

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Bird, John Huber Senator \_\_\_\_\_  
Represented Cassa Gorda County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 20 Oct 1838 Belleme, Harrison County, Ohio

2. Marriage (s) date place  
(1) Martha Washall 20 June 1875  
(2) Martha J. Resnor 1881

3. Significant events for example:

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

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

C. Profession Farmer, teacher  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Church membership Methodist Episcopal

5. Sessions served 16<sup>th</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> General Assemblies 1896, 1898

6. Public Offices

A. Local \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

7. Death 15 Dec 1907 Omaha, Iowa, Cassa Gorda County, Iowa; buried Riverside Cemetery  
Rockford, Ill

8. Children J. Ernest; Clara

9. Names of parents William and Elizabeth Bird

10. Education Educated in the common schools, attended the  
Rock River Seminary in 1844; spent much time  
reading and studying

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

12. Other applicable information Republican

- His first wife, Martha, died 29 June 1876
- In 1857, at age 18, he moved with his parents settling on prairie  
Illinois
- He taught public schools for 2 years, later farmed
- His second wife, Martha, born 1845, died 1930, also buried in  
Reverse Cemetery, Rockford, Ill.





Pearson,

Des Moines, Ia.

*J. W. Bird*  
*April 8<sup>th</sup> 1896*

# Out Sale!

oods in the L. Whitney  
eing closed out at cost  
u are hunting for snaps  
n and see what is being  
pecial Sales on Saturdays:

# J. Mathews

WANTED—15 old Poland China sows  
will weigh from 250 to 300 pounds.  
—Chas. Briggs. 52-1p

J. S. Cook, manager of the Johnson  
Lumber Co. is passing the holidays with  
his family at Independence.

Mrs. A. W. Adams of Cedar Rapids is  
spending the week with her parents,  
Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Parmenter.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hayes with  
Carlis and Helen were guests over Sun-  
day in the C. E. Mitchell home.

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Reed and son  
Webster of Marble Rock were Sunday  
guests in the Mrs. E. Reed home.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Sessions of Canton,  
Ill., will arrive here Saturday for a visit  
with Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Mitchell.

Robt. G. Ruggles and family of  
Klester, Minn., are visiting in the home  
of Mrs. E. A. Ruggles this week.

The Misses Emma and Anna Stoker  
of Charles City are spending the week  
with their sister, Mrs. A. G. Hillman.

Frank Knapp of Greene was a guest of  
his mother, Mrs. Nancy Knapp and  
brother Al the latter part of last week.

Jay and Lynne Lorenz, who are at-  
tending college at Iowa City, arrived  
last Friday to spend the holidays.

Martin Jenson left Tuesday morning  
for a two weeks' visit with friends and  
relatives at Geneva and Elendale, Minn.

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



JOHN W. BIRD.

JOHN W. BIRD.

After a number of years of imperfect  
health and great suffering, a highly re-  
spected and honored citizen of Cerro  
Gordo county passed from his beautiful  
country home to his eternal reward.  
John W. Bird was born in Bellevue,  
Huron county, Ohio, October 20, 1838,  
and died at his home in Owen township,  
Cerro Gordo county, Iowa, December  
15, 1907, aged 69 years, 1 month and 25  
days. He was of English parentage,  
who came to this county from Devon-  
shire, England. In 1857, when 18 years  
of age, he moved west with his parents,  
Wm. and Elizabeth Bird, and settled on  
the prairies of Illinois. From this time  
on, owing to his father's ill health, he  
was the main support of the family.

He was a great student and a lover of  
books. His spare moments were oc-  
cupied with reading and study, by  
which, with the helped of the common  
school education he prepared himself  
for entering the Rock River Seminary  
in 1864, after having help provide for  
the family a comfortable home. He  
taught in the public schools for eight  
years, but his health failing, he turned  
his attention to farming, where, by the  
application of good judgment, thrift and  
honest business principles he achieved  
success. Mr. Bird was married June  
20, 1875, to Martha Noshold, of Monroe,  
Ogle county, Ill., who died June 29, 1876.  
In 1881 he married Martha J. Reasoner  
of Cape Vincent, N. Y. To this union  
were born two children, F. Ernest and  
Clara.

Mr. Bird was a selfmade man of in-  
dustrious habits, honest principles, and  
of sterling integrity of character. He  
won success in life by the honest labor

of his hand or brain. He was an active  
and staunch republican and was elected  
to the 26th and 27th General Assemblies  
of his state and served on many impor-  
tant committees with marked ability.  
His political record was one of honor  
showing him to be a man of true public  
spirit, of enterprise, of keenness of con-  
science and devotion to principles of  
right, always commanding the confi-  
dence, not only of his constituency, but  
of all. He was kind, thoughtful, sym-  
pathetic and considerate in all his rela-  
tions, either in public or private life.  
He was a loving and indulgent father  
and a devoted husband, and provided  
well for his home and family until his  
health gave way. During the years of  
his affliction he was surrounded with  
loving hearts and gentle hands of loved  
ones who thought no burden too heavy,  
no labor too great to minister to his  
wants. He received the most devoted  
attention from a loving and self-sacrific-  
ing wife, son and daughter that was  
possible to give. Such loving faithful  
service God, our heavenly Father, can  
only reward. He leaves a wife, one son  
and daughter, three brothers and one  
sister to mourn their loss.

The funeral services were held at the  
home on Tuesday afternoon, conducted  
by Rev. Walter Piper, pastor of the M.  
E. church, who spoke from the passage  
of scripture selected by the deceased for  
the occasion, John 3:16. The floral gifts  
were beautiful, and the interment was  
in Riverside cemetery. Those attending  
the funeral from a distance were: Mrs.  
Clara McCrea and James F. Bird of  
Rochelle, Ill.; Archibald Thompson of  
Monroe Center, Ill.; and Mr. and Mrs.  
Ed. Fitzgerald of Mason City.

Henry Linderkamp left Monday for

Out of town teachers of the Rockford

### Christmas Exercises at

The Methodist church decorated with Christmas  
the arch spanned the ro  
with evergreens, Chris  
electric jets. In the p  
fashion Christmas tree, t  
lor scene, with a fire pla  
In the grate of the fire  
burned brightly, but the  
consumed. A large si  
gumed as the program b  
ed with a few recitati  
then followed the cantat  
mas Secrets." The first  
of a number of cousins  
in the parlor to deci  
Claus. The second p  
"The Good-night Girls,"  
robes, carrying in one h  
and in the other hand a  
the good night wishes fe  
marched to the fire plac  
their stockings and th  
their former position, at  
song, which was well do  
tered a girl called "S  
on seeing the stockings  
for Santa, thought she  
for him, and she laid  
When Santa came in an  
by the watching cousin  
part of the cantata wa  
who came in drawing a  
a very large pie, singing  
ings. At the proper ti  
jumped up and out of t  
sweet message for the p  
for the cousins. The l  
song, "Christmas Caro  
larger class of girls.  
gram showed careful  
committee. The prest  
and it seemed every pe  
thing. The Sunday sch  
teachers were well ren  
pastor and his wife wer  
The audience arose  
benediction, and marc  
church. Few there we  
what had happy and jo  
cause Christmas had con

### Christmas Exercises at Church.

The Sunday-school o  
tional church made more  
parations for the obser  
was this year than usual  
tainment last Tuesday  
high merit. Instead of  
tations and songs the  
rendered a cantata  
Claus Entertained." T  
expressive of the idea  
all the songs which we  
as the words spoken b  
end of making Jolly Sa  
that the boys and girls  
good deal of hard wt  
went off in a splendi