

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Nelson, Albert John Senator

Represented Buena Vista County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 1861 Chelsea, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place

Edith Wilkinson 26 Jan 1886 Chelsea, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business He founded the Nelson Grain Company in Mar-thon, Iowa.

B. Civic responsibilities

C. Profession Banker; lumber and grain business.

4. Church membership

5. Sessions served 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies 1900, 1902

6. Public Offices

A. Local

B. State Deputy collector

C. National

7. Death 12 Aug 1921 Cedar Rapids, Iowa; buried Oak Hill Cemetery, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

8. Children Howard A.; Elsie (Mrs. Martin); Edith (Mrs. McCoy)

9. Names of parents Colonel and Mrs. Bartholomew H. and Elizabeth (Ward) Nelson

10. Education

11. Degrees

12. Other applicable information

Republican

- Just before his death he had moved from Spencer, Iowa to Cedar Rapids where he was in the Internal Revenue collector's office.
- From 1907-1918, he lived in Spokane, Washington where he was interested in politics. He was a candidate for Congress, but was defeated by only a few votes.
- He lived on the family farm near Chelsea, Iowa until aged 20 when he went to New Mexico and worked on a cattle ranch.
- In 1886 he moved to Marshall, Iowa where he engaged in the lumber, grain and banking business until 1906.
- During 1905-1906 he was interested in banking at Boone, Iowa and later at Sioux City, Iowa.
- In Spokane, Washington he worked with the Fidelity Lumber Company and later the Union Parks Lumber Company, a retail lumber and coal company.
- Around 1916 he moved to Spencer, Iowa where he purchased a half interest in the De Wolf and Hella Company which engaged in grain and coal business.
- In 1918 the firm dissolved and he and his son, Howard, organized the Abner Grain Company. They owned elevators in Spencer, Greenville, Webb, Langdon, Guthrie, Jewell, Boone, Pottawatomie and Fremont all in Iowa.



never. He showed his ability and his crew all the officers at the office of the printing crowd. His efforts, however, were not found upon an employee and he was fined \$10, was called and he charge of assault upon at Delaware, is jury also found was fined \$25.

Difficulties, the time is bound to keep the as under obligation other charge and he go to jail but he stay out of jail and is to satisfy the au-

### COME BACK: CONSERVATIVE

slk. hody for back according to however, are of a nature than those and after the nar- rips and burn white seem to be the most

stary got away from r the period that common and were attitude of hazy pat- ent explained: "With nical condition only ney are able to pur- a consequence only patterns are in de-

ant said slk hose are l among men. This to a certain extent ol socks, he said,

### AND STREET WOOD COLLIDE

at night have proved result of an auto- with a Marion greet Thursday afternoon n-Cedar Rapids track it in Kenwood. The f a man who gave Ma- cet car conductor as Thomas' mother, a her young son, were als of the car. No hurt? The little one if injuries from flying was somewhat but- s was able to drive it

who was on the car the accident claims ar was coming from Cedar Rapids, and iving in the opposite as attempted to cross street car, but falling was struck squarely

### S SOLDIER BOY CAMP HOSPITAL

advice coming from ls Robertec, the 13 Mr. and Mrs. C. H. 10 C avenue, and a pital at Camp Dodge l condition.

own bathing suits.

All persons are kindly requested to assist the management in preserving order, preventing damage to property, and theft, and help build up a spirit of loyalty to the park, respect for property and pride in its suc-

## FIRST CARRIER IN CEDAR RAPIDS DIES FRIDAY MORN

### A. J. Wilson Passes Away at His Home, 808 A Avenue.

A. J. Wilson, the first letter carrier in Cedar Rapids, died at his home, 808 A avenue at 4 o'clock Friday morning. The funeral arrangements will not be made until his children arrive.

He was a son of the late Col. Bart Wilson, who served as a private in the Mexican war and was discharged as a colonel of the Twenty-third Iowa in the Civil war. He was born near Chelsea. Here he grew to manhood, received his education and for a season taught school. He then came to Cedar Rapids. He secured employment in the postoffice and was the first man appointed as carrier when free delivery was put in operation in Cedar Rapids.

His next venture was as a ranchman in New Mexico. He next engaged in the grain, lumber, and banking business at Marathon, serving two terms while there as state representative from Buena Vista county. He then engaged in banking at Boone and Sioux City, going from there to Spokane, Wash., where he was engaged in lumber manufacturing. While there he served two terms as commissioner of public parks and was a majority candidate of his party for congress.

A few years ago he returned to Iowa, locating at Sorcerer, where he entered the grain shipping business. Last spring he returned to Cedar Rapids and entered the U. S. revenue service.

At the time of his death he had been ill but a short time. He had just passed his sixtieth birthday. He was married to Miss Edith Wilkinson of Chelsea, Jan. 26, 1896, and there was born to them three children. They are: Mrs. John H. Martin of the New Miller hospital of St. Paul; Mrs. George McCoy of Olympia, Wash., and Howard Wilson of Spencer. He is also survived by his brother, L. W. Wilson of Topeka, Orange Wilson of Minneapolis, David Wilson of Belle Plaine, Edward Wilson of Great Falls, Mont., and surviving sisters are Mrs. J. T. Hall of Gibbon, Neb., and Mrs. Ella Boyer of Toledo, Iowa.

#### IN PLACE OF LEMONS

Use Howard's Acid Phosphate. Healthful, refreshing, better for you - invigorates nerves, brain and body. At druggists.

FOR SICK HEADACHES BEECHAM'S PILLS

Monday and went down with ten minutes.

On his home coming he was in Columbia University (Mag on Journalism. He is connected with the Continent of writing the world editorship bride has been a part of the force of the Y. W. C. A. in N. The officiating clergyman groom's father Dr. J. F. H. long prominent in religious, national circles in this state.

PIANOGRAM AT CHAIN I Dance every Wed. and Sat. Baseball game Atkins vs Sunday.

Baseball game every Sund after.

Band Concert Sunday 1 and evening. Merry-Go-Round 10c to 15c at its best.

J. H. STELPELUG

### THROWN THROUGH WIND AND IS SEVERE

Muscatine, Aug. 12.—Hurter was the chief participant in a accident, which resulted in a arteries in his neck and loss of blood, when his car 1 stuck in the mud and it through the windshield onto near Flatiron Point, three 1 of Muscatine. Two compan him in the front seat of the uninjured.

## When Dreams Come True

Tony Nago took a nap Rose Arbor and was dr of peaches coming do price, and when Max's a bile spot light was flash him he awakened with il termination of selling a s load for the canning sea

And HERE'S YOUR CHA Crato or Bushel Peach canning at the lowest ever mentioned.

## Naso's Fru Headquarte

## AMBULAN

OUR PHON

197

NEVER SLEE

John B. Tur & Son

Thirty-Sixth Year.

Storm Lak

## ALL READY FOR BIG DAY NEXT FRIDAY

### Flying Circus and Baseball Staged Here on August 26

All is set for the big gala day here a week from today (Friday) and if the weather holds good, Storm Lake is expecting to entertain a crowd on that day which will equal, if not exceed, the record crowd of last July 4th. The day is being staged in the interest of the two city parks on the lake shore. It has developed all summer that Storm Lake has outgrown the toilet facilities in these parks and some means was found necessary to raise money to install new and modern comfort stations. The subscription was first proposed and then rejected and then Mayor V. E. Herbert hit upon the idea of staging a real holiday here and giving the people some real entertainment for their money.

The program of the day will consist of a double header baseball game between Cherokee and Newell. These two teams have been see-sawing all season and are about as evenly matched as it is possible for two semi-pro teams to be. They will battle for the final supremacy of the season here on August 26th. They will play two baseball games—one in the morning at 10:30 o'clock and one in the afternoon at 3:30. The admission to each game will be fifty cents and admission to the grandstand will be fifteen cents. The athletic field.

The Sioux City Tribune's flying circus will be here and stage free attractions during the day. There will be these other in this circus and places which have already had them report that they are very successful. The first event by the flying circus

## A. J. Wilson Is Called By Death

### Former Representative From This County Dies at Home in Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Spencer News-Herald—A. J. Wilson, well known former Spencer resident and former representative in the state legislature from Buena Vista county, passed away at his home in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, last Friday morning, August 12, 1921, from heart disease.

Mr. Wilson was one of Northwest Iowa's most prominent republicans and politicians, and was also interested in big business interests of this section of the state for years.

Funeral services were held Sunday at Kenwood park at Cedar Rapids. Interment was made in the Oak Park cemetery there.

A few months ago Mr. Wilson moved from Spencer to Cedar Rapids where he was in the internal revenue collector's office. For some time he had been in ill health.

In politics the former Spencer man was well known over the state. From 1900 to 1904 he represented Buena Vista county in the state legislature, serving two terms. He was chairman of the committee on banks and banking in the house from 1900 to 1902.

From 1907 to 1918 Mr. Wilson resided at Spokane, Washington, where he was also deeply interested in politics. While living in the Northwest he was a candidate for congress from his district and was defeated by only a few votes.

Formerly lived at Marathon Abner John Wilson, a son of Col. and Mrs. B. W. Wilson, was born in Chelsea, Iowa, sixty years ago. His father, Colonel Wilson, was a veteran of both the Civil and Mexican wars. He lived on a farm near Chelsea until about twenty years of age, when he went to New Mexico and worked for a short time on a cattle ranch.

In 1886 Mr. Wilson moved to Marathon, Iowa, where he engaged in the lumber, grain and banking businesses until 1905. During the years 1905 and 1906 he was interested in the banking business first at Boone and later at Sioux City. In 1907 he moved to Spokane, Washington, where

## New Lutheran Church

The handsome new St. John's Lutheran church, located at the corner of Third street and Lake avenue, will be formally dedicated this coming Sunday. The new church building has a seating capacity of 350 and in addition has a finely equipped basement for social and other affairs of the membership. The windows of the main room are particularly interesting. The window in the south is taken from a painting by Plockard and is entitled "The Good Shepherd." The window in the north is from a painting by Hofman and is entitled "Christ in Gethsemane." The downstairs of the church is finished in oak and the upstairs in pine and fir. The altar is in oak and has an oil painting which cost \$74. The window in the south cost \$450 and the one in the east \$308.

The bell which has been installed in the new building is the first church bell which was ever in Storm Lake. It was originally in the old Presby-

## Six Women Are Drawn on Jury

### Judge Coyle Will Preside On Bench at September Term of District Court

Six women have been drawn on the petit jury for the September term of the district court which opens in Storm Lake on September 19th. Judge Coyle will preside on the bench at this term of court. Among the women jurors drawn are Miss Aline Corbett, Allie Thompson, Ella Coulson, Lizzie Brown and Mrs. Roy A. Jarnagin, of Storm Lake and Luella Fairchild of Sioux Rapids. The full list of jurors follows:

- Carl Wahlstrom, Rembrandt.
- A. L. Wilson, Marathon.
- Gall W. Householder, Newell.
- Frank Wilson, Alta.
- Victor Lundquist, Marathon.
- Thomas E. Frykberg, Albert City.
- Aline Corbett, Storm Lake.
- Ira Carrington, Storm Lake.
- Reuben Benson, Albert City.
- A. C. Smith, Storm Lake.
- Allie Thompson, Storm Lake.
- B. D. Patte, Marathon.
- J. J. Lucey, Storm Lake.

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The Sioux City Tribune's flying circus will be here and stage free attractions during the day. There will be three aviators in this circus and places which have already had them report that they are very successful. The first event by the flying circus will be before the morning baseball game. This will be stunt flying at 10 o'clock. At 2 p. m. they will stage their wing walking exhibition and at 6 p. m. the rope ladder acrobatics in the air.

There will be music during the day by the Storm Lake band and in the evening a big pavement dance will be held on Lake avenue. Every cent received during the day and at the dance will go for the new sanitary toilets.

### DOUBLE CIRCUS HAS BIG NEW PROGRAM

The announcement that the famed Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Combined Shows are to exhibit at Cherokee Tuesday, August 30th has aroused no end of interest. It would seem as though practically all the youngsters and grown-ups in this section were planning to attend.

Twice each day for almost two months New York's great Madison Square Garden was packed with those who thronged to see this biggest program in circus history. They saw scores of the jungle's most ferocious beasts, subjugated to such a degree that these beautiful animals leaped to and rode on the backs of elephants and horses, jumped through hoops of fire, opened their mouths that their men and women trainers might lay their heads and hands inside them, or leaped from pedestal to pedestal like trained dogs. And these marvelous dumb actors are all together with the great double circus. The four immense steel arenas in which they perform are set up inside the mammoth main tent. There is

had been in ill health.

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During the first few years in Spokane Mr. Wilson was interested in the Fidelity Lumber company, one of the largest wholesale lumber corporations on the coast. Later he transferred his interests to the Union Park Lumber company, a retail lumber and coal company.

Five years ago Mr. Wilson came to Spencer and purchased a half interest in the DeWolf & Wells company with M. E. DeWolf, engaged in the grain and coal business. In May, 1918, the firm dissolved and Mr. Wilson and son Howard organized the Wilson Grain company. This firm owned nine grain elevators and a number of coal yards—at Spencer, Greenville, Webb, Langdon, Ruthven, Terrill, Plover, Rembrandt and Truesdale. Recently this business went into the hands of a receiver and Mr. Wilson moved to Cedar Rapids.

### "BIG BILL" PARK HAS ACCIDENT

Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Park and Mrs. E. H. Melcher and son, Buddie, were quite badly injured in an accident which occurred last Thursday morning. They were enroute to Early to meet Mrs. Park's sister, Mrs. C. B. Toenings, of Boone, who was on her way to Storm Lake for a visit at the Park home, and were about five south of town when the accident occurred. Mr. Park was driving the car and Buddie Melcher was beside him. The child started to slip from the seat and Mr. Park caught hold of him and in that manner turned the steering wheel and the car went into the ditch. Mrs. Park and Mrs. Melcher were thrown to the bottom

## Drawn on J

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- Mark Masters, Alta.
- Victor Ludquist, Marathon.
- Thomas E. Frykberg, Albert C.
- Aline Corbett, Storm Lake.
- Ira Carrington, Storm Lake.
- Reuben Benson, Albert City.
- A. C. Smith, Storm Lake.
- Allie Thompson, Storm Lake.
- B. D. Pate, Marathon.
- J. J. Lucey, Storm Lake.
- C. H. Sanderman, Storm Lake.
- G. A. Brunson, Alta.
- P. H. Ross, Storm Lake.
- Aug. Rystad, Rembrandt.
- Henry Peterson, Storm Lake.
- W. C. Praepel, Newell.
- Leonard McKenna, Storm Lake.
- Ella Coulson, Storm Lake.
- Albert Anderson, Alta.
- Peter Lindgren, Albert City.
- Harold M. Coulson, Storm Lake.
- R. C. Brogmus, Alta.
- N. P. Beson, Alta.
- Lizzie Brown, Storm Lake.
- James Lawson, Linn Grove.
- Geo. Parrot, Aurelia.
- J. H. Pingel, Rembrandt.
- Bernardt Risvold, Linn Grove.
- E. C. Huxtable, Newell.
- June Jarnagin, Storm Lake.
- Luella Fairchild, Sioux Rapids.
- Fred Richer, Albert City.

### STORM LAKE PILL SHOOTERS BEAT

Storm Lake sent a bunch of golfers to Fort Dodge, Sunday, to take part in an inter-club tournament. Those who went from here are Tymeson was the only one who won his match. The home club played better golf all the way around. Charley Mitchell says it wasn't even worth the trouble of going out the points, the defeat so decisive. However those who were shown excellent hospitality and enjoyed the day of golf very much.

The Epworth League of the Methodist church had a picnic at Sun Park Tuesday evening.

COLD?

bles and e kidneys For weak a Storm

Ontario k cold i that slow ctected fre-

Kidney Arthur's couple d morn- for the e put in recom- erit as

Don't dy—get ne that irn-Co.,

isers.

LD

amburg Take a cup of rugh a at any tiring. reak a is the ction. vi

From ensive safe

**VIS. MUELLER ENJOYS  
LIFE AT FORT SNELLING**

Fort Snelling, Minn.  
August 20, 1921

le R. Fish, Editor,  
Marathon, Iowa.  
r Sir:—  
y father sent me a couple of  
es of the Republic and I was glad  
ee in one of them that Marathon  
trimed Albert City again.  
ere they have a regular schedule  
ch is carried out each day and it  
quite interesting. We have been  
onstrated the use of the machine  
, automatic rifle, hand grenades,  
, grenades, and have seen each in  
on.  
he troops have been reviewed by  
. Pershing, Major General Frans-  
th, Chief of Infantry. Also by  
Commander of the Italian Army,  
is visiting in the United States.  
y several other high ranking  
ers of the army.  
e have all kinds of athletics, such  
rack, etnnis and baseball. There  
five companies here and Company  
the baseball championship  
ompany G this morning with  
to 5 score in a nine-inning game.  
ugust 26th we start on a hike to  
e Minatonka, which is about  
y miles from the camp. We will  
ably return in trucks.  
he weather has been very fine  
ar, except a little cool at nights.  
e get good meals and plenty to  
ill close, hoping Marathon will  
right on winning her ball games  
finishes first.

Very truly yours,  
Lewis Mueller.

F., C. M. T. S.  
Snelling, Minn.

**IS NOT PAY TO BURN CORN**

Recent suggestions that corn may  
sed as a fuel in Iowa this winter,  
to its low price, have again brot  
he question: Is corn a cheap fuel?  
wa State College investigators be-  
it is not. They say coal will  
go higher of corn become  
valueless before it will pay  
urn the latter. They base their  
f on experimental work carried  
he the engineering experiment  
on in which corn was analyzed in  
parison with coal for heating  
ities.

**ABER J. WILSON HAS  
PASSED AWAY**

The many friends of Abner J. Wil-  
son, well known grain man, founder  
of the Wilson Grain Company, and  
until recently a resident of this city,  
were shocked to learn of his death,  
which ocured early last Friday  
morning at his home in Kenwood  
Park, a suburb of Cedar Rapids. He  
was in his sixtieth year.

Mr. Wilson's health had been fail-  
ing for a year back due to heart  
trouble. His condition became seri-  
ous within the last few weeks. Mrs.  
Wilson was with him at the end.  
Howard A. Wilson of Spencer, a son,  
left here for Cedar Rapids Friday  
morning.

Mr. Wilson moved to Cedar Rapids  
last March, having been appointed a  
deputy collector of internal revenue  
with headquarters there.

Besides his wife, who was Miss  
Edith Wilkinson of Chelsea, Iowa,  
and his son Howard, Mr. Wilson is  
survived by two daughters, Mrs. Elsie  
Wilson Martin of St. Paul, Minn., and  
Mrs. Edith Wilson McCoy of Olympia  
Washington.

Funeral services were held at Ken-  
wood Park Sunday afternoon. In-  
terment was at Chedsea, Iowa.

Abner J. Wilson was born at Chel-  
sea in Tama county, Iowa. His father  
Colonel B. W. Wilson, was a veteran  
of the Mexican and Civil wars, a  
pioneer of Tama county and promi-  
nent in that section after the war.

A. J. Wilson was in the lumber and  
grain and banking business for twenty  
years at Marathon, Iowa. After that  
he engaged in banking at Boone and  
Sioux City. In 1904 he went into the  
wholesale lumber business at Spokane  
Washington.

He came to Spencer in 1916, and  
was for two years a member of the  
grain firm of DeWolf and Wells. He  
established the Wilson Grain Com-  
pany July 1, 1918, and the Wilson  
Coal Company, both of Spencer.

Mr. Wilson took much interest in  
public affairs. He was representa-  
tive for Buena Vista county in the  
Iowa legislature for two terms, chair-  
man of the republican county com-  
mittee at Spokane, and Clay county  
food administrator during the war.  
He was a member of Grace Methodist  
church, a Hason and a Knight Temp-  
lar. —Spencer Reporter.

**CHURCH  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Let all the members and friends  
take notice that next Sunday, August  
28th, the regular hours and services  
will be observed. Hot weather and  
vacation are passed and we should be  
able and willing to work with renew-  
ed vigor.

Morning preaching service at 10:  
45 and Sunday school following at 12  
o'clock. The evening preaching serv-  
ice at 8:00.

Only a few weeks remain of the  
present conference year. The con-  
ference session will be held at Storm  
Lake and begins on Sept. 27th.

Epworth League will hold its regu-  
lar devotional meeting on September  
4th.

Two personal items are of great  
interest to all our church people one  
is the serious illness of our bishop  
Wilson Seeley Lewis. The other is  
of a much different type, it is the  
safe return of George Roberts to our  
country. Relatives and friends are  
anxiously waiting his coming to Mara-  
thon.

The Campmeeting this year was  
pronounced by most people the best  
of all.

Once more, just to make sure, all  
services at regular hour next Sun-  
day. **COME TO CHURCH.**

**NOTICE**

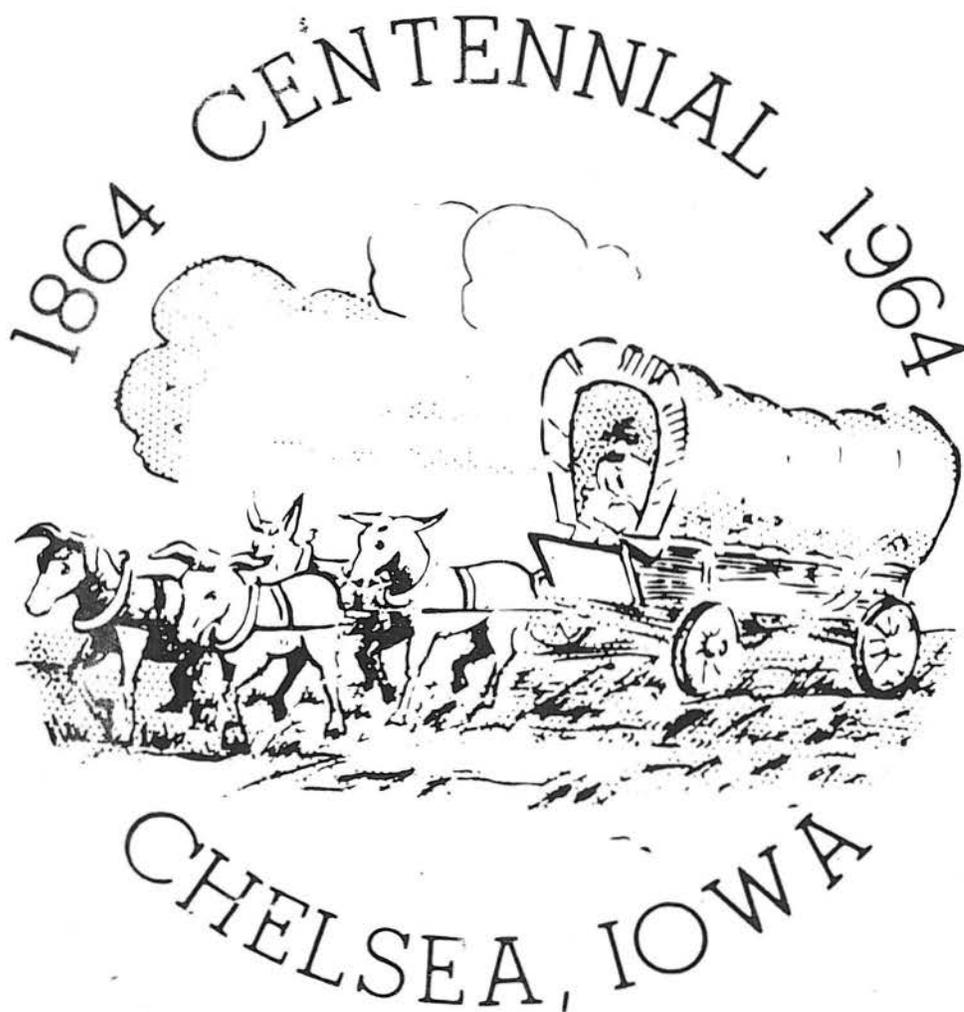
The Sunday afternoon service at  
the Baptist church in Marathon will  
be in charge of young people from  
Spencer, Sioux Rapids and Webb.  
It will be a B. Y. P. U. Rally. The  
program will be interesting.—L. W.  
Ross, Pastor.

**TAKE CARE OF FALL PIGS**

Fall pigs which are farowed the lat-  
ter part of August of the first of Sep-  
tember can be produced nearly as  
cheaply as spring pigs if they are  
given the opportunity to make a good  
growth before cold weather sets in,  
according to R. G. Anderson of the  
animal husbandry department at Iowa

Tama  
County

# History of Chelsea, Iowa



## JAMES A. WILLEY

James A. Willey was born in Mercer county, Penn. on Oct. 22, 1822. His father died when he was a small boy and his mother remarried. He lived with his mother and step-father until the age of 16 years when he came to Illinois. In 1849, he married Mary Jean Glancey. Nine children were born to them; Susan J., Rosa, Scott, John, Lucy Ella, George G., Elery P., Edna A., and Elizabeth. Three children Rosa, Scott and John died when small.

In 1853, he came to Tama county, section 15 in Salt Creek Township, and bought 800 acres at a \$1.25 per acre from the government. The couple lived in a double wagon box, turned on its side, until a log cabin could be built. The lumber was all hand cut, planed, and finished by hand. Even the nails were forged by hand. He planted a large orchard of several hundred trees which was popular with the neighbors.

Mr. Willey was extensively engaged in farming, raising livestock and feeding cattle for market. He delivered his first one hundred head of cattle to Chicago, driving them and letting them feed as they went. It took him three months to make the trip. In Chicago he received twenty dollars per head. He raised these cattle from calves bought for a dollar and a half a head.

The first fences were made of osage orange trees planted close together.

He made a good neighbor and took an active part in the establishment and support of schools. He was active in public affairs and was on the first board of supervisors for Tama county. He served many years as the supervisor for Salt Creek Township.

In 1900, James A. Willey and his son Elery P. Willey were instrumental in founding the First National Bank of Chelsea. A principal stockholder, Elery P. Willey was the first cashier and later served as president for many years. Prior to 1900, Elery P. Willey was engaged in the business of buying and selling horses for the carriage trade in Chicago and Newark, N. J. and made several trips to England

and Ireland selling horses. He also bought and fed cattle for market.

In World War I, he headed the Liberty Bond drives and received a medal, for his efforts, from the government. He was a Mason 66 years, and a member of the Shrine for 63 years. He was a consul on the roster of Lincoln Highway consuls between New York and San Francisco.

In 1925, he was married to Anita W. Randolph. To them was born one son, E. P. Willey Jr., who lives on the home farm. In 1949, E. P. Willey Jr. was married to Donna Rinderknecht. They have three children, Kathleen, Cheryl, and James. He served in the Air Force during the Korean conflict. At the present Mr. and Mrs. Willey are active in community activities.

## COL. AND MRS. B. W. WILSON

B. W. Wilson was born June 17, 1827, in Paoli, Orange county, Ind. At the age of 19, he enlisted in the United States Army. About this time war broke out with Mexico and Mr. Wilson served there until peace was declared in 1847. In 1851, he was married to Mary Elizabeth Lux, Jackson county, Ind. They came from Indiana

to Iowa and settled on a 160 acre farm south of the Iowa River near Belle Plaine. They built a log cabin among the trees where wolves howled by night and where they could obtain food by shooting deer and wild turkeys that were so plentiful.

In 1857, the river farm was sold and they purchased the farm across the Tama county line in Poweshiek county about five miles southwest of Chelsea where they built another log cabin.

Between the years of 1857 and 1862, a military company was formed and Mr. Wilson was chosen captain. In 1862, at the time of the outbreak of the Civil War, a company was organized and he was assigned to the 28th Volunteer Infantry as Company B. Captain Wilson was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and participated in the capture of Vicksburg and many others. He was severely wounded in one of these battles, the effect of the wounds he carried the rest of his life. At the close of the war he returned to their farm. He had been again promoted and was now Colonel of the 28th regiment of Iowa.

Before he returned from the war, Mrs. Wilson had hired carpenters to saw out oak lumber from the acreage



James A. Willey Family — first row, left to right, Elery P. Willey, Elizabeth Willey Walton, George Glancey Willey; second row, Edna Ann Willey, Ella Willey Brown, Susan Willey Wilcox.

f oak timber on the Iowa River  
/hi they owned and a frame house  
/as built in place of the log cabin.  
he main part of this house is still  
tanding.

Colonel and Mrs. Wilson and their  
ine children lived on this farm until  
hey were grown and in homes of  
heir own. The children were; Wil-  
iam L., Aden T., Mary A., who be-  
ame Mrs. James T. Hall, David A.,  
Margert Ella, who became Mrs. Elam  
V. Boyer; Abner J., Delia L. who be-  
ame Mrs. David W. Boyer; Orange  
? and Edward B.

In 1889, Colonel and Mrs. Wilson  
ought the small farm east of the Rec-  
or school house, from Mr. J. O. Stod-  
lard. After living there a few years  
they went to Marathon, Iowa where  
their sons lived. They finally came  
back to Chelsea where they resided  
the rest of their lives.

Colonel Wilson passed away March  
4, 1907, in their home. Mrs. Wilson  
passed away Feb. 22, 1908, in the  
home of their daughter, Mrs. James T.  
Hall in Gibbon, Neb.

Colonel and Mrs. Wilson were char-  
ter members of the Methodist church  
which was organized in 1880 under  
the pastorate of Bishop Homer C.  
Stuntz. They remained active in it the  
rest of their lives.

It was said of them that they lived  
exemplary lives in the neighborhood  
as good neighbors, in the Masonic Or-  
der and the Odd Fellows Lodge the  
auxiliaries and the church.

#### MICHEAL ZEMAN SR.

Micheal Zeman Sr. and Catherine  
(Kershe) with their family left Bohe-  
mia, Austria in 1855 coming to Iowa  
City. By covered wagon they came  
west and bought 125 acres of land at  
\$5.00 an acre in Salt Creek township.  
They built a log cabin on the land. He  
became very friendly with the Indians.  
They lived in the log cabin until their  
deaths, he dying in 1892 at 85, and she  
passing away in 1890 at the age of 76  
years.

A son, Micheal Jr., who was born on  
Dec. 25, 1845 in Bohemia, came with  
his parents at the age of ten years to  
the S. He helped his father drive  
stock to Davenport from their farm in

Salt Creek township. At the age of 14  
years, he went to Toledo to work driv-  
ing a stagecoach for \$8.00 a month. At  
20 years of age, he purchased 80 acres  
of land, but due to a forged abstract  
he was made to pay for it a second  
time. In 1881, he bought more land  
and raised a large amount of stock.  
High water came and destroyed all  
but 50 acres of crops and destroyed  
\$3,000 in stock.

In 1884 a cyclone hit his home,  
barn, took his tools, stock, and 200  
tons of hay. The family was safe in a  
cave.

His most appalling disaster was  
when diptheria took three of his seven  
children.

One day he cut the fence around the  
hay stack allowing the cattle to feed.  
They ate underneath the stack, it fell,  
smothering 130 head of stock.

He married Anna Matic in 1865, she  
passed away shortly after their mar-  
riage. Subsequently he married Bar-  
bara Upah. They had four children;  
John W., James, Julia, and Carrie.

John born on June 18, 1875, mar-  
ried Carrie Vitek in March, 1897. He  
farmed with his father until 1906  
when he purchased some land. In  
1926 they retired and moved to Chel-  
sea. He passed away Nov., 1958 at the  
age of 83. Mrs. Zeman, 86, still lives in

their home. They were the parents of  
four children; Olive, Lottie Ed, and  
Ruth.

Olive, better known as "Ollie" mar-  
ried Ed Hayek. He passed away and  
she makes her home in Cedar Rapids.  
They were the parents of two daugh-  
ters, Mrs. Talbert (Marcella) Potter  
and Mrs. Alan (Darlene) Gorton.

Lottie married Chas. Hayek and as  
a young mother passed away. They  
were the parents of a daughter, Mrs.  
Lester (Mary Ann) Ledvina. The  
Ledvina's have four daughters;  
Sandra, Shirley, Bonnie, and Barbara.  
The family lives on a farm northwest  
of Chelsea.

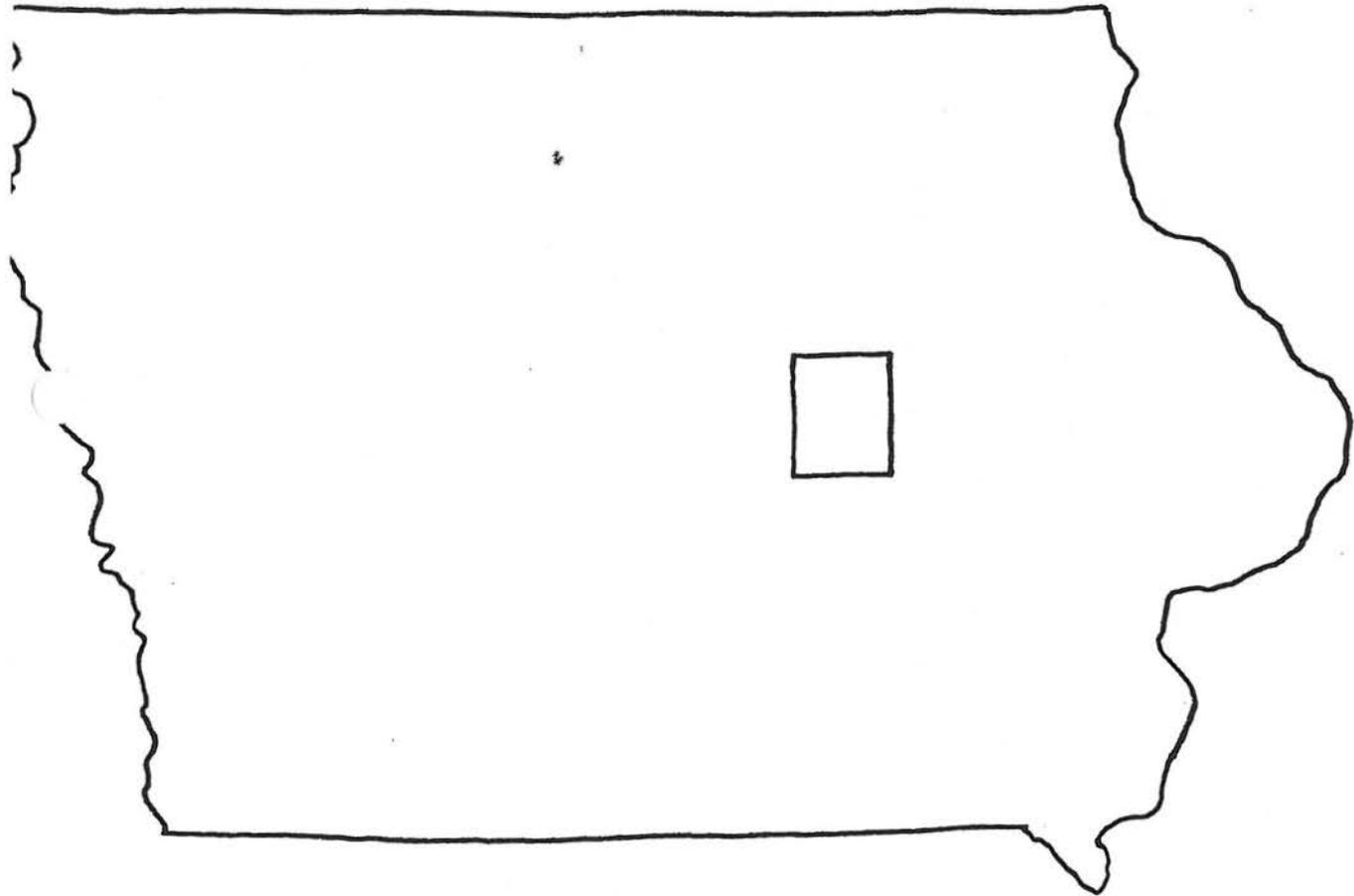
Ruth married Walter Peterson and  
they own and operate a Wallpaper  
and Paint Store in Tama. He passed  
away on Oct. 24, 1957, and she sold  
the store. She makes her home in  
Tama.

Edward married Mildred Kesl on  
Oct. 2, 1926. He stayed on the home  
place when his parents moved to  
town, and farmed it for 28 years sel-  
ling it in 1954, moving to Chelsea. He  
is in semi-retirement. To them were  
born two daughters, Mrs; William  
(Beverly) Henry and Mrs. Charles  
(Gayle) Smith both of Chelsea. The  
Smith's have three children; Deborah,  
Randy, and Bradley.



John Zeman Family — back, left to right, Lottie, Ed, Olive; front, left to  
right, John Zeman, Ruth, Mrs. John Zeman.

**THE HISTORY  
OF  
TAMA COUNTY, IOWA  
1987**



**Compiled by  
The *Tama News Herald*  
and  
The Tama County Historical Society  
and  
The Tama County Tracers Genealogical Society**

## WILSON FAMILY

F1143

George Sharp Wilson, son of Richard Wilson, Jr. was born June 11, 1856 in Illinois and died January 8, 1917 at Toledo, Ohio. He married Susannah Elmore, daughter of Robert Elmore, of Illinois, on May 7, 1883. Susannah was born April 18, 1861 at Richmond, Ohio and died September 12, 1947 at Toledo, Iowa. George S. and Susannah had three children, Robert Elmore Wilson, and in about 1900, they adopted a little girl, Ida May, who was born October 11, 1904.

The Wilson family lived in Forrest, Illinois, Ellsworth, Iowa, Washington State and Lincoln, Nebraska, and Toledo, Iowa.

Robert Elmore Wilson was born in Forrest, Illinois, on June 22, 1884. He was married on July 16, 1907, in Grundy Center, Iowa to Victoria Baldwin. She was born May 18, 1885 in Huron, South Dakota, the daughter of William E. and Emily Baldwin. They lived their married lives in Tama County, Iowa, living in Lincoln, Gladbrook and Toledo, Iowa. It was in Toledo where they reared their family, that Robert engaged in business, and Nell took part in church work, served on school and County school boards, enjoyed her clubs. After their family was enlarged, they served for some time as cottage parents at the Toledo State Juvenile Home. Robert's was the cottage for the older boys and for several years after that, some of the boys would stop to see Ma and Pa Wilson.

Robert died September 8, 1961 and Nellie died April 15, 1952. Robert and Nellie Wilson were the parents of: George Baldwin, born October 19, 1908 at Lincoln, Iowa, Harriette Baldwin, born March 30, 1912 at Toledo, Iowa, and Alva, born May 31, 1916 at Toledo, Iowa.

George Baldwin Wilson married Vivian Stoddard Overturf, April 21, 1940. She is the daughter of Perry R. and Elvira (Stoddard) Overturf. George was a member of the U.S. Marine Corps for seven years, serving part of his time during W.W. II as a navigator on transport planes over the Pacific. He worked as a city carrier for the Postal Department in Toledo, later retiring from a rural route at Tama, Iowa in 1971. He was the prime mover in getting the County Museum moved from the Court House to the old County Jail. He is a member of the Lions Club, Rural Carrier's Assn., American Legion, United Methodist Church, the State and County Historical Societies, Genealogy Society and served on the school board and county draft board.

Vivian was a secretary in a farm loan office of Equitable Life Insurance Co. of Iowa after graduating from Coe College. She is a member of the United Methodist Church, Legion Auxiliary, Rural Carrier's Auxiliary, County Historical and Genealogy Societies and E.O. 1280.

George and Vivian are parents of two daughters: Karen Sue born April 17, 1943 and Linda Lee born November 4, 1949. Karen married Donald Martinson, January 25, 1962 and they are the parents of David, Daniel, and Martin Jon. Linda married Joseph Clemons on July 25, 1970.

by George B. Wilson

## WILSON, ABNER WILLIAM AND SARAH (HANNER)

F1144

Abner William Wilson was born April 7, 1801, near Concord, Iredell County, North Carolina, son of Robert William Wilson and Mary (Armstrong) Wilson. As a young man he left North Carolina and settled in Indiana.

Sarah Hanner was born May 10, 1804, in Ohio, daughter of Bartholomew Hanner and Sophia (Philpot) Hanner.

They were married in Indiana on May 22, 1822. They were the parents of seven children: Celina Sopriah, born July 27, 1825; Bartholomew William, born June 17, 1827; Mary Agnes, born November 10, 1829; Margaret Angeline, born June 7, 1832; Malinda Lucinda, born October 19, 1834; David Felto, born February 7, 1838 and died June 11, 1869; and John Armstrong, born May 12, 1841.

Abner William Wilson died February 22, 1842, in Brownstown, Jackson County, Indiana. Sarah Hanner Wilson died December 21, 1845. It is presumed they are both buried in Brownstown, Indiana.

\*  
by Mary Lucinda Kaloupek

## WILSON, BARTHOLOMEW WILLIAM AND MARY ELIZABETH (LUX)

F1145

Bartholomew William Wilson was born June 17, 1827, in Paoli, Orange County,



*Heysler and Brinkley Belle Plaine Iowa.*

Mary Elizabeth (Lux) Wilson



Colonel B.W. Wilson

Indiana, son of Abner William Wilson and Sarah (Hanner) Wilson. He became head of the household at age 13, when his father died. At age 19, he enlisted in the Army and was assigned to Company G. Mounted Rifles, the regiment of which John C. Fremont was then Colonel. During this time, war with Mexico was declared and B.W. Wilson served in Mexico until peace was declared, participating in eight battles and numerous skirmishes. On September 13, 1847 he was presented with a certificate of merit signed by President James K. Polk for his gallant bravery and meritorious conduct at the Battle of Belew Gate.

Mary Elizabeth Lux was born June 27, 1830, in Jackson County, Indiana, daughter of William G. Lux and Mary Ann (Kelly) Lux.

They were married in Warren County, Illinois on September 2, 1851. They were some of the earliest settlers in Tama County, arriving here in 1852. They settled on a 160 acre farm in Salt Creek Township, which was deeded to B.W. Wilson by the U.S. Government in payment for his service in the Mexican War. They settled in the wooded land near the Iowa River because water and timber were available for building and fuel. Their log cabin was built among the trees where the wolves howled by night and where they obtained food by shooting deer and wild turkeys. The nearest trading center was Iowa City and the trip usually took 3 or 4 days.

They were the parents of nine children: Louis William Wilson was born June 9, 1852 in Iowa County. He married Mattie W. Vest on January 1, 1878 and died October 18, 1934 in Topeka, Kansas; Mary Angelina Wilson was born on March 21, 1854 in Tama County. She married James T. Hall on March 17, 1875 and died on December 29, 1932 in Gibbon, Nebraska; Aden Tobias Wilson was born January 16, 1856 in Tama County. He married Lucy E. Hatch on October 13, 1876 and died February 12, 1906 in Toledo, Iowa; David Alexander Wilson was born November 1, 1857 in Poweshiek County, Iowa. He married Jenny E. Vickery on December 31, 1884 and died April 25, 1949 in Independence, Iowa; Margaret Ella Wilson was born

September 9, 1859 in Tama County. She married Elam W. Boyer on April 28, 1881 and died August 13, 1946 in Marshalltown, Iowa; Abner John Wilson was born on July 8, 1861 in Tama County. He married Edith Wilkinson on January 16, 1886 and died August 12, 1921 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Delia Lucinda Wilson was born December 3, 1866 in Poweshiek County. She married David W. Boyer on August 16, 1887 and died April 9, 1903; Orange Felto Wilson was born January 4, 1869 in Poweshiek County. He married Nellie R. Russell on May 23, 1894 and his date of death is unknown; Edward Bartholomew Wilson was born November 2, 1870. He married Lucia Sanders on September 19, 1894 and died April 4, 1939 in Great Falls, Montana.

In 1862 at the outbreak of the Civil War, B.W. Wilson enlisted in the army again and was assigned to the 28th Volunteer Infantry as Co. B. He participated in the capture of Vicksburg. He was promoted to Colonel of the 28th Regiment of Iowa. He was severely injured in the war and finally discharged as Colonel B.W. Wilson.

They spent their last years in Chelsea. B.W. was mayor of Chelsea in 1895. After the war, he attended many soldiers' reunions often giving speeches. With much pride, he would put on his army blue suit for these meetings. He was a fine soldier and citizen and served faithfully in many positions in the Methodist Church.

Colonel Wilson died on March 8, 1907. Mary Elizabeth died on February 22, 1908. They are buried in Rector Cemetery near Chelsea, Iowa.

by Mary L. Kaloupek

## WILSON, DAVID AND MARY (DICKSON)

F1146

David Wilson was born on December 25, 1745, in Jamestown, South Carolina, son of Robert and Mary (Gorden) Wilson.

Mary Dickson was born in 1746 in Charlestown, South Carolina.

They were married in Williamsburg, South Carolina on December 29, 1766. They were the parents of Robert William Wilson, born November 10, 1770.

David was a First Lieutenant during the American Revolution, serving in Francis Marion's Brigade.

David Wilson died in 1780. After his death, Mary married Samuel Harris of Iredell and Rowan Counties, North Carolina. Her date of death is unknown.

by Mary L. Kaloupek

## WILSON, JAMES

F1147

There are a lot of Wilson families around Traer, but we are not related to any of them. Our roots go back to County Donegal, Ireland where James Wilson and Margaret Alcorn were born. James came to Iowa in 1909. He was a carpenter by trade but preferred the life of a farmer. He worked as a hired man around



James Wilson Family about 1933. Back Row, L. to R.: James A. (son), James (father), and Margaret (Alcorn) Wilson (mother). Front Row, L. to R.: Elizabeth (daughter) and Harold.

Geneseo. In 1917 he and John Moffett farmed as partners south of La Porte City. This lasted until 1920, with John doing the farming while James served from July 1918 to December 1918 in the Army.

1920 was a big year in James's life. He proposed to Margaret Alcorn, who had made her way from Ireland to Chicago, where she worked as a hired live-in household help. Big plans were made! James signed a contract with William Soule to buy the Henning Sievers Estate of 160 acres in Crystal Township (section 10) for \$29,000 (\$181.25 an acre). \$1000.00 was given down and the rest due in ten years at 5 percent interest. On February 23, 1920, the Moffett-Wilson partnership held a farm sale. In April James married Margaret and leased the farm for one year to John Moffett so that the couple could take a year off for a honeymoon back to Ireland.

The next five or six years were busy ones for the couple. Four children were born: James Alcorn in 1921, Harold (1923-1972), Elizabeth (1924-1973) and baby boy William who was born in 1926 and only lived a few short months. The present house on the 160 acre farm was built in the mid 1890's. It is the second house on the farm. At one time there was a house just north of it. In 1937 James Wilson acquired 80 acres in Crystal Township (section 9) known as the McTurk place. James had been already leasing this land for several years as pasture land. This was a bare, hilly 80 with no buildings on it.

With the coming of World War II both James A. and Harold entered the Army leaving their father and twenty year old Elizabeth to carry on the farm operation. At the war's end both sons returned home. Shortly afterward James A. met Doris Keizer (of Hawarden, Iowa), an Iowa State Teachers College coed. James A. and Doris married in 1948 so James and Margaret paid \$900 for a country school house (Crystal #2). This was the local school their children had attended, located  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile to the north. A company was hired to move the school onto the 80 and

James put his carpenter skills to work remodeling it into a cozy home. Doris and James A. moved into the original farm home. Brother Harold farmed with James A. for four years and then left to go into the trucking business, driving a semi between California and the midwest. James A. and Doris farmed for thirty-six years before retiring. To help pay for college expenses Doris secured work at the Farmers Savings Bank in Traer working there many years. Their three children are Linda (Wilson) Bovy, wife of Mike (their children are Melissa, Renee, Brad and Brian). Sharon Wilson married Dennis Pavelka of Traer. They live in Des Moines and have two sons, Jason and Edward. Son Dennis and wife Jean live on the 160 acres.

Margaret Wilson died in 1962. James continued to live alone until his death at age 90. He was known as "Irish Jim" at the American Legion where he was a faithful member for over 50 years. Since coming to America he made five trips back to Ireland to visit friends and relatives.

In 1977 James A. and Doris hired Rodger Altenheim of Traer to remodel and greatly enlarge the original country school house. This enabled their son Dennis and bride Jean Yuska, of Traer, to live in the farm house. Dennis and Jean Wilson are the parents of Trisha and Melinda. Dennis is the third generation to farm the home place.

James A. and Doris think it is quite a novelty to be living in the school house where James A. originally attended country school. Another interesting fact about their acreage is that the 80 acres originally was given by President Franklin Pierce in 1857 to a Pvt. Francis M. Benjeman of Captain Loyall's Company of the Georgia Militia for valor in the military service of his country. He promptly sold it to a man from Cleveland, who sold it etc, etc. until it reached the Wilson family.

by James A. Wilson

## WILSON, ROBERT AND MARY (GORDEN)

F1148

Robert Wilson was born in Ireland in 1710. He immigrated to the U.S. sometime between 1730 and 1740. He was among the first settlers in the Williamsburg district of South Carolina. He married Mary Gorden and they were the parents of five children: William, born in 1740; Roger; James; and David born December 25, 1745. He married a second time and had three children by this marriage: Samuel, John and Jane.

Robert Wilson gave patriotic service in the American Revolution. He died sometime before 1785. (Robert Wilson is an ancestor of Mary Lucinda (Timm) Kaloupek. In tracing her family tree he was traced eight generations back).

by Mary L. Kaloupek



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Surname	Given Name	Born	Died	Cemetery	Location	County	Comments
WILSON	A. J.	1861	1921	Oak Hill	Cedar Rapids	Linn	
WILSON	Addie G.	1851	1927	Linwood	Cedar Rapids	Linn	
WILSON	Adelaide	1872	1917	Mt. Calvary	Cedar Rapids	Linn	
WILSON	Alfreda F.	-	-	Oak Hill	Cedar Rapids	Linn	
WILSON	Alice	1853	11-2-1881	Oak Shade	Marion	Linn	Lot 31
WILSON	Angeline T.	1832	9-18-1914	Oak Shade	Marion	Linn	Lot 31
WILSON	Ann Bliu	1850	5-10-1911	West Prairie	Spring Grove	Linn	on lot with Ann Griffin
WILSON	Annie L.	31y	12-24-1886	Mt. Calvary	Cedar Rapids	Linn	
WILSON	Arthur H.	1828	5-1919	Springville	Springville	Linn	Born Westmoreland co., PA; wife Mary Green 1837 to 1-1 Springville New Era May 22, 1919
WILSON	Bennie	-	1873	Oak Shade	Marion	Linn	Lot 13
WILSON	Chas. O.	1866	1931	Linwood	Cedar Rapids	Linn	
WILSON	Chas. W.	-	-	Linwood	Cedar Rapids	Linn	Co. H., 10 Ind. Cav. Civil War
WILSON	Clara	1848	1931	Oak Shade	Marion	Linn	Lot 72
WILSON	Davis	1865	1907	Linwood	Cedar Rapids	Linn	
WILSON	De Witt C.	1826	6-6-1907	Springville	Springville	Linn	wife Sarah Engle 1828 to 2-11-1883; also on lot Sarah die aged 59
WILSON	Edith A.	2-22-1895	5-29-1919	Springville	Springville	Linn	
WILSON	Effie	1888	1934	Linwood	Cedar Rapids	Linn	
WILSON	Ellen R.	1845	1927	Oak Hill	Cedar Rapids	Linn	wife John Milton Wilson
WILSON	Emily	1823	1-21-1859	Oak Shade	Marion	Linn	Lot 152
WILSON	Emma L.	1849	1918	Center Point	Center Point	Linn	

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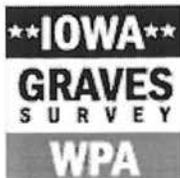
Surname	Given Name	Born	Died	Cemetery	Location	County	Comments
WILSON	Everett R.	1881	1937	Oak Hill	Cedar Rapids	Linn	
WILSON	Frances	1850	1936	Linwood	Cedar Rapids	Linn	
WILSON	Francis	1868	1921	Linwood	Cedar Rapids	Linn	
WILSON	Geo. L.	1835	7-8-1905	Springville	Springville	Linn	Born Westmoreland co, PA.;Block 4; wife Mary C. 1844 Springville New Era 7-12-1905
WILSON	Geo. W.	3-25-1885	9-28-1931	Fairfax	Fairfax	Linn	Lot 105; son of Sarah
WILSON	Geo. W.	1835	1910	Oak Shade	Marion	Linn	Lot 11
WILSON	Geo. W. (Mrs.)	1813	5-12-1901	Oak Shade	Marion	Linn	Lot 11
WILSON	George	1851	1881	Fairfax	Fairfax	Linn	Lot 183
WILSON	Horace	1886	1922	Oak Hill	Cedar Rapids	Linn	
WILSON	Horace Sr.	1851	1922	Oak Hill	Cedar Rapids	Linn	
WILSON	Hut	-	-	Mt. Vernon	Mt. Vernon	Linn	on lot with Emma Jencks Doty
WILSON	I. E.	75y	8-1938	Dunkard	Monroe	Linn	Lot 11
WILSON	Irma	-	8-30-1850	Oak Shade	Marion	Linn	Lot 27
WILSON	J. Arthur	1862	1923	Jordan Grove	Maine tp	Linn	& Sarah S. 1868-1919 both on lot with Thos. J. Kearns
WILSON	J. F.	1880	1931	Cedar Memorial	Cedar Rapids	Linn	
WILSON	James	1846	1886	Fairfax	Fairfax	Linn	Lot 183
WILSON	James B.	1862	1908	Oak Shade	Marion	Linn	Lot 2
WILSON	James P.	1824	3-5-1907	Dunkard	Monroe	Linn	
WILSON	Jesse A.	1868	1935	Cedar Memorial	Cedar Rapids	Linn	
WILSON	John	1829	5-19-1899	Oak Shade	Maine	Linn	Lot 31

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First Name:	<input type="text" value="begins with"/>	<input type="text"/>
County:	<input type="text" value="Linn County - Iowa"/>	<input type="button" value="Submit"/>

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Surname	Given Name	Born	Died	Cemetery	Location	County	Comments
<a href="#">WILSON</a>	Minnie M.	1864	12-6-1881	Oak Shade	Marion	Linn	Lot 25
<a href="#">WILSON</a>	Peter Mackaye	84y	3-6-1935	Walker	Walker	Linn	Lot 32
<a href="#">WILSON</a>	Polly Beam	1821	1908	Oak Shade	Marion	Linn	Lot 2
<a href="#">WILSON</a>	Polly M.	1821	3-28-1908	Oak Shade	Marion	Linn	Lot 2
<a href="#">WILSON</a>	Rhoda A. Meyner	1839	2-15-1905	Oak Shade	Marion	Linn	Lot 25
<a href="#">WILSON</a>	Ross	1876	1930	Mt. Vernon	Mt. Vernon	Linn	
<a href="#">WILSON</a>	Scott W.	-	1932	Linwood	Cedar Rapids	Linn	Civil war vet.
<a href="#">WILSON</a>	Thomas	56y	1872	Rogers Grove	Putnam	Linn	& Sarah 1815 to 3-5-1903 both on lot with Cyrus Living
<a href="#">WILSON</a>	W. E.	1879	1914	Oak Hill	Cedar Rapids	Linn	
<a href="#">WILSON</a>	Wallace E.	1868	5-16-1902	Oak Hill	Cedar Rapids	Linn	
<a href="#">WILSON</a>	William	65y	6-1-1898	La Fayette	La Fayette	Linn	on lot with John W.
<a href="#">WILSON</a>	William sr	1800	9-11-1890	Springville	Springville	Linn	Bk. 4
<a href="#">WILSON</a>	Wm. F.	1843	1920	Linwood	Cedar Rapids	Linn	Civil war veteran
<a href="#">WILSON</a>	Wm. J.	-	1878	Lisbon	Lisbon	Linn	Lot 54; on lot Mary E. Wilson Webb 1857-1924 & John
<a href="#">WILSON</a>	Wm. W.	-	-	Oak Hill	Cedar Rapids	Linn	
<a href="#">WILSON</a>	Zora McCartney	1891	1938	Oak Hill	Cedar Rapids	Linn	

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