

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative _____ **Senator** Shields,

James Hannibal - Represented Dubuque County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 8 May 1842 near Bowling Green, Missouri
in Pike County

2. Marriage (s) date place

Mary Tomlin 3 June 1874

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Gained admission to the bar at age 21; he was a
lawyer for 39 years

B. Civic responsibilities Dubuque Commercial Men's League

C. Profession Attorney; district attorney for Blackhawk, Buchanan, Delaware,
Dubuque and Grundy counties for 4 years

4. Church membership _____

5. Sessions served 23rd 24th General Assemblies 1890, 1892

6. Public Offices

A. Local Dubuque city attorney for 2 years; district attorney 4 years

B. State Chairman of the Iowa delegation to the Democratic Convention
nominating Grover Cleveland

C. National Member a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1892 at Chicago
and was chairman of the Iowa delegation

7. Death 30 Sept 1914 Dubuque, Iowa; buried Lincoln Cemetery, Dubuque, Iowa

8. Children Eleanor (Mrs. Nathan Lawther)

9. Names of parents General John G. and Elizabeth (Emerson) Shields

10. Education Preparatory course at Alfred University, Allegany, New York
for 2 years

11. Degrees Graduate of Union College in 1862, Schenectady, New York

12. Other applicable information Democrat

- His wife, Mary, died in 1879
- After graduating from Union College he studied law with Senator Harrison of Missouri
- He came to Dubuque, Iowa with his parents while in infancy
- After being admitted to the bar he was elected Dubuque, Iowa city attorney for 2 years and again later for 3 years
- In 1867 he entered into a law partnership with Judge Hamilton T. Barber which continued until Mr. Barber was elected Circuit Judge
- He then became a law partner of Judge Samuel M. Pollock for 8 years when the firm was dissolved and then he practiced alone.

HON. JAS. H. SHIELDS JOINS SILENT HOST

WIDELY KNOWN CITIZEN AND
ABLE ATTORNEY DIED WED-
NESDAY EVENING.

ADMITTED TO BAR AT AGE OF 21

Deceased Was Son of General John
G. Shields and Was Born on a
Plantation in Missouri.

The many friends of Hon. James Hannibal Shields will be grieved to hear of his death, which occurred Wednesday evening at 8:15 o'clock at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Wm. Lawther, Jr.

In the death of Mr. Shields Dubuque loses one of its most widely known citizens. The son of General John G. Shields and Elizabeth Emerson Shields, he was born on his grandfather's plantation near Bowling Green, Missouri. His father was a native of Kentucky and his mother of Virginia. On both sides he was

descended from the best type of the Puritan ancestry. His grandfather, James Shields, a native of South Carolina, was one of the earliest settlers of Kentucky, and a companion of Daniel Boone, with whom he participated in the early Indian wars in that state.

On his maternal side, his great grandfather, Edward Emerson, was a soldier of the old Virginia line in the revolutionary war, and his grandfather, Edward D. Emerson, assisted in the defense of Washington in the war of 1812.

STUDENT IN YOUTH.

Early in life Mr. Shields' parents impressed upon his mind the advantages that are derived from study in his youth. After a preparatory course at Alfred academy, he entered Union college, graduating with the class of 1862. His inclination pointed to the law, which he then studied in the office of Senator Henderson, of Missouri, mastering his subject so well that Mr. Shields gained admission to the bar of Iowa at the age of twenty-one.

Along with his legal profession, Mr. Shields took an active interest in politics, having served the city of Dubuque as city attorney for two years, and the Tenth judicial district of Iowa as district attorney for four years. In 1889 he was chairman of the Iowa delegation to the democratic convention which nominated Grover Cleveland for the presidency and General Stevenson for the vice presidency of the United States.

Mr. Shields' life has been one of great unselfishness and of constant progress in his chosen profession. His clients found in him a wise and courageous counsellor whose opinions were characterized by clearness, integrity, close logic, perspicuity and force. A man of great intellect, he was unassuming and modest. His great kindness, geniality and ready wit made him a favorite in all social circles.

Mr. Shields married on June 3, 1874, Miss Mary Tomlin, of Galena, Ill., who died in 1879, leaving one daughter, Eleanor, now Mrs. Wm. Lawther, Jr., with whom he has made his home for several years. Mr. Shields is also survived by his grandchildren, William Shields, Eleanor Bell, Elizabeth Tomlin and Robert Emerson Lawther. His funeral services will be held at the residence of his son-in-law, Mr. Wm. Lawther, Jr., on Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Shortcake in September.

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**How To Make the
Quickest, Simplest Cough
Remedy**

Much Better than the Ready-
Made Kind and You Save \$2.
Fully Guaranteed

This home-made cough syrup is now used in more homes than any other cough remedy. Its promptness, ease and certainty in conquering distressing coughs, chest and throat colds, is really remarkable. You can actually feel it take hold. A day's use will usually overcome the ordinary cough—relieves even whooping cough quickly. Splendid, too, for bronchitis, spasmodic croup, bronchial asthma and winter coughs.

Get from any druggist 2 1/2 ounces of Pinex (50 cents worth), pour it in a pint bottle and fill the bottle with plain granulated sugar syrup. This gives you—at a cost of only 64 cents—a full pint of better cough syrup than you could buy for \$2.50. Takes but a few minutes to prepare. Full

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HISTORY OF IOWA

FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES
TO THE BEGINNING OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

FOUR VOLUMES ¹²/₃₅

BY BENJAMIN F. GUE

*Illustrated with Photographic Views of the Natural Scenery of
the State, Public Buildings, Pioneer Life, Etc.*

WITH PORTRAITS AND BIOGRAPHIES OF NOTABLE MEN AND WOMEN OF IOWA

VOLUME IV
IOWA BIOGRAPHY



SEAL OF THE STATE OF IOWA

THE CENTURY HISTORY COMPANY
41 LAFAYETTE PLACE
NEW YORK CITY



James H. Childs

owes much of its stability and high standing to the fine executive ability and unquestioned integrity of Major Sherman. In 1866, Major Sherman was a member of the House of the Eleventh General Assembly where he was chairman of the committee on railroads and a member of the committee of ways and means. In 1886 he was one of the founders of the Pioneer Lawmakers' Association and has always been one of its most influential members, serving as president and long a member of the executive committee. He has contributed valuable historical articles to the *Annals of Iowa* on "Early Banking in Iowa," and on the "State Bank of Iowa." For many years he was the executive officer of the Associated Charities of Des Moines.

JOHN C. SHERWIN was born at Berlin, Erie County, Ohio, February 6, 1851. His early education was acquired in the public schools and later he attended Ripon and Beloit colleges in Wisconsin. After leaving college he entered the Madison Law School from which he graduated in 1875. He removed to Mason City, Iowa, in 1876, where he entered upon the practice of his profession. He was mayor of that city in 1884-5, and the latter year was elected District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial District. In September, 1888, he was appointed by the Governor to fill a vacancy as judge of the District Court and was continuously reelected, serving until 1900 when he became a judge of the Supreme Court, having been elected on the Republican ticket.

JAMES H. SHIELDS was born near Bowling Green, Missouri, May 8, 1842, and soon after his parents removed to Dubuque, Iowa, where his early education was acquired. He was sent to Union College, New York, where he graduated in the class of 1862. Returning to Dubuque he studied law, was admitted to the bar and followed that profession for thirty-nine years. He was elected on the Democratic ticket District Attorney for the Ninth Judicial District in 1883, serving four years. In 1889 he was elected to the State Senate, serving in the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth General Assemblies. He was a delegate at large and chairman of the Iowa delegation to the Democratic National Convention at Chicago in 1892. He has been for some time president of the Dubuque Business Men's League, an organization composed of jobbers, manufacturers, real estate owners and capitalists of Dubuque.

JOHN G. SHIELDS was born on the 22d of May, 1811, in Grayson County, Kentucky. He was one of the earliest settlers in the "Black Hawk Purchase," long before it was organized into Iowa Territory. In 1835 he went to the Dubuque lead mines and established a store which for more than twenty years furnished goods for the early settlers in the lumber regions of Wisconsin and Minnesota. He was several terms alderman of

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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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THE HOMESTEAD PUBLISHING CO.
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fessional and judicial life was without a blemish, and as a citizen he was held in the highest esteem. Mr. Poor died in Dubuque in 1903, at the age of eighty-five. Upon its occurrence, a meeting of the Dubuque Bar Association was called, and a committee appointed to draft appropriate resolutions, consisting of Judge J. B. Powers, Judge D. J. Lenehan, and P. J. Nelson. The resolutions were by the Court, ordered to be spread upon its records, and beautiful tributes were paid to the deceased by Mr. Graham and several other members of the bar.

Samuel M. Pollock, I knew more intimately that I knew Judge Poor. Once seen, he would hardly be forgotten. He was a pronounced brunette, with hair, eyes and brows as black as night. When I knew him he wore his hair somewhat long, and with his dark complexion and smoothly shaven face might well have passed for an Indian chief of the highest order if he had been attired in appropriate toga. In short, he was a man of striking and handsome appearance, medium in height and strongly built. He was a refined and educated gentleman, an able lawyer, an heroic soldier.

He was born in Ohio in 1829. His legal as well as his academic education was thorough. He came to Dubuque and engaged in the practice in 1855, and achieved distinction in his profession in a comparatively short time. In 1859 he was elected Judge of the City Court, which had concurrent jurisdiction in civil cases with the District Court. He subsequently resigned this position and resumed the practice, which he pursued with diligence and success, until the breaking out of the rebellion. In 1862 he was commissioned Lieutenant Colonel of the Sixth Iowa Cavalry, of which David S. Wilson was Colonel. The regiment was mostly engaged on the frontier with the Indians, and Colonel Pollock participated in several severe conflicts with the savages. Upon the resignation of Colonel Wilson, he was promoted to the Colonelcy of the regiment, and subsequently breveted a Brigadier General for gallant services. He served until the close of the war, and when his regiment was mustered out of service in 1865, he returned to resume the practice in Dubuque. He and J. H. Shields formed a partnership, under the firm name of Pollock & Shields, and built up a large and lucrative practice. This partnership continued until 1879. He was for a time associated with H. T. McNulty. In the nineties he removed to the State of Washington, and settled in Tacoma, where he died a few years afterward.

James H. Shields was the son of General John G. Shields, one of the early and distinguished settlers of Dubuque, of whom I shall take occasion briefly to speak. The grandfather of James H. Shields was James Shields, who was one of the earliest settlers of Kentucky, a companion of Daniel Boone, and a participant in many of the fierce struggles between the whites and Indians, which characterized the early history of the "dark and bloody" ground.* James' father,

* History of Dubuque, 1880, page 878.

John G. Shields, when but six years of age, came with his father's family, slaves and household effects to the territory of Missouri, and settled upon a large farm near Bowling Green, in Pike County. In the fall of 1828, when he was but seventeen years of age, he, with a companion, set out for the Galena Lead Mines, which were then becoming famous. The spirit of adventure was now aroused in him. At that time the stock and farm products of Missouri found a market on the lower Mississippi at New Orleans, and it was the custom for the larger farmers to build each year a flat boat and load it with the accumulated stock and produce of the year and float it to the New Orleans market. The nearest neighbors of the Shields family in Missouri were the Emersons, the head of which was Edward Emerson, who had removed there from the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia, about the time the Shieldses did. In 1830 young John Shields and John H. Emerson started with two boats lashed together and loaded with products for the New Orleans market, and thus commenced the partnership of Emerson & Shields, afterward long and well known in the Dubuque lead region and throughout northern Iowa and the lumber regions of Wisconsin and Minnesota. It engaged in a general mercantile business, dealing in lumber and pork packing. General Shields and Jesse P. Farley were the pioneers in steamboating, and placed many boats on the Mississippi River. He was one of the most useful men of early Iowa. He was appointed Major General of the State Militia, to resist the Indian raids. He served four years in the State Senate, when the Dubuque District comprised the thirteen northeastern counties of the State. Among his compeers in that body were James M. Love, James W. Grimes, William G. Stewart, and Shepherd Leffler. He won the respect and confidence of all who knew him. He died when he had scarcely reached his prime, at the age of forty-five, in 1856.

His son, James H. Shields, was born in Pike County, Missouri, in 1842, and came to Dubuque in infancy with his parents. He was highly educated, having received a two years' course in Alfred University, at Allegany, New York, and afterward graduating from Union College, Schenectady, in 1862. The following year he was admitted to the bar and entered upon the practice, and during the same year was elected City Attorney and held that office for two years. Some years afterward he was again elected to that office, and held it for three years. In 1867 he entered into a partnership with Judge Winslow T. Barker, an association which continued until the latter was elected Circuit Judge. He was afterward a partner with Judge Samuel M. Pollock, as stated in the preceding sketch. After the dissolution of this firm, which lasted eight years, he continued in the practice alone. He was a close student, a well-read, able lawyer, and as a man and citizen, he enjoyed the public esteem in a high degree. He served in a number of offices of public trust and in each and all with marked efficiency. In 1882 he was elected, without opposition, District Attorney for the Ninth District, composed of the Counties of Blackhawk, Buchanan, Delaware, Dubuque, Grundy, and served four

years in this office. In 1889 he was elected to the State Senate, and served in the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth General Assemblies. He was a Democrat in politics, and one of the most influential leaders of his party. In 1892 he was chosen a delegate to the Democratic National Convention at Chicago, and made Chairman of the Iowa Delegation. In the same year he was the nominee of his party for Congress, but was defeated by Colonel Henderson. In the later years of his life he devoted himself largely to business interests.

Myron H. Beach commenced practice in Dubuque, in 1856. He was born in Seneca County, New York, in 1828. He was highly educated, a graduate of Hamilton College. Soon after his arrival in Dubuque he entered into partnership with Lincoln Clark, whose term as Representative in Congress had recently expired. When Judge Clark removed to Chicago, George Grey—a Scotchman, and a writer on the *Signal* of Edinburg—was admitted to the firm, and subsequently L. C. Hurd became his partner. During the seventies Mr. Beach removed to Chicago and enjoyed a lucrative practice, and became a recognized authority on Insurance Law. In the winter of 1910 he suffered a severe attack of illness. He did not afterward return to the practice, and I am told by William Graham that he is now (May, 1913) living with his son at San Antonio, Texas, and though in his eighty-fifth year, is alert and sound of mind, but feeble in body. His Alma Mater conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Laws some years ago. He was a soldier during the war and was commissioned Lieutenant of Company A, Forty-fourth Iowa Infantry. He served for a number of years as a member of the Board of Education of Dubuque.

John D. Jennings was one of the young lawyers attracted to Dubuque in the "Fifties." Among his compeers were John S. Coval, William C. Friend, Fred Gottschalk, Henry S. Jennings and Henry S. Munson. Coval was for a time associated with General John Hodgson, but died in the early "Sixties." Friend and Henry S. Jennings (who I think was a brother of John D.) came from Pittsburg, and were for a time partners—first in the firm of Wiltse, Friend & Jennings, and after that in the firm of Vandever, Friend & Jennings. When Vandever went into the army, Friend returned to Pittsburg, and practiced law there until his death, while Jennings, after a brief partnership with Eugene Cowles, who came from Jackson County, also returned to Pennsylvania. Munson removed to Chicago about the time of the commencement of the Civil War, where he secured a lucrative practice. Fred Gottschalk was a German, and commanded the first company of Iowa troops that went to the front—a company almost exclusively of Germans. After the war he removed to St. Louis and engaged in practice there.

John D. Jennings, of whom I come now to speak further, figured largely, as well as usefully, in the early history of the State. He was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, in 1824, and came to Dubuque in 1851, and entered upon the practice



You searched for **James H. Shields** in Iowa

1850 United States Federal Census

Name:	James H Shields	
Age:	10	
Estimated birth year:	abt 1840	
Birth Place:	Missouri	
Gender:	Male	
Home in 1850 (City,County,State):	District 7, Dubuque, Iowa	
Family Number:	1694	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	James Shields	81
	Ellenor Shields	42
	John G Shields	39
	Elizabeth Shields	14
	Mary Shields	13
	Thomas Shields	11
	James H Shields	10
	Helen V Shields	8
	John H Emerson	41
	Margaret O Donnel	18
	Joseph Wensel	20

Source Citation: Year: 1850; Census Place: District 7, Dubuque, Iowa; Roll M432_183; Page: 110B; Image: 618.

Source Information:



Ancestry.com. 1850 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.

Original data: Seventh Census of the United States, 1850; (National Archives Microfilm Publication M432, 1009 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

Description:

This database is an index to individuals enumerated in the 1850 United States Federal Census, the Seventh Census of the United States. Census takers recorded many details including each person's name, age as of the census day, sex, color, birthplace, occupation of males over age fifteen, 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 1850 Federal Census. [Learn more...](#)

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You searched for **James H. Shields** in Iowa

Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925

Name:	James H Shields	
Birth Year:	abt 1841	
Birth Place:	Missouri	
Gender:	Male	
Census Date:	1856	
Residence State:	Iowa	
Residence County:	Dubuque	
Locality:	Julien	
Roll:	IA_54	
Line:	20	
Family Number:	1897	
Neighbors:	View others on page	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	John G Shields	44
	Ellear Shields	40
	Charles T Shields	17
	<u>James H Shields</u>	15
	Ellen V Shields	14

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 **James H. Shields** in Iowa

1860 United States Federal Census

Name:	James H Shields	
Age in 1860:	20	
Birth Year:	abt 1840	
Birthplace:	Missouri	
Home in 1860:	Dubuque, Dubuque, Iowa	
Gender:	Male	
Post Office:	Dubuque	
Value of real estate:	View image	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	Chas T Shields	21
	Elleanor Shields	50
	James H Shields	20
	Ellen V Shields	18
	Thos F Gilliam	28
	Elizabeth Gilliam	24
	William Gilliam	3
	May V Gilliam	1/12

Source Citation: Year: 1860; Census Place: Dubuque, Dubuque, Iowa; Roll: M653_320; Page: 146; Image: 505; Family History Library Film: 803320.

Source Information:

Ancestry.com. 1860 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.



Original data: 1860 U.S. census, population schedule. NARA microfilm publication M653, 1,438 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.

Description:

This database is an index to individuals enumerated in the 1860 United States Federal Census, the Eighth Census of the United States. Census takers recorded many details including each person's name, age as of the census day, sex, color; birthplace, occupation of males over age fifteen, 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 1860 Federal Census. [Learn more...](#)

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