

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative St. John, Robert Thomas Senator _____
Represented Mitchell County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 14 Jul 1846 Elizabeth, Jr Daviess County, Missouri

2. Marriage (s) date place

Eddie E. Sayles 4 Nov 1866 Osage, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Vice-president and a director of The First National Bank of Riceville; stockholder and a director of The Western Life Insurance Co. of Des Moines

B. Civic responsibilities Mason; IOOF; Knights of Pythias; GAR; Shriners

C. Profession Farmer; real estate; sheriff; fish and game warden; hotel proprietor

4. Church membership Congregational

5. Sessions served 25th and 26th General Assemblies 1894 and 1896

6. Public Offices

A. Local Sheriff of Mitchell County 5 terms;

B. State Elected president of the Iowa Sheriffs Association in 1888; elected State Superintendent of the Agricultural Association 9 years; State department of Fish and Game Preserve

C. National _____

7. Death 28 Apr 1937 Riceville, Iowa; buried Riceville Cemetery, Riceville, Iowa

8. Children Earl R.; Harry D. (died in 1935); May (died in infancy)

9. Names of parents John and Nancy (Foster) St. John

10. Education Educated in the common schools of Illinois,
Cedar Valley Seminary; Oregon Iowa high school

11. Degrees _____

12. Other applicable information

Republican

- He earned his first wages by picking over waste in the Galena, Illinois
lead mines.
- He came to Iowa with his parents in 1860 settling at Riceville, Iowa.
- He engaged in farming in Mitchell County but left this farm in 1879
and in 1881 became the proprietor of a hotel in Riceville.
- Military service - Civil War - enlisted at age 16 in Co. K.
27th Iowa Infantry, but his parents prevented him going because of
his age. He later enlisted in the 7th Illinois Cavalry, Co. A at Elizabeth,
Illinois
- His wife, Addie, died 21 May 1936

MITCHEL



**COL. R. T. ST. JOHN, PROMINENT
RICEVILLE MAN, DIED WEDNESDAY**

L

GIRLS' BANQUET

The annual girls' banquet given at church dining. Beside Leta Snyder Supt. and Mrs. V and Mrs. V few others

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Jane G. tress. Res the captain Winnie On ney, junior more; and men. Supt Dockerty, also spoke don sang :

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Mrs. Rob

**Civil War Veteran; Pioneer
Farmer, Business Man;
Early Day Sheriff**

Col. R. T. St. John, one of the most important and interesting persons the county ever produced, died at his home in Riceville, on Wednesday morning at the advanced age of 91 years.

R. T. St. John has long figured prominently in connection with public affairs in Iowa and through out his entire career he has manifested the same spirit of fidelity and loyalty which prompted his enlistment when 16 years of age for active service in the Civil war.

Colonel St. John was known all over the state and county for his sterling traits of character and effective service for public good.

He was born July 14, 1846, in Elizabeth, Joe Daviess county, Ill., a son of John and Nancy (Foster) St. John. His father was a native of East St. Louis, Ill., born three years before the admission of Illinois into the Union. He served in the Black Hawk war of 1832. Colonel St. John's mother was a representative of one of the old and distinguished families of Virginia.

He was educated in the common schools of Illinois and earned his first dollar picking over waste in the Galena lead mines. After coming to Iowa with his parents from Morrisville, Ill., he continued his

education in the Cedar Valley seminary and Osage high school. Lter he engaged in farming in this county, but left his first farm in 1879, and in 1881 became proprietor of a hotel at Riceville on the stage line.

Elected Sheriff in 1882

His fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, desired his service in public office, and in 1882 he was elected sheriff of Mitchell county, in which position he continued by re-election for five terms. In 1888 he was elected president of the Iowa Sheriff's association.

He was elected to the Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth general assemblies of Iowa and also served during the special sessions of the legislature. He was appointed to various important committees and was chairman of the committee on agriculture.

Colonel St. John has had much to do with public progress and improvement. He was elected state superintendent of the agricultural association and served for nine years, during which time he did most effective work in raising the standards of farming: in disseminating knowledge concerning scientific and improved methods and in otherwise aiding the labors of the tiller of the soil. He has served on the state department of fish and game preserves and was a member of the staff of Governor Harding. He was active in business as long as he was able. He was vice president and a director of the First National bank of Riceville; a stockholder and director of the Western Life Insurance company of Des Moines, and a well-known dealer in real estate in Riceville, during the years of his activity in business. He owned and handled much property. He also in the past dealt largely in Iowa City property and helped rebuild that district after the great fire many years ago.

Married in 1866

On Nov. 4, 1866, the Colonel was united in marriage to Miss Addie E. Sayles, of Libertyville, Lake county, Ill., a daughter of D. P. Sayles, one of the pioneer farmers of Mitchell county. Mr. and Mrs. St. John were parents of three children—Earl R., Riceville, who survives him, and Harry D., Des Moines, deceased.

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Now is paper before prices go Drug Store

**SHAKESPEARE
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The Sh... its last m... Tuesday a Mrs. Eliza

At the election of the following to serve: P... Mary Sta... W. H. H... tary, Mis... E. LaRue Thomasor

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**CASH GROCERY
BRING US YOUR EGGS
CASH OR TRADE
Phone 31—Free Delivery
Three Times Dailey**

RINSO, large pkg. -- 22c

**SUNBRITE Cleanser 17c
4 cans for -----**

WHEATIES, 2 pkgs. 23c

**PEAS, Early June,
Bengal Brand, 2 29c
No. 2 cans for ---**

Colonel St. John was known all over the state and county for his sterling traits of character and effective service for public good.

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Mr. St. John was known in Masonry all over the state and it will be recalled that he was granted his fiftieth-year certificate. He was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and had been commander of Frank Brush post of Osage; also serving as state commander, when those organizations were functioning. He has also worn the little bronze button that proclaimed him one of the veterans of the Civil war and he was one of the few remaining veterans of this county.

Funeral services will be held Friday afternoon, and burial made in the Riceville cemetery.

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DEAN'S

**CASH GROCERY
BRING US YOUR EGGS
CASH OR TRADE
Phone 31—Free Delivery
Three Times Dailey**

RINSO, large pkg. -- 22c

**SUNBRITE Cleanser 17c
4 cans for -----**

WHEATIES, 2 pkgs. 23c

**PEAS, Early June,
Bengal Brand, 2 29c
No. 2 cans for ---**

P. & G. SOAP, bar -- 4c

TOMATOES, 3 cans - 29c

**GREEN TEA 22c
1/2-lb. package ---**

APPLES, No. 10 can - 39c

**PALMOLIVE SOAP 17c
3 bars for -----**

HOME BRAND

**GELATINE, Four
packages, with 2 27c
Glass Sherbets ---**

**CORN FLAKES 21c
2 packages -----**

They can be made 18
clock overhauled for 50 cents.

Palace Cafe, Riceville, Ia.
OAT C. BELKNAP
Marble Rock, Nora
Iollandale and LeRoy,
Isaw, Okla.; Mountain Berg

O. C. Belknap as a first-
engraver. During the past
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home.
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CALIFORNIA LETTER

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LARGE**

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**R. T. St. John
Passed Away**

**Born July 14, 1846, in Eliz-
abeth, Illinois. Came
Here in 1860**

Robert T. St. John was born July
fourteenth, 1846, in Elizabeth, Illinois.
He came to Iowa with his parents in
1860. His early education was in the
rural schools and Cedar Valley Seminary
at Osage. In his boyhood, he worked
on a farm near Osage, and attended
school during the winters, only.

At the age of 16, he enlisted in Com-
pany K, 27th Iowa Infantry at Osage,
but his parents prevented his going on
account of his age. Later he enlisted
in the 7th Illinois Cavalry, Company A,
at Elizabeth, Illinois, and served dur-
ing the remainder of the war.

On October 4, 1866, he was married
to Addie E. Sayles, at Osage, and moved
to a small farm in Jenkins Township.
Three children were born, May, who
died in infancy, Earl and Harry.

He held minor offices of trust in Jen-
kins Township until 1882, when he was
elected to the office of County Sheriff
of Mitchell county. He served in this
capacity until 1892, when he returned
to his farm adjoining Riceville, on the
west.

As Representative from Mitchell
county, he served in the 25th and 26th
General Assemblies, as well as a Legis-
lative Special Session. He served on
the staff of former Governor Harding,
was a delegate from Iowa, to the Na-
tional Agricultural Congress, and for
eight years, represented the 4th Dis-
trict, as Superintendent of Agriculture,
on the Iowa State Fair Board.

He was a past Vice President of the
Pioneer Law Makers, of Iowa, past
Department Commander of Iowa G. A.
R.

For sixteen years he served as As-
sistant Fish and Game Warden of
Iowa.

A farmer by occupation, his interests

**Special Meeting
Athletic A**

A special meeting of the
Athletic Association was held
high school building, Tues.,
Twenty-six of the thirty-nine
were present.

The treasurer, Loyd Rich-
ported \$99.91 in the treasury
this amount was donated by
Matron's sewing club. The res-
ed by donations on Tag Day.
The Athletic Association is v-
ful to all who contributed to
thy cause. No doubt there
who may wish to donate
may do so at any time by ma-
contributions to Loyd Rich-

Special thanks are due Ma-
er, Verna Plunkett, Harold H-
by Volbrecht, Margaret Urs-
Priestley, Lailah Walton, Eil-
Eunice Weber, Winifred Moh-
ler, Ellen Vivian Uran, Ha-
cutt, LeRoy Webster, Don-
Helen Henderson, Betty Le-
Dorothy Jean Wilkes, Betty
Billy McKibben, Jim Benson,
John, Grace Richey, Millie I-
gene Uran and the Young
Sewing Club. It was thro-
efforts that this money was

Maxine Mosher and Bobby
deserve special mention be-
did double duty by working
othy Jean Wilke, also deser-
mention because she walke-
her home in the country and
ed for three hours.

The members voted to pu-
court on the southwest cor-
grade school grounds. There-
rackets and balls purchased
society for the use of those
no rackets. There may be fa-
possess old rackets and ma-
donate them. The expense
nis court will be approxi-
All labor will have to be
Please see Loyd Richmond
teer to help him at once.

A croquet set is to be pu-
Mayme Burke. It may cost

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

Formula, most of them from the Central West and Southwest, the Dust Bowl Area. Their coming has added materially to the difficulties the state faces.

Not of the 87000 can secure employment; even with bettered conditions it is doubtful if the approaching harvest season could supply jobs for the residents of the State who are

REMOVED CHARGE

ing Service

logs, With Hides on
Riceville, Iowa
ge Call to Us

rested in securing employment. But many thousand destitute added to the number, the problem becomes... The ranks continue to swell with alarming rapidity."

is safe to say that generally speaking it is wise for people to remain where they are unless they have a job, aged, or are able to travel at their own expense. One of the sad experiences of the writer is to have so many ask him, "Do you know where I can get a job?" He must answer always the same—"No."

the Biermann News Letter The Riceville Recorder has an added attention. He tells us things about Washington that interest the average reader.

children California has had almost record breaking winter for cold and... Dry wheat farmers and cattle men are suffering.

—N. L. Packard, Arvin, Calif.
April 12. 1937

capacity until 1892, when he returned to his farm adjoining Riceville, on the west.

As Representative from Mitchell county, he served in the 25th and 26th General Assemblies, as well as a Legislative Special Session. He served on the staff of former Governor Harding, was a delegate from Iowa, to the National Agricultural Congress, and for eight years, represented the 4th District, as Superintendent of Agriculture, on the Iowa State Fair Board.

He was a past Vice President of the Pioneer Law Makers, of Iowa, past Department Commander of Iowa G. A. R.

For sixteen years he served as Assistant Fish and Game Warden of Iowa.

A farmer by occupation, his interests were mainly agriculture; up to the time of his wife's death, May 21, 1936. Since that time he had made his home with his granddaughter, Mrs. Rex Moore.

Mr. St. John was of rugged constitution, and had Mrs. St. John lived, they would have celebrated, in October, 1936, their seventieth wedding anniversary. The death of his younger son, Harry, in 1935, and the loss of his wife, a year later, contributed to his decline, although he was especially active, for one of his age, up to a week preceding his death.

Mr. St. John was an active member of the Congregational church, and one of its deacons.

He was a life member of the Masonic Orders; the Masonic Lodge Proper, The Royal Arch Chapter, The Commandery and The Shrine.

He passed away, peacefully, at the home of E. Rex Moore, Wednesday morning. Of the immediate family, surviving is one son, E. R. St. John, of Riceville. Also seven grandchildren, Alvin St. John, Robert T. St. John, Jr. and Dick St. John of San Antonio, Texas; Mrs. E. Rex Moore, Ruby St. John, Franklyn St. John and Roberta St. John, of Riceville. Also one great granddaughter, Jacquelin Moore, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Rex Moore.

Maximo Mosher and deserve special mention because she did double duty by... by Jean Wilkes... mention because she her home in the court ed for three hours.

The members of court on the south grade school ground rackets and balls... no rackets. There possess old rackets donate them. The his court will be All labor will ha Please see Loyd H teer to help him a

A croquet set is Mayme Burke. It will be put on th the grade school g

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If the price do tive a shuffleboard on the southeast school grounds. I lie Kulow will be

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Hy Shoop was to report on Boy Scouts. Olive Sel in making a rep up at the regular

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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. F. Gue

Des Moines
Conaway & Shaw, Publishers
1899

four years as county chairman of his county, and has been a delegate to the state conventions for the past ten years, with few exceptions. He was a candidate for district judge in 1892, but suffered defeat with the rest of his ticket by reason of fusion of the democratic with the populist party. In 1897 he was nominated for state senator from the Harrison-Monona-Crawford district, but as the fusion majority in the district was 1,600, he was not elected, though he greatly reduced the adverse majority, running about 500 votes ahead of his ticket in his own county. In 1898 he was elected to represent the Ninth congressional district on the republican state central committee. He is a member of the Masonic, Modern Woodmen and Knights of Pythias orders. He was married in October, 1893, to Miss Emma F. Joy, of Portage, Wis., who for several years had taught school at Missouri Valley and other places in Iowa.

ST. JOHN, HON. R. T. A man of stalwart proportions and soldierly bearing is



Hon. R. T. St. John, member of the house of representatives of the Twenty-sixth General Assembly, representing Mitchell county. He is a man of sterling integrity, and possesses ability of a high order as a

legislator. He was born July 14, 1846, at Elizabeth, Jo Daviess county, Ill., where a part of his childhood was spent. His father, John St. John, was born at East St. Louis, Ill., and was a soldier in the Black Hawk war. He afterward took government land near Freeport, and still later entered the lead mines at Galena. He is now living at Riceville, Iowa, at the advanced age of 83 years. His mother's name before marriage was Nancy Foster. She was born in North Carolina, and descended from one of the first families of Virginia. A paternal grandfather was a native of Canada, and traded with the Indians of Illinois in an early day. He later became a fur dealer at St. Louis, and died there at the age of 106 years, having retained his physical strength and mental faculties up to the time of his last brief sickness.

R. T. St. John earned his first dollar by picking lead ore from the rubbish in the Galena mines. He received a very liberal education in the common schools and the Cedar Valley seminary. After coming to Iowa in 1859, he was engaged in farming in Mitchell county. The nearest market for their grain and cattle was McGregor, 100 miles away, and many interesting incidents of marketing trips are told. He enlisted as a soldier at the age of 16, became a member of Company A, Seventh Illinois cavalry, and served valiantly until peace was declared, after which he returned to the farm. Several winters were spent in the pine regions of Wisconsin, where he "roughed it," and though falling behind the times in style of dress and cut of hair, would return to civilization better in health and purse for the experience. He later owned and conducted the Riceville hotel, and handled agricultural implements. At the present time he is the owner of the Oak Park stock farm, located within the city limits of Riceville, Mitchell county, and is actively engaged in breeding fine stock of various kinds. Among other things he has a large pigeon ranch and five artificial ponds, which are fed by springs and stocked with all kinds of game fish, including rainbow and speckled trout.

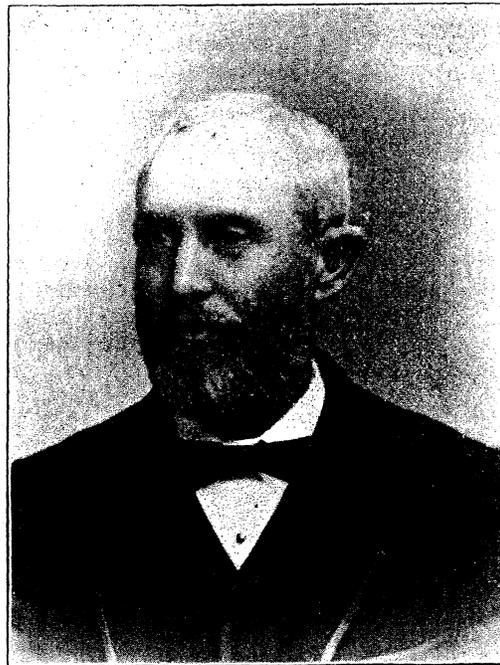
His election to the office of constable gave him the opportunity to break up several gangs of thieves, and brought him into prominence as excellent material for the sheriff's office, and in the fall of 1881 he was elected sheriff. He was continued in that place for five terms, being elected

each time by a large majority. He was elected president of the Iowa Sheriffs' association in 1888. In secret societies his affiliations are with the Knights Templars, Odd Fellows and G. A. R. In Masonry he is a Shriner, in Odd Fellowship a past officer of the highest rank, and in the G. A. R. a past grand commander, having been the first commander of Frank A. Brush Post, at Osage. During the sessions of the Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth General Assemblies he was a member of various important committees, and chairman of the committee on agriculture. He was prominent in the work of recodifying the laws, and gave particular attention to agriculture, taxation, and compensation of public officers. That his first term was entirely satisfactory to his constituents is evidenced by the fact that he was renominated by acclamation and elected by a majority far in the lead of the state ticket. He was married to Miss Addie E. Sayles, November 4, 1866. They have had three children, two of whom are living: Earl R., 3 years old, is a student in Grinnell college, and Harry D., 10 years of age, is in the Riceville high school.

BALDWIN, WILLIAM WRIGHT, of Burlington, is one of the best-known railroad attorneys of Iowa, having been for many years associated with the Burlington company. His father, Charles Baldwin, also a lawyer of ability, is now living in Keosauqua, at an advanced age, and was one of the very earliest settlers of Van Buren county, coming there in 1840 from Ohio. He is a man of much force of character and the highest integrity. Mr. Baldwin's mother, Rachel Wright, was born in 1816, and came from Indiana to Van Buren county, Iowa, in 1840, and is still living at Keosauqua. The Baldwins are direct descendants of John Baldwin, a leader in the New Haven colony, which came from England in 1638. He settled at Milford, Conn. Members of the family did good service in the revolution, and among many well-known descendants are Abraham Baldwin, a signer of the Declaration of Independence from Georgia, Judge Nathaniel Baldwin, a distinguished jurist of Connecticut, and Hon. John W. Daniel, now United States senator from Georgia. The members of his mother's family, the Wrights, have occupied many prominent positions. Hon. Joseph A. Wright, Mrs. Baldwin's brother, was governor of Indiana, United States

senator, and twice appointed ambassador to Germany, where he died at his post in Berlin. Another brother, Hon. George G. Wright, was for many years chief justice of the supreme court of Iowa, and also United States senator.

Hon. W. W. Baldwin was born September 28, 1845, at Keosauqua, Van Buren county. He attended the public schools of that city, and in 1860 and 1861 was a student at Lane's academy, founded by Rev. Daniel Lane, one of the celebrated Andover Band of Congregational ministers. He entered the State university in 1862 from Keosauqua and graduated in 1866. He



helped to found the Zetegathean society, and belonged to the Beta Theta Pi fraternity. He was an active debater, and was thoroughly identified with the life of the university. Upon leaving college, he entered the Iowa Law school, then located in Des Moines, and afterwards established as the law department of the State university. He graduated from the law school in 1867, delivering the salutatory address of the class. While a law student he earned considerable money copying for the printer the opinions of the supreme court, and, upon graduating, had a capital of \$75, after paying all bills. He then entered the office of J. C. and B. J. Hall at Burlington as a clerk and office boy, and, at the end of

HISTORY
OF
**Mitchell and Worth
Counties**

IOWA

ILLUSTRATED

VOLUME II

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1918
THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING COMPANY
CHICAGO

and there remained until he reached the age of twenty years. He afterward came to the new world, settling in Salem, Wisconsin, where he remained for three years, and in 1855 he removed to Iowa, taking up his abode in Mitchell. During the succeeding winter he engaged in cutting wood for H. I. Stacy, of Stacyville, and in the meantime he entered a claim on section 25, Union township. He took up his abode upon the property in the spring of 1856 and there resided until his death. He first purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, for which he paid five dollars per acre. Later he added eighty acres to his farm and his persistent energy and indefatigable industry enabled him to convert his land from a tract of wild prairie into richly productive fields, from which he annually gathered good harvests. He was a representative farmer of the county, progressive in all that he did, and his labors were fraught with good results.

On the 7th of March, 1861, Mr. Reynolds was united in marriage to Miss Vashti M. Robbison of Delhi, Pennsylvania, who was born September 18, 1833, and died on the 26th of October, 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds became the parents of seven children: Joseph and Mary, both of whom died in infancy; Alma, now the wife of W. F. Brown, of Florida; Ed J. and Lawrence, both of whom are engaged in farming; Mary J., who on the 1st of October, 1913, married Hugh Stuckey and is residing on the home place; and William E., of Buhl, Idaho.

In his political views Mr. Reynolds was a republican but while he kept informed on the questions and issues of the day he did not seek office, not caring to figure in any public connection. He was a charter member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Stacyville, in which he served as a trustee and steward, taking a most active and helpful part in the church work. Mr. Reynolds secured the first claim in Union township and as an honored pioneer settler was closely identified with the development and progress of the county from that time until his death. He witnessed its entire growth and development and bore his full share in the task of promoting public progress. His was a useful and well spent life and all who knew him entertained for him warm regard by reason of his sterling worth.

R. T. ST. JOHN.

R. T. St. John has long figured prominently in connection with public affairs in Iowa and throughout his entire career has manifested the same spirit of fidelity and loyalty which prompted his enlistment when but sixteen years of age for active service in the Civil war. He makes his home in Riceville but is widely known throughout the state and his sterling traits of character and effective service for public good have won him a high place in the regard of his fellow citizens. He was born July 14, 1846, in Elizabeth, Jo Daviess county, Illinois, a son of John and Nancy (Foster) St. John. His father was a native of East St. Louis, Illinois, where his birth occurred June 4, 1815, three years before the admission of Illinois into the Union. He served as a soldier in the Black Hawk war of 1832 and thus aided in freeing the states from the Indians, who so strongly resented the encroachment of the white race upon their hunting grounds.

He took up government land at Freeport, Illinois, and afterward worked in the lead mines of Galena, that state. In the year 1860 he removed to Riceville, Iowa, and purchased land in the center of Jenkins township, where he carried on farming until he retired from active business life and established his home in Riceville, there spending his remaining days in the enjoyment of well earned rest, his death occurring March 23, 1904, when he was in the eighty-ninth year of his age. He was an enthusiastic worker in the Methodist Episcopal church and throughout the greater part of his life served as one of its deacons. In an early day he filled the office of justice of the peace and was an earnest advocate of all those interests and movements which promised to promote the welfare and advance the prosperity of his community. His father was John A. St. John, a representative of a family that has figured prominently in connection with the military history of France. The mother of R. T. St. John bore the maiden name of Nancy Foster and was born in Irado, North Carolina, October 10, 1817, and was a representative of one of the old and distinguished families of Virginia. She was four years of age when her parents removed to Nashville, Tennessee, and in 1828 the family home was established at Freeport, Illinois, where she formed the acquaintance of John St. John, who sought her hand in marriage, the wedding ceremony being performed in Springfield, Illinois, March 22, 1836. She, too, reached a ripe old age, passing away December 4, 1891. They were the parents of nine children: Mary J., who became the wife of Charles Morse, of Morrisville, Illinois, and is now deceased; Luvina, the wife of George Terrill, of Riceville, Iowa; Charlotte, the wife of R. M. Lyon, of Stockton, Illinois, also deceased; R. T., of this review; Sarah, who became Mrs. S. E. Crum and has passed away; John A., who lived in Douglas township, Mitchell county, Iowa, but has also departed this life; and three others deceased.

R. T. St. John was educated in the common schools of Illinois and earned his first dollar in picking over waste in the Galena lead mines. After coming to Iowa with his parents from Morrisville, Illinois, he continued his education as a student in the Cedar Valley Seminary and in the Osage high school. Later he engaged in farming in Mitchell county but left his first farm in 1879 and in 1881 became proprietor of a hotel at Riceville on the stage line. His fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, desired his service in public office and in 1882 he was elected sheriff of Mitchell county, in which position he was continued by reelection for five terms, making a most excellent record in office through the prompt and fearless manner in which he ever discharged his duties, his name becoming a synonym for safety among all law-abiding citizens, while it created a feeling of terror among those who do not hold themselves amenable to law. In 1888 he was elected president of the Iowa Sheriffs' Association. Industry has ever been numbered among his marked characteristics. This was manifest when he was only sixteen years of age in his enlistment for service in the Civil war and moral as well as physical courage is one of his notable traits. He has never feared to stand loyally by whatever he has believed to be right and his position upon any vital question is never an equivocal one. He was elected to the twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth general assemblies of Iowa and also served during the special sessions of the legislature. He was appointed to various important committees and was chairman of the committee on agriculture. He was prominent in the work of recodifying the laws and served on the committees on taxation and

compensation of public officers and he was reelected by acclamation, the public thus giving indication of its endorsement of his service.

Mr. St. John has had much to do with public progress and improvement. He was elected state superintendent of the Agricultural Association and served for nine years, during which time he did most effective work in raising the standards of farming; in disseminating knowledge concerning scientific and improved methods and in otherwise aiding the labors of the tiller of the soil. He has served during the past five years on the state department of fish and game preserves and he was a member of the staff of Governor Harding. He is still a very active factor in business circles, being vice president and one of the directors of the First National Bank of Riceville, a stockholder and a director of the Western Life Insurance Company of Des Moines and a well known dealer in real estate in Riceville, where he has owned and handled much property. He has also dealt largely in Iowa City property and helped to rebuild that district after the great fire.

On the 4th of November, 1866, Mr. St. John was united in marriage to Miss Addie E. Sayles, of Libertyville, Lake county, Illinois, a daughter of D. P. Sayles, one of the pioneer farmers of Mitchell county, who after his retirement took up his abode in Riceville, where he filled the office of mayor. Mr. and Mrs. St. John have become the parents of three children: Earl R., who is cashier of the Riceville Bank; Harry D., who is secretary of the Western Life Insurance Company of Des Moines; and May, who died in infancy.

Mr. St. John is a Mason of high rank, has held the highest offices in the local organization of Odd Fellows and is connected with the Knights of Pythias. He is also a valued member of the Grand Army of the Republic and has held office in Frank Brush Post of Osage, of which he has been commander. He has also served as department commander of Iowa. He proudly wears the little bronze button that proclaims him one of the veterans of the Civil war and there are now few men of his age who are entitled so to do by reason of active service at the front. This was an initial expression of the loyalty which Mr. St. John has ever displayed toward city, commonwealth and country and there is today no more valued or honored resident of Mitchell county than he.

JAMES H. HUBER.

The great agricultural state of Iowa furnishes splendid opportunities to all who seek to become active in farming or any of its kindred industries. The broad prairies of the state have been developed into productive fields and Iowa not only leads the country as the largest corn producing state of the Union but is also well known by reason of the fertility of the soil in relation to other crop production. James H. Huber is well known in connection with the grain trade as proprietor of the elevator at Meltonville, Iowa.

He was born in Pike township, Bradford county, Pennsylvania, March 16, 1865, a son of Samuel and Susan Annetta (Bosworth) Huber. The father was born in Horsehead, New York, while the mother's birth occurred in the same



A. J. Johnson

Department of Iowa
Grand Army of the Republic

Veteran's name St. John, Robert Thomas

War

Residence

Battles, etc.

Occupation

Sheriff

Nearest relatives

Date birth 14 July 1846 Place Elizabeth, Ill.

Father

Nativity

Date death 28 Apr 1937 Place Riceville, Ia.
Cause Place burial "

Mother

Nativity

War record Prvt A 7 Ill Cav

Wife

Children

Rank Company Regiment State Organization

Res. Ward's Grove

E

R

Riceville, Iowa

Enlisted 5 Ap 1865 Must. 5 Ap 1865

(mar. Hendricks
Franklin

Hendricks

Must. Out - no date

Source Ex. Soldiers living Ia. 1886:-
Mrs. E. R. Moore, Ames, Iowa
Ruby and Roberta, Riceville, Ia
Osage. / The Iowa Department of the
Grand Army of the Republic-born
Jo. Daviess Co., Ill. / Rept Adj Gen
Ill/

Discharged

Date

Place

Department of Iowa
Grand Army of the Republic

Veteran's name St. John, Robert Thomas

Record Membership and Dues Paid

Offices of honor in G. A. R.
Commander of Post #77.
Dept. Commander of Iowa from
Je 1904 to My 1905.

Post name	Post No.	Place	Date Joined
F. A. Brush	77(11)	Osage	29 Ap 1882
Tr. 2d term '95	(Dec 30)		
G. W. Young	512(34)	Riceville	cd 1st tr 1896
Tr 2d term	1903		

Year	Date Paid	Amount	Year	Date Paid	Amount
Came to	Lowa in 1860		See	History Iowa Depart-	
ment.					

Member-at-Large

Year	Date Paid	Amount

Suspended

Died

Department of Iowa
Grand Army of the Republic

War

Veteran's name St. John, Robert Thomas

Residence

Battles, etc.

Occupation

Nearest relatives

Date birth 14 J1 1846

Place Elizabeth, Jo Daviess
Co., Ill

Father John

Nativity

Date death 28 Apr 1937

Place Riceville, Ia.
Place burial Riverside Cem
Riceville, Ia

Mother Nancy Foster

Nativity

Cause Age 90 -9-14

War record Prvt. A 7

Ill. Cav.

Wife

Addie E, Sayles

Rank Company Regiment State Organization
Recruit Res. Ward's Grove

Children

May and Harry deceased
E R Riceville, Ia
Mrs. E. Rex Moore of Ames, Ia
is a granddaughter.

Enlisted Ap 5, 1865

Date

Place

Sources

A.G.R. Illinois: Co A 7 Ill Cav. Recruit
St. John, Robert/ Hist. Iowa Dept: "nl 1862
Mason City Globe Gaz Ap 28, 1937, p.1, c.7
Osage News J1 28, 1904

Discharged

Date

Place

Department of Iowa
Grand Army of the Republic

Veteran's name St. John, Robert T

Record Membership and Dues Paid

Offices of honor in G. A. R.

F.A. Brush

77 (11)

Osage

29 Ap 1882

Post Commander Post no. 77

Post name Tr

1895

Post No.

Place

Date Joined

Dept. Commander, 1904-May 1905

G. W. Young

512(34)

Riceville

1st Tr.

1896

Tr. 2nd Term

1903;

Year	Date Paid	Amount	Year	Date Paid	Amount
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Member-at-Large

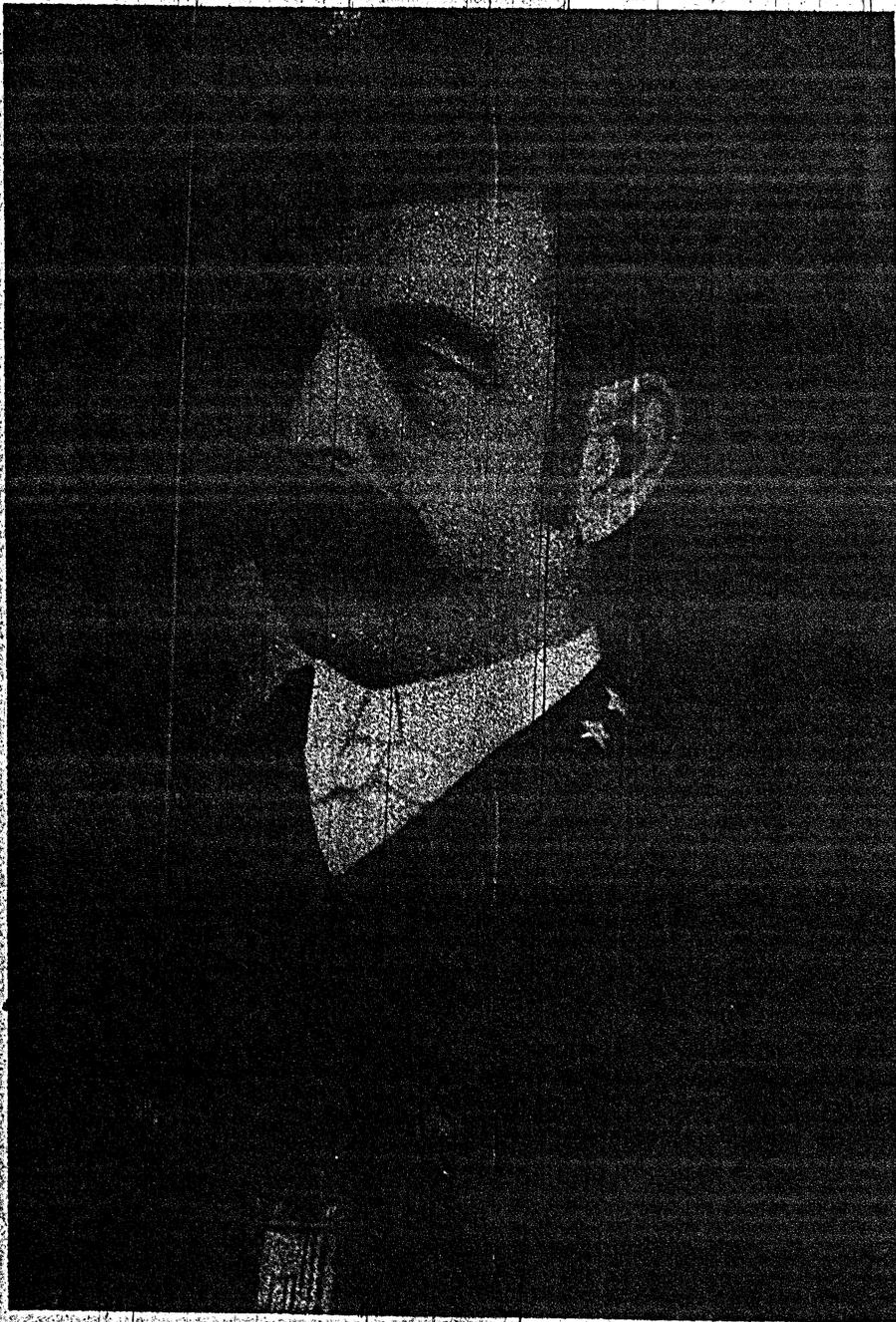
Year	Date Paid	Amount
------	-----------	--------

Hist. Iowa Dept.: Dearly beloved, brave & true comrade long figuring in public affairs. Sheriff of home co. in G.A. 25th & 26th; Supt Agric Assn. 9 yrs; Fish & Game Warden long term of years. Came to Iowa in 1860 Was first President of Iowa Sheriff's Association

Suspended

Died

Post 77 Osage, Iowa



ROBERT THOMAS ST. JOHN, COMMANDER OF THE IOWA DEPARTMENT
OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC, JUNE, 1904 TO JUNE 1905

[112]

HEADQUARTERS
G. W. YOUNG POST NO. 512



R. T. ST. JOHN

RICEVILLE, IOWA

IN MEMORIAM

ROBERT T. ST. JOHN

Past Department Commander

Past Department Commander Robert T. St. John was born in Elizabeth, Illinois, July 14, 1846, and died April 28, 1937, aged 90 years and 9 months, at Riceville, Iowa, his home for many years.

Comrade St. John was a dearly beloved, brave and true Comrade, not afraid to stand up for his own convictions, and long figuring in public affairs, having served as sheriff of his home county, and serving in the Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth General Assemblies; also serving as superintendent of the agricultural association for nine years, and fish and game garden for a long term of years.

In the affairs of the Grand Army of the Republic he was always looking to the upbuilding of the principles and national integrity for which it has striven, and was always looked up to for advice in our affairs.

Comrade R. T. St. John was a long time member of the Masonic fraternity, having been issued a life membership for fifty years service, and known all over the state. But he is gone. "We shall meet, but we shall miss him, there will be one vacant chair."

And the stately ships go on
To their haven under the hill!
But, oh! For the touch of a vanished hand
And the sound of a voice that is still!

To the Officers and Members of

Cresco Post No. *12*

COMRADES:—We take pleasure in presenting to you for Department Commander the name of Comrade R. T. St. John, of G. W. Young Post No. 512, and trust that you will favorably consider his candidacy and report your decision to this Post at an early date, which will be fully appreciated by Comrade St. John. This Post and the North Iowa Veterans' Association unanimously placed him in nomination at their June encampment at Cresco, and he has since been endorsed by district and county associations all over the state. This candidacy was tendered to Comrade St. John without his previous knowledge of the same, and his election is urged for the following reasons:

Northeastern Iowa has never had a Department Commander, yet they have always been active in their support of candidates from other parts of the state. We present a candidate who is qualified in every particular; young and active, having enlisted as young as age would permit, first being enrolled with the 27th Iowa, and prevented on account of age from going to the front; he then enlisted in Co. A., 7th Illinois Cavalry, which was at the front, where he served as a brave young private until mustered out at the close of the war. He has always been a tireless Grand Army worker, being a charter member of the Frank A. Brush Post No. 77, at Osage. He was one of its first Commanders and during the nine years as Commander he mustered in the greater number of its

members and built up one of the best posts in Iowa. Since being transferred to this (G. W. Young) Post he has been a valuable member. He is always prompt to assist in County, District, State and National encampments. He was Chief of Staff under Past Commander Lindt, and those who attended the National Encampment at Washington, D. C., last year know how he discharged his official duties and cared for the comfort of the Comrades. No stronger evidence can be given than the words of Commander Lindt in General Orders, where he says: "The success and fine appearance of the Iowa troop are due to the efficiency of Chief of Staff St. John."

Comrade St. John came to Mitchell county in 1859 and has since made his home here. In civil life he has served his people faithfully in many official positions to which he has been called; of the most important, he served as Sheriff of Mitchell county five consecutive terms; was President of the Sheriffs' Association of Iowa; served as Representative in the 25th, 26th and special sessions of the General Assembly of Iowa, and is now serving as member of the State Board of Agriculture of Iowa from the Fourth District. In fraternal associations, he is a Shrine Mason, Odd Fellow, Pythian Knight, Woodman, Highland Noble—but above all, he is a true G. A. R. Comrade, and if you elect him, he will care for and protect the Department of Iowa, and hold the lines so well formed by predecessors.

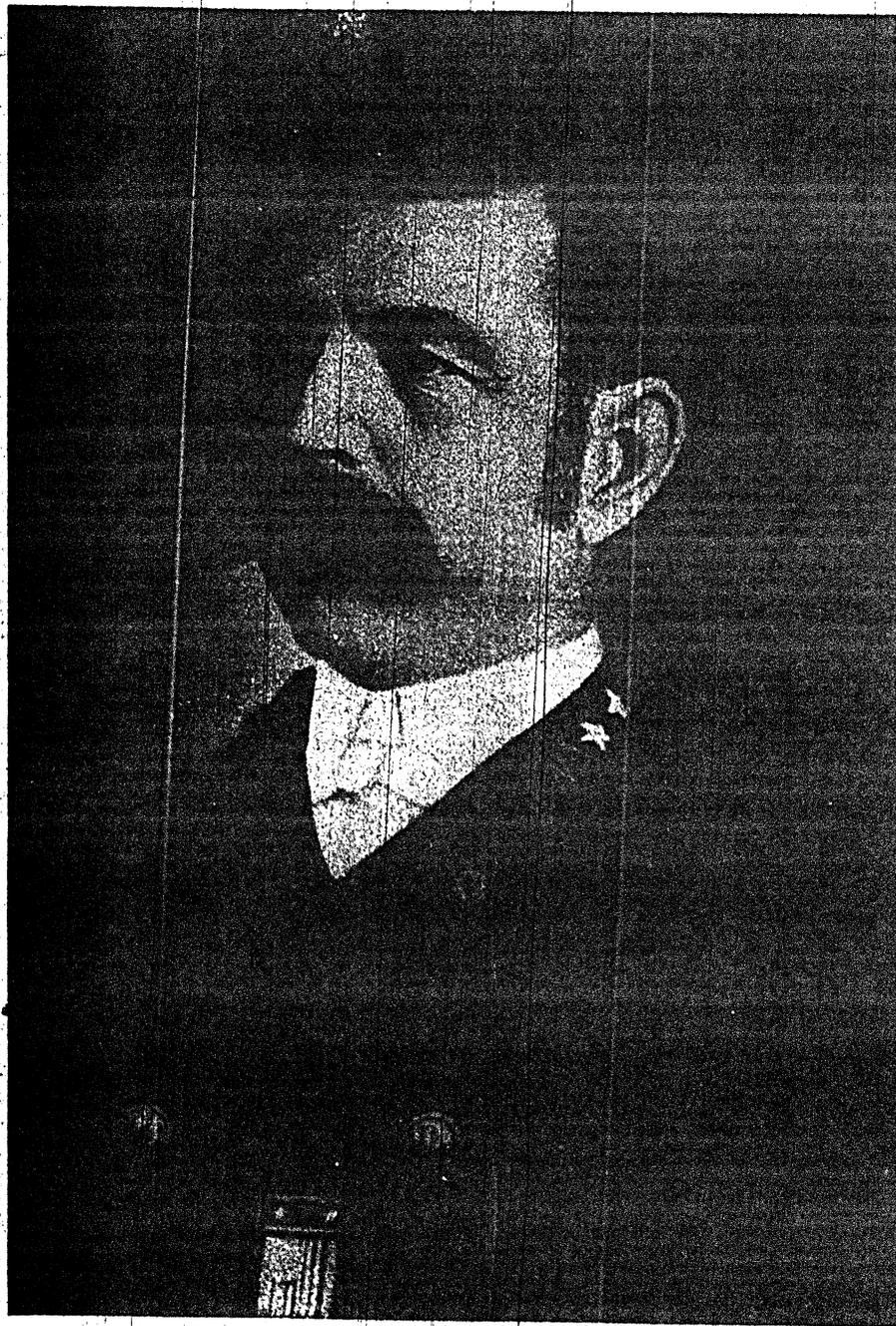
WILL YOU DO IT?

Yours in F. C. and L.,

Committee

{ A. H. HOCUM, Chairman
EUGENE HERRING
T. J. YOUNG, Com. Post.

Post 77 Osage, Iowa



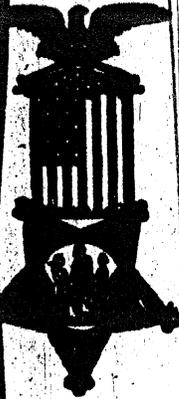
ROBERT THOMAS ST. JOHN, COMMANDER OF THE IOWA DEPARTMENT
OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC, JUNE 1904 TO JUNE 1905.

ROBERT THOMAS ST. JOHN

Robert T. St. John has long figured prominently in local and State affairs, and his entire career has manifested the same spirit of fidelity and service which prompted his enlistment in the Civil War at the age of sixteen. Mr. St. John was born in Jo Daviess County, Illinois, on July 14, 1846. He attended the common schools of Illinois and earned his first money "picking over waste in the Galena lead mines".

In 1860 he came to Iowa with his parents, locating at Riceville. Two years later he enlisted in the Union army and proved himself to be a soldier of true worth. In 1882 he was elected sheriff of Mitchell County — a position which he held for many years, being elected in 1888 as president of the Iowa Sheriffs' Association. Throughout these years his name became a synonym for safety and law enforcement in that area. He was a member of the Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth General Assemblies where he served on important committees dealing with agriculture and taxation, and where he fostered legislation that was of interest to his comrades.

Comrade St. John has long been a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He served as commander of Frank Brush Post, at Osage, and in 1904 was elected Commander of the Iowa Department. He is still a prominent resident of Riceville and one of the few surviving Past Commanders.



File St John, Robin

JOHN P. RISLEY
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER
DES MOINES, IOWA

DEPARTMENT OF IOWA

MICHAEL HAWK
SENIOR VICE COMMANDER
NEWTON, IOWA

J. C. HANES
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT AND
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
STATE HOUSE
DES MOINES, IOWA

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

ISAAC BRUNER
JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

H. P. BROWN
SENIOR AIDE AND CHIEF OF STAFF
DAVENPORT, IOWA

DES MOINES, IOWA
May 4, 1937

B. F. STOW
CHAPLAIN
DES MOINES, IOWA

Judge T.J. Noll
Grinnell, Iowa.

My dear Comrade:

Your card received and replying theretoo will say that my next General Order will convey details of Memorial Day in the Department of Iowa in line with the enclosed National G.O. and I feel that under the circumstances of this year that the FLOWERS for use should be gathered on Friday, that there should be no doubt of their distribution on Saturday for the Sunday evidence of their being distributed as per May 30th as designated in General Logan's General Order May 5, 1868.

Saturday Morning we drove up to Riceville to attend the Funeral of Past Department Commander R.T. STJohn who died on the 28th; the funeral was a most memorable occasion, as the expression of great esteem in which he was held by the community in which he lived.

I have been hoping that we might have the pleasure of your presence in Des Moines for at least a call at Headquarters; Past Commander adn A.A.G. has not returned from a visit in Colorado Springs, but I am looking for his return soon; Judge Willett accompanied me to Riceville and we were the only two Civil War Vets present at the funeral; Oley Nelson was not well enough to attend.

Most sincerely yours in

F.C & L.

John P. Risley
Department Commander.

John Wesley
 Department Commander.

FEB 21 1948

E. R. ST. JOHN
 RICEVILLE, IOWA

Riceville, Iowa Feb. 20, 1948.

Amy Noll, Dep't. Secy.,
 Grand Army Dep't of Iowa,
 State House, De Moines.

Dear Madam:-

In reply to your letter of the 18th would say that I can find no record of G.W. or George W. Rumsey or Ramsey.

I have searched through the History of Mitchell County published in 1918.

In that history is given the names of those who enlisted and those who volunteered who are living residents of Mitchell County in 1918. Also members of Frank A Brush and G.W. Young Posts and I can find no name similar to the one you have mentioned.

I am sorry but I know of no relative or any person who might know of the above named veteran. I know of no such person and cannot recall of my father, R.T. St. John, veteran, having mentioned one of this name.

Regret very much that I cannot help you out.

Sincerely,

E. R. St. John



You searched for **Robert T. St. John** in **Iowa**

1880 United States Federal Census

Name:	Robert T. St John	
Home in 1880:	Jenkins, Mitchell, Iowa	
Age:	33	
Estimated birth year:	abt 1847	
Birthplace:	Illinois	
Relation to Head of Household:	Self (Head)	
Spouse's name:	Addie E.	
Father's birthplace:	Illinois	
Mother's birthplace:	Tennessee	
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 Members:	Name	Age
	Robert T. St John	33
	Addie E. St John	29
	Earl R. St John	1
	Daniel P. Sayles	59

Source Citation: Year: 1880; Census Place: Jenkins, Mitchell, Iowa; Roll 356; Family History Film: 1254356; Page: 449A; Enumeration District: 303; Image: 0415.

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, 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...](#)

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You searched for **R. T. St. John** in Iowa

Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925

Name:	R T St John	
Birth Year:	abt 1846	
Birth Place:	Illinois	
Gender:	Male	
Marital Status:	Married	
Census Date:	1885	
Residence State:	Iowa	
Residence County:	Mitchell	
Locality:	Osage	
Roll:	IA1885_234	
Line:	30	
Family Number:	80	
Neighbors:	View others on page	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	R T St John	39
	Addie St John	35
	Earl St John	6

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.
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You searched for **Robert T. St. John** in Iowa

1910 United States Federal Census

Name:	Robert T St John [Robert T Stjohn]	
Age in 1910:	65	
Estimated birth year:	abt 1845	
Birthplace:	Illinois	
Relation to Head of House:	Head	
Father's Birth Place:	Illinois	
Mother's Birth Place:	Virginia	
Spouse's name:	Addie E	
Home in 1910:	Jenkins, Mitchell, Iowa	
Marital Status:	Married	
Race:	White	
Gender:	Male	
Neighbors:	View others on page	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	Robert T St John	65
	Addie E St John	59
	Moran S Sayles	78

Source Citation: Year: 1910; Census Place: Jenkins, Mitchell, Iowa; Roll T624_414; Page: 2B; Enumeration District: 135; Image: 6.

Source Information:
 Ancestry.com. 1910 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2006.

Original data: Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910 (NARA microfilm publication T624, 1,178 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C. For details on the contents of the film numbers, 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. In addition, each indexed name is linked to actual images of the 1910 Federal Census. The information recorded in the census includes: name, relationship to head of family, age at last birthday, sex, color or race, whether single, married, widowed, or divorced, birthplace, birthplace of father and mother, and more. [Learn more...](#)

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You searched for **Robert T. St. John** in Iowa

Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925

Name:	Robert T St John	
Birth Year:	abt 1847	
Birth Place:	Illinois	
Gender:	Male	
Race:	White	
Marital Status:	Married	
Census Date:	1915	
Residence State:	Iowa	
Residence County:	Mitchell	
Locality:	Riceville	
Mother's Birthplace:	North Carolina	
Father's Birthplace:	Illinois	
Roll:	IA1915_345	
Line:	554	
Neighbors:	View others on page	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	Robert T St John	68

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.
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You searched for **Robert T. St. John** in Iowa

1930 United States Federal Census

Name:	Robert T St John	
Home in 1930:	Jenkins, Mitchell, Iowa View Map	
Age:	83	
Estimated birth year:	abt 1847	
Birthplace:	Illinois	
Relation to Head of House:	Head	
Spouse's name:	Addie E	
Race:	White	
Occupation:		
Education:		
Military service:	View image	
Rent/home value:		
Age at first marriage:		
Parents' birthplace:		
Neighbors:	View others on page	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	Robert T St John	83
	Addie E St John	78

Source Citation: Year: 1930; Census Place: Jenkins, Mitchell, Iowa; Roll 669; Page: 1A; Enumeration District: 5; Image: 520.0.

Source Information: Ancestry.com. 1930 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2002.



Original data: United States of America, Bureau of the Census. *Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1930. T626, 2,667 rolls.

Description: Containing records for approximately 123 million Americans, the 1930 United States Federal Census is the largest census released to date and is the most recent census available for public access. The census gives us a glimpse into the lives of Americans in 1930, and contains information about a household's family members and occupants including: birthplaces, occupations, immigration, citizenship, and military service. The names of those listed in the census are linked to actual images of the 1930 Census. [Learn more...](#)

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