

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Bells Elijah Senator _____
Represented Muscatine County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 5 Feb 1814 Franklin County Ohio at
Dublin, Ohio

2. Marriage (s) date place
① Isabella Watt 18 Mar 1835 Winchester, Scott Co., Illinois
② Harriet Jacques Watson ca. 1874 Salt Lake City, Utah

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business He was appointed Commissioner of Labor Affairs

B. Civic responsibilities _____

C. Profession Mercantile business; Steamboat agent,
politician

4. Church membership _____

5. Sessions served 1st, 4th General Assembly 1846, 1852

6. Public Offices

A. Local _____

B. State He was a member of the first constitutional convention of the
Iowa Territory in October 1844 in Iowa City, Iowa; Secretary of State in
1856-1863.

C. National _____

7. Death 13 Mar 1899 Salt Lake City, Utah; buried Mount Olivet Cemetery, Salt Lake
City, Utah

8. Children William Henry; David Miles; George Aubrey; Lewis Butler;
Lucy Isabel (Mrs. Howard); Elijah Hatter

9. Names of parents William Henry and Elizabeth (Eber) Bells

10. Education

11. Degrees

12. Other applicable information

High School Republican

- He located at Airport, Iowa in Muscatine County Iowa about 1840 where he was in the mercantile business with John Sparker.
- Around 1850 he left Airport and moved to Muscatine, Iowa where he worked as a stevedore agent.
- After being Secretary of State he moved to Vinton, Iowa in Benton County where he lived until 1870.
- In 1870 he moved to Salt Lake City, Utah where he was appointed under President Grant to be Commissioner of Indian Affairs.
- He was also Secretary of the Utah Commission under President Harrison.
- In 1833 he moved to Scott County, Illinois where he manufactured stoneware.
- He moved to Iowa Territory in 1841, living in Airport one year and then moving to Muscatine.
- At a later date he went to Kansas and served 3 terms in the Kansas House of Representatives.
- Military service - Civil War - served in the Navy as paymaster.



Young
Elijah Wells

of Sell

Property

Press,

OKSON,

DEATH OF ELIJAH SELLS.

A Pioneer of Muscatine County and Former Prominent Citizen of Iowa Passes Away in Salt Lake City.

A dispatch from Salt Lake City, Utah, announces the death of Hon. Elijah Sells in that city, Saturday morning, March 13th, at the age of 84 years.

Mr. Sells was one of Muscatine county's pioneers. He located at Fairport about 1810, where for a number of years he was in the mercantile business with the late John Sparks. Mr. Sells entered political life quite early in the history of this county. He was a member of the first constitutional convention which met at Iowa City in October, 1844, there being two other members from this county, viz: Jonathan H. Fletcher and Ralph P. Lowe. Mr. Sells was also elected to the first General Assembly, which met in Iowa City in December, 1846. He was elected then as a Whig, if we mistake not, it being regarded as a personal triumph for him, as the county was Democratic.

About 1850 Mr. Sells removed from Fairport to this city, where he opened business as a steamboat agent. In 1856 he again entered political life and was elected Secretary of State, being re-elected to two successive terms, going out of office finally in January, 1863. After retiring from the office of Secretary of State, he located in Vinon, where he remained till about 1870, when he removed to Salt Lake City.

Secretary Harlan appointed Mr.

New A

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Popul

Special Price Three D

New 60-inch Turkey damask, every-day 35c value at.....

New 58-inch cream damask, best 97c pattern Two days at.....

New 72-inch extra satin table damask, extra cheap at \$1.00 the yard 58c.

150 pieces of new fabric in a grand variety of patterns, regular 15c days at.....

10,000 yards of new choice designs, the in the city and a wonderful 19c and 25c ones.

Here's a Bonanza. 1 linen checked Glass T

a Divorce on Cross-Petition. A man this morning filed opinion in the York division which he awards Mrs. defendant a divorce on the ground in her cross-petition, supported by the evidence, the plaintiff (York's) petition for the custody of the child, giving the boy to the father and the girl to the mother. The court stipulates that each party shall have the right to see and be with the child awarded the other party on reasonable times. The court awards the child to the charge of adultery of the husband, the Judge says in other things: "It appears from the evidence that in the month of December, the plaintiff learned that the defendant was at the time of her company with a man named

SON,

...cross-petition... morning... in the York... which he awards Mrs... and a divorce on the... in her cross-petition... ed by the evidence... until (York's) peti... the custody of the... ing the boy to the... girl to the mother... dates that each par... right to see and be... arded the other par... reasonable times... e charge of adultery... husband, the Judge... her things: "It ap... nce that in the... month of December... learned that the de... e town of Owatonna... y with a man named... aintiff at once pro... place, and at about... to the hotel, where... pping, and upon en... found Ewing and the... ling, both dressed... between them, upon... me papers. Ewing... ining room, the door... n with the key in the... e of Ewing's room... only evidence which... the charge of adul... was in the employ... o Co., and author... York, who it appears... oll of the company... a number of towns... ile endeavoring to... courts of the min...

business with the late JOHN SPARKS. Mr. Sells entered political life quite early in the history of this county. He was a member of the first constitutional convention which met at Iowa City in October, 1844, there being two other members from this county, viz: Jonathan J. Fletcher and Ralph P. Lowe. Mr. Sells was also elected to the first National Assembly, which met in Iowa City in December, 1846. He was elected then as a Whig, if we mistake not, it being regarded as a personal triumph for him, as the county was Democratic.

About 1850 Mr. Sells removed from Fairport to this city, where he opened business as a steamboat agent. In 1856 he again entered political life and was elected Secretary of State, being re-elected to two successive terms, going out of office finally in January, 1862. After retiring from the office of Secretary of State, he located in Vincon, where he remained till about 1870, when he removed to Salt Lake City. Under Grant's first administration, Secretary Harlan appointed Mr. Sells Commissioner of Indian Affairs. He was secretary of the Utah commission under President Harrison's administration. Mr. Sells possessed to an eminent degree the qualities of a successful politician, being able to use such tact and sociability as to command the favor of his acquaintances. He was faithful in the discharge of his public duties and left an honorable name. He had two sons and one daughter, whose whereabouts are unknown to the writer of this notice. He was an uncle of Luke Sells, long and favorable known in Muscatine, now a resident of St. Louis.

Golden Wedding.

Dr. and Mrs. James Weed, situated in

Popular Special Prices Three Days

New 60-inch Turkey red ask, every-day 35c value, at.....

New 58-inch cream blea damask, best 97 patterns, Two days at.....

New 72-inch extra qual satin table damask, exquisi cheap at \$1.00 the yard. 71 58c.

150 pieces of new French in a grand variety of co patterns, regular, 15c pe days at.....

10,000 yards of new en choice designs, the most the city and a wonderful and 19c and 25c ones, all a

Here's a Bonanza, 18-inc French checked Glass Towel Prices Three days.....

Topsy Black Stockings.

Ann ings, high-days



LIAM DRURY.
 he great American
 its most ardent
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 the death of Wil-
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World's Fair,
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E-STANDARD.

A NOVEL SERANADE.

The Bend City Mandolin club sera-
 naded the NEWS-TRIBUNE office last
 evening in a novel manner, the soft
 strains of the musical stringed instru-
 ments being born to the listener's ear
 over the telephone wire. The members
 of the organization which is com-
 posed of C. Schroeder, R. Boydston,
 Louis Ticke, Louis Benninger and John
 Fahey, through long practice together,
 produce an exquisite harmony and
 blending of tones which delights and
 intoxicates the senses of the hearers
 to an insatiable degree.

DEATH OF ELIJAH SELLS.

Muscatine county's pioneer represen-
 tative to the first General Assembly
 held in Iowa in 1846, Hon. Elijah Sells,
 died at Salt Lake City, Utah, on the
 13th of March, at the age of 84 years.
 The deceased located at Fairport, this
 county, in 1840, and ten years later
 moved to Muscatine and became a
 steamboat agent. He always took an
 active interest in politics, in 1844 serv-
 ing as a member of the first constitu-
 tional convention, which met at Iowa
 City, and in 1856 he was elected secre-
 tary of state, being re-elected twice to
 that position. After retiring from
 office he located in Vinton and in 1870
 removed to the Mormon country and
 under Grant's first administration, Sec-
 retary Harlan appointed Mr. Sells
 Commissioner of Indian affairs. He
 was popular, ambitious, successful and
 ever honorable. Luke Sells, formerly
 of this place, but now residing in St.
 Louis, was a nephew of the deceased.

retary being absent F. M. Witter
 elected secretary pro tem.

Reports were received from the
 mittees on wall cases and library.
 tion on these subjects was deferred.
 The paper, "Local Distribution
 Introduction of Wild Plants," by
 F. Reppert, was read, engaging
 closest attention of all present.

The members all indulged in a
 cussion of the paper. It was the
 eral expression that the natural his-
 of this county should receive the e-
 est attention of our local naturalis-

Two weeks from to-night Mr. K
 will read a paper, subject to be
 nounced. The name of Carl Leinde
 was presented for membership.

On motion adjourned.

F. M. WITTER, Sec'y pro te

The paper is herewith given:

MR. REPERT'S PAPER.

The Local Distribution and Intro-
 tion of Wild Plants.—The study o-
 ture is nothing more than the obs-
 tion of her phenomenon and the b-
 ing by mental reasoning into the
 consistent with observed facts.

The human mind is, in some c-
 phases, so capricious that any phi-
 phy or theory of nature, not b-
 upon carefully observed and rec-
 facts, is apt to be not only errone-
 but tangled up with myths and vo-
 vagaries. Our knowledge and cor-
 tion of nature is the result of obs-
 tions made in laboratories, fields
 forests in all parts of the earth.
 the scanning of stellar space.

The corner stone of true science
 laid, and well laid, too, when it d-
 ed upon thinking minds that all na-
 and her phenomenon are simply
 which occur and repeat thems-

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Recollections and Sketches of Notable Lawyers and Public Men of Early Iowa

Belonging to the First and Second
Generations, with Anecdotes and
Incidents Illustrative of the Times

By

EDWARD H. STILES

For many years a member of the Iowa Bar; member of its House of Representatives, 1863-1864; member of its Senate, 1865-1866; Reporter of its Supreme Court, 1867-1875; author of Complete Digest of its Decisions from the earliest Territorial period to the 56th Iowa Reports.

"In old age alone we are masters of a treasure of which we cannot be deprived, the only treasure we can call our own. The pleasures of memory and the retrospect of the varied images which in an active life have floated before the mind, compensate, and more than compensate, for the alternate pleasures and cares of active life."—SIR ARCHIBALD ALLISON.

"Personal anecdotes, when characteristic, greatly enliven the pages of a biography."—SAMUEL SMILES.

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DES MOINES
THE HOMESTEAD PUBLISHING CO.
1916

Elijah Sells was, during the early part of my professional life, one of the best known and foremost men of Iowa. He figured actively during his life in four different States, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas and Utah. He was born in 1814 in Franklin County, Ohio, near the present site of Columbus. His great-grandfather, John Sells, came from Holland in 1723. His grandfather, Ludwick Sells, and his sons purchased a tract of land on the Scotia River, which in the early history of that country was known as the "Sells' Settlement." The youngest of these sons was William Henry Sells, the father of Elijah. Elijah Sells sprang from Revolutionary and fighting stock. His maternal great-grandfather, George Ebey, was a Revolutionary soldier under General Anthony Wayne, and was killed at the battle of Stoney Point. His grandfather on the paternal side was killed at Yorktown, in the last battle of the Revolutionary War. His father was a soldier in the War of 1812, under General William Henry Harrison. In 1833 Elijah came to Scott County, Illinois, and engaged in the manufacture of stoneware. He there began his political career by canvassing and assisting to carry Scott County for the Harrison electors. He removed to Iowa Territory in 1841, stopping in Davenport for a year, and then removing to Muscatine, where he resumed his business of manufacturing stoneware. In 1844 he was elected to the convention which drafted the first Constitution of the State.* The other members from his county were Ralph P. Lowe, afterwards Governor and Supreme Judge, and General John E. Fletcher. In 1846 he was elected to the first State Legislature and served two terms. He was again elected Representative in 1852, and in 1854 he declined the Whig nomination for Secretary of State, but at the first Republican Convention of 1856, he was nominated for that office and was elected, and served continually until January 5, 1863. The platform of the Muscatine County Republican Convention, drafted by Elijah Sells, was the first Republican platform ever drafted, and parts of its provisions were afterward embodied in the National platform. During a part of his incumbency as Secretary of State, he also served as Adjutant-General of the State. He declined the appointment of the first Collector of Internal Revenue, and soon thereafter received the appointment of Paymaster in the army with the rank of Major. He resigned this office and contested the gubernatorial nomination at Des Moines with William M. Stone, finally withdrawing against the advice of his friends in favor of his opponent. He then accepted an appointment as officer in the United States Navy, and was given the command of the receiving ship "Grampus" at Cincinnati. A year later he became Third Auditor of the Treasury Department, under Salmon P. Chase, from which position he was promoted to Auditor of the Treasury. Later, at the request of Secretary of the Interior Harlan, whose serviceable friend and faithful supporter he had always been, Colonel Sells became Superintendent of

* This Constitution was rejected by the people because of the contraction by Congress of the western boundary, which was restored in the Constitution of 1846 on which the State was admitted.

Indian Affairs for the southern superintendency, and did notable work in investigating cattle-stealing cases in Indian Territory, and in negotiating Indian treaties. He resigned his Federal position, but declined the offer of a Cabinet office tendered to secure his assistance in President Andrew Johnson's behalf in Iowa. He then went to Kansas and was elected for three successive terms to the State House of Representatives. At this period Colonel Sells came to Utah to manage mining interests at Alta, and from 1878 to 1894 was engaged in the lumber business in Salt Lake. He was appointed Secretary of Utah Territory by President Harrison in 1889, and by virtue of the law of Congress, was ex-officio Secretary of the Utah Commission and acting Governor during the Governor's absence. He was also Bank Examiner and Superintendent of Insurance. He held the office for four years.

As above indicated, he was throughout his career a man of supreme activities, and I may say, of supreme achievements. In the political field he was always a power, and one that had to be counted upon. He was probably the most alert and active leader of the Republican Party in Iowa during his time, his favor was courted and his opposition feared. He was the political manager of Senator Harlan when, after his resignation from President Johnson's cabinet, he became a candidate for United States Senator to fill the unexpired term which had been made vacant by his acceptance of the cabinet position, and also for the long or new term succeeding that one. His rival for both these positions was Governor Samuel J. Kirkwood. As a member of the State Senate at that time, I supported Kirkwood. The contest was a spirited and protracted one. The activities of Mr. Sells in behalf of Mr. Harlan were everywhere present. The result was the election of Harlan for the long term and Kirkwood for the short one.

Mr. Sells lived to a great age. He died suddenly at Salt Lake, where he had lived highly honored and respected for nearly twenty years at the age of eighty-three. In his latter days he displayed the same vigorous forces that had characterized his earlier ones. He was on his feet and active in affairs to the day of his death. Like an untiring soldier, he marched heroically to the end. All of the Salt Lake papers, for copies of which I am indebted to his daughter, Mrs. Lucy Bovard, of Kansas City, profoundly expressed the high estimation in which he was held, and the general sorrow in his sudden demise. Regarding him, the Salt Lake Tribune says:

Had he known yesterday morning that he was going to die before the noonday, we believe that as he looked back over the more than four score years which he lived, he would have had fewer self-reproaches than almost any other man. He filled the place in the world of a great, honest, patriotic man; he filled a place in society as a true husband, father and citizen. His life was a model one, and he goes down to the grave with the fullest affection and respect of all his fellow men. He lived more than man's allotted time on earth. He filled many important stations, and all with honor, and from first to last no one ever doubted his sincerity, his perfect truthfulness or his absolute integrity. No man in this region has ever earned more nobly final, everlasting peace than did Colonel Sells. The full sympathies of this city and State will go out to his sorrowing family.

He left numerous descendants, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Among his children were W. H. Sells, of Salt Lake; Mrs. Lucy Boyard, of Kansas City; David M. Sells, of Denver, and E. W. Sells, of New York City.

Suel Foster, John Mahin and George Van Horn.

None of these men were lawyers, except George Van Horn, and he, after a few years of practice, forsook the profession of law for that of journalism, in which, like John Mahin, he became conspicuous; but I have selected them from among the public men of the early period who exercised a large influence, and with whom I was more or less personally acquainted.

Suel Foster was one of the first settlers and founders of Bloomington (Muscatine). He was born at Hillsboro, New Hampshire, in 1811. He belonged to old New England stock and was related through his mother to George Bancroft, the historian. At the age of twenty he removed to Rochester, New York, and worked a year as a common farm hand. At the end of that time he took his savings and bought a small stock of goods and peddled them out in the surrounding towns and counties. With unflinching interest he made these rounds and heard the oft repeated tale of the pioneer settler, and here, he said, imbibed a love of agricultural pursuits and conceived the idea of emigrating to the West and making a new farm in the valley of the Mississippi. As a preparatory step, he spent a few months at the Middleboro Academy that he might acquire a knowledge of bookkeeping and surveying. His brother, Dr. John D. Foster, had a few years previous gone to Illinois, whence he came East on business in 1836, and on his return, Suel accompanied him to Rock Island and thence down the river to Bloomington, where they jointly purchased an undivided one-sixth of the town site for which they paid the sum of five hundred dollars. The town had been surveyed but a few weeks previously and consisted of but two log cabins. In 1842 he engaged in the wholesale and retail grocery business as a partner of J. W. Richman, who, I think, was a brother of J. Scott Richman. In 1847 he was married to Miss Sarah J. Hastings, by whom he had two children, both of whom died, leaving him childless through the remainder of his life. Soon after the discovery of gold in California in 1849, he made an overland trip to the Pacific Coast, arriving in San Francisco in April, 1850. During that summer he acted as clerk in the Sacramento Postoffice, and in the fall was appointed to take the census of the east half of Butte County, California, embracing all the mountainous country from the Feather River to the top of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. In the winter of 1851, he started on his return to Bloomington, where he joined his family in the spring of that year and settled down to the business of farming; but soon after drifted into that of the nursery, horticulture and fruit raising, to which he devoted the remainder of his life. He accomplished great and beneficial results by the promotion of tree planting, of orchards and small fruits of all kinds and in disseminating many new and improved varieties of fruit trees. He



You searched for **Elijah Sells** in **Iowa**

1840 United States Federal Census

Name:	Elijah Sells
County:	Des Moines
State:	Iowa Territory
Number of persons in household:	
Ages of persons in household:	View image
Occupation information:	

Source Citation: Year: 1840; Census Place: , Des Moines, Iowa Territory; Roll 101; Page: 60; Image: 127; Family History Library Film: 0007790.

Source Information: Ancestry.com. 1840 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2009. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.



Original data: Sixth Census of the United States, 1840; (National Archives Microfilm Publication M704, 580 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

Description: This database details those persons enumerated in the 1840 United States Federal Census, the Sixth Census of the United States. In addition, the names of those listed on the population schedule are linked to the actual images of the 1840 Federal Census. Enumerators of the 1840 census were asked to include the following categories in the census: name of head of household, number of free white males and females, number of other free persons, names of slave owners and number of slaves, number of foreigners, and town or district and county of residence. [Learn more...](#)

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You searched for **Elijah Sells** in **Iowa**

Iowa Census, 1838-70

Name:	Elijah Sells
State:	IA
County:	Muscatine County
Township:	Sweetland Township
Year:	1852
Page:	045
Database:	IA 1852 State Census Index

Source Information:
Jordan Dodd and Liahona Research, comp., *Iowa Census, 1838-70* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 1999.
Original data: Compiled and digitized by Mr. Jackson and AIS from microfilmed schedules of the U.S. Federal Decennial Census, territorial/state censuses, and/or census substitutes.

Description:
U.S. Federal Census indexes (and other related census indexes) for Iowa from 1838 to 1870 [Learn more...](#)

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You searched for **Elijah Sells** in Iowa

Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925

Name:	Elijah Sells	
Census Date:	1854	
Residence State:	Iowa	
Residence County:	Des Moines	
Locality:	Benton	
Roll:	IA_121	
Line:	3	
Neighbors:	View others on page	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	Elijah Sells	

Source Information:
 Ancestry.com. *Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2007.
 Original data: Microfilm of Iowa State Censuses, 1856, 1885, 1895, 1905, 1915, 1925 as well as various special censuses from 1836-1897 obtained from the State Historical Society of Iowa via Heritage Quest.

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

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SADLER-DESPAIN-SELLS-TEAGUE FAMILY TREES

Entries: 3589 **Updated:** Wed Jan 14 12:02:16 2004 **Contact:** Tammie Villeda

[Index](#) | [Descendancy](#) | [Register](#) | [Pedigree](#) | [Ahnentafel](#) | [Download GEDCOM](#) | [Add Post-em](#)

ID: I3269

Name: ELIJAH B. SELLS

Sex: M

Birth: 5 FEB 1814 in DUBLIN, FRANKLIN CO, OH

Death: 13 MAR 1897 in SALT LAKE CITY, UT

Note:

Note:

Elijah Sells was, during the early part of my professional life, one of the best known and foremost men of Iowa. He figured actively during his life in four different States, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas and Utah. He was born in 1814 in Franklin County, Ohio, near the present site of Columbus. His great-grandfather, John Sells, came from Holland in 1723. His grandfather, Ludwick Sells, and his sons purchased a tract of land on the Scotia River, which in the early history of that country was known as the "Sells' Settlement." The youngest of these sons was William Henry Sells, the father of Elijah. Elijah Sells sprang from Revolutionary and fighting stock. His maternal great-grandfather, George Ebey, was a Revolutionary soldier under General Anthony Wayne, and was killed at the battle of Stoney Point. His grandfather on the paternal side was killed at Yorktown, in the last battle of the Revolutionary War. His father was a soldier in the War of 1812, under General William Henry Harrison. In 1833 Elijah came to Scott County, Illinois, and engaged in the manufacture of stoneware. He there began his political career by canvassing and assisting to carry Scott County for the Harrison electors. He removed to Iowa Territory in 1841, stopping in Davenport for a year, and then removing to Muscatine, where he resumed his business of manufacturing stoneware. In 1844 he was elected to the convention which drafted the first Constitution of the State. (*) The other members from his county were Ralph P. Lowe, afterwards Governor and Supreme Judge, and General John E. Fletcher. In 1846 he was elected to the first State Legislature and served two terms. He was again elected Representative in 1852, and in 1854 he declined the Whig nomination for Secretary of State, but at the first Republican Convention of 1856, he was nominated for that office and was elected, and served continually until January 5, 1863. The platform of the Muscatine County Republican Convention, drafted by Elijah Sells, was the first Republican platform ever drafted, and parts of its provisions were afterward embodied in the National platform. During a part of his incumbency as Secretary of State, he also served as Adjutant-General of the State. He declined the appointment of the first Collector of Internal Revenue, and soon thereafter received the appointment of Paymaster in the army with the rank of Major. He resigned this office and contested the gubernatorial nomination at Des Moines with William M. Stone, finally withdrawing against the advice of his friends in favor of his opponent. He then accepted an appointment as officer in the United States Navy, and was given the command of the receiving ship "Grampus" at Cincinnati. A year later he became Third Auditor of the Treasury Department, under Salmon P. Chase, from which position he was promoted to Auditor of the Treasury. Later, at the request of Secretary of the Interior Harlan, whose servicable friend and faithful supporter he had always been, Colonel Sells became Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the southern superintendency, and did notable work in investigating cattle-stealing cases in Indian Territory, and in negotiating Indian treaties. He resigned his Federal position, but declined the offer of a Cabinet office tendered to secure his assistance in President Andrew Johnson's behalf in Iowa. He then went to Kansas and was elected for three successive terms to the State House of Representatives. At this period Colonel Sells came to Utah to manage mining interests at Alta, and from 1878 to 1894 was engaged in the lumber business in Salt Lake. He was appointed Secretary of Utah Territory by President Harrison in 1889, and by virtue of the law of Congress, was ex-officio Secretary of the Utah Commission and acting Governor during the Governor's absence. He was also Bank Examiner and Superintendent of Insurance. He held the office for four years.

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Had he known yesterday morning that he was going to die before the noonday, we believe that as he looked back over the more than four score years which he lived, he would have had fewer self-reproaches than almost any other man. He filled the place in the world of a great, honest, patriotic man; he filled a place in society as a true husband, father and citizen. His life was a model one, and he goes down to the grave with the fullest affection and respect of all his fellow men. He lived more than man's allotted time on earth. He filled many important stations, and all with honor, and from first to last no one ever doubted his sincerity, his perfect truthfulness or his absolute integrity. No man in this region has ever earned more nobly final, everlasting peace than did Colonel Sells. The full sympathies of this city and State will go out to his sorrowing family.

He left numerous descendants, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Among his children were W. H. Sells, of Salt Lake; Mrs. Lucy Bovard, of Kansas City; David M. Sells, of Denver, and E. W. Sells, of New York City.

(*) This Constitution was rejected by the people because of the contraction by Congress of the western boundary, which was restored in the Constitution of 1846 on which the State was admitted.

Father: William Henry SELLS b: 5 AUG 1790 in Bedford, PA

Mother: Elizabeth EBEB b: 6 JAN 1791 in Huntington Co

Ancestry Hints for **ELIJAH B. SELLS**

1 possible historical record matches

Father: WILLIAM HENRY SELLS b: 5 AUG 1790 in BEDFORD CO, PA
Mother: ELIZABETH EBEBY b: 6 JAN 1791 in HUNTINGDON CO, PA

Marriage 1 ISABELLA WATT b: ABT 1816 in PENNSYLVANIA
Married: 18 MAR 1835 in WINCHESTER SCOTT CO, IL

Children

WILLIAM HENRY SELLS b: 10 JAN 1836 in SCOTT CO, IL
DAVID MILES SELLS b: 1840
GEORGE ASBURY SELLS b: 18 MAR 1844
LEWIS BUTLER SELLS b: ABT 1846
LUCY ISABEL SELLS b: ABT 1854
ELDAH WATT SELLS b: 1 MAR 1858 in MUSCATINE, IA

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Individual Record

FamilySearch™ Ancestral File v4.19

Elijah SELLS (AFN: 1FLZ-0QB)
Sex: M

[Pedigree](#)
[Family](#)

Event(s)

Birth: 5 Feb 1814
Dublin, Franklin, Ohio
Death: 13 Mar 1897
Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah
Burial: 16 Mar 1897
Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah, Mt. Olivet Cmtry

Parents

Marriage(s)

Spouse: [Harriet Jacques WETMORE \(AFN: 1FLZ-0RJ\)](#) [Family](#)
Marriage: Abt 1874
Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah
Spouse: [Isabella WATT \(AFN: 1FLZ-0FG\)](#) [Family](#)
Marriage: 18 Mar (div) 1835
Winchester, Scott, Illinois

Submitter(s)

[Details](#)

About Ancestral File

Ancestral File is a collection of genealogical information taken from Pedigree Charts and Family Group Records submitted to the Family History Department since 1978. The information has not been verified against any official records. Since the information in Ancestral File is contributed, it is the responsibility of those who use the file to verify its accuracy.

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Individual Record

FamilySearch™ Pedigree Resource File

ELIJAH SELLS Compact Disc #130 Pin #3174612
Sex: M

[Pedigree](#)

Event(s)

Birth: 5 Feb 1814
DUBLIN, FRANKLIN, OHIO
Death: 13 Mar 1897
SALT LAKE CITY, SALT LAKE, UTAH
Burial: 16 Mar 1897
SALT LAKE CITY, SALT LAKE, UTAH

Parents

Father: [WILLIAM HENRY SELLS](#) Disc #130 Pin #3181384
Mother: [ELIZABETH EBEEY](#) Disc #130 Pin #3181385

Marriage(s)

Spouse: [ISABELLA WATT](#) Disc #130 Pin #3174611
Marriage: 18 Mar 1835
WINCHESTER, SCOTT, ILLINOIS

Notes and Sources

Notes: None
Sources: Available on CD-ROM Disc# 130

Submitter

Bette R. Parsons TANNER
P.O. Box 892 Panguitch, UT 84759

Submission Search: [2260576-0503106180712](#)

URL:

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Russell Research Rittings

Entries: 4533 Updated: Sat Feb 10 12:19:44 2001 Contact: Daniel Russell

[pink.duck @awt.rhsmith.net](#)

Ancestors of Daniel L. Russell

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ID: I2022
Name: Elijah B. SELLS
Given Name: Elijah B.
Surname: Sells
Sex: M
Note:

Elijah Sells was a statesman, Legislator, public official, lumbermerchant, and a military officer. His biographies appear in several county historyarticles, and in the Celle Family book, Part 9.

Elijah and family are recorded in the 1860 Census of Des Moines, PolkCounty, Iowa, household #1116, family #1026; Elijah is age 46, Sect. ofState, \$8,000 real estate, \$3,000 personal estate, born Ohio; Isabella, age 46,born Penna.; William, age 24, Capt. of Steam Boat, born Illinois; David M., age18, Clerk, born Iowa; Geroge A., age 16, printer apprentice, born Iowa; LewisB., age 13, born Iowa; Lucy Belle, age 7, born Iowa; and Elijah, age 2, bornIowa; Also living with this family are Hannah Moore, age 20, domestic, bornOhio; and Jane Moore, age 13, born Ohio.

Photos and biographical sketches can also be found in SAR records andelsewhere on this CD. These records contain some errors as to Ludwick'sancestors, but seem to be correct as to his descendants. They state that Elijahfirst moved from Franklin Co., Ohio in 1833 to Winchester, Illinois "where heengaged in manufacturing stoneware." ...and first became active in the WhigParty... "In 1841 he emigrated to Iowa Territory, stopping at Davenport for oneyear, but afterwards settling in Muscatine Conty, where he engaged in his oldbusiness of manufacturing stoneware." ... elected state Representative in1852/4... "In 1856 he was elected Secreatary of state for a term of two years..."and reelected twice... served in the Navy "more than a year..."appointed Third Auditor of the Treasury under President Lincoln... selected as Auditorof the Treasury for the Post Office Department... served in the Dept. of theInterior as Superintendent of Indian Affairs... negotiated treaties with theIndians... served as a representative in Kansas three terms... moved to Salt LakeCity, Utah where he served from 1889 as Secreatary of the Utah Territory...died in Utah in 1897.

1

Birth: 5 FEB 1814 in Dublin, , Franklin Co., Ohio
Death: 13 MAR 1897 in Salt Lake City, , , Utah

Ancestry Hints for Elijah B. SELLS

1 possible historical record matches

Father: William Henry SELLS b: 5 AUG 1790 in Bedford Co., now, Huntingdon Co., Pennsylvania
Mother: Elizabeth "Betsy" Ebe\ EB\ EB\ b: ABT 1790/91 in of, , Huntingdon Co., Pennsylvania c: in age 59 in 1850

Marriage 1 Isabel WATT b: 1816 in of, , Allegheny Co., Pennsylvania
Children

William H. SELLS b: JAN 1836 in Winchester, , Scott Co., Illinois
David Miles SELLS b: ABT 1842 in , , , Iowa
George Asbury SELLS b: 1844 in , , , Iowa
Lewis Butler SELLS b: 1847 in , , , Iowa
Lucy Belle SELLS b: 1852 in , , , Iowa
Elijah Watt SELLS b: 1 MAR 1858 in Muscatine, , , Iowa

Sources:

Abbrev: Imported GEDCOM file
Title: GEDCOM file imported on 12 Feb 2000.
Author: Carolyn Cell Choppin
Publication: Farwest Family Publishers

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 Death: *unknown 13 Nov 1897*

Family links:
 Spouse:
 Harriet Jacques Wetmore Sells (1896 - 1916)*

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Burial:
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 Salt Lake County
 Utah, USA
 Plot: M-55 area

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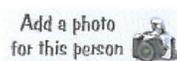
Added by: [Judie Huff](#)



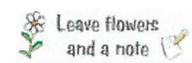
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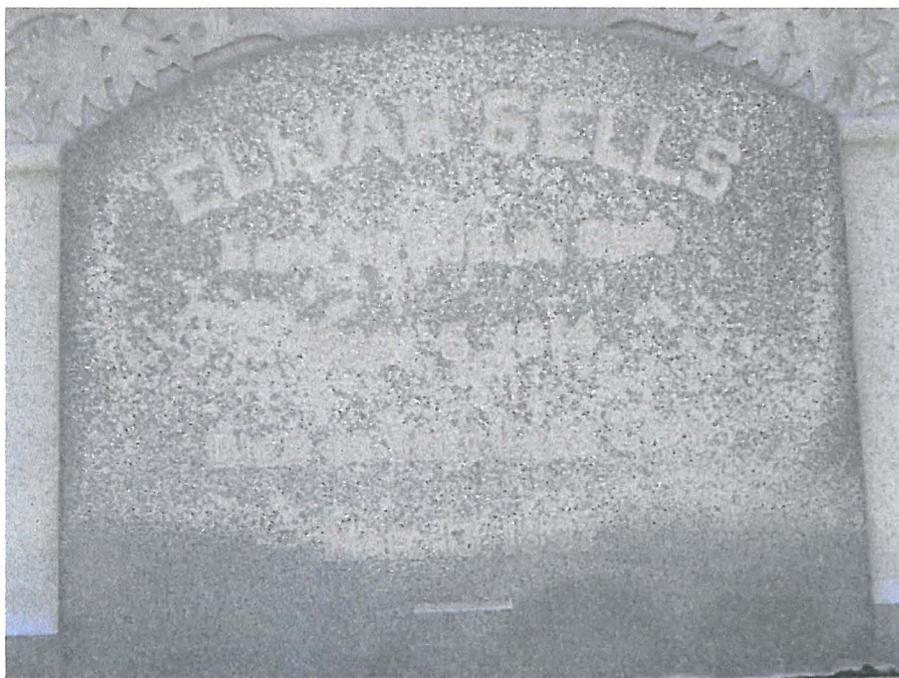


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Added by: Judie Huff
5/07/2008

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Harriet Jacques Wetmore Sells

Original name: Harriet W. Sells

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Birth: Nov. 25, 1896
Livonia
Livingston County
New York, USA

Death: Jan. 22, 1916
Los Angeles
Los Angeles County
California, USA

Daughter of Revolutionary War Patriot Bela Wetmore of Massachusetts.

She was a DAR Real Daughter.

Family links:

Spouse:
Elijah Sells

Burial:
[Mount Olivet Cemetery](#)
Salt Lake City
Salt Lake County
Utah, USA
Plot: M_55_10 1/2 11

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6. **Sex Name****M** [George Asbury SELLS](#) (AFN:1FLZ-0V5)[Pedigree](#)

Born:	18 Mar 1844	Place:	Fairfield, Jefferson, Iowa
Died:	30 Mar 1896	Place:	Topeka, Shawnee, Kansas
Buried:	1 Apr 1896	Place:	Topeka, Shawnee, Kansas

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