

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Walm, Elijah Dick Senator _____

Represented Linn County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 29 Dec 1814 Winchester, Frederick County, Virginia

2. Marriage (s) date place

Mary Jane Adams 12 Sept 1835 New-Lexington, Ohio

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business _____

B. Civic responsibilities _____

C. Profession Farmer; merchant

4. Church membership Methodist Episcopal

5. Sessions served 7th General Assembly 1858

6. Public Offices

A. Local Justice of the Peace; trustee; assessor; collector; school board member

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death 14 Jul 1896 Mount Vernon, Iowa; buried Mount Vernon Cemetery, Mount Vernon, Iowa

8. Children Alonzo T.; Malissa (Mrs. George H. Haylett); Anne Eliza (Mrs. Henry D. Jullerton); Cinderella (Mrs. Robert L. Wilson); Josephine R. (Mrs. Albert C. Powers); Sarah A. (Mrs. William T. Knight); Minnie (Mrs. J. C. Smith); George E.; Charles (died Aug 1877); Edith

9. Names of parents Samuel and Margaret (Dick) Walling Mrs. John J. Cummins; his father in death

10. Education _____

11. Degrees _____

12. Other applicable information

- Whig, later Republican*
- His father died when Elijah was age 15. He had to help care for the younger siblings until his mother remarried.
 - He worked as a clerk in a retail store in Highland County, Ohio and then a wholesale store for 3 years in Cincinnati, Ohio.
 - He then bought a stock of goods, a boat and traversed a business in general merchandise at various points along the Ohio River.
 - He did this for one year and then formed a partnership with C. D. Empson. They operated a store located at Lexington, Ohio until 1840.
 - He then disposed of his merchandise, purchased an Ohio farm which he operated for a while, then sold it to seek a home beyond the Mississippi River.
 - He settled in Linn County, Iowa in Bertram Township in 1841.
 - He later moved to Mount Vernon, Iowa, built a store, put in a stock of goods and opened the first store in Mount Vernon which he continued until 1860 when he sold the store and resumed farming.
 - His wife, Mary J., died 20 Oct 1899, born 23 Apr 1819, lived in Mount Vernon County, Mount Vernon, Iowa.

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

Source	Non Applicable	Applicable	Information obtained
- History of Linn County, Iowa 1911, Vol. II, p. 619-621			
- Biographical Dictionary for Volume 1875, p. 640-641			
- Portrait and Biographical Album of Linn County, Iowa 1887, 619-621			
- History of Linn County, 1883, p. 7-9			
- Linn County Gran Records, WPA, p. 329			
- ancestry.com (accessed 30 Jan 2009)			
- Obituary - <u>The Mount Vernon Sentinel</u> , Mount Vernon, Iowa Fri. July 17, 1896, p. 3, col. 3			

NN, office and
 pharmacy.
 ER,
 Main Street, Mt.
 130 to W. A. W.,
 Y,
 va over
 OLFE,
 S. Office at
 Block, corner
 ce East College
 L. V. S.,
 veician. Spec-
 ialistry. Office
 holds regular
 evenings on or
 hers welcome.
 W. M.
 HIAS.
 DGE No. 98.
 on the first
 evenings of
 rdial welcome
 L. L. KINNER,
 C. C.
 SE.
 ily. The pat-
 ed. Free Bus-
 ss, Proprietor
 e
 rpets
 \$1.30 up
 69c up
 75c up
 99c up
 84c up
 45c up
 47c up
 27c up
 23c up
 st—
 rpets
 p and
 All
 stched
 Co

the term.
 —Mr. W. H. Fort has rented of A. J. Power his tenant house on Jefferson St., and moved his family here. We are glad to welcome them to a home in our midst.
 —We are sorry to learn that John L. Ballard of Linn township had the misfortune to loose a valuable thorough bred colt last week. It killed itself by running a stake through its breast.
 —Bert Chubbuck went down to Montezuma last Friday and will read law during the summer in a leading office there. Incidentally he will give pointers and indulge in the national game.
 —The agent of the American Bible Society will be here next Sabbath and Services will be held in both churches on the intrests of this cause, and a Collection will be taken in each congregation.
 —Mrs. Elsie H. Wallace of Marion, writes us under date of the 13th inst. that her mother Mrs. William Hayzlett is in very good health, but her eyesight is failing and her lameness makes her more helpless.
 The rain yesterday morning was most refreshing and a timely relief to thirsty and craving nature. It came after one of the most trying nights, during which it was almost impossible to sleep, experienced here for a long time.
 —The funeral of Esquire Wain will be held to-morrow, Friday at the house at 2 o'clock. Mrs. Hayzlett, Mrs. Fullerton, Mrs. Cummings, Mrs. Wilson, Geo. Wain and wife and A. L. Wain are here and Mrs. Powers is expected to-day.
 —D. J. Simmons, Mr. Dorman, and Mrs. Wm. Arrid all of Blairstown, were guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Rundell from Thursday until Monday, Mr. Simmons is a brother-in-law of Mrs. Rundall. The party came across the country in a carriage.
 —Henry E. Haeseler is attending a three days session at the State Pharmacy association, being held at Clear Lake. This is one of the strongest professional organizations in the state, the members deriving much benefit and pleasure at its regular meetings.
 —W. C. Mullen Chairman of the Linn County Democratic Central Committee has resigned, because he cannot support the Chicago platform and ticket and it is said that other members of this Committee will do likewise. The bolt is wide spread and general throughout the Country.
 —Mrs. Effie McClelland Handley died at her home near Tama last Friday, the remains being brought to Lisbon, funeral services occurring their Monday morning. The deceased was a former resident of this county, well known and with a host of friends that mourn her untimely death.
 —Mrs. J. S. Buser entertained at a six o'clock tea Friday evening, in honor of her niece, Miss Olive Buser of Warren Ill. A number of out of town guests were present, which included the following ladies: Mesdames Spafford and Bockataller of Clinton, Misses Lillian Papelka, Ruby Byers, Nellie Cobden and Laury Deal of Cedar Rapids.
 —Editor W. R. Boyd of the Republican is receiving the most spontaneous congratulations and best wishes of his editorial brethren, over his marriage last Thursday at Mechanicsville, to Miss Harrietta F. James. One of the brightest writers and genial, of the district, he has but to make an opportunity to receive the encomiums of his fellow workers,

and shine on men and their works. But once finished, even a good life has no renewal in this world, except in the tender memories and pure influences it leaves behind. It will end here, but it will begin in another sphere, under new conditions, more beautiful than the setting sun; nobler than any earthly symbol that poet or painter can suggest, is the end of a just kind and useful life.
 Hon. Elijah Dick Wain was born in Frederick County Va. Dec. 29th 1814. His father Samuel Wain was a native of the same county and was a decendant of Nicholas Wain, a member of the Society of Friends and one of a number who settled in Philadelphia not long after William Penn. When he was fifteen years of age his father died and in 1830 his mother and family moved to Pickaway county Ohio making the journey overland with a horse team. Two years later his mother married a farmer in that county and continued to reside there until her death, which occurred Sept. 12th 1868.
 Elijah, being the eldest of his parents children, at the death of his father had the care of his brothers and sisters until the second marriage of his mother. For several years he was employed as a clerk until by the strictest economy he succeeded in accumulating a sufficient sum of money to purchase a small stock of goods and located at Lexington Ohio. In 1840 he disposed of his mercantile interests in Ohio and moved to Iowa making the journey overland. He first located in Bertram township and purchased a claim consisting of one-half of section 12 in that township. Here the family made themselves as comfortable as possible. The nearest market was Dubuque, the nearest mill at Otter Creek and the nearest post office Marion.
 Mr. Wain entered his land from the government as soon as it came into market, secured his title and remained upon it until 1848. He then moved to Mt. Vernon, erected a store building, put in a stock of goods and opened the first store in this town. He kept a general stock of everything required in those primitive days and also for a time kept hotel in this same store building, he continued this occupation until 1860 when he sold out and resumed farming on his farm adjoining town, where he continued to reside until a few years ago when he sold his farm to Mr. Whittemore and built a cottage near the public school building where he has since lived.
 Mr. Wain was married Sept. 18th 1835 to Miss Mary J. Adams who still survives him. She was a native of Highland county Ohio, born April 23rd 1819, and was one of a household of ten children. The record of Mr. Wain's family is as follows: Alouzo lives in Fayette county Iowa, Melissa is the wife of Hon. Geo. W. Hayzlett of La Porte Iowa, Annie Eliza is the wife of H. D. Fullerton and lives in Wright Co. Iowa, Cinderella is the wife of Robert L. Wilson of Springfield Dakota, Josephene R. married A. C. Powers of Peoria Ill, Sarah A. is the wife of W. T. Wright who lives in Kansas, George lives in Wright county, Charles died in August 1877, Minnie is the wife of T. C. Foley of Wright county and Edith married Miles J. Cummings and lives in Henry county Ills. Mr. Wain has been a faithful member of the Methodist church since 1850, and has contributed liberally to its support. He was one of the first benefactors of Cornell College contributing first toward the purchase of the present site, and he has been a liberal contributor ever since. He was the first Secretary at the first business meeting and held that position many years until he felt that it would be better to turn the whole over to younger hands.

Men's Lace and Congress, worth \$3.00, \$2.50
JULY PRICE \$1.6
 Ladies' Fine Kid Button and Oxfords, worth \$2.25, \$2.00
JULY PRICE \$1.6
 Always the lowest
 Up-to-date
HORTON & I
 N. B.—Ladies' Oxfords 75c and on bargain counter

A BUSY WORLD
 Yes it's a busy world, but too busy to stop when a thing can be found. Our mer suits are worth your sideration and we invite to look them over.
 Reliable fabrics made up by first manufacturers at these prices m worth your while to look at them.

HATS, CAPS AND STRAW
 Latest Styles
Boy's Clothing
... A Special
NOW IS THE
 to buy at bottom prices
 We invite everybody to call and examine. Thanking you for past patronage, we await c same. Respectfully,
CHARLES BRACI



4484
Kramer

S. G. Matson Viola Linn Co. Iowa - 10-27/92

PORTRAIT AND
BIOGRAPHICAL
ALBUM

— OF — 733a

LINN COUNTY, IOWA, PL. 2

CONTAINING
Full Page Portraits and Biographical Sketches of Prominent
and Representative Citizens of the County,

TOGETHER WITH
PORTRAITS AND BIOGRAPHIES OF ALL THE GOVERNORS OF IOWA, AND
OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

Printed and Published by
CHICAGO:
CHAPMAN BROTHERS,
1887.

Mary Laramore. The parents of our subject are both deceased, their lives having terminated in the State and county of their birth.

Mr. W. S. Rickard remained in Pennsylvania some eighteen months after his marriage. At that time the young and growing State of Iowa was receiving much attention from the Eastern people, and after much careful thought as to whether it would be an aid to his prosperity, Mr. Rickard determined to sever the old ties and establish a home in the Hawkeye State. After this determination was settled upon he was not long in carrying it into execution. After passing beyond the Mississippi and the borders of Iowa, his course led him into the county of Linn and township of Rapids. He found himself in a wild and comparatively unsettled territory, but his courage was great and he at once selected an unbroken tract of eighty acres which he immediately commenced to improve and cultivate. His land originally cost him \$1.25 per acre, some of which he sold for \$300 per acre. His good wife seconded all his efforts toward improvements, and bravely stood by him. Their neighbors were few and far between, but it was not very long until others, who were as enterprising as himself, began to settle around him, and they soon found themselves not far from the limits of a thriving little village. Here he established a good home which he enjoyed for a number of years. He subsequently, however, disposed of the larger portion of his acreage and now lives in retirement, enjoying the fruits of his early labors.

Mr. and Mrs. Rickard have reared a fine family of six children, whose record is as follows: Wesley C. was united in wedlock with Miss Lucy Gillett; she is now deceased, leaving her husband and three interesting children to mourn her loss. This son is now in the West. Anna, a daughter, resides at home; William C. was married to Miss Ella Hanna; they have two children and reside in the city of Cedar Rapids; Rebecca, Robert and Sylvia are remaining at home with their father.

Mr. Rickard with his family are members in good standing of the First Presbyterian Church, as was his wife during her lifetime. In politics he is a staunch Republican, whose principles he believes in honestly and sincerely, and he casts his vote with

this party whenever opportunity occurs. From the time of his entrance into the community he became interested in its welfare, and has fulfilled the duties of a good citizen, lending a helping hand at every opportunity in aiding it to become one of the first in the Hawkeye State. He has been an honest and upright citizen, and as such enjoys the respect and esteem of his fellow-citizens, and it is with pleasure that we give his portrait in connection with this brief sketch of his life.



HON. ELIJAH DICK WALN, a pioneer of Franklin Township, at present residing at Mt. Vernon, and whose portrait we give in connection with this sketch, was born in Frederick County, Va., Dec. 29, 1814. His father, Samuel Waln, was a native of the same county as his son, and was born Nov. 19, 1788. His father, Joseph Waln, grandfather of Elijah, was born in Pennsylvania and was one of the descendants of Nicholas Waln, a member of the Society of Friends and one of a number who settled in Philadelphia not long after William Penn. The grandfather owned the farm at the cross-roads of the Pack-horse and Winchester Roads, which was a large and valuable estate. His house was a large frame building, and he kept tavern there for many years, and died there in 1814. The maiden name of the grandmother of our subject was Mary Bonard and her native home was Virginia. Her father, Henry Bonard, was a native of Germany, and died in Virginia at the venerable age of one hundred and ten years, the date of his demise being 1824. He enlisted in the German army when sixteen years of age and was captured by the French, and being kept in prison by them, almost lost his life from the filth and vermin of the place in which he was confined. To escape death he enlisted in the French army to fight against the English, and was captured by them, and being thrown into an English prison, concluded the best thing he could do would be to join the English army, which he did, and was sent to America during the Revolutionary War, to assist in suppressing the rebellious colonists. While fighting in this country, upon the part of the English Government,

he was again captured, and this time he united with the colonists, not for the same reason he had united with the French and English, but because he learned that they were fighting for freedom, and his heart was full of sympathy for them. It was the first he had ever heard of a Republic, and when the principles of a free Government were explained to him he readily made up his mind that he would do his part toward maintaining it, and, enlisting with the colonists, he fought bravely and well until the close of the war, and they had obtained their independence. He was then sixty years of age, and forty-four years of his life had been passed as a soldier. He had heard no tidings from his relatives during all his term of service and could find no trace of them. After the war he was married and reared two daughters, one of whom was our subject's grandmother.

The father of our subject was one of nine children; was reared on his father's farm, and on reaching man's estate was married to Margaret Dick. She was born Sept. 12, 1789, in Frederick County, Va. Samuel Wain had learned the trade of a miller in early life, and after his marriage rented a farm, which he conducted in connection with running a flouring-mill in Frederick County (afterward Morgan) for several years. He then rented a farm on the cape, Cape Horn River, in Morgan County, W. Va., and there followed his chosen calling until his death, which took place May 25, 1829. Of his union with Miss Dick six children were born, three sons and three daughters—Elijah Dick, William, Betty Ann, Juliett A., Joseph and Sarah J.

The subject of this biographical notice was fifteen years of age when his father died. In 1830, our subject's mother with her family removed to Pickaway County, Ohio, making the journey overland with a horse team. Two years later the mother married a farmer in that county, and continued to reside there until her death, which occurred Sept. 12, 1868.

Elijah Wain, being the eldest of his parents' children, at the death of his father had the care of his brothers and sisters until the second marriage of his mother. He was employed as a clerk in a retail store in Highland County, and a wholesale store for three years, in Cincinnati, Ohio. Having, by

the strictest economy, succeeded in accumulating a sum of money, he purchased a stock of goods and a boat, and transacted a business in general merchandise at various points along the Ohio River. He operated in this manner for one year and then formed a partnership with C. D. Empson, under the firm name of Empson & Wain, and they opened a store where he carried on business in a similar manner. They located at Lexington, Ohio, and continued in business until 1840. Mr. Wain then disposed of his interest in merchandise, purchased a farm in Ohio, which he operated for a while, then sold out and determined to seek a home beyond the Mississippi. He set out for Iowa, with six horses and two wagons loaded with a few necessary household goods. They made the journey overland, and camped and cooked by the wayside. He purchased a claim consisting of one-half of section 12 of what is now Bertram Township, paying therefor \$1,200. Upon it was a log cabin and there were about fifty acres broken and fenced. The family made themselves as comfortable as possible in their humble dwelling, and their father immediately commenced his farming operations. The nearest market was at Dubuque, sixty-five miles distant, the nearest mill at Otter Creek, twenty-four miles distant, the bolt being run by hand power; the buhrs were boulders from the prairie. After a time they went to the Wapsipinicon, afterward to Maquoketa, forty miles distant, and the embryo village of Marion, twelve miles distant, was the nearest post-office, the lowest rate of postage from Ohio being twenty-five cents per letter.

Mr. Wain entered his land from the Government as soon as it came into market, secured his title and remained upon it until 1848. He then removed to what is the present site of Mt. Vernon, erected a store building, put in a stock of goods, and opened the first store at that place. He kept a general stock of everything required in those primitive days, and continued thus occupied until 1860, when he sold out and resumed farming, and was remarkably successful.

Mr. W. was married, Sept. 12, 1835, to Miss Mary J. Adams. She was a native of Highland County, Ohio, born April 23, 1819, and was the daughter of Joseph Adams, a native of Virginia, and was one of

a household of ten children. The record of Mr. and Mrs. Wahn's family is as follows: Alonzo lives in Fayette County, Iowa; Melissa is the wife of Hon. George W. Hayzlett, of Laporte, Black Hawk County; Anne Eliza became the wife of Henry D. Fullerton, and they live in Clarion, Wright Co., Iowa; Cinderella is the wife of Robert L. Wilson, of Springfield, Dak.; Josephine R. married Albert C. Powers, of Peoria, Ill.; Sarah A. is the wife of William T. Wright, and is residing in Kansas; George lives in Wright County, Iowa; Charles was fatally injured at Cedar Rapids while boarding a railroad train, in August 1877, he was aged twenty years and six months; Minnie is the wife of T. C. Foley, of Franklin Township; Edith married Miles I. Cumming, and lives in Henry County, Ill.

Politically, in earlier days, Mr. Wahn was an old-line Whig, but upon the merging of that party into Republican principles, he cordially adopted the views of the latter organization, which he has since uniformly advocated. He was elected Justice of the Peace soon after his arrival in the State, and has held the offices of Trustee, Assessor and Collector. He was elected to the State Legislature in 1858, and served in the first assembly of that kind that met at Des Moines after the removal of the capital from Iowa City.

Mr. Wahn has been a faithful member of the Methodist Church since 1850, but contributed liberally to its support even before that time. He has served as Class-Leader since his connection with the church, besides being Steward, and is at present, as he has been for many years, a Trustee. He was one of the first to contribute toward buying the present site of Cornell College. He has been a liberal contributor, giving thousands of dollars toward improvements since then. He was the first Secretary at the first business meeting and held that position until he felt that it would be better to turn the work over to younger hands.

An event occurred in 1885 which marked a notable era in the history of the family; this was none other than the golden wedding of Mr. Wahn and his faithful partner, and the festivities of the occasion were participated in by a large number of descendants. They started on a tour, their journey extending through some of the Western States and the

Territory of Dakota. They started on April 27, and returned September 18, during this time visiting six different States and traveling over 4,000 miles. Mr. Wahn wrote a series of interesting letters in connection with this journey, which were published in the *Mt. Vernon Hawkeye*, and read with great interest by all concerned. He possesses considerable literary talent, and was formerly a contributor to different papers, his articles embracing both poetry and prose. He has contributed his share toward the advancement of his community and county, substantially, morally and intellectually, and in the estimation of his friends and fellow-citizens receives most cordially the plaudit "Well done, good and faithful servant."



SYLVANUS DIX, an honored pioneer of Linn County and a resident of Jackson Township, is a native of Wayne County, Pa., born July 8, 1826. His father, John Dix, was a native of the same State, and a farmer by occupation. He died in his native county when the subject of our sketch was a little lad of six years. After the death of his father, Sylvanus Dix went to live with his brother-in-law, and four years later went to Wyandot County, Ohio, and there grew to manhood. Thence he removed to Champaign County, where he remained until after his marriage. He secured a small farm of fifty acres, upon which he lived five years, then sold it and emigrated to the Hawkeye State. In the meantime he had secured unto himself a life partner, and was accompanied hither by his wife and one child. Their outfit consisted of three horses and a wagon, and they drove their stock. They were four weeks on the road, and after their tedious journey located on land in Jackson Township, which he had previously entered. Upon this there was a log house, and fifty acres had been improved. The family moved into the house and made themselves as comfortable as possible.

Mr. Dix put in his first crop on his new purchase in the spring of 1856. At that time the nearest market was Dubuque or Muscatine, sixty miles away, and it required four days to make the trip. No railroad had been built and transportation was

490

THE
 HISTORY
 OF
LINN COUNTY,
 Co.
IOWA.

pt. 2

CONTAINING

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

A Biographical Directory of its 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 Linn County, Constitution of the United States, Miscellaneous Matters, &c.

411a

ILLUSTRATED.

Historical Department of Iowa.

WESTERN HISTORICAL COMPANY

490

ilda R., Jan. 16, 1841; Henry E., Feb. 10, 1843; William M., April 2, 1847; Wilnot H., May 7, 1849.

St. Clair, Wm. A., far.; P. O. Mt. Vernon.

Strauffer, I. K., clerk, Lisbon.

Steinborger, G., far., Sec. 22; P. O. Mt. Vernon.

Stahl, Daniel, plasterer, Lisbon.

Stevens, Charles A., far., S. 15; P. O. Mt. Vernon.

son of John + Catharine
STEWART, ROBERT B., farmer, Sec. 9; P. O. Mt. Vernon; born in Dearborn Co., Ind., in 1832; came to this county in 1838; owns eighty acres of land. Has held the office of School Director, and served as Secretary of the Board. He enlisted in the 24th I. V. L., and served three years and four months; was at the battles of Port Gibson, Champion Hills, Fisher's Hill, Cedar Creek, and others, and was wounded twice. He married Miss Nellie Ellison in 1868; she was born in Connecticut; has four children—William, John R., Catharine and Mattie.

Stewart, J. W., far., Sec. 17; P. O. Mt. Vernon.

son of
STEWART, JOHN, farmer, Sec. 17; P. O. Mt. Vernon; born in Adams Co., Ohio, in 1807, and came to this State in September, 1838, and located where he now resides; he owns 320 acres of land. Has held the office of Justice of the Peace. He married Miss Catharine Boyd in 1829; she was born in Pennsylvania, and died in 1870. He afterward married Elizabeth Smith in 1872; she was born in Massachusetts; has nine children by first marriage—Robert B., Sarah, Mary A., Margaret, Eliza, Agnes, Mirilah, William John and James; lost two—Mary A. and Catharine.

b. 1821 in Ill.
Stewart, R. B., far.; P. O. Mt. Vernon.

Stuckslager, H., banker, Lisbon.

Strauck, W., far., S. 31; P. O. Mt. Vernon.

Sullivan, P., far., S. 6; P. O. Mt. Vernon.

THOMAS, E. J., Franklin Nursery, Sec. 14; P. O. Mt. Vernon.

Thompson, G., far., S. 5; P. O. Mt. Vernon.

Thomas, Ira B., Franklin Nursery, Sec. 14; P. O. Mt. Vernon.

Thomas, Jerry, farmer, Sec. 20; P. O. Mt. Pleasant.

THOMAS, JOHN C., grain dealer, Lisbon; born in Northampton Co.,

Penn., in 1844; came to this county in 1877. He married Miss Sarah E. Lockard, in 1863; she was born in Northampton Co., Penn.; has one child—Asher K.; lost two.

Torrance, Hugh, farmer, Sec. 27; P. O. Mt. Vernon.

Torrance, James, farmer, Sec. 15; P. O. Mt. Vernon.

Torrance, W. S., farmer, Sec. 27; P. O. Mt. Vernon.

TURNER, JOS., stock dealer, Lisbon; born in Montgomery Co., Penn., in 1833; came to this State, in 1855; he enlisted in the 24th Iowa Infantry, in the late war, and served four years. Married Miss Emma Clark, in 1873; she was born in Pennsylvania; has one child, named Emma.

ULM, JOSIAH, retired, Lisbon.

VANSANT, W. B., retired, Mt. Vernon.

Vansant, Wm., carpenter; Mt. Vernon.

WALN, A. T., painter, Mt. Vernon.

WALN, E. D., farmer, Mt. Vernon; born in Virginia, Dec. 29, 1814, where he resided until 1830, when he emigrated to Ohio, where he lived eleven years, coming to this county in 1841. He has held offices of Assessor, Justice of the Peace, and has represented the county in the State Legislature. He married Miss Mary J. Adams, in 1837; she was born in Highland Co., Ohio; has living nine children—Alonzo T., Melissa J., Ann Eliza, Cinderella M., Josephine R., Sarah A., George E., Minnie S., Edith; lost two—Mary and Charles.

Wah, S. J., far., S. 16; P. O. Mt. Vernon.

Walters B. F., drayman; Lisbon.

Warner, David, laborer; Lisbon.

Webber, B. R., stone mason; Lisbon.

Wenger, A. L., stock buyer; Lisbon.

West, Isaac N., farmer, Sec. 20; P. O. Mt. Vernon.

West, T. T., far., S. 20; P. O. Mt. Vernon.

WEST, WESLEY, farmer, Sec. 10; P. O. Mt. Vernon; born in Kentucky in 1808; at an early age, he emigrated, with his parents, to Ohio, where he remained until his removal to this county in 1859. He owns about 600 acres of land. He married Miss Mollie McKay in 1839; she was born

THE UNITED STATES
BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY
AND
PORTRAIT GALLERY
OF
EMINENT AND SELF-MADE MEN.

IOWA VOLUME.

CHICAGO AND NEW YORK:
AMERICAN BIOGRAPHICAL PUBLISHING COMPANY.
1878.

tion when no one else could be found to risk the chances of compensation, and it is strongly suspected that he fell considerably short of the contract price from the subscription list which was turned over to him for collection.

Mr. Webster is an example of what industry and unflinching perseverance may accomplish. Though yet a young man, he has achieved a success in business rarely reached in a lifetime of laborious effort. Coming to Muscatine as the employé of the only marble establishment in the place, he soon became its proprietor, and has so extended and enlarged its business that it now rivals those of metropolitan cities.

On the 25th of May, 1865, he married Miss Eliza Jane Galbraith, a native of Pennsylvania, of Scotch

ancestry, who in childhood removed with her parents to Ohio, where her early years were passed. They have three very promising daughters, namely, Nola, Alice, Jessie Bell and Inez, all of whom are being carefully educated for useful and honorable stations in life.

As a husband and father, Mr. Webster is kind and indulgent, taking pleasure in ornamenting and beautifying his pleasant home, situated on one of the choicest sites in the picturesque city of Muscatine, commanding an extensive view of the great river and of the country on both sides of it for many miles north and south. Nor is it too much to say that his house is one of the most delightful to be found throughout the length and breadth of the great valley of the Mississippi.

ELIJAH D. WALN,

MOUNT VERNON.

THE first general mercantile trader in Mount Vernon was Elijah Dick Waln, who took up land near the present site of the city in the autumn of 1841. At that time this part of Linn county was a wild, unbroken country, with few cabins of any kind in sight, and quite as many red men as white; now his present farm is in the corporation, with twelve hundred neighbors around him. No vestiges of savage life remain, but in their place are the most impressive indices of civilized, christianized society, and an institution for the highest literary culture.

Mr. Waln is a native of Virginia, and was born in Winchester, Frederic county, on the 29th of December, 1814. His father was Samuel Waln, a farmer and miller, and his mother was Margaret Dick. One of his great-grandfathers, John Bonard, a native of Hesse, has a singular history. At the age of seventeen he was drafted into the army of Germany, was captured by the French and enlisted in their army in order to get out of prison; served in the French army until captured by the English, in whose army he enlisted to again obtain his liberty. When the revolution broke out he was sent to this country as a "red-coat," and while fighting against the colonies met a brother German, who, in the Teutonic tongue, enlightened him in regard to our struggle for liberty. He immediately forsook the British army and aided the Yankees in gaining their independence. After

seventeen years of age he heard no news from his relatives in Hesse, excepting that they had left the old world. At the close of the revolution he settled in Frederic county, Virginia, and died there in 1824, aged one hundred and ten years.

Elijah D. was the eldest child, who lived to mature years in a family of nine children. At the age of fifteen years he lost his father, and the widowed mother and children moved to Pickaway county, near Circleville, Ohio, where he spent three seasons on a farm. When about eighteen he obtained employment in a store at New Lexington, Highland county; remained there one year, and then spent five years as a clerk in a wholesale dry-goods house in Cincinnati, at the end of which time he returned to New Lexington and embarked in mercantile trade for himself, continuing it until 1847, when he immigrated to Iowa. After spending a few weeks at Iowa City he bought a squatter's claim, and in October of that year settled near the spot where his present home is found. There being but few families in the township he concluded to adopt the occupation of a farmer for a few years and wait for mercantile opportunities to present themselves. In May, 1849, he opened the first general variety store, and the second store of any kind, in Mount Vernon. It stood on the southwest corner of Main and Jefferson streets, opposite the brick store built in 1856, which he now owns and which is occupied by Mr. E. T. Gough.

Mr. Waln... since then... ing at times... He was one... terprise proje... founding of O... perous institu... first prime m... Elijah D. Wal... last named Musca... village of Mo... for the startin... Waln. He has... given thousand... ings and endo... of trustees for... much time as... Mr. Waln wa... county to the... several offices... is now a mem...

ONE of the... a pioneer... the first man... Gillett, a nativ... of this world... 1809, and altho... year, he is quit... a farmer. In... Jersey, and wo... who raised fru... market. After... lett came to th... the carpenter's... Dubuque, Gale... the country, an... then in Wisco... hundred acres... east of where... then but two on... country was as... make it. Deer... abundant, and... Mr. Gillett... years, until he...

Mr. Wahn retired from mercantile life in 1860, and since then has attended to his farm, besides operating at times in the insurance business.

He was one of the first movers in the literary enterprise projected about 1850 and resulting in the founding of Cornell College, one of the most prosperous institutions of learning in the state. The first prime movers were Rev. George B. Bowman, Elijah D. Wahn, Jesse Holman and A. I. Willits, the last named man being the person who laid out the village of Mount Vernon. The first money raised for the starting of this institution was paid by Mr. Wahn. He has always been its warm friend, and has given thousands of dollars toward its grounds, buildings and endowment. He was secretary of its board of trustees for ten or twelve years, cheerfully giving much time as well as much money.

Mr. Wahn was one of the representatives from Linn county to the general assembly in 1858, and has held several offices in the municipality of the place. He is now a member of the school board, and is an ar-

dent worker in educational matters. In politics, he is a republican, with whig antecedents.

His church connection is with the Methodist Episcopal. He has been a class leader and is now president of the official board.

On the 10th of September, 1836, he was joined in wedlock with Miss Mary Jane Adams, of New Lexington, Ohio. They have nine children living and have lost three; two died in infancy, and one son, Charles Adams, in his twenty-first year. He was accidentally killed while getting on the cars at Cedar Rapids on the 12th of August, 1877. Alonzo T., the eldest child, has a family and lives in Mount Vernon; Melissa J. is the wife of G. W. Hayzett, sheriff of Black Hawk county; Cinderella M., of Lucas R. Wilson, of Edwood, Clinton county; Ann Eliza, of Henry D. Fullerton, of Wright county; Josephine R., of Albert C. Powers, of Peoria, Illinois; Sarah E., of William T. Wright, of Harvey county, Kansas, and George E., Minnie S. and Edith are single and live at home.

JOHN W. GILLETT,

ATLANTIC.

ONE of the earliest settlers in northeastern Iowa, a pioneer in what is now Clayton county, and the first man to turn a furrow there, was John Wooley Gillett, a native of Maryland. He first saw the light of this world in Worcester county, on the 9th of July, 1809, and although he is approaching his seventieth year, he is quite active. His father, John Gillett, was a farmer. In 1830 John W. went to Camden, New Jersey, and worked two or three years for a gardener who raised fruit and vegetables for the Philadelphia market. After spending a year in Virginia Mr. Gillett came to the Mississippi river, worked awhile at the carpenter's trade (which he had picked up) at Dubuque, Galena, and other points in that part of the country, and in 1836 located in Clayton county, then in Wisconsin territory. He settled on three hundred acres of land one and a half miles northeast of where Garnavillo now stands. There were then but two or three families in the county, and the country was as wild as nature, undisturbed, could make it. Deer, elk, bears and wild turkeys were abundant, and now and then a few bison were seen.

Mr. Gillett cultivated his farm for nearly forty years, until he saw Clayton county everywhere thickly

populated. He was deputy sheriff one term, and assessor and supervisor several years in succession. He has always been very robust, and a great driver of business until quite recently.

In March, 1876, having disposed of his Clayton county property, Mr. Gillett removed to Cass county, settling in Atlantic, and purchasing a farm of one hundred and sixty acres four miles southwest of the city. He is a good farmer and has the best of crops. In 1877 he raised seven hundred bushels of spring wheat on twenty-six acres.

Mr. Gillett has a second wife, his first being Miss Emma Castle, of Garnavillo, Iowa; married in 1852. She had eleven children, and died in February, 1875. Six of her children survive her. In September, 1876, Miss Lizzie Goff, also of Garnavillo, became his wife. She has one child.

At an early day in Clayton county Mr. Gillett and a dozen other men tracked some bears into their cave in a ledge of rocks, where they had taken up their winter quarters. These brave men debated what should be done, for some time, each one deciding that he was too large to get into the crevice. Finally they procured four or five gallons of whisky, drank



Welcome to RootsWeb.com



DISCOVER M

Home	Searches	Family Trees	Mailing Lists	Message Boards	Web Sites	Passwords	H
------	----------	--------------	---------------	----------------	-----------	-----------	---

ancestry.com
Try and find a better price.
 Our DNA Y33 test is now **only \$79.**
[Find out more](#)

Boleyrevised2002

Entries: 3741 **Updated:** Sun Aug 3 13:46:23 2003

Contact: Gene Boley GenBoley@charter.net

[Index](#) | [Descendancy](#) | [Register](#) | [Pedigree](#) | [Ahnentafel](#) | [Download GEDCOM](#) | [Add Post-em](#)

- *ID:* I2138
- *Name:* Elijah Dick WALN
- *Sex:* M
- *Birth:* 29 DEC 1814 in Frederick County, Virginia
- *Death:* 14 JUL 1896
- *Reference Number:* 2138

Father: [Samuel WALN](#) b: 19 NOV 1788 in Harper's Ferry

Mother: [Margaret DICK](#) b: 1789

Marriage 1 [Mary Jane ADAMS](#) b: 23 APR 1819 in Highland County, Ohio

- *Married:* 10 SEP 1836 in New Lexington, Ohio

Children

1. [Alonzo T. WALN](#) b: 11 MAR 1838
2. [Melissa Jane WALN](#) b: 15 APR 1840
3. [Ann Eliza WALN](#) b: 18 DEC 1841
4. [Cindarella Margaret WALN](#) b: 16 MAR 1843 in Mt. Vernon, Iowa
5. [Josephine R. WALN](#) b: 7 MAY 1847
6. [Sarah E. WALN](#) b: 6 JUL 1849
7. [George Elbridge WALN](#) b: 19 NOV 1853
8. [Charles Adams WALN](#) b: 28 MAR 1856
9. [Minnie Stella WALN](#) b: 12 NOV 1859
10. [Edith WALN](#) b: 17 AUG 1862

[Index](#) | [Descendancy](#) | [Register](#) | [Pedigree](#) | [Ahnentafel](#) | [Download GEDCOM](#) | [Add Post-em](#)

25% OFF FAMILY TREE MAKER 2009

**This year, their past
is the present.**

Connects with
Ancestry.com and
your family perfectly.
Bring everyone closer
together this year.

Get 25% off
[Family Tree Maker 2009](#)

Free shipping for a limited time