

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Belknap, William North Senator \_\_\_\_\_

Represented Lee County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 22. Sept 1829 Newburg, New York

2. Marriage (s) date place  
① Craig Perry 23 Mar 1854 Lee County, Iowa

② Tomlinson 1873

3. Significant events for example:

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

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

C. Profession \_\_\_\_\_

4. Church membership \_\_\_\_\_

5. Sessions served 7<sup>th</sup> General Assembly 1858

6. Public Offices

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

B. State Appointed Collector of the Internal Revenue for 5<sup>th</sup> District Iowa;  
appointed secretary of War by President Polk's cabinet

C. National Secretary of War in President A. S. Grant's cabinet  
1869-1876

7. Death 13 Oct 1890 Washington, D.C.; buried Arlington Cemetery, D.C.

8. Children By 2<sup>nd</sup> wife - Alice; Hugh

9. Names of parents William G. Belknap

10. Education He attended the High and an academy in Newburg,  
New York -

11. Degrees He attended Princeton College in 1846 and graduated in  
1848. He studied law in Georgetown, Washington, D.C.

12. Other applicable information Republican

- After college he settled at Keokuk, Iowa in July 1851 and
- began practicing law. He formed a partnership with  
Honorable R. P. Lowe.
- He was able to bring his mother and sister to Keokuk in 1852.
- Military service - Civil War - appointed Major of the 15<sup>th</sup> Iowa  
Volunteer Regiment, appointed Brigadier General by Abraham  
Lincoln.





*William W. Bethnap.*



GEORGE W. BELKNAP

1840-1841

621  
H25  
11

A Narrative History  
*of*  
The People of Iowa

*with*  
SPECIAL TREATMENT OF THEIR CHIEF ENTERPRISES IN  
EDUCATION, RELIGION, VALOR, INDUSTRY,  
BUSINESS, ETC.

*by*  
EDGAR RUBEY HARLAN, LL. B., A. M.  
*Curator of the  
Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa*

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IOWA BIOGRAPHY  
(Gratuitously Published)

*Selected and Prepared by Special Staff of Writers  
of The American Historical Society, Inc.*

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Volume I

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ILLUSTRATED

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THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Inc.  
CHICAGO AND NEW YORK  
1931

LIBRARY



WILLIAM WORTH BELKNAP

Secretary of War, 1869-1876.

From an oil portrait by John C. Merine, in the  
Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa.

The president was seen for but a few minutes and remained seated in his car served only by a few curious trainmen, it not being generally known he was to pass through the city. At 7:30 the train pulled out for Washington. On the same train was Senator Quay, who had been in Pittsburg all day in conference with republican local leaders. The president so far has been gone eight days on the trip and in that time has traveled a distance of over 3,000 miles. During these eight days he has made forty speeches.

### NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS.

#### Nauvoo, Ill.

Robert Aitchison, our pleasant and obliging postmaster, is back from a visit with Peoria friends.

L. A. Bratz and Anton Fischer returned from St. Louis Saturday evening.

Mrs. Chas. Fanning, of Keokuk, visited with relatives here during the week.

Miss Jennie Luddington, one of Hamilton's pleasant young ladies, is the guest of Miss Cora Argast.

Chas. Welter, of the Nauvoo Roller Mills, was in Keokuk on business Saturday.

A. Z. Moore, the wide-awake monument man of Montrose, is getting a considerable number of orders here.

Miss Bertha Lienhard, of Chicago, is visiting at J. H. Linehard's.

The grand jury found true bills against Bob Masterson and Ed. Link for burglarizing the postoffice here.

J. M. Gross is visiting Hannibal friends this week. Rumor has it that Mike is soon to wed one of Hannibal's fair daughters. Mike is one of our most enterprising young men and we wish him well.

Jos. A. Klein and Lee Mitchell, of the GATE CITY force, circulated among our people last week and as a natural result the Nauvoo list of readers is largely increased.

We are still waiting for reliable railroad news. In case the road is built and starts from Niota, we will have railroad facilities inside of three months.

E. Baxter's Sons received a car of fine northern potatoes Saturday.

The Threshers held their annual

## LAST OF LIFE.

### Another of Keokuk's Illustrious Citizens Joins the Silent Majority.

Gen. W. W. Belknap Found Dead in His Room at Washington—Inflammation of the Heart was the Direct Cause—Who he Was.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—Ex-Secretary of War W. W. Belknap was found dead this morning in a room adjoining his office. It is thought his death was due to paralysis. It is believed his death occurred between 1 o'clock Saturday night and 9 o'clock Sunday morning. From John W. Cameron, the general's business associate, it is learned that for some time it has been the general's habit to meet at the home of a friend near by for a social game of cards. Last Saturday night he was there as usual, returning to his rooms in the Evans building at about midnight, and it is presumed he retired immediately. About 8:30 this morning Cameron came to the building and not obtaining admittance to the general's room after repeated knocking the door was forced open. General Belknap was found upon the bed partly uncovered. His left arm was bent rigidly and his left hand tightly clenched as though death had come while he was in a convulsion. His wife and son were both summoned. An autopsy was held later at which the fact was disclosed that the immediate cause of his death was inflammation of the inner lining of the heart.

General William W. Belknap was a son of W. G. Belknap, United States army, and was born in Hudson, N. Y., in 1831. He graduated at Princeton college in 1848, and adopting the profession of law, set

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The Threshers held their annual ball at the city hall Monday evening.

Large numbers of cattle are being bought in Iowa by cattle dealers east of here and brought across our ferry.

Jos. F. Ochsner is hauling material for a blacksmith shop to be erected next to his implement warehouse.

Joseph Nelson, the live lumber dealer, has been doing a heavy business during the past thirty days. A large raft is expected to arrive today.

M. S. Walther, one of our live young business men, reports having sold fifty-seven stoves since August 15.

A. C. Mills and Chas. Muleh leave for Chicago Thursday evening.

#### Croton, Ia.

A wheat looks splendid. Quite a large acreage has been sown. Farmers are now plowing for corn.

Mrs. J. Lefever has gone to Indiana to spend the winter.

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

in Ottumwa last week.

Rev. Bowdston immersed five boys.

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General William W. Belknap was a son of W. G. Belknap, United States army, and was born in Hudson, N. Y., in 1831. He graduated at Princeton college in 1848, and adopting the profession of law, settled at Keokuk, Iowa. He was elected to the Iowa legislature in 1849, and at the beginning of the civil war entered the military service as major of volunteers. After the war he was appointed collector of internal revenue, which position he held until he entered President Grant's cabinet in 1869, as secretary of war. After his resignation as secretary of war in 1876, he resumed law practice.

As soon as the death of General Belknap was known at the war department Acting Secretary Grant ordered the flag on the building be put at half mast in honor of the ex-secretary, and gave directions the building be draped in black for the customary period.

Mrs. Belknap has decided the general shall be buried at Arlington cemetery and the funeral will probably take place Thursday.

#### THE WEATHER.

Indications for To-day.

Illinois.—Fair in southern portion; showers in northern portion; colder.

THE  
HISTORY  
OF  
LEE COUNTY,  
IOWA,

CONTAINING

*A History of the County, its Cities, Towns, &c.,*

A Biographical Directory of Citizens, War Record of its Volunteers in the late Rebellion, General and Local Statistics, Portraits of Early Settlers and Prominent Men, History of the Northwest, History of Iowa, Map of Lee County, Constitution of the United States, Miscellaneous Matters, &c.

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ILLUSTRATED.

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CHICAGO:  
WESTERN HISTORICAL COMPANY.  
1879.

**BALBACK, A.**, proprietor of Franklin House, between 10th and 11th sts.; born in Wurtemberg, Ger., in 1838; came to Keokuk in 1872; started present business in 1873. Married Miss Annie Vale in 1873; she was born in this county in 1854; they have one child—William, born in 1876. Members of the Lutheran Church; Mr. B. is a member of the Druid's Society; in politics, Liberal.

Baldwin, Theo. F., lumber.

Bales, Charles.

Ballinger, M. A., attorney.

Ballinger, William, attorney.

Baucroft, W., physician.

Banks, Henry, painter.

Barnisconi, Lewis, saloon.

Barney, Lewis T., Supt. Barney's Vineyard.

Barr, W. J., clerk.

Barrett, Jacob.

Barrett, Wilson, prop. Barrett House.

**BARTLETT, H. D.**, grocer. 71 Johnson st., Keokuk; was born in St. Louis in 1824. On the 25th of December, 1846, he married Miss Sarah Ann Hayden, a native of Bartholomew Co., Ind.; have three children living—Charlotte, now Mrs. George Hagney, of Hancock Co., Ill.; Martha Ellen, now Mrs. H. C. Lemming, of this city, and Fannie Gertrude. Mr. Bartlett was several years Marshal of this city; has been a resident of Iowa since 1833; he is an energetic business man, whose public spirit is ready at all times to advance the interests of any deserving enterprise, public or private.

Bauer, George, grocer.

Bawden, Benjamin, marble works.

Beck, John, stock-dealer.

Beddenstadt, J. A., gardener.

Beede, S. E., commercial traveler.

**BELKNAP, WILLIAM W., GEN.**, is the son of Gen. William G. Belknap, of the United States Army, who distinguished himself in the war of 1812, in the Florida war, and at Resaca and Buena Vista in the war with Mexico, and died in the service in 1851, in Texas. He was born at Newburg, New York, in 1829, and, after attending the high school and academy there, and pursuing his studies in Florida, where his father was stationed,

he entered Princeton College in 1846, and graduated in 1848. After studying law in Georgetown, D. C., and being admitted to the bar in Washington City, he went, in July, 1851, to Keokuk and commenced the practice of the law, shortly afterward forming a partnership with Hon. R. P. Lowe (who was soon after elected) District Judge, and later Governor and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State), and brought his mother and two sisters there in 1852. He was a member of the Legislature from Lee County, in 1857, as a representative of the Democratic party; but, being a strong Douglas Democrat, and not uniting with the members of that party who favored what was known as the Lecompton Constitution of Kansas, which was an important and exciting question in the politics of the party, he joined the Republican party. He was appointed Major of the 15th Iowa Vols., by Gov. Kirkwood, in 1861, of which regiment Gen. Hugh T. Reid was Colonel, and participated in that capacity in the battle of Shiloh, where he was wounded and had his horse shot under him. He remained in the army until the close of the war, rising gradually through the grades of Lieutenant Colonel and Colonel; was appointed Brigadier General of Volunteers, by President Lincoln, in 1864, on the recommendation of his Commanders, Gens. Blair and Sherman, and was brevetted Major General in 1865 for gallant and meritorious services during the war. Having, as Brigadier General of Volunteers commanded the 3d Brigade, 4th Division, 17th Army Corps (Blair's) of the army of the Tennessee (McPherson's); he was in numerous battles; among them, Shiloh, Corinth, the several battles near Atlanta, and the battle of Bentonville, N. C. He was engaged in the siege of Corinth, Vicksburg and of Atlanta, and commanded his Brigade (composed of the 11th, 13th, 15th and 16th Iowa Regiments), under Sherman in his march from Atlanta to the sea; thence to Goldsboro', Raleigh and Washington. He was repeatedly mentioned for coolness and courage, and in the battle of Atlanta, July 22, 1864, he took pris-

oner Col. Lampley, 45th Alabama, by pulling him over the works by his coat collar. At the close of the war, he was appointed Collector of Internal Revenue for the 1st District of Iowa. On the accession of Gen. Grant to the Presidency, he was offered the choice of either one of three important public positions in another State, and one at Washington, which he declined, and remained Collector of the 1st District (comprising the counties of Lee, Des Moines, Louisa, Washington, Jefferson, Van Buren, Henry, and Davis), until October, 1869, when he was appointed Secretary of War by President Grant, and his many friends point to the records of that office for the proof of his faithful labors for a term of over six years. Prior to this appointment, he was selected as the orator for the Army of the Tennessee at the re-union of all the Western armies, at Crosby's Opera House, Chicago, December, 1868, and delivered the address at the great Re-union of Iowa soldiers, at Des Moines, in September, 1870. After his resignation of the office of Secretary of War, articles of impeachment were presented against him, and, after a protracted and thorough trial, he was acquitted by the Senate. Gen. Belknap married, in 1854, Miss LeRoy, of Keokuk, the sister of Mrs. Hugh T. Reid, and their son, Hugh Reid Belknap, is now a student at Phillips Academy, Andover, Mass. His present wife, whom he married in 1873, formerly Miss Tomlinson, of Harrodsburg, Ky., is the daughter of the late Dr. John Tomlinson, an able and famous physician of that locality. They have one child, a daughter, Alice Belknap. Since leaving the War Department Gen. Belknap has been engaged in legal practice; his residence is Keokuk, but his business before the Departments at Washington, a large part of which results from his employment as attorney by several Railroad Corporations, requires him to be absent from home during a portion of each year.

**Bennett, James A.**, produce.

**BENSON, C. L.**, carpenter, contractor and builder; shop, corner 5th and Johnson streets. Was born in Stowe, Vermont, where he remained until the

breaking-out of the war, when he enlisted in a Vermont regiment and served until July, 1865; he came to Keokuk in 1866; married Miss Ella E. Ackley, in this city; have one child—Eldon L. Mr. Benson acts with the Republican party.

**Benton, Jacob**, watchman.

**Bepler, Jacob**, molder.

**BERG, MARTIN**, saloon-keeper, Fifth street, between Main and Blondeau; was born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1827; came to America in 1852, and to Keokuk in 1853, and has since been engaged in the hotel and saloon business. Married Miss Phebe Hiser in 1863; she was born in Ohio in 1843; they have five children—Lizzie, Albert, John, Amelia and Martin, Jr. Mr. B. is a member of the Druids and Turner Societies; the family belong to the German Presbyterian Church; Liberal.

**Bermingham, Thomas**, grocer.

**Berry, Thomas**, teamster.

**Berryhill, John, Sr.**, carpenter.

**Beverenger, Charles**, brickmason.

**Billings, J. B.** dry goods.

**Biloff, C.**, laborer.

**Bindel, Adam**, traveling salesman.

**Birge, C. P.**, wholesale grocer.

**Bisbee, John M.**, wholesale grocer.

**Bishop, J. W.**, Supt. Iowa Coal Co.

**Blackburn, D. W.**, conductor C., B. & Q. R. R.

**Bland, Austin**, bill-poster.

**Bland, George**, blacksmith.

**Blom, Nicholas**, lye and soap factory.

**Blom, Wm.**, wholesale grocer.

**BLOOD, H. B.**, passenger agent of the St. Louis, Keokuk & Northwestern Railway Co. Col. Blood was born in Charlton, Worcester Co., Mass. During the late rebellion, he entered the U. S. service as Assistant Q. M. of volunteers with the Army of the Potomac; in the winter of 1864, he was appointed Chief Quartermaster of the 25th Army Corps; mustered out in November, 1865. He then engaged in the coal mining business in Pennsylvania; continued in the mining business until 1875, two years of the time in Clay Co., Ind.; the Colonel was connected with the construction of the Philadelphia & Baltimore Central Ry. in Pennsylvania; he also superintended the construction of the

Department of Iowa  
Grand Army of the Republic

Veteran's name Belknap, William W. Orth

War Civil

Residence

Battles, etc.

Occupation

Nearest relatives

Date birth 1829

Place Newburg, N. Y.

Oct 12

Date death 4th Qr. 1890

Place

Father

Nativity

Cause

Place burial

Mother

Nativity

War record

Major 15 Iowa Inf.  
Rank Company Regiment State Organization  
Age 32. Res. Keokuk, nat. New York

Wife

Children

Enlisted Nov 7, 1861. Appointed Major Nov 7, 1861.

Must Dec 7, 1861. Wounded slightly in shoulder Ap 6, 1862, Shiloh, Tenn. Prom Lieut Col. Ag 1, 1862; Colonel Apr 22, 1863; Brig. General Aug 17, 1864; Erevet Major General of Volunteers Mar 13, 1865

Sources

Discharged

Date Place

Register Iowa Soldiers

33110

Department of Iowa  
Grand Army of the Republic

Veteran's name Belknap, Wm. W.

Record Membership and Dues Paid

Offices of honor in G. A. R.

Post name	Post No.	Place	Date Joined		
Torrance	2 (98)	Keokuk			
Belknap	515	Keokuk named in this			
veteran's honor					
Year	Date Paid	Amount	Year	Date Paid	Amount

Member-at-Large

Year Date Paid Amount

Suspended

Died



1860 United States Federal Census

Name: **William W Belknap**  
 Age in 1860: 30  
 Birth Year: abt 1830  
 Birthplace: New York  
 Home in 1860: Keokuk Ward 1, Lee, Iowa  
 Gender: Male  
 Post Office: Keokuk  
 Value of real estate:  
 Household Members:

Name	Age
William W Belknap	30
Cora L Belknap	24
Anna M Belknap	30
William G Belknap	5
Margaret Malva	21
Catharine Newlay	14

Name	Age
William W Belknap	30
Cora L Belknap	24
Anna M Belknap	30
William G Belknap	5
Margaret Malva	21
Catharine Newlay	14

Source Citation: Year: 1860; Census Place: Keokuk Ward 1, Lee, Iowa; Roll: M653\_230; Page: 27; Images: 297.

Source Information:

Ancestry.com, 1860 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., 2004. Original data: United States of America, Bureau of the Census, Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1984. 3653, 1458 rolls.

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, and more. Relationships were shown between members of a household. Additionally, the names of those listed on the population schedule are linked to actual records of the 1860 Federal Census. Learn more...

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### Iowa Marriages, 1851-1900

Name: WILLIAM W. BELKNAP  
 Spouse: CORA ~~SEROY~~ Leroy  
 Marriage Date: 23 Mar 1854  
 County: Lee  
 State: IA

**Source Information:**

Dodd, Jordan. Liahona Research, comp., *Iowa Marriages, 1851-1900* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., 2000. On data. See extended description for original data sources listed by county.

**Description:**

This database contains marriage information from various counties in the U.S. state of Iowa from 1851-1900. Information that may be found in this database for each individual includes their name, spouse's name, marriage date, and marriage county. Learn more...

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