Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative _____ Senator Harsh,

James Birney — Represented Decatur, Ringgold and Union Counties, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 8 Sept 1845 near Sabina, Clinton County, Ohio

2. Marriage (s) date place

Anna E. Slater 1 Jul 1869 Galesburg, Illinois

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business _____

B. Civic responsibilities _____

C. Profession Attorney; banker; editor; merchant

4. Church membership _____

5. Sessions served 22, 23rd, 24th, 25th General Assemblies 1888, 1890, 1892, 1894

6. Public Offices

A. Local Justice of the Peace for one term; mayor of Creston two terms;

B. State Chairman of Republican State Convention in 1894

C. National _____

7. Death 19 Jan 1923 Creston, Iowa; buried Graceland Cemetery, Creston, Iowa

8. Children Grace; Sam D. (preceded his father in death 3 Mar 1893); Clara (preceded her father in death 17 Nov 1919)

9. Names of parents Daniel and Nancy (McKay) Harsh

Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

Harsh, James Birney

10. Education

11. Degrees Attended college at Galesburg, Illinois after the war

12. Other applicable information Republican

- Military service - Civil War - Co. K. 148th Illinois Infantry
- His wife, Anna E., died 4 Dec 1934
- He moved to Iowa in 1870

Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

Harsh, James Bailey

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

Source	Non Applicable	Applicable	Information obtained
- G.A.R. Records			

Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

See Clippings

Department of Iowa
Grand Army of the Republic

Veteran's name Harsh, James Birney

Residence Creston, Ia.

Occupation Attorney, Editor, Merchant, Banker

Date birth 8 Sept 1845 Place Clinton Co., Ohio near Sabina

Date death 19 Je 1923 Place Creston, Iowa
Cause Groveland cem Place burial Creston, Ia.

War record Sgt. K 148 Ill. Inf.
Rank Company Regiment State Organization

Enlisted & Must. 11 F 1865 Place
Date
Must. Out 5 S 1865

Discharged Date Place

War

Battles, etc.

Nearest relatives

Father Daniel Harsh, b. Washington County Co, Pa d. Ohio

Mother Nancy McKay, b. Je 14, 1810, Mercer Co. Pa.; m. 1833 died Aug 1912 the 14th

Wife Anna Slater Harsh, b. Dec 29, 1842 Rochester, Ill.; m. Jl 1, 1869 Galesburg, Ill.; d. Dec 4, 1934, Creston

Children
Sam D Harsh died Mar 3, 1893
Grace Creston, Iowa
600 S. Pine St.
Clara Harsh died Nov 17, 1919

Sources G.A.R. Muster Roll 1st ed. Co K 148
Journal 50th An. Encpt. Death Roll " "
History Iowa Department G.A.R. p.147
Adjt. Gen. Rept. Ill.: Sgt.-(James B)
Who's Who Vol. II

Department of Iowa
Grand Army of the Republic

Veteran's name Harsh, James Birney

Offices of honor in G. A. R.
Department Commander Iowa 1921/22

Member-at-Large

Year	Date Paid	Amount

D. A. R. Chapter at Creston named for his mother "Nancy McKay Harsh" organized November 1923
Grace S. Harsh and Mrs. Walker in G. A. R. room Je 22, 1953

Suspended Died

Record Membership and Dues Paid

Post name	Post No.	Place	Date Joined
T. J. Potter	440 (22)	Creston / Cd.	16 Ag. 1887
J. A. Rawlins	61 (54)	Creston	

Year	Date Paid	Amount	Year	Date Paid	Amount

History Iowa Department: "Became a pioneer & prominent citizen of Creston, Union Co., Iowa. Having acquired a limited education, taught country school, Enlisted in Co K 148 ("149") Illinois Inf. where attained rank of sergeant. War ended attended college at Galesburg, Ill & in 1870 moved to Iowa, engaged in real estate & brokerage, & later took up practice of law. In 1872 established the Creston Gazette. Served one term as justice of peace, twice elected mayor of Creston. In 1887 elected State Senator & 4 yrs. later relected to that office. In 1894 was chm. of Republican State Convention.."

Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

FEB 5 1943

PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN TO THE
DEPARTMENT OF IOWA, G. A. R. - STATE HOUSE, DES MOINES, IOWA

Name Veteran HARSH JAMES BURNEY (Last First Middle) Residence CRESTON IOWA-

Date Birth SEPT. 5, 1845 Place CLINTON Co. OHIO (near Sabina

Date Death JUNE 19, 1923 Place CRESTON Burial CRESTON

Places of Residence BUREAU Co. ILL, GALESBURG, ILL, CRESTON, IOWA

Occupation BANKER, LAWYER, MERCHANT etc - see WHO'S WHO - Vol.

War Service: Enlisted PRINCETON 186 , as Private Residing BUREAU Co. ILL

Age 19 Co. K Regiment 145 State ILL. VOL. INF.

Discharged SEPT 15 1865 at NASHVILLE, Tenn Rank SEARGENT-

Re-enlistment

Member in G. A. R. Posts: Nos. 441 Located CRESTON IOWA

T. J. POTTER POST - (1st JOHN A. RAWLINS POST) Creston-

Father DANIEL HARSH Place Birth WASHINGTON Co. Penna -

Was Father Civil War Veteran No. Co. & Regiment

Mother NANCY McKAY HARSH (Include maiden name) Place Birth MERCER Co. PENN. 6-14-1810

Brothers in Civil War (With Co. & Regiment) ALEXANDER HARSH-
Co. G 139th ILL. INF. VOL. DIED in service Oct. 1863-
Buried at CAIRO, ILL. WAS LIVING in UNION Co. + went to N.Y.

Wife ANNA E. SLATER HARSH (Include maiden name) Date & Place Birth DEC. 29, 1842, ROCHESTER ILL.

Date & Place Marriage GALESBURG, ILL. July 1-1869 Date Death DEC. 4, 1934 -
Creston Iowa. Buried in Greenland Cemetery - Creston

Children (With addresses of those living)
SAM D. HARSH - d. 3-9-1893
GRACE S. HARSH - 600 S. Pine st. - Creston Iowa
CLARA HARSH - d. 11-17-1939

Personal Reminiscences and Remarks I enclose some clippings about the mother of J. B. Harsh since my friend Mrs. Ira Walker requested the same Signature Grace S. Harsh
Creston Iowa -
600 S. Pine st.

Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

Harsh, James Birney, 1845 - 1923

Son of Daniel and Nancy McKay Harsh. Born Sept 8, 1845 near Sabina, Clinton Co., Ohio.

Creston Morning American June 15, 1915: "Centenial Celebration of Mrs. Nancy Harsh

was taken to Pittsburg, then

Nancy McKay was born in Mercer County, Pa. June 14, 1810. When she was four years of age her parents removed with her to Washington, Pa. and here she Spent her girlhood days. She attended the school for girls, which was at that time a department of the Washington and Jefferson College at that place. She remained in Washington until after her marriage, removing from there in 1837. She traces her paternal lineage back to the north of Ireland, and she claims as her nationality, Scotch -Irish. Her father war a Maylander and traced his lineage back to the James River settlement. He was a slaveholder like other southern men of that day.

She was married in 1833 at at age of 23 years to Mr. Daniel Harsh, a Pennsylvania-Dutchman, in Washington, Pa. They moved to Ohio becoming pioneers and almost frontiersmen, settling in the thickest of the forest and commencing a long hard task of clearing the soil for cultivation. The home of the young bride and groom was in Clinton, County, near Sabina, Ohio and it was there that four of their seven children were born. Daniel Harsh died in Ohio and Mrs. Harsh with her children moved to Bureau County, Illinois. In 1861 accom-

panied by her sons, Philip and Alexander, and her daughter, Jennie, they moved to this county(Union County, Iowa) settling on section 35 in Highland Tshp where she again began pioneer work in a new country. At that time the nearest railroad station was Ottumwa, the nearest mill where the farmer's wheat could be ground into flour was on Grand River, twenty five miles distant. The land where Creston now stands was a prairie wilderness, the home of the prairie wolf and the prairie chicken.

She has seen the county develop from a wild prairie to the garden spot of the world. For years after she came here such a thing as a buggy or carriage was never seen. The means of conveyance were by horseback and the big lumber wagons, and the mails were carried in a stage coach from Ottumwas to Council Bluffs. She has seen the advent of the railroad, the telegraph line, the sewing machine, the telephone, the automobile and the flying machine, and she is yet a woman of great energy and a strong personality.

During the later years of her life she has made her home with Senator Harsh of this city and with her daughter, Mrs. Donlin, of Hopkins.

The following relatives were present yesterday:

Children: A. F. Harsh, Lowell, Neb.; Mrs. Mary Donlin, Hopkins, Mo.; J. B. Harsh, Creston, Iowa.

Grandchildren: Mary Sargent, Hopkins, Mo.; Ada Hewitt, Burlington, Iowa; W. J. Donlin, Council Bluffs, Ia.; F. D. Harsh, Des Moines, Ia.; Wm. Oliver, Russell, Kansas; Mary Harsh-Atwood, Eugene, Oregon; Ed Oliver, Wakeeney, Kas; H.F Harsh, Lowell, Nebr., Grace S. Harsh, Creston, Ia. Great grand children- etc

Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.