

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Letovsky, J. M. Barta Senator \_\_\_\_\_  
Represented Johnson County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 15 Dec 1845 Moravia

2. Marriage (s) date place

Mary Lenoch 30 Aug 1869

3. Significant events for example:

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

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

C. Profession Editor of the Slovak American, Bohemian newspaper  
published in Iowa City, Iowa

4. Church membership \_\_\_\_\_

5. Sessions served 23rd General Assembly 1890

6. Public Offices

A. Local Member of the Iowa City school board, city commissioner

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

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

7. Death \_\_\_\_\_

8. Children John B.

9. Names of parents John B. and Jenny (Mrakota) Letovsky

10. Education \_\_\_\_\_

11. Degrees \_\_\_\_\_

12. Other applicable information \_\_\_\_\_ Democrat

- He came to America with his parents landing in Boston, Massachusetts 1 Jan 1853. They later moved to Racine, Wisconsin and in spring 1853 they all came to Jefferson Township in Johnson County, Iowa
  - In 1859 he returned to Racine, Wisconsin and in 1869 he returned to Iowa City, Iowa where he worked on the Bohemian paper, The Slovaks American, started by his father and Joseph P. Prida. He finally bought an interest in the paper
- This newspaper was the only Bohemian paper in the state



Griffith, of Racine, Wisconsin. They have five children: Lillie E., Lydia H., Kittie M., Minnie and Roscoe E. He has held several public offices; was member of city council, member of school board, three terms of three years each; trustee of the township for five years. He is a republican in politics. In 1879 he shipped 98,541 bushels of grain; in 1880, 98,000 bushels; in 1881, 99,820 bushels; in 1882, 70,000 bushels. The crops of Johnson county were short in 1881 and 1882.

JOHN B. LETOVSKY, a resident of Iowa City, and one of the proprietors of the Bohemian paper, *Slovan Americky*. Was born December 26, 1821, in Moravia. He was married February 4, 1845, to Miss Jenny Mrakota, of Moravia. This union is blessed with seven living children: John B., Stojslav, Libby, Jenny, Bohumil, Miroslav and Stanislav. He came to America and landed in Boston, January 4, 1854, being eighty days at sea, most of the time in a storm. He went to Racine, Wisconsin, that winter, and in the spring took his family in an ox team and moved to Iowa; was fourteen days on the way to Cedar Rapids. He settled in Jefferson township in the fall of 1854, and farmed until 1859, when he went to Racine, Wisconsin, and started the *Slovan Americkansky*, and edited and published that paper until 1861, when he was sent by the Russian government to Amour, where he was gone eighteen months, and returned in 1862; his mission being to make a report on the feasibility of settling the province with his nationality for agricultural purposes. He came to Iowa City in 1869, and in company with J. P. Pisha started the *Slovan Americky*, the only Bohemian paper published in Iowa. Three of his sons, J. M. B., B. B. and S. B., bought out Mr. Pisha's interest, and the paper is owned and published by John B. Letovsky & Sons, with John M. B. Letovsky as editor. Mr. B. is quite a good writer, and the paper is highly esteemed by the Bohemian people.

J. M. B. LETOVSKY, a resident of Iowa City, an editor and one of the proprietors of the *Slovan Americky*, a Bohemian paper, published in Iowa City, in the Bohemian language. Was born December 15, 1845, in Moravia; came to America with his parents and landed in Boston, January 1, 1853, thence to Racine, Wisconsin, and in the spring of 1853 came with his parents to Jefferson township, Johnson county, Iowa; and in 1859 went to Racine, and in 1869 he came to Iowa City, and worked upon the Bohemian paper started by his father and Joseph P. Pisha, and finally bought an interest in the paper that he had successfully edited. He was married August 30, 1869, to Miss Mary Lench, of Monroe twp. This union is blessed with one child living, John B. Mr. L. is a democrat in politics, and has always taken an active part in the welfare of his party, especially among his nationality. He has held several offices in the city; at present a member of the Iowa City school board, and a member of the city council for six years. His paper is one of the official organs of Johnson county, and the only Bohemian paper in the State of Iowa.

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# Family Group Record

[Search Results](#) | [Download](#)**Husband**Jno. M.B. Letovsky[Pedigree](#)**Birth:****Christening:****Marriage:****Death:****Burial:****Wife**Mary B. Lench Letovsky[Pedigree](#)**Birth:****Christening:****Marriage:****Death:****Burial:****Children**1. Annie B. Letovsky[Pedigree](#)

Female

**Birth:** 18 SEP 1883 Iowa City, Johnson, Iowa**Christening:****Death:****Burial:**

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