the far West

those business opportunities not furnished by his surroundings in Waldo County. Locating at Marysville, California, he almost immediately engaged in a transaction for Governor Lowe, of that State, and later secured some business interests at Virginia City and White Plains, Nevada. Mr. Ricker was not, however, altogether contented with his prospects, the disturbing influence of the Civil War practically paralyzing the business interests of large sections, and in 1865 he returned to the East, to await the stimulating influences of a few years of peace. He soon became interested, with his brother, in a dry goods venture in Boston, Massachusetts, and also in a commission concern in New York City; but the results of neither of these enterprises entirely satisfied him.

In 1870, Mr. Ricker visited Mississippi, and looked over the ground at Vicksburg, but a few months spent there convinced him that conditions were not propitious in that region. In the same year he came to Waterloo, and from that period dates not only his own business success, but a large part of the prosperity, in every line, which has brought Waterloo so rapidly to the front. With the keen judgment which marked his whole career, Mr. Ricker ultimately decided that he had found an ideal place for business and for a residence. He soon entered into a partnership with a Mr. Russ in the wholesale millinery business under the firm name of Ricker, Russ & Company. Their store was located in a small building where the Douglas cafe now stands. A fire wrecked this building, shortly afterward and the stock was

Try out the New Ancestry Search

You searched for **Thomas Welstead** in Iowa

 [All 1900 United States Federal Census Results](#)

**Page Tools**

 [Save record to someone in my tree](#)

 [Save record to my shoebox](#)

 [Comments and Corrections](#)

 [E-mail image to a friend](#)

 [View printer-friendly](#)

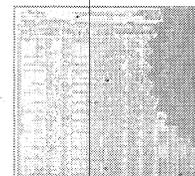
**Make a Connection**

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

[Find others searching for Thomas Norlethead](#)

**1900 United States Federal Census**

Name:	<b>Thomas Norlethead</b> <b>[Thomas Welstead]</b> 
Home in 1900:	East Waterloo, Black Hawk, Iowa
Age:	61
Birth Date:	Jan 1859
Birthplace:	New York
Race:	White
Ethnicity:	American
Gender:	Male
Relationship to head-of-house:	Head
Father's Birthplace:	England
Mother's Birthplace:	England
Spouse's Name:	Lucy
Marriage Year:	1859
Marital Status:	Married
Years Married:	41
Residence :	Waterloo City, Black Hawk, Iowa
Occupation:	<a href="#">View on Image</a>
Neighbors:	<a href="#">View others on page</a>
Household Name	Age
Members:	<u>Thomas</u> <del>Norlethead</del> 61



 [View origin image](#)

 [View blank](#)

Lucy <del>Norstead</del> <sup>W. L. Stead</sup>	62
Fred <del>Norstead</del> <sup>W. L. Stead</sup>	19

## Save This Record

Attach this record to a person in your tree as a source record, or save for later evaluation.

**Source Citation:** Year: 1900; Census Place: East Waterloo, Black Hawk, Iowa; Roll: T623\_418 Page: 4A; Enumeration District: 13.

**Source Information:**

Ancestry.com. 1900 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., 2004. Original data: United States of America, Bureau of the Census. Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1900. T623, 1854 rolls.

**Description:**

This database is an index to individuals enumerated in the 1900 United States Federal Census. The Twelfth Census of the United States. Census takers recorded many details including each person's name, address, relationship to the head of household, color or race, sex, month of birth, age at last birthday, marital status, number of years married, the total number of children born of the mother, the number of those children living, birthplace, birthplace of father and mother, if the individual was foreign born, the year of immigration and the number of years in the United States, the citizenship status of foreign-born individuals over age twenty-one, occupation, and more. Additionally, the names of those listed on the population schedule are linked to actual images of the 1900 Federal Census. [Learn more...](#)

You are here: [Historical Records](#) > [Census & Voter Lists](#) > [1900 United States Federal Census](#)

Visit Other Generations Network sites

[Corporate Info](#)
[Affiliate Program](#)
[Advertising](#)
[Ancestry Blog](#)
[Contact Us](#)

© 2009, The Generations Network, Inc. - [PRIVACY STATEMENT](#) | [Terms and Conditions](#)



Welcome, hcl

- [Home](#)
- [Family Tree](#)
- [Search](#)
- [Print & Share](#)
- [Community](#)
- [DNA](#)
- [Learning Center](#)
- [Store](#)

Try out the New Ancestry Search

You searched for **Thomas Welstead** in **Iowa**

[All 1870 United States Federal Census Results](#)

### Page Tools

- [Save record to someone in my tree](#)
- [Save record to my shoebox](#)
- [Comments and Corrections](#)
- [E-mail image to a friend](#)
- [View printer-friendly](#)

### Make a Connection

Not sure where to start? Often it's helpful to contact others who share your research interests:  
[Find others searching for Thomas Welstead](#)

## 1870 United States Federal Census

Name: **Thomas Welstead**

Estimated Birth: **abt 1838**  
 Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Age in 1870: **32**

Birthplace: **New York**

Home in 1870: **Bennington, Black Hawk, Iowa**

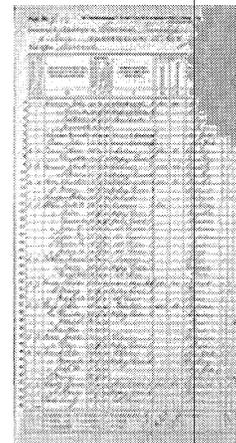
Race: **White**

Gender: **Male**

Value of real estate: [View Image](#)

Post Office: **Cedar Falls**

Household Members:	Name	Age
	<a href="#">Thomas Welstead</a>	<b>32</b>
	<a href="#">Lucy Welstead</a>	<b>34</b>
	<a href="#">Clarence H Welstead</a>	<b>9</b>
	<a href="#">Delia V Broad</a>	<b>21</b>



- [View original image](#)
- [View blank for](#)

#### Save This Record

Attach this record to a person in your tree as a source record, or save for later evaluation.

**Save**

**Source Citation:** Year: 1870; Census Place: Bennington, Black Hawk, Iowa; Roll: M593\_ Page: 309; Image: 25.

**Source Information:**  
 Ancestry.com. 1870 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., 2003. Original data: 1870.

• United States. *Ninth Census of the United States, 1870*. Washington, D.C. National Archi