

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Polkman, Melvin Clegg Senator _____

Represented Delaware County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 11 June 1836 Kendall, Franklin County, Massachusetts

2. Marriage (s) date place

Elvina Sophia Belding 4 Mar 1857 Swanzey, New Hampshire

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business _____

B. Civic responsibilities _____

C. Profession Farmer; manufacturer of wood and axes

4. Church membership _____

5. Sessions served 22nd and 23rd General Assembly 1888, 1890

6. Public Offices

A. Local He held nearly every township office

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death 17 Oct 1899 Swanzey, New Hampshire

8. Children No children

9. Names of parents Joseph and Mary (Nickerson) Polkman

Oakman, William C.

10. Education Public schools in Athol, Massachusetts until
age 14.

11. Degrees _____

12. Other applicable information Republican

- He was the youngest of eight children. He was age 4 when his
father died.
- He was reared by his mother until age 7 and then by M. Briggs
to age 14 in Athol, Massachusetts.
- At age 14 he went to Swanzey, New Hampshire where he worked
in a wooden ware manufacturing company.
- He came west in 1857 settling at Fox River, Wisconsin where
he again worked in a wooden ware manufacturing company
remaining 2 years when he returned to Swanzey, New Hampshire
to farm until 1868.
- In 1868 he moved to Delaware County, Iowa and rented a farm.
- In 1875 he purchased 140 acres in Hazel Dell Township.
- In later years he and his wife returned to Swanzey, New Hampshire
where they both died.

BIOGRAPHICAL

SOUVENIR

OF THE COUNTIES OF

DELAWARE AND BUCHANAN,

IOWA.

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

— ALSO —

OF MANY OF THE PROMINENT AND REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS AND
SKETCHES OF MANY OF THE EARLY SETTLED FAMILIES
OF THESE COUNTIES.

CHICAGO:

F. A. BATTEY & COMPANY.

1890.

a wide range of information on many topics of practical importance, a clear and discriminating judgment and a large fund of that great factor known by the homely name of hard, horse sense. He is plain in manner, direct in his business methods and pointed in conversation. He is as easily approached as it is possible for a man to be, keeping in touch at all points with the world around him and fully in sympathy with the plans, purposes, hopes and aspirations of those who stand nearest to him by ties of friendship, or in business or official relations.

Mr. Boggs was married on November 23, 1861, taking to share his life's fortunes a lady of this county, Miss Catherine A. Black, who, however, was born in Claron county, Pa., July 3, 1844. She is a daughter of James Black, who was among the first settlers of Clayton county, this state. Mr. and Mrs. Boggs have had born to them a family of three children, two daughters and one son—Amy, James Orrin and Ennis. These are verging on to manhood and womanhood and around them their parents find their interests, sympathies and hopes clustering more closely as the years roll by.

In politics Mr. Boggs is a republican, having cast his political fortunes with the great war party on its organization and having adhered steadily to its teachings since. A man of benevolent impulses, he connected himself some years ago with that most ancient of all the beneficial orders, the Masons, in whose mystic rites and ceremonies he has taken much interest as well as in its broad and charitable purposes. He has taken all the degrees up to and including that of Knight Templar, being a member of Manchester

Lodge, No. 165, A. F. and A. M., Olive Branch Chapter, No. 48, R. A. M., and Nazareth Commandery, No. 33. He belongs also to the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

HON. WILLIAM C. OAKMAN, an enterprising and successful farmer of Union township, Delaware county, is a native of the town of Wendall, Franklin county, Mass., and was born June 11, 1836. He is a son of Joseph and Mary (Nickerson) Oakman, the former of whom was a native of the town of Chesterfield, N. H., born February 19, 1793, and the latter a native of Provincetown, Mass., born in 1796. These were both descendants of old New England families, the Oakmans running back through successive generations to one Samuel Oakman, who settled at Marblehead, Mass., soon after the Indian wars, probably about 1689. There are many Oakmans living about Salem and Linn, Mass., who trace their ancestry to him. Some of the earlier members of the family fought in the Revolution upon the colonists' side, and some of them became distinguished publicists, and filled honorable positions in the various professions. Joseph Oakman, our subject's father, was reared in Vermont, and passed a considerable part of his life in that state. He subsequently moved to Massachusetts and settled in the town of Wendell, where he passed the closing years of his life. He died February 21, 1842. He was a farmer, a man of small means, but industrious habits, and a respected citizen of the localities where he resided.



Yours Truly -

H. C. DeKromen

Our subject's mother survived her husband many years, dying in the town of Swanzey, N. H., December 19, 1886. She was a life-long member of the Congregational church, and lived a consistent christian life.

Eight children were born to Joseph and Mary Oakman, all of whom reached maturity and married, and all of whom filled, during their lives, or are now filling, useful positions in society. The eldest, Richard, is a manufacturer and banker, residing at Turner's Falls, Mass., and is an ex-member of the Massachusetts legislature. The second, a daughter, Mary, became the wife of Gideon Bowley, a large ship-owner of Provincetown, Mass., and is now deceased. Another, Joseph, was for many-years a prosperous farmer of Tioga county, Pa., dying there a few years ago. Eliza, who became the wife of Warren Webster, died at her home at Montague, Mass. Orrin is a farmer residing in Swanzey, N. H. Hannah, once the wife of Gilbert Milliken, a sea captain, died at her home in Montague, Mass. Loina was married to Porter Hawks, of Hawley, Mass., and died at her home in that place.

William C., our subject, was the youngest child of the family to which he belonged. He was only four years old when his father died. He was reared by his mother to seven years of age in Athol, Mass., and then by M. Briggs to the age of fourteen, and the advantages of the public schools of that locality were his up to that age. Quitting Athol in his fourteenth year, he went to Swanzey, N. H., where he obtained a position in a wooden-ware manufacturing establishment. There he learned the business of a manufacturer of wooden-ware and continued

at it in that place for five years. Marrying in 1857 he came West and settled at Two Rivers, Manitowoc county, Wis., where he went to work in a wooden ware manufacturing establishment. He remained there two years, when, returning to Swanzey, N. H., he resumed his place in the factory where he had learned his trade and continued there engaged at his trade until 1868. That year he came to Iowa and settled in Delaware county. He engaged in farming on coming to this county, renting land for seven or eight years. In 1875 he bought a tract of land of one hundred and forty acres in section 24, Hazel Green township, on which he settled, and where he has since resided. When Mr. Oakman moved on to his present homestead it was practically unimproved. He went vigorously to work to make a home of it, and the present condition in which we find it is a flattering testimonial to his thrift, industry and business-like management. He has one of the most desirable places in his township. It is furnished with comfortable buildings; its fields are enclosed with well-kept fences; its stock are of the best grades, and it is ornamented with pleasant groves and supplied with promising orchards of fruit. Mr. Oakman has been a hard working man and what he has is the result of his own exertions. He was not born with the traditional silver spoon in his mouth. Turned loose upon the world to make his way as best he could at an age when most boys are loitering about college, dividing their time between their books and the sports which characterize the life of the college-bred boy, his career was marked by many hardships, being even up into mature manhood a long series of struggles

against most discouraging obstacles. The fact that he has succeeded as well as he has in a financial way is no mean tribute to his worth and ability. Add to this the further fact that he has given the public a generous share of his time and labor, and it makes his career all the more notable and advances him to the position of honorable distinction among his fellow-citizens. Mr. Oakman has always taken much interest in public matters relating to his township and county, and he has from time to time held almost every office in his township, the duties of which he has discharged with zeal and fidelity; and having so faithfully served his fellow-citizens he has in recent years been deemed worthy of a higher post of honor. He was elected to the state legislature of Delaware county, in November, 1887, and served during the ensuing session of that body, and was re-elected in November, 1889, being the present representative to the lower house from Delaware county. In politics Mr. Oakman is a republican. He has voted the republican ticket ever since the organization of that party. He is active in the councils of his party and a recognized force when there are matters of concern to be discussed among the people.

March 4, 1857, Mr. Oakman married Miss Elvira S. Belding, at Swanzy, N. H., she being a native of that place, born December 7, 1835. Mrs. Oakman is a daughter of Elijah C. and Elvira (Blake) Belding, natives also of Swanzy, N. H.

Mr. and Mrs. Oakman have a pleasant home and many friends in the community where they reside. Mr. Oakman has been ably assisted by his faithful wife, and this record would fail in one of its

chief purposes if it did not preserve this fact in connection with his history. She was raised in Swanzy, N. H., and received her education from the public and high schools of that place, and has always been a lady of quite a literary turn of mind. For thirty-three years she has stood by his side, helping him in all the struggles of life, always looking to the bright side of everything, and has been in every way a worthy helpmate. She has been very active in the establishment of a library in the locality in which they live, and has taken much interest in all the organizations affecting the peace and happiness of their home, and those of their neighbors.

SAMUEL SHERWOOD is one of the first settlers of Independence, Buchanan county. He has been a resident of that place for more than a third of a century, and few men have exceeded him in the interest he has taken in the welfare of his adopted home. He was born in Fairfield, Vt., October 18, 1820. He was reared in his native place and resided there, making his home with his father until he was twenty-five years old. At that age he started West, making his first stop in Janesville, Rock county, Wis. He resided there about two years, coming in 1847 to Iowa, locating at Independence, Buchanan county. He had learned the trade of a mill-wright in his native place, and he followed his trade for some years after coming West. He found his first employment, after settling in Independence, in assisting in putting the mill there, and he has been connected with

New Hampshire Death Records, 1654-1947 for William C Oakman

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Name: | William C Oakman |
| Titles & Terms (Original): | |
| Titles & Terms (Standardized): | |
| Death Date (Original): | 17 Oct 1899 |
| Death Date (Standardized): | 17 Oct 1899 |
| Death Place: | Swanzey |
| Gender: | Male |
| Race (Original): | W |
| Race (Standardized): | White |
| Age: | 63 |
| Estimated Birth Year: | 1836 |
| Birthplace: | Wendell, , Massachusetts |
| Marital Status: | Married |
| Spouse: | |
| Spouse's Titles & Terms (Original): | |
| Spouse's Titles & Terms (Standardized): | |
| Father: | Joseph L Oakman |
| Father's Titles & Terms (Original): | |
| Father's Titles & Terms (Standardized): | |
| Father's Birthplace: | |
| Mother: | Mary Nickerson |
| Mother's Titles & Terms (Original): | |
| Mother's Titles & Terms (Standardized): | |
| Mother's Birthplace: | |
| Burial Place: | |
| Burial Date: | |
| Clerk's Locality: | Swanzey, , New Hampshire |
| Informant's Locality: | |
| Film Number: | 1001098 |
| Digital Folder Number: | 4243767 |
| Image Number: | 01220 |
| Reference Number: | |

New Hampshire Death Records, 1654-1947 for Elvira S. Oakman

| | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Name: | Elvira S. Oakman |
| Titles & Terms (Original): | |
| Titles & Terms (Standardized): | |
| Death Date (Original): | 01 Jan 1916 |
| Death Date (Standardized): | 01 Jan 1916 |
| Death Place: | West Swanzey, Cheshire, New Hampshire |
| Gender: | Female |
| Race (Original): | |
| Race (Standardized): | |
| Age: | |
| Estimated Birth Year: | |
| Birthplace: | |
| Marital Status: | |
| Spouse: | William C. Oakman |
| Spouse's Titles & Terms (Original): | |
| Spouse's Titles & Terms (Standardized): | |
| Father: | Elijah Belding |
| Father's Titles & Terms (Original): | |
| Father's Titles & Terms (Standardized): | |
| Father's Birthplace: | |
| Mother: | Ellina Blake |
| Mother's Titles & Terms (Original): | |
| Mother's Titles & Terms (Standardized): | |
| Mother's Birthplace: | |
| Burial Place: | |
| Burial Date: | |
| Clerk's Locality: | |
| Informant's Locality: | |
| Film Number: | 2111343 |
| Digital Folder Number: | 4243140 |
| Image Number: | 2459 |
| Reference Number: | |



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Joseph Lathe Oakman

Birth **19 Feb 1793** in [Chesterfield, N.H.](#)

Death **21 Feb 1842** in [Wendall, Massachusetts, United States](#)

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Media Gallery

No photos, stories, audio or video have been added yet.

Timeline [\(View details\)](#)

1793
19 Feb

Birth

[Chesterfield, N.H.](#)

1817
11 Mar

Marriage to Mary Nickerson

Age: 24

1842
21 Feb

Death

[Wendall, Massachusetts, United States](#)

Age: 49

Comments

No comments have been added yet.

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Far

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You searched for **William Oakman** in **Iowa**

1870 United States Federal Census

Name: **Wm C Oakman**
 Birth Year: **abt 1836**
 Age in 1870: **34**
 Birthplace: **Massachusetts**
 Home in 1870: **Hazel Green, Delaware, Iowa**
 Race: **White**
 Gender: **Male**
 Value of real estate: [View image](#)
 Post Office: **Hopkinton**

| Household Members: | Name | Age |
|--------------------|------------------------------|-----|
| | Wm G Moore | 38 |
| | Wm C Oakman | 34 |
| | Eliza Oakman | 34 |
| | James Owens | 22 |

Source Citation: Year: 1870; Census Place: Hazel Green, Delaware, Iowa; Roll: M593_387; Page: 122A; Image: 247; Family History Library Film: 543886.

Source Information:



Ancestry.com. 1870 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.

Original data:

- 1870 U.S. census, population schedules. NARA microfilm publication M593, 1,761 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.
- Minnesota census schedules for 1870. NARA microfilm publication T132, 13 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.

Description:

This database is an index to individuals enumerated in the 1870 United States Federal Census, the Ninth Census of the United States. Census takers recorded many details including each person's name, age at last birthday, sex, color, birthplace, occupation, and more. No relationships were shown between members of a household. Additionally, the names of those listed on the population schedule are linked to actual images of the 1870 Federal Census. [Learn more...](#)

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You searched for **William Oakman** in **Iowa**.

1880 United States Federal Census

Name: **Wm. C. Oakman**
 Home in 1880: **Hazel Green, Delaware, Iowa**
 Age: **44**
 Estimated birth year: **abt 1836**
 Birthplace: **Massachusetts**
 Relation to head-of-household: **Self (Head)**
 Spouse's name: **Almira Oakman**
 Father's birthplace: **Vermont**
 Mother's birthplace: **Massachusetts**
 Neighbors: [View others on page](#)
 Occupation: **Farmer**
 Marital Status: **Married**
 Race: **White**
 Gender: **Male**
 Cannot read/write:
 Blind: [View image](#)
 Deaf and dumb:
 Otherwise disabled:
 Idiotic or insane:

| Household | Name | Age |
|-----------|---------------------------------|-----|
| Members: | Wm. C. Oakman | 44 |
| | Almira Oakman | 44 |
| | Charly McIntyre | 12 |

Source Citation: Year: 1880; Census Place: Hazel Green, Delaware, Iowa; Roll: 336; Family History Film: 1254336; Page: 4584; Enumeration District: 157; Image: 0698.

Source Information:



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. L454 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 **William Oakman** in **Iowa**

Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925

Name: **William Oakman**
 Birth Year: **abt 1837**
 Birth Place: **Massachusetts**
 Gender: **Male**
 Marital Status: **Married**
 Census Date: **1885**
 Residence State: **Iowa**
 Residence County: **Delaware**
 Locality: **Hazel Green**
 Roll: **IA1885_176**
 Line: **15**
 Family Number: **25**
 Neighbors: [View others on page](#)

| Household | Name | Age |
|-----------|---------------------------------|-----|
| Members: | William Oakman | 48 |
| | Elvira S Oakman | 49 |

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 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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You searched for **Elvira Oakman** in **Usa**

1910 United States Federal Census

Name: **Elma S Oakman**
[Elvira S Oakman]
[Elnia S Oakman]

Age in 1910: 74

Estimated Birth Year: 1836

Birthplace: New Hampshire

Relation to Head of House: Head
[Self (Head)]

Father's Birth Place: New Hampshire

Mother's Birth Place: New Hampshire

Home in 1910: Swanzey, Cheshire, New Hampshire

Marital Status: Widowed

Race: White

Gender: Female

Neighbors: [View others on page](#)

Household Members:

| Name |
|-------------------------------|
| Elma S Oakman |
| Ethel O Howes |

Source Citation: Year: 1910; Census Place: Swanzey, Cheshire, New Hampshire; Roll: T624_861; Page: 21A; Enumeration District: 0046; Image: 82; Number: 1374874.

Source Information:



Ancestry.com. 1910 United States Federal Census [online]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc.

Original data: Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910 (NARA n publication T624, 1,178 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C. For details on the contents of the rolls, visit the following NARA web page: [NARA](#)

Description:

This database is an index to the head of households enumerated in the 1910 United States Federal Census, the Thirteenth Census of the United States. If an indexed name is linked to actual images of the 1910 Federal Census.



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Oakman Family Tree

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William Claggett Oakman

Birth **11 Jun 1836** in [Wendall, Massachusetts, United States](#)

Death

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Media Gallery

No photos, stories, audio or video have been added yet.

Timeline [\(View details\)](#)

1836
11 Jun

Birth

[Wendall, Massachusetts, United States](#)

1857
4 Mar

Marriage to Elvira S Belding

Age: 20

Description

[Hazel Greene, Iowa](#)
moved to

Comments

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