

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Seymour Holcott Senator _____
Represented Des Moines County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 17 Aug 1813 Hartford County, Connecticut

2. Marriage (s) date place
(1) Amelia Hawkins 3 Jul 1842 probably Des Moines County, Iowa

(2) Mrs. Mary (Hall) Robinson 2 Jan 1873 Des Moines County, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business President of the Burlington Assurance Company for 17 years

B. Civic responsibilities _____

C. Profession Farmer; insurance business

4. Church membership Congregational

5. Sessions served 4th, 17th General Assemblies 1852, 1878

6. Public Offices

A. Local Justice of the Peace for 29 years; school board secretary for 8 years; clerk of Danville Township

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death 19 Oct. 1884 Danville, Iowa; buried Jagers Cemetery, Danville, Iowa

8. Children By 1st wife - Henry Clay; John H.; by 2nd wife - Flora S. (Mrs. Charles Messenger)

9. Names of parents Jeremiah and Emily (Denning) Seymour

Seymour, Holcott

10. Education _____

11. Degrees _____

12. Other applicable information _____

- Whig, later Republican*
- *He came to Iowa in 1838, arriving at Burlington in July, the day after Iowa became a territory.*
 - *He explored around the area for 6 months and decided to make Danville his future home.*
 - *He entered 320 acres of land and began improving it in 1839, but it was hard work and finally it was wonderfully improved.*
 - *He held several local offices and later went into politics.*
- In later years he was elected President of the Burlington Insurance Company serving 17 years until his death.*

Emerald club occurs next Thursday, October 23. Handsome programs are just issued from THE HAWKEYE job rooms.

Death of an Old Settler.

The Hon. **Wolcott Seymour**, one of the best known citizens of Des Moines county and president of the Burlington Insurance company, died last Sunday evening at his residence at Danville. The deceased was one of the oldest of Des Moines county pioneers, landing in Burlington in July 1838. He was born in Hartford county, Connecticut, August 17, 1813, and has consequently spent the larger part of his life among his present neighbors, who elected him to the legislature in 1852 and again in 1878. He married twice. In 1842 the deceased and Miss Amelia Hawkins were joined in marriage; they had two sons both of whom are residing the vicinity of Danville. His wife died in 1865, and in 1873 he was married to Mary Robinson who survives him. Mr. Seymour was one of the most enterprising men in this part of the country and his loss will be felt by all of his neighbors and acquaintances. His energy and business sagacity became proverbial, and the Burlington Insurance company was developed into its present proportions largely by his advice and support. The funeral will take place from the family residence at two o'clock this afternoon.

—Best assortment of Wedding Cards in the state at THE HAWKEYE office.

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Vertical text on the right margin, including "Wanted" and other fragments.

PORTRAIT AND
BIOGRAPHICAL

ALBUM

—OF—

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Full Page Portraits and Biographical Sketches of Prominent
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OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

CHICAGO:

ACME PUBLISHING COMPANY.

1888.

Martha Barnes, Aug. 9, 1876. She was the daughter of George C. Barnes, and is a daughter of Lovett, Esq. Her birthplace was in Holmesport, Ohio, and she had two children by her first marriage; one died in childhood, the survivor is Dr. C. E. Barnes, of Burlington.

Rev. Mr. Cowles is now in his seventieth year, forty-six of which have been spent in active ministerial work. He is still erect of carriage, with his faculties well preserved, and could, if further required, should be required of him again, actively discharge his duties. He is a gentleman of dignified and pleasing manners, possessing a mind of superior culture and energy, and has, by his ability, energy, and the conscientious discharge of the arduous duties devolving upon him, won the highest respect and confidence of the community with whom he has been called to labor.

GEORGE HOERR, of Burlington, Iowa, has for many years been a resident of this city, and among its oldest business men. He was born in Frankish Crumbach, Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, Sept. 17, 1816, and while a lad learned the trade of a baker from his father, who always followed that occupation. When sixteen years of age he left home, working as a journeyman. In 1837 he returned to his native land to seek his fortune in the West, and after ninety long and dreary days on a sailing-vessel he reached America, located in Baltimore, Md., where he soon found work in the trade. He remained in that city until 1840, when he went to St. Louis, where he worked as a journeyman, but later embarked in business for himself.

In St. Louis, in 1845, Mr. Hoerr wedded Catharine Birck, who was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, April 21, 1821. In 1854 he went to Iowa in company with his brother Philip, but soon returned, and in 1855 they removed to Burlington, Iowa, which has since been their home. Soon after taking up his residence in this city, Mr. Hoerr embarked in business on Jefferson street, and in 1858, in company with his brother Philip, purchased the premises where the business is now carried on. Three years later he sold his interest to his brother, and

engaged in a separate store in the Palmer property, remaining there for eight years, and then purchased the building in which he is now located.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoerr are the parents of six children, four sons and two daughters, the first three having been born in St. Louis. They are: George, William and Caroline; the last three—Fred, Rika and Charles—were born in Burlington. Mr. and Mrs. Hoerr came to this country in limited circumstances, but they have, by hard work and fair dealing, accumulated a comfortable property. They were both reared in the Lutheran faith, though they are not members of any church. Politically, Mr. Hoerr is a Democrat, having supported that party since he has been an American citizen.

HON. WOLCOTT SEYMOUR, deceased, the first son of Jeremiah Seymour and Emily Demming, his wife, was born Aug. 17, 1813, in Hartford County, Conn. His ancestors were from England, being among the first settlers in Connecticut. About 1675 three brothers came to this country, and from these all the Seymours have descended, among whom we may mention the Hon. Horatio Seymour, at one time Governor of New York, and Hon. Thomas H. Seymour; the latter was educated at West Point, held the office of Colonel in the Mexican War, was elected Governor of Connecticut, also Congressman from the Hartford District, and was appointed Minister to Russia. In 1838 Mr. Seymour left the scenes of his youth, gave up the comforts of a pleasant home, and migrated to Iowa, landing in Burlington July 5, the day after it became a Territory. After exploring six months he concluded to make Danville his future home. Beginning life in moderate circumstances, Mr. Seymour entered 320 acres of wild land, which he immediately began improving, but when the land came into market in 1839, it could hardly be called a home. In the course of time, it, with many other farms, became an oasis in the wilderness, and at the present writing is a fine farm with improvements second to none in the country. Mr. Seymour held the office of Justice of the Peace for twenty-nine years, and for eight years the office of Secretary of the School Board. Originally a

Whig, he afterward joined the ranks of the Republican party, and was a supporter of the principles and doctrines which the party recognized in their platform. In 1852 Mr. Seymour was elected to the Legislature as a Representative from Des Moines County; being elected by the Whigs, he was a member of a small minority, the Democracy holding the balance of power. In 1877 our subject was chosen to represent the Republican party as her choice, and Hon. Wolcott Seymour became, for the second time, a member of the House of Representatives, and his former experience, added to his well-known decision, made him a valued member of the Seventeenth General Assembly of the State.

Mr. Seymour was united in marriage, Feb. 3, 1842, with Miss Amelia Harkins, of Wheeling, W. Va., that being her native State. Two sons graced the union: Henry C., husband of Isabella Clingman, who is a resident of Danville Township, and John H., who resides upon and is part owner of the old homestead. The death of Mrs. Amelia Seymour occurred in 1865, and the second marriage of Wolcott Seymour was celebrated Jan. 2, 1873, Mrs. Mary (Hull) Robinson becoming his wife. She was born in England, and in Burlington wedded her first husband, Henry Robinson, who was a soldier in the late war, and died from disease contracted while in the service. One daughter completed their family, Flora S., now the wife of Charles Messenger, train dispatcher for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, of Burlington.

Mr. Seymour was elected President of the Burlington Insurance Company, and served seventeen years, or until his death, Oct. 19, 1884. With other large business interests at hand, aside from the duties pertaining to that office, he found time to attend to all in the most satisfactory manner, and under his direction the Burlington Insurance Company grew and prospered until it stands second today to none in the State of Iowa. As a citizen, Mr. Seymour was one of the most enterprising; as a man of business, one of the most sagacious; as a father, none was kinder, and he was a husband of whom any woman might feel proud. The various public trusts held by him betoken his honesty of character, and when the death of Wolcott Seymour was announced, a deep sorrow came upon the com-

munity in which he resided. We desire to do justice to the memory of this gentleman, who was twice elected to the General Assembly of Iowa, and to so many positions of trust in his township and county. His death occurred upon the Seymour homestead at Danville Center in his seventy-first year. He was the first Clerk of Danville Township, and from his first to his last official act, integrity and honesty of purpose were manifest.



JOHN D. BRIDGES, carpenter and builder, of Mediapolis, Iowa. Throughout his entire life, with the exception of three years in Kansas, Mr. Bridges' home has been in Des Moines County. He was born Feb. 14, 1845, in Yellow Spring Township, and has witnessed the transformation which has changed the raw, uncultivated land into beautiful homes and farms; villages have sprung up, graded schools and colleges have taken the place of the old log school-house, and now Des Moines County ranks among the first in the State.

Mr. Bridges' parents were David and Clarissa (Haight) Bridges, the father a native of Ohio and the mother of New York. David emigrated in 1841 to this county, settling in Yellow Spring Township, where he purchased a claim of forty acres, residing there until his death, which occurred April 15, 1870, in his fifty-seventh year. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a Class-Leader for many years, and a devoted worker for the cause.

On his mother's side Mr. Bridges traces his ancestry back to the early part of the seventeenth century. His mother was Clarissa Bridges, whose maiden name was Haight. Simon and Susanna Haight came from Northumberland County, England, in 1620, settling near the site of Boston. The family remained in the Massachusetts Colony for probably about a century, when they emigrated to the Province of New York. An old record, now in possession of the family, written by Aaron Haight in 1748, traces their genealogy from Simon down,



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1850 United States Federal Census

Name: **Wolcott Semore**
[*Wolcott Seymour*]

Age: 37

Estimated birth year: abt 1813

Birth Place: Connecticut

Gender: Male

Home in 1850 (City,County,State): Danville, Des Moines, Iowa

Family Number: 939

Household Members:	Name	Age
	Wolcott Semore	37
	Amelia Semore	31
	Henry Clay	6



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Source Citation: Year: 1850; Census Place: Danville, Des Moines, Iowa; Roll: M 132; Page: 433A; Image: 224.

Source Information:



Ancestry.com. 1850 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2000. Images re by FamilySearch.

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Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925

Name: **Wolcott Seymour**

Census Date: 1852

Residence State: Iowa

Residence County: Des Moines

Locality: Danville

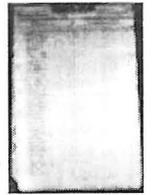
Roll: IA_119

Line: 1

Neighbors: [View others on page](#)

Household Name

Age

Members: [Wolcott Seymour](#)
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Source Information:

Ancestry.com. *Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2007.

Original data: Microfilm of Iowa State Censuses, 1856, 1885, 1895, 1905, 1915, 1925 and various special censuses from 1836-1897 obtained from the State Historical Society of Iowa Heritage Quest.

Description:

This database contains Iowa state censuses for the following years: 1856, 1885, 1895, 1905, and 1925. It also includes some head of household censuses and other special censuses 1836-1897. Information available for an individual will vary according to the census year; 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...](#)



You searched for **Walcott Seymour** in **Iowa**

1860 United States Federal Census

Name:	Walcott Seymour	
Age in 1860:	46	
Birth Year:	abt 1814	
Birthplace:	Connecticut	
Home in 1860:	Danville, Des Moines, Iowa	
Gender:	Male	
Post Office:	Danville	
Value of real estate:	View image	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	Walcott Seymour	46
	Emelia Seymour	41
	Henry Seymour	16
	John Seymour	8
	William Anderson	19

Source Citation: Year: 1860; Census Place: Danville, Des Moines, Iowa; Roll M653_319; Page: 209; Image: 465; Family History Library Film: 803319.

Source Information:
 Ancestry.com. 1860 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.

Original data: 1860 U.S. census, population schedule. NARA microfilm publication M653, 1,438 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.

Description:
 This database is an index to individuals enumerated in the 1860 United States Federal Census, the Eighth Census of the United States. Census takers recorded many details including each person's name, age as of the census day, sex, color, birthplace, occupation of males over age fifteen, and more. No relationships were shown between members of a household. Additionally, the names of those listed on the population schedule are linked to actual images of the 1860 Federal Census. [Learn more...](#)

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Walcott Seymour

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Birth: unknown
Death: Oct. 19, 1884

Age 71y 2m 2da

Burial:
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Des Moines County
Iowa, USA

Created by: "No Reins"
Record added: Feb 12, 2008
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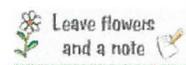


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