

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Murray, Stillman Taylor Senator _____

Represented Dubuque County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 17 Dec 1848 Clinton, Illinois

2. Marriage (s) date place

Anna Scott 10 Oct 1871 Bridgewater, New York

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business A principal organizer of the United States Typewriter Company as well as secretary; president of First National Bank of Dodge

B. Civic responsibilities Mason;

C. Profession Manufacturer; druggist

4. Church membership Episcopal

5. Sessions served 21st General Assembly 1886

6. Public Offices 29th General Assembly 1902

A. Local Mayor of First Dodge - 3 terms; secretary of the United States Typewriter Company in First Dodge; director of the Iowa Plaster Association; president of First Dodge Portland Cement Company; president First Dodge Savings Group

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death 5 Aug 1927 Chicago, Illinois buried Oakland Cemetery, First Dodge, Iowa

8. Children William Scott; Elizabeth (Mrs Armstrong); William N. (predeceased his father in death)

9. Names of parents William N. and Amanda C. (Robbins) Murray

Meservey, Stillman
Joyless

10. Education He was educated in the public school at Clinton, Missouri

11. Degrees He attended the Clinton Liberal Institute of Clinton,
New York

12. Other applicable information Republican

- He came to Homer, Iowa with his parents at age 6.
- Two years later, the family moved to Fort Dodge, Iowa.
- He engaged in many business enterprises in Fort Dodge over the years.
- He was a member of the firm of Cheney and Meservey, later Vincent and Meservey, who were druggists.
- He was a member of the company of England Vincent and Meservey which in 1872 organized The Iowa Plaster Company. This company.
- He lived in Chicago, Illinois for 23 years at his death. While living in Chicago, he became affiliated with the Hamilton Club, a famous Republican organization of Chicago, and served as its president.
- His wife, Anna, died in 1900.
- His brother, Adolph Herndon Meservey, also served in the Iowa Legislature in the 22nd and 23rd General Assemblies 1888 and 1890.

tion if possible.

Coolidge has had nothing to do with the Sacco and Vanzetti cases. His policy has always been to uphold the courts in matters of repleves and those who know his policies do not believe that he would desire to overthrow the opinion of a jury and governor in this particular case.

Former Fort Dodge Mayor Dies at 79

Fort Dodge, Ia., Aug. 6.—(P)—S. T. Meservey, who served three terms as mayor of Fort Dodge and represented Webster county for two terms in the Iowa legislature, died at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon in Chicago at the age of 79. Meservey was one of the organizers of the United States Gypsum company and during recent years has been secretary of the company, living in Chicago.

He served a term as president of the Hamilton club, famed Republican organization of Chicago. The body will be brought to Fort Dodge for burial.

Des Moines Elopers Jailed for Thefts

Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 6.—(INS)—An elopement said by police to have been financed by the sale of stolen motor cars, was interrupted here today with the arrest of Miss Carol Cessna, 17, and Russell Due, 19, both of Des Moines, Ia. Due admit-

ATURE GAINS ON A DOLLAR DAY

erings are listed, is being mailed to 1000 homes outside of the city today and Monday.

An advance survey of this bargain idea and a preliminary inspection of the Dollar day windows will give the shopper some idea of what she will find on the counters and shelves next Tuesday.

Though the dollar purchase is feared, there will be hundreds of articles bearing price tags above and below that figure. As 'Dollar' day has dawned, the merchants have come to include portions of their stock that are cheaper priced at attractive reductions. Till now the shopper will find among the bargains almost anything from a ring knife to a dining room suite.

BOARD OF CONTROL TO ANNOUNCE DECISION ON NEGLECT CHARGE

DES MOINES, Iowa, Aug. 6, (AP)—A meeting of the state board of control to render a decision with respect to its investigation of a charge of neglect of Richard Bryant, 7, of Burlington, at the Glenwood state hospital was called for Monday, August 8, at 10 A. M. McColl, of the board, announced today.

NORTHWEST IA. GETS 'MILLION DOLLAR' RAIN

Crops Refreshed After Big
Downpour; Rainfall
Totals .68 Inch

Northwestern Iowa's long-awaited million-dollar rain fell yesterday, the first real downpour in many weeks of drought.

In Fort Dodge .68 inch of moisture poured into the government rain gauge, and from the surrounding country came reports of similar showers. Other counties also received relief from the spell. Calhoun county reported a deluge accompanied by winds that did some damage to standing crops.

The downpour was general throughout this part of the state. At Storm Lake one inch of rain was reported. Webster City, also parched for six weeks, revelled in three-quarter inch shower. At Manson there was a heavy downpour. In Iowa Territory and State records the last night. North of Pomeroy a high

S. T. MESERVEY PASSES AWAY IN CHICAGO

Three Times Mayor of Fort Dodge, Former Representative, Dies

Funeral services for S. T. Meservey will be held Tuesday morning at 9:30 o'clock at St. Mark's Episcopal church. The Rev. Dr. W. E. Stockley, pastor of the church, will have charge of the services, assisted by the Rev. Dr. R. Howard Taylor, of Chicago.

The body of Mr. Meservey will arrive in Fort Dodge Monday noon from Chicago and will be taken to the Laufersweller Undertaking parlors.

S. T. Meservey, pioneer resident of Fort Dodge and prominent Iowa citizen, died at the Illinois Masonic hospital in Chicago at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon following an illness of a number of months. He was 79 years of age.

Mr. Meservey served three terms as mayor of Fort Dodge, represented Webster county in the state legislature for two terms, and was one of the principal organizers of the United States Gypsum company, being secretary of that company at the time of his death. For the past twenty-three years he had lived in Chicago. Always interested in politics, Mr. Meservey, while living in Chicago, became affiliated with the Hamilton club, famous republican organization of Chicago, and a few years ago served as president of the club.

Although living in Chicago during recent years, Mr. Meservey maintained his legal residence in Fort Dodge and at election times, whenever possible, came home to vote. He had a large acquaintanceship extending even to the younger generation. He possessed a remarkable memory in recalling names and his manner was always most gracious and charming.

Born in Illinois

Stillman T. Meservey was born in Clinton, Ill., December 17, 1848. When he was 6 years of age he came with his parents to Homer, Iowa, then the county seat of what is now Webster and Hamilton counties. Two years later, in 1856, the family moved to Fort Dodge. S. T. Meservey's father, Judge William N. Meservey, was a prominent pioneer citizen of Fort Dodge.

S. T. Meservey was educated in the Clinton College and attended the Clinton Liberal Institute of Clinton.

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downpour in the afternoon and, another
er last night. North of Pomeroy a high
wind followed the rain, flattening fields
of corn along primary road No. 5.
Clare, Badger, Vincent and Moorland
reported half-inch showers.

The rain was literally a lifesaver for
the thirsting cornfields, grain men said
today. They estimate that the crop is
on its feet for another ten days as the
result of the widespread downpours.
Threshing, however, was halted by the
rain

Equal to July Total

The city's showers brought down as
much moisture as the government
weather observer recorded during the
entire month of July. Yesterday after-
noon' brisk downpour totaled .18 inch.
One-half inch fell last night in a storm
that blew up suddenly and lasted for
several hours. July rain totaled that
same amount, .68 inch.

BETH VINCENT 72ND ANNIVERSARY SILENCE IN FT. DODGE

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Molnes river to the Boone river at
Webster City the prairie was unbrok-
en by a tree and abounded in wild
game. Not until the year '57 was there
trouble with the Indians and it was
then that the terrible Spirit Lake mas-
sacro took place.

A Dry Year

"The summer of '55 was just such
a one as we have had this year," said
Webb Vincent, as he recalled those for-
mer days, "but at that time it was to
be welcomed rather than complained
of for it made the trip of settlers from
Dubuque, where the rail road stopped,
to the west, incomparably easier. We
made the trip from East Dubuque to
Fort Dodge passing through Delhi, In-
dependence, Waterloo, Skunk Grove
and Newcastle, which is today Webster
City in a week's time. All our house-
hold goods were carried with us even
a stove was piled into a wagon drawn
by two horses. This speed was entirely
due to the fact that the plentiful
sloughs were so largely dried up that
we could come in a direct route, los-
ing no time in making detours.

"My father, Cornelius Hazard Vin-
cent, had come to Iowa the previous
spring and filed land claims at the
government office in Des Moines. The
winter of '54 and '55 had been one so
mild that the settlers had been certain
that they had reached the far west and
the temperate climate of California.
The next few winters, going back to
true Iowa climate, showed to them
their mistake. Very enthusiastic re-
ports of the wonderful place had de-
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William N. Meservey, was a prominent
pioneer citizen of Fort Dodge.

S. T. Meservey was educated in the
Fort Dodge public schools and attend-
ed the Clinton Liberal Institute of Clin-
ton, N. Y.

Mr. Meservey engaged in many busi-
ness enterprises in Fort Dodge during
his residence here. He was first a
member of the firm of Cheney & Me-
servey, druggists, which later became
Vincent & Meservey. He was a mem-
ber of the company of Ringland, Vin-
cent & Meservey, which in 1872 organ-
ized the Iowa Plaster company, the
first plaster mill to be built in Fort
Dodge. This later became the Iowa
Plaster association, joining with the
Fort Dodge Gypsum company, which
had since been organized. Mr. Meser-
vey was at one time associated with the
Fort Dodge National bank and the
Merchants' National bank and when
this became the First National bank he
was its president. In more recent
years he had been associated with the
United States Gypsum company as sec-
retary.

Tribute From Old Friend

"Still Meservey was one of the best
known men in Iowa at one time," said
Webb Vincent, a former business asso-
ciate and close friend of Mr. Meservey.
"He had the type of personality that
made him liked everywhere and during
his residence here he did much for Fort
Dodge. It is interesting to me, as char-
acteristic of Mr. Meservey's intense
loyalty to Fort Dodge and his contin-
ued interest in Iowa even after he left
here, that he had always maintained
his residence here and, as long as his
health permitted, he returned to Fort
Dodge to vote.

"He had one of the first cottages at
Lake Okoboji, on Fort Dodge point,
near those of the Haskells, the Che-
neys and ours," continued Mr. Vincent,
"and he was as well known and liked
in that part of Iowa as in Fort Dodge."

Member of St. Mark's

Mr. Meservey was a member of St.
Mark's Episcopal church in Fort
Dodge

Mrs. Meservey passed away in 1900.
The eldest son, William, also preceded
him in death. There are two children,
a son and daughter, who survive,
Scott Meservey, a broker in New York,
and Mrs. Elizabeth Armstrong of Fort
Dodge. Two brothers of Mr. Meservey,
former residents of Fort Dodge, now
live in California. They are A. F. and
W. D. Meservey.

The body of Mr. Meservey will be
brought to Fort Dodge for burial.

AETNA INSURANCE HEAD DIES

HARTFORD, Conn., Aug. 6, (A)—
William B. Clark, chairman of the
board of directors of the Aetna (Fire)
Insurance company, is dead.

THE WEATHER

IOWA—Mostly fair today and
Sunday; not much change in

Biographies and Portraits

...OF THE...

Progressive Men of Iowa

Volume 11

Leaders in Business, Politics and the Professions

TOGETHER WITH THE
BEGINNINGS OF

A Western Commonwealth

....BY....

Benjamin J. Shambaugh, Ph. D.

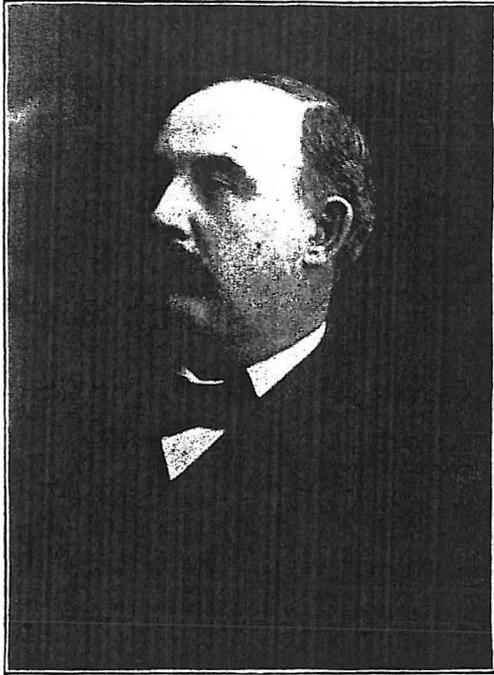
Des Moines
Conaway & Shaw, Publishers
1899

House, now the Kirkwood, and has been connected with this hotel, with the exception of a short time, ever since that day, either as clerk, manager or proprietor. He is now president of the incorporated company of Macartney & Sons Company, operating the Kirkwood hotel. Mr. Macartney is also vice president of the Iowa Loan and Deposit Company, and director of the Northwestern Loan and Savings Company, all of Des Moines. He has always been an earnest republican in politics. He was alderman at large of West Des Moines, 1894-5,



and was a prominent candidate for the republican nomination for mayor of Des Moines in 1896. He is a member of the Grant club and in Masonry is a member of the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Commandery and the Scottish Rites body. He also belongs to the Woodmen of the World, and to the Royal Arcanum. He is an Episcopalian and is a member of the vestry of St. Paul's church, Des Moines. Mr. Macartney was married October 20, 1868, to Charlotte Webster, daughter of I. N. Webster, first landlord of the old Savery House. They have had six children, as follows: F. C. Macartney, Jr., who died in 1898; G. W., Robert H., Morton, Catherine N., Thomas W.

MESERVEY, STILLMAN TAYLOR, of Fort Dodge, is one of the successful business men of the "Gypsum City," who has lived there since his boyhood. He is the son of Judge William N. Meservey, who was one of the early settlers and officials of Webster county. He first resided at Homer, which was the county seat of Webster county when it embraced the territory now included in Hamilton, Webster and a portion of Humboldt counties. After the division of the county and the collapse of Homer, Judge Meservey moved to Fort Dodge, and was then elected county judge of Webster county when that officer was the sole financial manager of county affairs. Here for a quarter of a century he was a prominent and influential citizen, representing large property interests. His father was a French soldier in the grand army of Napoleon, and lived to the great age of 102 years. S. T. Meservey's mother was a native of Kentucky. Her maiden name was Amanda C. Robbins. Her father was of English descent and a slaveholder; but detesting the injustice of the system, he moved to Illinois and emancipated his slaves. Stillman was born at DeWitt, Illinois, December 17, 1848. During childhood he was sent to the public schools and was afterwards a student at the Clinton Liberal Institute at Clinton, New York. He came to Iowa with his father and family in 1854, when but six years of age. In early life he developed a talent for business, and by hard work, good habits and persistent efforts, step by step, won his way to marked success and ample fortune. In 1872 he entered into partnership with Captain George S. Ringland and Webb Vincent, for the purpose of developing the manufacture of gypsum, which underlies a large tract of country near the Des Moines river, in the vicinity of Fort Dodge. This extensive deposit, the only one in the state, had remained unused except for building stone since the earliest settlements. Its value for the manufacture of stucco had not been realized until recent years, when the firm of Ringland, Vincent and Meservey began to build the first factory for its manufacture. It proved to be an important industry, and the enterprising proprietors of the mills first erected built up a large and profitable business, which has



grown year by year into great proportions. Several other mills have since been erected, and Mr. Meservey is now one of the directors of the Iowa Plaster Association, successors of the firm of Ringland, Vincent and Meservey. He is also largely engaged in banking, being president of the First National Bank of Fort Dodge, and also president of the Bank of Livermore, in Humboldt county. He is president of the Fort Dodge Grocery Company, and the Fort Dodge Light and Power Company. In politics he has always been a republican, and in 1885 he was nominated by his party to represent Webster county in the popular branch of the Twenty-first General Assembly, and elected. His younger brother, A. F. Meservey, represented the Cherokee district in the senate of the Twenty-second and Twenty-third General Assemblies.

Mr. S. T. Meservey was married October 10, 1871, to Miss Anna Scott, of Bridgewater, New York. They have three children, William, born in 1875; Scott, born in 1879, and Elizabeth, born in 1878. The family are members of the Episcopal church.

MOON, DR. ARNOLD CARPENTER, of Williamsburg, is a successful young physi-

cian who has practiced in that town for nearly fifteen years. He was born in Iowa City, January 1, 1860. His father, Dr. Arnold C. Moon, was also a physician, a native of Steventown, Rensselaer County, New York, born in 1817. He was educated in Saratoga Springs and Albany, graduating from the Albany Medical College in 1840. He began the practice of his profession at once in Knoxville, Ohio, and was married October 10, 1844, in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, to Ann Barclay Thompson. She was born in Carmichael, Pennsylvania, April 24, 1827. In 1857 they moved to Iowa City, where he soon had a very extensive practice. After a long and busy life, including a very successful professional career, he passed to his final reward March 25, 1890. Arnold C. Moon, Jr., was educated in the public schools of Iowa City, and the Iowa City Academy. He also took a special course in the collegiate department of the State University. In 1884 he graduated from the medical department of the State University, having taken the three years' course. Hav-



ing had several years of practical experience in his father's office, he at once removed, in the spring of 1884, to Williamsburg, his present location, and has been so successful

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HISTORY OF IOWA

FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES
TO THE BEGINNING OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

FOUR VOLUMES ²²/₃₅

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

JOHN F. MERRY was born in Summit County, Ohio, March 24, 1844. He came to Iowa with his parents in an emigrant wagon in 1856, his father locating on a farm in Delaware County. The son secured an education in the public schools and became a teacher. In 1880 he entered the service of the Illinois Central Railway Company as excursion agent, making himself so useful that he was soon promoted to general western passenger agent, and finally to assistant general passenger agent of the entire system. Captain Merry served in the Civil War, as a private first in the Twenty-first Infantry. He afterwards recruited and was elected a lieutenant in Company F, of the Forty-sixth Regiment. He was on the staff of General Fairchild in the Grand Army of the Republic, and was the originator of the law converting the battle-field of Vicksburg into a National Park. Captain Merry was a member of the Iowa Trans-Mississippi and International Exposition Commission. He has given special attention to the agricultural and commercial development of the country served by the Illinois Central Railroad system and has published several works of interest among which are "Where to Locate New Factories," "The Southern Homeseekers' Guide," and the "Industrial Outlook for New Orleans." Captain Merry has held the following important positions: assistant general passenger agent of the Illinois Central Railway Company, secretary and assistant treasurer of the Dunlieth & Dubuque Bridge Company, secretary and treasurer of the Iowa Land & Loan Company, secretary and assistant treasurer of the Dubuque & Sioux City Railroad Company, and secretary and assistant treasurer of the Fort Dodge & Omaha Railroad Company. He is a prominent Republican, serving as delegate to the Republican National Convention at St. Louis in 1896.

STILLMAN T. MESERVEY was born at De Witt, Illinois, December 17, 1848, and was educated in the public schools and at Clinton Liberal Institute, New York. His father removed to Homer, then in Webster County, in 1854, and after the removal of the county-seat from that place made his home in Fort Dodge, where Stillman grew up to manhood. He was an active Republican and in 1885 was elected Representative in the House of the Twenty-first General Assembly and in 1902 he was again a member of the Twenty-ninth Assembly. He was one of the three Fort Dodge men who were the pioneers in developing the great gypsum deposits in that vicinity and became one of the directors of the Iowa Plaster Association. He has long been president of the First National Bank of Fort Dodge and of the Fort Dodge Power & Light Company, having also other large financial interests.

GEORGE METZGAR was born in Germany, April 19, 1845. His father, who was engaged in the Revolution of 1848-9 became an exile, coming with his family to the United States in 1850. The son received his education in the common schools and in 1862 enlisted in the One


[Return to Stillman T. Meservey](#)
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Children (3)

[William W. Meservey](#) B: 1875
[Lizzie S. Meservey](#) B: 1878
[Baby Meservey](#) B: 1879

Stillman T. Meservey

B: abt 1849 in Illinois
D:

Parents

UNKNOWN

UNKNOWN

Annah Scott B:abt 1851 in New York

Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925

Name: **Stillman T Meservey**
Birth Year: **abt 1849**
Birth Place: **Illinois**
Gender: **Male**
Census Date: **1860**
Residence state: **Iowa**
Residence County: **Webster**
Locality: **Fort Dodge and Wakhonsa**
Roll: **IA_68**
Line: **27**
Family Number: **37**
Neighbors: [View others on page](#)

Household Members:	Name	Age
	Wm N Meservey	40
	Amanda C Meservey	31
	Stillman T Meservey	11
	Adolphus C Meservey	9
	Medora A Meservey	7
	Almira Robbins	17

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 **Stillman T. Meservey** in **Iowa**

1920 United States Federal Census

Name: **Stillman T Mesyrvay**
 [[Stillman T Meservey](#)]
 [[Stillman T Heservey](#)]
 [[Stillman T Heryvey](#)]

Home in 1920: **Fort Dodge Ward 4, Webster, Iowa**

Age: **72**

Estimated Birth Year: **abt 1848**

Birthplace: **Illinois**

Relation to Head of House: **Lodger**

Father's Birth Place: **Illinois**

Mother's Birth Place: **Illinois**

Marital Status: **Widowed**
 [[Widow](#)]

Race: **White**

Sex: **Male**

Able to read: **Yes**

Able to Write: **Yes**

Neighbors: [View others on page](#)

Household Members:	Name	Age
	Edward A Welch	43 [73]
	Helen O Welch	42
	Richard O Welch	9
	Stillman T Mesyrvay	72
	Rose Rathman	24

Source Citation: Year: 1920; Census Place: Fort Dodge Ward 4, Webster, Iowa; Roll: T625_518; Page: 4B; Enumeration District: 243; Image: 291.

Source Information:



Ancestry.com. 1920 United States Federal Census [database online]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2010. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.

Original data: Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920. (NARA microfilm publication T625, 2076 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](#). Note: Enumeration Districts 819-839 are on roll 323 (Chicago City).

Description:

This database is an index to individuals enumerated in the 1920 United States Federal Census, the Fourteenth Census of the United States. It includes all states and territories, as well as Military and Naval Forces, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, and the Panama Canal Zone. The census provides many details about individuals and families including: name, gender, age, birthplace, year of immigration, mother tongue, and parents' birthplaces. In addition, the names of those listed on the population schedule are linked to actual images of the 1920 Federal Census. [Learn more...](#)

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Sara Jane Green

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Owner: [yorkies2006](#)

find a person in this tree



Stillman T. Meservey

Birth **abt 1849** in [Illinois](#)
Death

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Media Gallery

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

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

1849 [Birth](#) [2 source citations](#)
abt [Illinois](#)

1880 [Residence](#) [1 source citation](#)
Age: 31 [Fort Dodge, Webster County, Iowa](#)

Comments

No comments have been added yet.

[Add a comment](#)

Family Members

Parents

No Father

No Mother

[Show siblings](#)

Spouse & Children

[Annah Scott](#)
1851 -

[William W. Meservey](#)
1875 -

[Lizzie S. Meservey](#)
1878 -

[Baby Meservey](#)
1879 -

[Family group sheet](#)

Source Information [view details](#)

1880 United States Federal Census

1 citation provides evidence for **Name, Residence, Birth**

Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925

1 citation provides evidence for **Name, Birth, Gender**

Web Links

There are no weblinks available for this person.

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Stillman Taylor Meservey

Memorial

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Birth: Dec., 1848
Illinois, USA

Death: Apr. 5, 1927
Cook County
Illinois, USA

Son of William N. Meservey (1820 IND) and
Amanda C. (1829 KY)

A new headstone marks the grave of a
prominent, nearly forgotten Fort Dodge figure.

Stillman Meservey has become something of a
forgotten figure of early Fort Dodge history.
Among other things, he was the judge who
presided over moving the Webster County seat
from Homer to Fort Dodge. He established the
first gypsum mill and USG, held various
banking interests, helped found Fort Dodge
Light and Power, the street railway system and
an implement company.

In 1900, he was the wealthiest person in Fort
Dodge and built the mansion now owned by
Bruce's Funeral Home, in 1895.

He also served as Fort Dodge mayor for three
terms and had several terms as a
representative.

In the typical flowery and lengthy language of
the day, the The Biographical Record of
Webster County, published in 1902, had this to
say:

"No higher testimonial of his capability could
be given than the fact that he has been re-
elected to office, for the public is a
discriminating factor and although
unscrupulous men sometimes gain office, it is
impossible for them to retain elective positions
which are subject to public criticism."

In the 1920s, his fortunes turned. Meservey
lost a great deal of money in Florida land
investments. One deal was about \$80,000, a
great deal of money in those days.

He died penniless, he didn't even have the
money to cover his funeral and medical
expenses. The result is that he never had a
memorial stone. That has now been corrected.

It's very fitting that we finally dedicated the
monument. Of course, the marker is also for
his wife Anna Scott Meservey, who died in
1900.

Annette Mackay, who helped conduct the
dedication ceremony, made sure Anna
Meservey was remembered too. "Behind every
good man is a great woman," she said.

We are here today to commemorate the life of



Cemetery Photo

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Stillman Taylor Meservey, who passed away in the Masonic Hospital in Chicago on April 5, 1927, at the age of 78 after a long bout with cancer.

It's not recorded who attended that long ago service for Meservey.

However, one of his surviving relatives, Eloise Welch, of Fort Dodge, a grand-niece, attended Saturday and at the age of 100, could have been there. She was 16 when he died, but she has no memories of her great-uncle.

Family links:

Parents:

[William N Meservey](#)

Spouse:

[Anna Scott Meservey \(1851 - 1900\)*](#)

[*Point here for explanation](#)

Burial:

[Oakland Cemetery](#)

Fort Dodge

Webster County

Iowa, USA

Created by: [Burt](#)

Record added: Jan 22, 2007

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IOWA CLOSE-UP

Malcom in Poweshiek County

Population: 447

Founded:

1872

How it
was

named: It

is thought
to have been named for a
railroad surveyor, according
to "From Ackley to Zwingle,
The Origins of Iowa Place
Names."

Top employers: Gateway
Cooperative and ITWC

Claims to fame: Victorian
P.P. Raymond Mansion is on
the National Register of
Historic Places.



IOWA CLOSE-UP

Meservey in Cerro Gordo County

Population: 291

Founded:

1886

How it
was

named:

For S.T.

Meservey, a prominent
resident of Fort Dodge who
promoted getting a rail line
to Meservey.

Top employers: AGP Grain
Cooperative.

Claim to fame: The
American Legion sponsors a
fireworks display around
July 4, and the Legion
Auxiliary serves supper.



Martensdale in Warren County

Population: 500

Founded: 1913

How it was named: The original
landowners of
the townsite
were named
Martens.

**Top
employers:**

Middle River
Steel, Roadside Inn.

Claims to fame: The town is a
noted stop for bicyclists using
the Great Western Trail.



IOWA CLOSE-UP

Minden in Pottawattamie County

Population: 539

Founded: 1875

How it was
named:

Named by
the German
settlers for
Minden,
Germany.

Top employer: Tri-Center
Community School.

Claims to fame: Community
Hall, which is known for its
ballroom dances.



IOWA CLOSE-UP

Moorhead in Monona County

Population: 259

Founded: 1900

How it
was

named:

For
founder
John B.

Moorhead.

Top employers: West
Central Development Corp.,
East Monona School,
Moorhead Co.

Claims to fame: The town is
in the heart of the Loess
Hills.



IOWA CLOSE-UP

Maurice in Sioux County

Population: 260

Founded: 1892

How it
was

named:

For
Count

Maurice

of Nassau, the son of
William of Orange.

Top employers: First Reform
Church

Claims to fame: Known for
its Christmas decorations.



IOWA CLOSE-UP

Mount Vernon in Linn County

Population: 3,600

Founded: Plotted in 1847

How it was

named: The
original
settlement was
called Pin Hook,
but when the

town was plotted, residents voted
for Mount Vernon, after George
Washington's estate.

Top employers: Cornell College

Claims to fame: The town has
three districts on the National
Register of Historic Places,
including the Cornell College
campus. Students at the college
study only one course at a time.

Annual Heritage Day Celebration



IOWA CLOSE-UP

Mount Ayr in Ringgold County

Population: 1,796

Founded: 1875

How it
was

named:

After
Ayre,
Scotland.

Top employer: Mount Ayr
Community Schools

Claim to fame: Ayr Days on
the weekend after Labor
Day.

