

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Senator Miles, Lewis
Served Wayne and Lucas counties

1. Birthday and place 30 June 1845 Marion County, Ohio

2. Marriage (s) date place

Mary D. Robb 20 Feb 1868 Wayne County, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

- A. Business 40 years continued in the mercantile business
The Miles Brothers beginning in 1884, partner with First
National Bank of Corydon; newspaper business with Corydon
- B. Civic responsibilities Monitor

C. Profession Lawyer; teacher; newspaper editor

4. Church membership

5. Sessions served 13th, 20th, 21st General Assemblies 1870, 1884, 1886

6. Public Offices

A. Local

B. State

C. National U. S. Attorney - 1889 - 1907

7. Death 10 Nov 1921 at Corydon; buried Corydon Cemetery, Corydon Iowa

8. Children William E.; Charles B.; Winifred (Mrs. N. H. Carter); Louis (Mrs. D. H. Jackson)

9. Names of parents William and Emily (Kelch) Miles

Miles, Lewis

10. Education Attended school in a log school-house in
Corydon

11. Degrees Attended a business course at Bryant and
Stratton Commercial College in Rhode Island, graduating
in 1865

12. Other applicable information Republican

- He comes with his family to Wayne County in the
spring of 1853 on land his father had entered from
the government in 1851. He died upon this same land.
- Helped his father on the farm; Taught school and
read law with General S. L. Glasgow.
- Admitted to practice of law in Oct 1868.
- 1868-1871 engaged in the mercantile business with
firm of Hurlon, Richards and Miles.
- 1871 he formed a law partnership with Capt. J. W.
McClanahan; the partnership dissolved in 1873,
and he then becomes a partner with Judge Sedford
until 1879.
- 1879-1893 Associated in practice of law with
Judge Ireland.
- 1 Aug 1894 formed a partnership with C. W. Steele which
continued until his death.
- His immense law library was considered one of the
best in Iowa.
- Wife, Mary, born 1852, died 1939, also buried in Corydon Cemetery,
Corydon, Iowa.

RYDON, IOWA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1921.

LEWIS MILES IS GONE

The first and foremost citizen of Corydon passed away Thursday morning in the death of Hon. Lewis Miles, who had been an outstanding figure in Iowa public affairs and politics for a half a century. For ten days he had been suffering from an illness but his indomitable will never relaxed and as late as Monday he was at his office desk driving his tired body forward with the same energy that has marked his entire career. Though his body gave away under the strain yet his mental vigor and alertness never flagged. Wednesday night at his home he was still in possession of all of his mental faculties and his intellect was perfectly sound.

He was an eminent and successful man in every field of endeavor. As a politician he was always at the fore front in Iowa affairs. His counsel was sought by all the leaders of the republican party for the last forty years. As a business man he was always sound, safe and conservative and his business judgement was never in error so far as we have ever known. He was not the leading banker in Wayne county perhaps but he was, in a modest way, connected with the First National Bank and his name and advice undoubtedly gave strength to this institution. As a very young man he was with his father on a farm which is now largely occupied by the city of Corydon. Late in life he invested a part of his earnings in a farm and he has developed this place, and added to, and made improvements until it is now one of the model stock farms of Wayne county. In his early days he was engaged in the newspaper business, first associated with the late Wm. Hartshorn in editing the Corydon Monitor, the first loyal American newspaper published in Wayne county, established by patriotic citizens who desired and felt the need during the war of a fearless newspaper that would support Abraham Lincoln and the Federal government. The Corydon Monitor served its purpose and has passed on and its successor was the Corydon Times and finally the Times-Republican. Mr. Miles was a successful and fearless editor of the Monitor and later was a partner with C. F. LeCompte in other newspaper enterprises.

As a lawyer he probably reached his greatest mental achievement. It can be said without contradiction that he was recognized as one of the first and foremost lawyers in Iowa. His immense law library is regarded as the finest private law library in the state of Iowa. It was assembled at a cost that must have exceeded \$25,000. By the sheer persistent study and practice of law Mr. Miles gained a profound knowledge of law that placed him first at the Wayne county bar and it is a notable fact that the bar of Wayne county has long been a source of pride to the State Legislators. Standing legal attainments can not be overstated Mr. Miles would not try a case carelessly. Any case with

time to law. He had been admitted to the practice in 1868. In 1883 he was elected to the State Senate from the Fourth Senatorial District comprising the counties of Wayne and Lucas. He was one of the strong members of the upper house where there were many strong men. He served with great honor through two regular sessions and the impeachment of State Auditor John L. Brown. Mr. Miles was not thereafter ever a candidate before the people for any elective office. In 1880 he was a presidential elector and as such was entrusted with the vote of the people in the electoral college.

Again for a period of years he was engaged in the law practice. In 1889 he was appointed United States Federal prosecuting attorney for the southern district of Iowa by President Harrison and held this place for four years. He was again appointed to the same position in 1898 by President McKinley and once more a third time he was appointed in 1902 by President Roosevelt and held until 1907, making a total of thirteen years or more. His great ability as a lawyer was shown in his vigorous prosecution of crime throughout the district comprising southern Iowa and he was the only man who has held this position for so many years.

In his practice of law, he was first in the office of General Samuel L. Glasgow where he prepared himself for admission to the bar. His first partner was the late Captain J. N. McClanahan. A little later he was associated with the late Judge W. H. Tedford, a firm which continued for some time. His third partner was the late Hon. J. W. Freeland, and was one of the strong firms of Wayne county. In August 1894, a partnership was formed with the Hon. C. W. Steele which has continued to the present day, a successful association, ideal in every way. For twenty-seven years, Mr. Steele has probably been closer in his relationship with Mr. Miles than any other man and death perhaps was the only contingency that would ever dissolve this association.

The community has lost its most conspicuous figure. Courageous as a lion, he was also gentle as a child and as indulgent as a father could possibly be. No man was ever more faithful to his friends or more devoted to his profession. Whatever was good for Corydon had his unequivocal support. In public affairs he was always found on the side of right and justice. Abolition of human slavery, prohibition of liquor, equal suffrage for women, all alike had his active support. During the recent war he was unsparing in his labors through every war drive for liberty bonds, Red Cross funds or war stamps. At an early age he became a member of the republican party and followed the footsteps of Abraham Lincoln. He regarded it as a duty and a privilege to serve his party and during

CASH MARKET REPORT

The prices quoted below were secured of Corydon business houses, Nov. 16, 1921, and subject to market changes:

Butcher stuff	.....3@4c
Steers	.....5c
Canners	.....1c
Heavy Hogs	.....5c
Light Hogs	.....6 1/4c
Sheep	.....1c
Lambs	.....6c
Butter	.....35c
Cream	.....35c
Eggs	.....48c
Spring Chickens	.....13@16c
Hens	.....13@15c
Roosters	.....6c
Ducks	.....12@15c
Geese	.....12c
Oats	.....20c
Corn	.....27c
Timothy seed	.....\$1.50@2.00
Coal	.....24@26c

one brother surviving—Mrs. E. E. Clark and Miss Emily Miles, of Des Moines, and Mr. B. T. Miles of Corydon.

From 1868 to 1871, Mr. Miles engaged in mercantile pursuits, first as a clerk for Mr. J. S. Harlan, and as a member of the partnership of Richards & Miles. In 1871, he formed a law partnership with Capt. J. N. McClanahan, since which time he has been actively engaged in the practice of law. This partnership was dissolved in 1873, at which time he formed a partnership with the late Judge Tedford, which continued until 1879. In 1879 he became associated with the late Judge Freeland, continuing until 1893. On August 1, 1894, he formed a partnership with Mr. C. W. Steele, which was in existence at his death.

Mr. Miles began to interest himself in politics at an early age. He was an active and intense republican. He was elected to the lower house of the Iowa legislature at the age of 24, being one of the youngest members who has ever sat in that body. In 1880 he was chosen as an elector. In 1883 he was elected to the state senate from Lucas and Wayne counties, serving four years. He served thirteen years as United States Attorney, being first appointed in 1889. He was re-appointed in 1898, serving until 1907. Since retiring from that position he has actively engaged in the practice of law in Corydon.

In addition to his law practice, Mr. Miles has been actively identified in the mercantile business in Corydon for almost forty years continuously. He was the senior member of the firm of Miles Brothers which was established in July, 1884, and has been in business ever since. It is one of the oldest concerns in this county that has been continuously in business. Mr. Miles was an indefatigable worker. He lived the strenuous life. He was at his office every day

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Mr. Miles was an indefatigable worker. He lived the strenuous life. He was at his office every day until about two weeks ago. He spent a few hours there on the Monday preceding his death. He had been failing physically for some months, but mentally, he was keen until the last, with the exception of a few hours the day preceding his death. But he came back wonderfully, and just a few hours before he passed away he was apparently mentally as alert as ever. He passed away peacefully, without trace of any struggle or indication of any pain.

DISTRICT COURT

The only case finally disposed of by the court since our last issue was the Donahue Investment Co. vs. Glen R. Karns, Lizzie Karns, Ray E. Sterritt, Admr., Ray Whiteley, G. N. Close, Glen Liggett and Mrs. B. Daly. The mortgage was against a piece of land the title of which was in Karns. The mortgage was turned over by Whiteley for stock in the Allen Auto and Tractor School to G. N. Close, who was treasurer of said school as collateral for stock purchased by Whiteley, said mortgage being sold by said Close to Donahue Investment Co. The court decided the Investment Co. being innocent purchasers could hold the mortgage. It also gave Mr. Whiteley a judgment against G. N. Close, treasurer of the company, for about \$1300, that being the difference between the cost of the mortgage and the stock purchased by Whiteley.

The case of Pray & Thomas vs. W. Preston Donald was taken up Tuesday and is now on trial. This suit is for \$15,000, the amount Donald agreed to pay Pray & Thomas over and above the first purchase price. Pray & Thomas are seeking a vendor's lien on said farm and Donald claiming to have made a settlement on March 1st by giving a note for the amount.

OYSTER SUPPER

At Morning Star School House on Wednesday evening, Nov. 23rd, 1921. DOROTHY CARR, Teacher.

Judge and Mrs. H. K. Evans entertained a group of friends of the late Hon. Lewis Miles Saturday evening. Those present were: Hon. Gardner Cowles and Hon. H. M. Havner of Des Moines, Judge H. A. Fuller, Hon. Frank Fuller of Mt. Ayr, C. W. Steele, C. B. Miles, H. H. Carter and K. M. LeCompte

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...to his profession, whatever was good for Corydon had his unequivocal support. In public affairs he was always found on the side of right and justice. Abolition of human slavery, prohibition of liquor, equal suffrage for women, all alike had his active support. During the recent war he was unsparing in his labors through every war drive for liberty bonds, Red Cross funds or war stamps. At an early age he became a member of the republican party and throughout his life he followed in the footsteps of Abraham Lincoln. He regarded it as a duty and a privilege to serve his party and during the campaign of a year ago he went out and made a number of speeches at the risk of his health.

No one who ever came into contact with Lewis Miles could fail, we believe, to be impressed with his high sense of duty, his love of his country, his inexhaustible fund of knowledge, his love of literature, his profound knowledge of law, his undying energy and his devotion to his family, his friends and his community.

His life is ended but the legacy of a tender, gentle memory will live long with us and his impress upon the morals and development of the community will never be lost.

The following obituary was read at the funeral by Rev. Handy:

Lewis Miles, the oldest child of William and Emily Miles, was born in Marion county, Ohio, on June 30, 1845. He passed away at his home in Corydon on Thursday morning, November 10, 1921. His father's family came to Wayne county in the spring of 1853, settling upon land which the father had entered from the Government in 1851.

When they came there were only four log houses in Corydon. The house into which the family moved consisted of one room, with oiled paper for window lights and wooden latches. A portion of this house still stands. There is only one person now living in Corydon who was here when the family came, Mrs. Martha J. Keplinger, a cousin. The house in which Mr. Miles died is upon land which has been in the Miles name since 1853.

Mr. Miles' first schooling was in a log school house in Corydon, supplemented by one year in Rhode Island, and a business course at Bryant & Stratton Commercial College from which he graduated in 1865. Whatever additional education he may have had was the result of his personal efforts.

During his youth he assisted his father on the farm. Later he engaged in school teaching, during which time he read law with General S. L. Glasgow, being admitted to practice in 1868.

On February 20, 1868, he was married to Mary D. Robb, who survives him. Four children survive this union, two sons and two daughters—William E. Miles, Charles B. Miles, and Winifred, Mrs. H. H. Carter, all of Corydon, and Lois, Mrs. D. W. Jackson, of Denver, Colo. There are three grandchildren—Tedford and Mildred Miles, and Daniel Miles Jackson. There are two sisters and

he was recognized as one of the first and foremost lawyers in Iowa. His immense law library is regarded as the finest private law library in the state of Iowa. It was assembled at a cost that must have exceeded \$25,000. By the sheer persistent study and practice of law Mr. Miles gained a profound knowledge of law that placed him first at the Wayne county bar and it is a notable fact that the bar of Wayne county has long been noted for its strength. His great outstanding legal attainments can not be overstated. Mr. Miles would not try a case carelessly. Any case with which he was connected was tried with vigor and skill, be the case large or small.

At the age of seventy-six he was still practicing law with his mind still alert, with all of his mental faculties present and unimpaired. He was engaged in trying causes at the August term of the Wayne county district court. In the trial of one Frank Valkitch last summer charged with murder the county attorney, W. H. Tedrow, was assisted by Miles and Steele. Mr. Miles was not able at this time to appear in court and spend two weeks time in the trial of the case but it is a notable fact that he briefed the case himself and his master mind was seen throughout the proceedings. The fact that the prisoner was acquitted does not in any way reflect upon the skill shown by the attorneys for the state for it is admitted on all sides that the trial was prosecuted with consummate skill and Mr. Miles although absent from the court room, had a very important part in trying the case.

Mr. Miles came to Wayne county with his parents in the spring of 1853. From the time of his early manhood to the day of his death he was a prominent leader in the community. During that whole period he has given generously to every worthy enterprise, every religious movement and every worthy endeavor that has been promoted in Corydon. He never faltered in his determination to contribute to all efforts of a public nature. Every project that has succeeded bears the stamp of approval of Lewis Miles and was aided by his liberal subscription.

As a public speaker he was forceful, convincing and eloquent. When the occasion demanded he was extremely dramatic and he could employ humor and pathos with equal skill. In this county he had no superior, and perhaps no equal, as an effective public speaker. His great wealth of experience and knowledge stood him well on all occasions where he made a public address.

Probably he first came into prominence over the state generally when he was elected to the House of the Thirteenth General Assembly in 1869 as a young man twenty-four years of age. He took a prominent part in that early day legislature and at this late date he is still one of the three youngest men who has ever sat in the General Assembly of Iowa. Following this service in the legislature he devoted his energy to editing a newspaper, engaging in the mercantile business but chiefly devoting his

Biographies and Portraits

... OF THE ...

Progressive Men of Iowa

Leaders in Business, Politics and the Professions

TOGETHER WITH
AN ORIGINAL AND AUTHENTIC

History of the State

... BY ...

Ex-Lieutenant-Governor B. J. Gue

Des Moines
Conaway & Shaw, Publishers
1899

1898, he received the nomination for attorney-general. Mr. Holmes is imbued with the true spirit of the reformer and has always led in educational, moral and temperance reform. Ridicule and threats have no influence with him.

When a young man he was a Congregationalist, but in recent years united with the Presbyterian church. He is a ruling elder in the church to which he belongs. He assisted in organizing and superintending the first permanent Sunday school in Hamburg, and has been an active officer and teacher ever since. He has several times been a member of the board of education and for fifteen years a trustee of Tabor college.

He was married in August, 1864, to Sarah B. Hewitt. They have six children, Abraham Lincoln, William Thomas, Mary Elizabeth, now the wife of Rev. Evore Evans, Jesse George, Samuel Arthur and Sarah Marcia.

Mr. Holmes is a liberal man and no advanced course for human good has ever appealed in vain to him. He has the loving regard of all his fellow citizens. In a comfortable home, his children a credit to him, a handsome competence for his old age, he is enjoying the results of a life well spent in the service of the Master and his fellow-men.

MILES, HON. LEWIS, of Corydon, who served several terms in the legislature and has been twice appointed United States district attorney, was born in Marion county, Ohio, June 30, 1845. He came to Wayne county with his parents in April, 1853, and has resided there constantly since. His father, William Miles, was a farmer. He died December 26, 1879. His mother, Emily Welch Miles, died October 11, 1865.

Lewis Miles worked on a farm until 19 years of age, when he commenced the study of law in the office of Gen. S. L. Glasgow. He was admitted to the bar at Corydon, in October, 1868, and commenced active practice in November, 1872, at which time a partnership was formed with Capt. J. N. McClanahan. In October, 1869, when but a few months past 24, he was elected to the state legislature, and despite his youth, was recognized as one of the most influential members of the lower house. In June, 1873, the relation with Captain McClanahan was dissolved, and another formed with W. H. Tedford, now a judge in the Third judicial

district, under the firm name of Tedford & Miles, which continued until February, 1879. His next law associate was J. W. Freeland and the firm of Freeland & Miles enjoyed a prosperous business until 1891, when it was dissolved. Mr. Miles practiced alone until August 1, 1894, when he became associated with C. W. Steele, under the firm name of Miles & Steele, which still continues.

Mr. Miles was married February 20, 1868, to Miss Mary D. Robb, at Corydon. They have an interesting family of four children; William E., born March 9, 1871; Charles B., born February 4, 1874; Winifred, born



March 9, 1876, and Lois, born August 5, 1882.

In 1879 he was a candidate on the republican ticket for the state senate, and was defeated, although running far ahead of ticket. In 1880 he was presidential elector for the Eighth district and voted for Garfield and Arthur. He was the choice of his party for member of the upper branch of the general assembly again in 1883, and was elected by a good majority, serving in the Twentieth and Twenty-first General Assemblies. President Harrison appointed him to the position of United States district attorney for the southern district of Iowa, and during his incumbency of that office, extending over a period of four years, not

a single indictment drawn by him or in his office was quashed or declared insufficient. His record as an officer and his distinguished party services secured his reappointment to the district attorneyship when the republicans returned to power in 1896, the Iowa delegation being united in recommending him for the place. He takes an active part in politics, and is in demand as a speaker during every campaign. He made thirty-seven speeches in the McKinley-Bryan campaign. He has been engaged in the active practice of law since 1872, except when broken by his appointment to the United States attorneyship, and has a law library of over 3,000 volumes. He is regarded by the bar of the state and by the leading politicians of all parties as one of the brightest and ablest men in the state.

VAN VECHTEN, GILES F. AND CHARLES D., of Cedar Rapids, have made that name known and honored throughout that region. The name of Van Vechten dates back in its origin to the time of Cæsar, and is traceable to the name of an old Roman camping place called Vectum (now Vechten) near Utrecht in Holland. The name of Van Vechten signifies *from the fighting place*.

The first of the family who came to America, was Teunis Dircksen Van Vechten, who came to New Netherlands in the ship "Arms of Norway," with his wife, one child and two servants, and settled on a farm at Greenbush, opposite Albany, N. Y., in 1638. Persons of this name are now found in nearly every state of the union; but the Dutch habit of continuity clings to the greater number, who have remained near the home of their fathers in New York. The family, however scattered or mingled with the blood of other families, has retained a remarkable resemblance in its different members and has furnished its full share of those who, in peace and war, have made a history for this country.

The father of Giles Fonda and Charles Duane Van Vechten, was Gilbert Van Vechten, a farmer, of Lewis county, N. Y. Their mother, Iloa Bent, came from New-England stock, her father having been born in Templeton, Mass. He removed, soon after his marriage, to Lewis county, in northern New York, which was then a dense forest, with only two families anywhere near the place which became his home.

Giles F. was born in Denmark, Lewis county, N. Y., August 5, 1827. He was educated in the district schools and at Denmark academy. In 1854 he moved to Milledgeville, Carroll county, Ill., and engaged in farming and stock raising. In 1865 he and Henry G. Page, of Lanark, Ill., opened the private bank of Van Vechten & Page, in the town of Lanark. He remained there for about ten years, changing the bank meanwhile into the First National bank of Lanark. In 1875 he sold his interest in the bank and other property at Lanark and soon after removed to Minneapolis, Minn. In Novem-

ber, 1876, he came to Cedar Rapids, where he has since resided, and opened the private bank of G. F. Van Vechten. In 1886 the bank was changed to the Cedar Rapids National bank, of which he has since been vice-president.

In 1889 he assisted in organizing the Security Savings bank, of which he has since been president. Mr. Van Vechten is naturally conservative, his ventures have been along the line of safety, and his business career has been in the best sense successful. Passing through several panics, his business methods have always been sufficient defense against disaster, and the financial institutions with which he has been connected have never suffered failure. He has given much of his time to the investment of funds intrusted to him for that purpose, and can truthfully say he has never lost a dollar for his clients. Although naturally a money-maker he cares little for simply accumulating money, but believes that men who occupy positions of trust owe



Giles F. Van Vechten.

it to the community in which they live to help others as well as themselves. He would, if he could, give all men and women an opportunity in the world and would guard them against failure.

Politically, Mr. Van Vechten has, as a rule, acted with the republican party, although he was never a partisan. In his later years he has grown more independent in politics and is a believer in the justice of the doctrine known as the "Single Tax."

He was married to Miss Emma Melissa Humphrey on April 14, 1858. They have had no children of their own. They have one adopted daughter, Mary, who is now the wife of Merritt W. Pinckney, a Chicago attorney.

Charles D. Van Vechten was born in Denmark, N. Y., September 4, 1839. At

PAST AND PRESENT
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A Record of Settlement, Organization, Progress and
Achievement

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VOLUME II

CHICAGO
THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING COMPANY
1913

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April 14, 1839; Noah, April 28, 1841; and Catharine, born January 8, 1844, residing at Ness City, Kansas.

William M. Larimer was four years of age when he came with his parents to this county and he grew to manhood here, acquiring his education in the district schools. On May 19, 1864, he enlisted in the Union army and served one hundred days, receiving his honorable discharge September 23, 1864. He returned to Lucas county and engaged in farming, following that occupation until about the year 1882, when he moved into Russell, where he became connected with lumber interests. He has remained identified with the lumber business here since that time and today controls an important patronage and is ranked with representative and progressive business men of the city.

Mr. Larimer has been twice married. He wedded first, on November 24, 1868, Miss Eliza Jane Hall, who was born in Peoria county, Illinois, June 9, 1848. She came to Lucas county at an early day and died in Russell, Iowa, February 21, 1883. She was a daughter of Thomas and Jennie (Maple) Hall, both of whom have passed away. They were the parents of five children: Mrs. Larimer, first wife of the subject of this review; George, who resides in Peoria county, Illinois; and Tracy, Joseph and Catharine, deceased. By his first wife Mr. Larimer became the father of five children: Mrs. Etta Russell, who was born September 24, 1869, and who resides in St. Joseph, Missouri; Charles L., who was born August 17, 1871, and who makes his home in Russell; Emma, who was born August 24, 1873, and who died March 17, 1874; Mrs. Jessie Hatcher, who was born December 27, 1874, and who resides in El Paso, Texas; and Harry B., who was born March 22, 1877, and who died January 22, 1908. On the 13th of January, 1885, Mr. Larimer was again married, his second union being with Miss Anna Marks, who was born in Hennepin, Illinois, April 10, 1852. Her parents came overland to Mills county, Iowa, at an early day. Both have passed away.

Mr. Larimer is connected fraternally with the Russell post of the Grand Army of the Republic and he gives his political allegiance to the republican party. He has resided in this county since his childhood and has become widely known here, his business integrity, his progressive spirit and his genuine personal worth having gained him the respect and esteem of all who come in contact with him.

LEWIS MILES.

Lewis Miles can look back upon forty years of active experience in the profession of the law in Wayne county and has attained a position of prominence among the members of the bar. Since 1894 he has practiced in partnership with C. W. Steele, and the law business transacted by the firm is of most extensive proportions. Mr. Miles was born in Marion county, Ohio, June 30, 1845, and is a son of William and Emily (Welch) Miles. The mother's family were old Vermont settlers. William Miles came with his family to Wayne county, Iowa, April 30, 1853, and took up government land, for which he had made entry in 1851. At that time there were only four log houses in the locality where he



LEWIS MILES

settled and the nearest market was Alexandria, Missouri. He was here successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death, December 26, 1879, excepting the years 1857 and 1858, during which time he was also engaged in the mercantile business. The mother passed away on October 11, 1865. Both were members of the Freewill Baptist church. Of their family seven children grew to maturity, while two died in infancy, and our subject is the eldest member of the family.

Lewis Miles was reared at home under pioneer conditions and received his first education in a log schoolhouse in Corydon, Iowa. He went for one year to school in North Scituate, Rhode Island, and in 1865 graduated from Bryant & Stratton Commercial College in Chicago. Having supplemented his education by careful reading and study, he took up the profession of teaching and was so engaged in Corydon for about two and a half years, at the end of which time he read law under General Glasgow and prepared himself for the bar examination. On October 20, 1868, he was admitted to the bar, but in the following years from 1869 to 1871 engaged in mercantile pursuits. In 1872 he began the actual practice of law in partnership with J. N. McClanahan and after this partnership was dissolved he became associated with W. H. Tedford, remaining in this connection until 1879, when Mr. Freeland became his partner, who remained with him in business until 1893. Since August 1, 1894, he has practiced in partnership with C. W. Steele and this firm has ever enjoyed a wide reputation and an extensive clientage. Mr. Miles has conducted many important cases to successful issue and has handled much of the litigation arising in the city and in the surrounding country. He is well read in the law, forceful in argument and prepares his cases and briefs carefully. By his long years of experience he has become one of the most prominent members of the bar not only in his city and county, but in the state of Iowa, and his ability along legal lines found recognition in his appointment to the important office of United States district attorney on November 27, 1889, in which capacity he served until January 1, 1894. In 1898 he was reappointed to the same office and he again served in the same position from 1902 to 1907, being in all for thirteen years the incumbent in this position. In 1897 he was admitted to the bar of the supreme court of the United States.

On February 20, 1868, Mr. Miles married Miss Mary D. Robb, a daughter of William and Rebecca Robb, of Wayne county, and of this union were born four children: William E., who is engaged in mercantile pursuits; Charles B., who is also engaged in commercial lines; Winifred, the wife of H. H. Carter; and Lois, who married D. W. Jackson.

Mr. Miles has been an active factor in the local councils of the republican party. He has always taken great interest in political affairs and as early as October, 1869, was elected to the state legislature from his district. In 1879 he was a candidate for the state senate, but was defeated at this election. Being nominated in 1883 on his party's ticket for the same position, he was elected and served in the upper house of the Iowa legislature from 1883 until 1887. He secured the passage of a number of important measures which were of great benefit to his district, and his work while at the capital was generally of an important and effective character. In 1880 he served in the capacity of presidential elector. Mr. Miles' life work has been successful in the truest sense of the word. He is broad-minded and tolerant and readily discriminates between

the essential and non-essential points as they come up in his work. He takes the same interest in promoting public affairs that he gives to his private practice and he has done much that redounds to his credit to benefit the city in which he makes his home. He has been actuated by a laudable ambition to succeed from his early youth and this ambition and his undaunted energy have carried him to success.

GEORGE PARKIN.

Well known as one of the prosperous agriculturists of Union township, Lucas county, and prominent in the public life of his township, George Parkin is to be ranked with its foremost citizens. He was born in Delaware county, Pennsylvania, April 18, 1859, and is a son of Joseph and Ann (Newsome) Parkin, both natives of England. The father was born in that country in 1827 and with his wife came to America in 1856. In 1878 the family removed to Union township, Lucas county, and there the father was successful until his death, which occurred in November, 1908. His wife has also passed away, her demise having occurred in Union township in August, 1902. Both were highly esteemed and respected in this locality for their many admirable qualities of mind and character. In their family were five children, of whom four died in infancy, the subject of this review being the only surviving member.

George Parkin was educated largely in Pennsylvania and in 1878, when nineteen years of age, came with his parents to Union township, Lucas county, where they located on April 12th, and has resided here ever since. While in Pennsylvania members of the family had found employment in the woolen mills but since coming to Iowa they have ever been engaged in farming and stock-raising and it is this occupation which has brought Mr. Parkin success. Although his educational advantages in his native state were meager he has learned much by reading and studied deeply in the university of life. Applying himself industriously to his purpose, he brought his one hundred and sixty acres farm on section 21 to a high state of cultivation and now also owns forty acres on section 19 and ten acres on section 5, all in Union township. His buildings are substantial and his residence is comfortable, while the most modern machinery can be found upon the place. He engages in general farming and also gives considerable attention to stock-raising.

In November, 1881, Mr. Parkin was united in marriage to Miss Laura Sprott, who was born in Van Buren county, Iowa, on January 28, 1858. Her parents were Joseph and Frances (Brown) Sprott, natives of Pennsylvania, where they were born July 30, 1826, and April 24, 1830, respectively. The father was attending Rush Medical College of Chicago when the news of the California boom struck that city and he left his studies and traveled overland to California but later returned by way of Panama over the same route where now the Panama canal is being constructed. On his second trip west he located in Union township, near the old Westfall homestead, and there remained successfully engaged in agriculture until his death. He passed away in Derby in August, 1903, and his wife survived him for about two years, her demise occurring in Union town-

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THE
ANNALS OF IOWA

A HISTORICAL QUARTERLY

VOLUME FOURTEEN--THIRD SERIES

EDITED BY
EDGAR R. HARLAN
CURATOR

55393a

PUBLISHED BY THE
HISTORICAL DEPARTMENT OF IOWA
DES MOINES
1921-1925

LEWIS MILES was born in Marion County, Ohio, June 30, 1845, and died at Corydon, Iowa, November 10, 1921. He was brought by his parents, William and Emily Miles, in their removal to Wayne County, Iowa, in 1853. He attended school at Corydon, was one year at a school in North Scituate, Rhode Island, and was graduated from Bryant & Stratton's Business College in Chicago in 1865. He taught school two years in Corydon, read law there with General Samuel L. Glasgow, and was admitted to the bar in 1868. About this time he also assisted in editing the *Corydon Monitor*. In 1869 he was elected representative and served in the Thirteenth General Assembly. From 1869 to 1871 he was engaged in the mercantile business, first as clerk and later as proprietor. In 1872 he began the practice of law, associating first with J. N. McClanahan, and in 1873 with W. H. Tedford. This partnership continued until 1879, when it was dissolved and he joined with J. W. Freeland. In 1894 he associated himself with C. W. Steele, continuing until Mr. Miles's death. He was a presidential elector in 1880, on the Garfield ticket. In 1883 he was elected senator and served in the Twentieth and Twenty-first general assemblies. In 1889 he was appointed United States Attorney for the Southern District of Iowa, and served until 1893. President McKinley appointed him to the same position in 1898 and President Roosevelt reappointed him in 1902, and he served until 1907. He was a successful business man, a lawyer of unusual ability, was cultured and well read, was patriotic, and exerted much influence for good in his town, county and state.

WILLIAM JOHN CAMPBELL was born in Perry County, Illinois, August 18, 1839, and died at Oakville, Iowa, March 10, 1922. He was a son of William S. and Nancy (McGuire) Campbell. He came with his parents to Des Moines County, Iowa, in 1857, when they settled on a farm where the town of Mediapolis now stands. He attended public school at Kossuth, one mile east of the present town of Mediapolis, and was graduated from Yellow Springs College, Kossuth. On April 20, 1861, he enlisted in Company E, First Iowa Infantry, and was mustered out August 21, 1861. On September 16, 1861, he enlisted in Company K, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, and was appointed captain. On April 6, 1862, his regiment was captured at the battle of Shiloh. He was in Confederate prisons at Jacksonville, Mississippi; Macon, Georgia; and Libby Prison, Richmond, and was exchanged on September 19, 1862, and rejoined his command. In June, 1864, Captain Campbell was in command of his regiment in the battles of Tupelo and Town Creek, Mississippi, and later was for a time in command of a detachment of four companies. He was mustered out at Davenport, Iowa, November 16, 1864. After the war he successfully followed the vocation of farmer and stockman in Elliott Township, Louisa County, and in 1907 removed to Oakville. He held different official positions in the township, was active as a Republican, and was for several years president of the Louisa County Agricultural Fair Association.



You searched for **Lewis Miles** in **Iowa**

1880 United States Federal Census

Name:	Lewis Miles	
Home in 1880:	Corydon, Wayne, Iowa	
Age:	34	
Estimated Birth Year:	abt 1846	
Birthplace:	Ohio	
Relation to Head of Household:	Self (Head)	
Spouse's Name:	Molly Miles	
Father's birthplace:	Pennsylvania	
Mother's birthplace:	Pennsylvania	
Neighbors:	View others on page	
Occupation:	Lawyer	
Marital Status:	Married	
Race:	White	
Gender:	Male	
Cannot read/write:		
Blind:	View image	
Deaf and dumb:		
Otherwise disabled:		
Idiotic or insane:		
Household Members:	Name	Age
	Lewis Miles	34
	Molly Miles	27
	William Miles	9
	Charles Miles	6
	Winnie Miles	4

Source Citation: Year: 1880; Census Place: *Corydon, Wayne, Iowa*; Roll: 369; Family History Film: 1254369; Page: 295D; Enumeration District: 241; Image: 0292.

Source Information:

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Ancestry.com and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. 1880 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2010. 1880 U.S. Census Index provided by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints © Copyright 1999 Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved. All use is subject to the limited use license and other terms and conditions applicable to this site.

Original data: Tenth Census of the United States, 1880. (NARA microfilm publication T9, 1,454 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

Description:
 This database is an index to 50 million individuals enumerated in the 1880 United States Federal Census. Census takers recorded many details including each person's name, address, occupation, relationship to the head of household, race, sex, age at last birthday, marital status, place of birth, parents' place of birth. Additionally, the names of those listed on the population schedule are linked to actual images of the 1880 Federal Census. [Learn more...](#)



You searched for **Lewis Miles** in **Iowa**

1900 United States Federal Census

Name: **Lewis Miles**
[Lewis Mills]

Home in 1900: **Corydon, Wayne, Iowa**
[Corydon, Wayne, Iowa]

Age: **34**

Birth Date: **Jun 1845**

Birthplace: **Ohio**

Race: **White**

Gender: **Male**

Relationship to head-of-house: **Head**

Father's Birthplace: **Pennsylvania**

Mother's Birthplace: **Ohio**

Spouse's Name: **Mary D Miles**

Marriage year: **1868**

Marital Status: **Married**

Years married: **32**

Occupation: [View on Image](#)

Neighbors: [View others on page](#)

Household Members:	Name	Age
	Lewis Miles	34
	Mary D Miles	47
	Wm E Miles	29

Source Citation: Year: 1900; Census Place: *Corydon, Wayne, Iowa*; Roll: T623_464; Page: 13B; Enumeration District: 147.

Source Information:



Ancestry.com. 1900 United States Federal Census [database online]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations 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 and year 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...](#)

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Lewis Miles

Memorial Photos Flowers

Edit

Birth: Jun. 30, 1845
 Death: Nov. 10, 1921

Biographies and Portraits of the Progressive Men of Iowa Volume 1

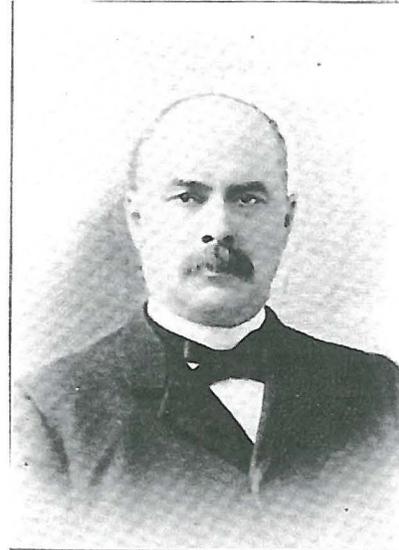
By B. F. Gue, Benjamin Franklin Shambaugh Conaway & Shaw, Publishers 1899

MILES, Hon. Lewis, of Corydon, who served several terms in the legislature and has been twice appointed United States district attorney, was born in Marion county, Ohio, June 30, 1845. He came to Wayne County with his parents in April, 1853, and has resided there constantly since. His father, William Miles, was a farmer. He died December 26, 1879. His mother, Emily Welch Miles, died October 11, 1865.

Lewis Miles worked on a farm until 19 years of age, when he commenced the study of law in the office of Gen. S. L. Glasgow. He was admitted to the bar at Corydon, in October, 1868, and commenced active practice in November, 1872, at which time a partnership was formed with [Capt. J. N. McClanahan](#). In October, 1869, when but a few months past 24, he was elected to the state legislature, and despite his youth, was recognized as one of the most influential members of the lower house. In June, 1873, the relation with Captain McClanahan was dissolved, and another formed with [W. H. Tedford](#), now a judge in the Third judicial district, under the firm name of Tedford & Miles, which continued until February, 1879. His next law associate was [J. W. Freeland](#) and the firm of Freeland & Miles enjoyed a prosperous business until 1891, when it was dissolved. Mr. Miles practiced alone until August 1, 1894, when he became associated with [C. W. Steele](#), under the firm name of Miles & Steele, which still continues.

Mr. Miles was married February 20, 1868, to Miss Mary D Robb, at Corydon. They have an interesting family of four children; William E., born March 9, 1871; Charles B., born February 4, 1874; Winifred, born March 9, 1876, and Lois, born August 5, 1882.

In 1879 he was a candidate on the republican ticket for the state senate, and was defeated, although running far ahead of ticket. In 1880 he was presidential elector for the Eighth district and voted for Garfield and Arthur. He was the choice of his party for member of the upper branch of the general assembly again in 1883, and was elected by a good majority, serving in the Twentieth and Twenty-first General Assemblies. [President Harrison](#) appointed him to the position of United States district attorney for the southern district of Iowa, and during his incumbency of that office, extending over a period of four years, not a single indictment drawn by him or in his office was quashed or declared insufficient. His



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and a note

record as an officer and his distinguished party services secured him reappointment to the district attorneyship when the republicans returned to power in 1896, the Iowa delegation being united in recommending him for the place. He takes an active part in politics, and is in demand as a speaker during every campaign. He made thirty-seven speeches in the McKinley-Bryan campaign. He has been engaged in the active practice of law since 1872, except when broken by his appointment to the United States attorneyship, and has a law library of over 3,000 volumes. He is regarded by the bar of the state and by the leading politicians of all parties as one of the brightest and ablest men in the state.

Transcribed from The Biographical and Historical Record of Wayne and Appanoose Counties Iowa
Originally published 1886, Inter-State Publishing Company, Chicago, IL

Lewis MILES, attorney and counselor at law, residing at Corydon, and at present one of Iowa's State Senators, is a representative of one of the pioneer families of Wayne County. His father, William Miles, was a native of Philadelphia, born April 6, 1816, but was reared in Ohio, going to that State when a child, and was there married to Emily Welch. They were the parents of ten children -- Lewis, our subject; S. W., now in Kansas; Lovina, wife of George T. Tosh; Hannah D., wife of C. F. LeCompte; Benjamin T., a merchant of Corydon; Mrs. Martha J. Clarke; Emma, and three who died in infancy, the last six being born in Corydon. William Miles came with his wife and four children to Wayne County, Iowa, in 1853, purchasing land in the immediate vicinity of Corydon where he followed agricultural pursuits till his death, which occurred December 26, 1869. His wife died October 11, 1865. Lewis Miles, whose name heads this sketch, is the eldest child of his parents, and was born in Ohio, June 30, 1845. He began the study of law with General S. L. Glawgow, and was admitted to the bar in 1868. He served in the Thirteenth General Assembly of Iowa, having been elected in 1869, when but twenty-four years of age, and is now serving as State Senator, having been elected for the Twentieth and Twenty-first General Assemblies. Mr. Miles may be classed among the self-made men. His early educational advantages were somewhat limited, but by earnest and determined application he has become one of the leading lawyers of Southern Iowa, and fitted himself to ably discharge the duties of a legislator. He is an extensive reader of the best books, his library being one of the finest in Wayne County. For his wife Mr. Miles married Mary D. Robb, a daughter of William Robb. Politically Mr. Miles is a Republican, and is an able exponent of the principles of his party.

Wayne County Democrat
Nov 24, 1921

Hon. Lewis Miles
Laid to Rest

Progressive Pioneer Passes Away Thursday
Morning Funeral Saturday Afternoon

Lewis Miles, son of William and Emily Miles, was born in Marion County, Ohio, June 30, 1845, and died at his home in Corydon, Nov. 10, 1921, at the age of 76 years.

He came to Wayne County with his parents on April 30, 1853, and has lived for 68 years in Corydon.

Lewis Miles was reared at home under Pioneer conditions and received his first education in a log school house in Corydon. He went for one year to school in North Scituate, Rhode Island, and in 1865 graduated from Bryant and Stratton Commercial College in Chicago. Having supplemented his education by careful reading and study, he took up the profession of teaching and was so engaged in Corydon for about two and a half years, at the end of which time he read law under General Glasgow and prepared himself for the bar examination. On October 29, 1868, he was admitted to the bar, but in the following years from 1869 to 1871, in company with Will Richards, engaged in mercantile pursuits. In 1872 he began the actual practice of law in partnership with J. N. McClanahan and after this partnership was dissolved he became associated with W. H. Tedford, remaining in this connection until 1879, when Mr. Freeland became his partner, who remained with him in business until 1893. Since August 1, 1894, he has practiced in partnership with C. W. Steele and this firm has ever enjoyed a wide reputation and extensive clientage.

Mr. Miles has conducted many important cases to successful issue and has handled much of the litigation arising in the city and in the surrounding county. He was well read in law, forceful in argument and prepared his cases and briefs carefully. By his long years of experience he had become one of the most prominent members of the bar not only in this city and county, but in the State of Iowa, and his ability along legal lines found recognition in his appointment to the important office of United States District attorney on Nov. 27, 1889, in which capacity he served until Jan. 1, 1894.

In 1898 he was reappointed to the same office and he again served in the same position from 1898 to 1907, being in all, for thirteen years the incumbent in this position. In 1897 he was admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court of the United States.

On February 20, 1868, Mr. Miles was united in marriage to Miss Mary D. Robb, a daughter of William and Rebecca Robb, and of this union

were born four children, William E., Charles B., and Winifred, the wife of H. H. Carter, all of Corydon, Lois the wife of W. D. Jackson of Denver, Colorado.

Mr. Miles also leaves three grandchildren, Tedford and Mildred Miles and Miles Jackson, one brother, B. T. Miles of Corydon, two sisters, Mrs. E. E. Clark and Miss Emely Miles of Des Moines.

Mr. Miles has been an active factor in the local councils of the Republican Party. He has always taken great interest in political affairs and as early as October, 1869, was elected to the state legislature from his district, being the youngest man except two,--Tom Bowen of Wayne county, afterwards United States senator from Colorado, and John P. Irish of Iowa City. In 1883 he was elected and served in the upper house of the Iowa legislature. He secured the passage of a number of important measures which were of great benefit to his district, and his work while at the capital was generally of an important and effective character. In 1880 he served in the capacity of presidential elector. Mr. Miles' life work has been successful in the truest sense of the word. He was broad-minded and tolerant and readily discriminated between the essential and non-essential points as they came up in his work.

Mr. Miles was always been public spirited and ready to do everything in his power for the betterment of Corydon and Wayne county. He took a very active part in the court house question and supported to the fullest extent, of his influence, as a public speaker, and by his money. It is doubtful whether it could have been carried without the aid of the splendid aggregation of public speakers of that day, not least among them being Hon. Lewis Miles.

He was also among the many who showed their faith in Corydon by erecting substantial business blocks on the square—having built a substantial brick 20x80 in 1885, to which he afterwards added by purchase the adjoining building of the same size, and several years later extended both back to the alley, making one of the best business rooms in Southern Iowa 40x160 feet, all of it devoted to the housing of Miles Brothers' business. Later, he, in company with his brother-in-law, C. F. LeCompte, erected the brick building on the north side of the square, as law office for himself and partner and the first story as a home for the Times-Republican.

Mr. Miles has always taken a great interest in advancing the literary standard of Corydon, and the surrounding county, and his library is perhaps one of the best in Southern Iowa. He was a great reader and always kept abreast with the literature of the times, and was looked upon as on as one of the best posted men, in general and literary affairs in Iowa.

He early engaged in the newspaper business and was employed as Editor as early as 1872