

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Watts, Thomas Senator \_\_\_\_\_

Represented Clinton County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 7 Nov 1816 Peachman, Caledonia County, Vermont

2. Marriage (s) date place \_\_\_\_\_

Emeline Hunter 8 Jan 1844 Deep Creek Township,  
Clinton County, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business He was the local surveyor for over 30 years

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

C. Profession Surveyor; farmer; raised livestock

4. Church membership Congregational

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

6. Public Offices

A. Local Clinton County supervisor for 4 years; township supervisor for 2 terms

B. State \_\_\_\_\_

C. National \_\_\_\_\_

7. Death 3 Dec 1894 near Goose Lake, Iowa; buried Deep Creek Valley Cemetery,

8. Children Elija (predeceased his father in death); Isaac; Thomas; Jane (Jennie);  
Mary (predeceased her father in death); Emma; Freeman; Lambert (predeceased his father  
in death); Robert (predeceased his father in death); infant unnamed (predeceased his father in death)

9. Names of parents Thomas and Jane (Bailey) Watts  
Step-mother - Mrs. Larned (sister of his  
first wife Jane Bailey)

Clinton  
County,  
Iowa

## 10. Education

## 11. Degrees

## 12. Other applicable information

- Republican*
- He came to Clinton County Iowa in 1838, where he settled in Deep Creek Valley near Goose Lake, Iowa. This is the same property where he died.
  - His wife, Emeline, died 15 Dec 1869 Deep Creek Township, Clinton County, Iowa
  - When he was young he studied surveying and at age 19 started his career
  - He worked first in Peoria, Illinois entered some land and built a house
  - Later he moved to Clinton County in 1838



... meets  
... to elect officers.  
... lodge, I. O. O. F., elects  
... ht.

... the K. P. of DeWitt  
... Ball Dec. 26.

... lodge No. 567 I. O. O. F.  
... Thursday evening Dec.  
... members are requested to be  
... L. H. BOWMAN, N. G.  
... D. KOONS, R. S.  
... INCOLN LODGE.

... lodge, No. 139, I. O. O. F.,  
... session last night, elected  
... officers:

- H. Hunting.
- A. Maltbv.
- N. Monaghan.
- l Rumble.
- dson Hyde.

... BARTON CIRCLE.  
... on Circle, L. of G. A. R.,  
... arnoon elected the follow-

- Geo. B. Lea.
- s. Henry Rumble.
- W. H. Hunting.
- s. Geo. Brenizer.
- rs. A. M. Dayton,
- Clara Brown.
- rs. G. J. Shaffer.

... ER MOON LODGE.  
... n K. D. lodge, I. O. O. F.,  
... ers Tuesday night as fol-

- s. Mary Knight.
- s. Hattie E. Kinch.
- . Lelah Chamberlain.
- . Sadie McDuff.
- . Maggie Champlin.

... and his estimable wife  
... it'ed. The staff meets  
... ll.

... Arrangements  
... made by Burke & Neasey,  
... meat market firm at  
... street, to handle the

... by burial at Swedish cemetery.

Monday a telegram from Beverly, Ohio, to Capt. William Nickel, brought him the news of the death of Samuel Nickel, his father. There are many here who will remember him, as he was here visiting with his relatives last fall. At the time of his death he was in his 85th year and had been a resident of Beverly for 55 years. His four children—a daughter and three sons—all live in Ohio except William.

**A PIONEER GONE.**

Thomas Watts, one of the oldest residents of the county, died Monday night at his home in Deep Creek valley near Goose Lake. He was one of the pioneers of territorial times, having come to Clinton county in 1838, when he settled upon the property where he died. He was born in Caledonia county, Vermont, Nov. 7, 1816, and has passed over half a century of his 78 years of life as a resident of Clinton county. He was a representative to the seventh general assembly, served as a supervisor, and filled other county offices. In 1844 he was married to Miss Emeline Hunter, and nine children were born to them, six of whom are living: Isaac, Thomas, Mrs. Andrew Howat, Mrs. Edward Hill, Emma and Freemout. His has been a useful and successful life and his death is deeply deplored by the entire community.

**For Rent.**

Desirable rooms on first or second floor, with or without board. Fur nace heat etc., etc., 322 Sixth Ave.

**CITY COURTS.**

J. J. Kennedy took a change of venue from Justice Fink to Justice Brenizer who placed his bonds at \$800, which were given.

Davis, Gibbons and McNeil will be assigned in police

ing.  
Some two weeks stroke of paralysis ness, from which sufficiently to retu days ago he suffere which proved fa twenty-four hours had been placed on orous physical ma indomitable will, which knew not f encounter any con able to contend wi

The only son, W ever faithful wife with him during wire that they wil Q at 5:15 this morn will be taken to the south part of t arrangements for announced, it ye here whether the Oakland or occu where relatives ha

Mr. Joyce had some time, called fires which dest property he was looking after these over-exerted him had been feeble bringing on the

His had been a, b ly striving to acqu earnestly looking quired, in person, would have been a dinary men and m nently successful, the wealthiest north west, and pe no estimate of hi possible to approxi

At the time of u ident of the First

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

THE  
BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD

OF  
CLINTON COUNTY,

IOWA.

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ILLUSTRATED.

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*The people that take no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors will never achieve anything worthy to be remembered with pride by remote generations.*"—MACAULAY.

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CHICAGO:  
THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING COMPANY.  
1901

WILSON  
TERMINAL  
CITY

sistent and faithful member of the Methodist church, and his life has ever been in harmony with his professions. As a citizen he was true to every trust reposed in him, and capably filled several local offices.

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HON. THOMAS WATTS.

Only those lives are worthy of record that have been potential factors in the public progress in promoting the general welfare or advancing the educational or moral interests of the community. Mr. Watts was ever faithful to his duties of citizenship and took a very active and influential part in public affairs. He was also prominently identified with the growth and development of the county, have located here in 1838.

A native of Vermont, Mr. Watts was born in Peacham, Caledonia county, November 7, 1816, and is a son of Thomas Watts, who was born in New Hampshire, of Scotch-Irish ancestry. His paternal grandfather, Moses Watts, was a native of Scotland, and during the religious wars of that country went to Ireland, and later came to America, locating in Londonderry, Rockingham county, New Hampshire, at the same time the famous Greely and Casey families settled there. There he married Ruth Highland, also a native of Scotland, and they made their home on a farm near Londonderry until the father of our subject was a lad of ten years, when they removed to Caledonia county, Vermont. The grandparents both died there at an advanced age.

On reaching man's estate, Thomas Watts, the father of our subject, was united in marriage with Miss Jane Bailey, who was a native of the Green Mountain state, and a representative of a good old Puritan family.

Of the ten children born of this union, our subject was the fourth in order of birth. The mother died in her native county in 1832, when about forty-five years of age, and the father subsequently married Mrs. Samson, nee Bailey, a sister of his first wife. Unto them were born four children. Coming west in 1861, the father located near Princeton, Bureau county, Illinois, where he continued to make his home until called to his final rest in 1876, at the age of eighty years.

Being naturally a bright boy and possessing a mathematical turn of mind, our subject early acquired a good education, and by constant reading and close application in later years, he became a well-informed man. When quite young he studied surveying, and at the age of nineteen years started out in life for himself. Believing that the west offered more advantages to an ambitious young man than the older states of the east, he came to Iowa at that time, by way of Detroit and Chicago. He first located, however, near Peoria, Illinois, where he took up a government claim, and afterward entered the land, which he at once began to improve and cultivate, first erecting thereon a house.

Having no family and hoping still further to benefit his financial condition, Mr. Watts came to Clinton county, Iowa, April 15, 1838, and took up his residence in Deep Creek township. Several years later he disposed of his real estate in Illinois, and invested in this county. On his arrival here there were only six men residing in Deep Creek township. He squatted upon one hundred and sixty acres of government land which he entered when it came into market and which continued to be his home throughout life. He surveyed the principal roads which now cross the county, and the road running from Bloomfield to Lyons was laid

out by him, it being changed but little from the original survey. He was familiar with all the boundary lines throughout the county, and was very closely identified with its early development. In his farming operations Mr. Watts was eminently successful, and besides his fine farm in Deep Creek township, he and his son owned four hundred acres of land in Clay county, Iowa, which they improved and converted into good stock farms, which since his death have been disposed of. He also carried on stock-raising quite extensively in this county for many years, but during the latter part of his life lived retired, enjoying the fruits of former toil.

On the 8th of January, 1844, in Deep Creek township, Mr. Watts was united in marriage with Miss Emeline Hunter, who was born in Cortland county, New York, June 9, 1817. Her parents, Robert and Eliza (Jones) Hunter, were natives of the same state, and of New England ancestry. Her grandfather was an officer in the Revolutionary war. When about twenty-six years of age she accompanied the family on their removal to this county. Her parents made their home in Deep Creek township throughout the remainder of their lives, the father being engaged in agricultural pursuits. He died about 1860, and his wife a few years previous.

Mrs. Watts, who was an active and consistent member of the Congregational church, died December 15, 1869, and her death was deeply mourned, not only by her immediate family, but by many friends. She was a loving wife, a kind mother, a generous neighbor, and a true and earnest Christian woman. She was the mother of ten children, six of whom are still living, namely: Isaac, a farmer of Marshall county, Iowa, now deceased; Thomas, who mar-

ried Martha Wells, and is also engaged in farming in that county; Jennie, wife of Andrew Howatt, a practicing attorney of Salt Lake; May, wife of Edward Hull, of Clay county, Iowa; Emma, wife of William Gilmore, of Clay county; and Fremont, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. Those of the family now deceased are Eliza, Lambert, Robert, Isaac, and one who died in infancy unnamed.

Mr. Watts departed this life on the 4th of December, 1894, and was laid to rest in the Deep Creek Valley cemetery. He, too, was a member of the Congregational church, and was a supporter of the Republican party. As one of the most popular and influential citizens of his community, he was elected to several public positions of honor and trust, being a member of the general assembly during the session of 1858-9, which was the first Republican legislature of the state. He was elected to that office by a large majority, and was a member of the committee on constitutional amendment and on elections. He was one of the first to serve as county supervisor in this county, which office he filled for four years, and also acted as local surveyor for over thirty years. For two terms he was township supervisor, and held all the other local offices in the township where he made his home. As a citizen of the community in which he so long lived and was so active, Mr. Watts was highly respected, enjoyed the confidence of his neighbors, and was regarded as a man of excellent business judgment.

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#### JOHN COOK.

Classed among the self-made men and highly esteemed citizens of Brookfield township is John Cook, who was born in Lan-

# Individual Record

FamilySearch™ Ancestral File v4.19

**Thomas WATTS (AFN: 19KD-WRG)**

Sex: M

[Pedigree](#)[Family](#)

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**Event(s)****Birth:** 7 Nov 1816

Peacham, Caledonia Co., Vt

**Death:** 4 Dec 1894**Burial:**

Deep Crk Val Cem, Clinton Co., Ia

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**Parents**

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**Marriage(s)****Spouse:** [Emeline HUNTER \(AFN: 19KD-WSN\)](#)[Family](#)**Marriage:** 8 Jan 1844

Deep Crk Twp, Clinton Co., Ia

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**Submitter(s)**[Details](#)

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**About Ancestral File**

Ancestral File is a collection of genealogical information taken from Pedigree Charts and Family Group Records submitted to the Family History Department since 1978. The information has not been verified against any official records. Since the information in Ancestral File is contributed, it is the responsibility of those who use the file to verify its accuracy.

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**Please Note**

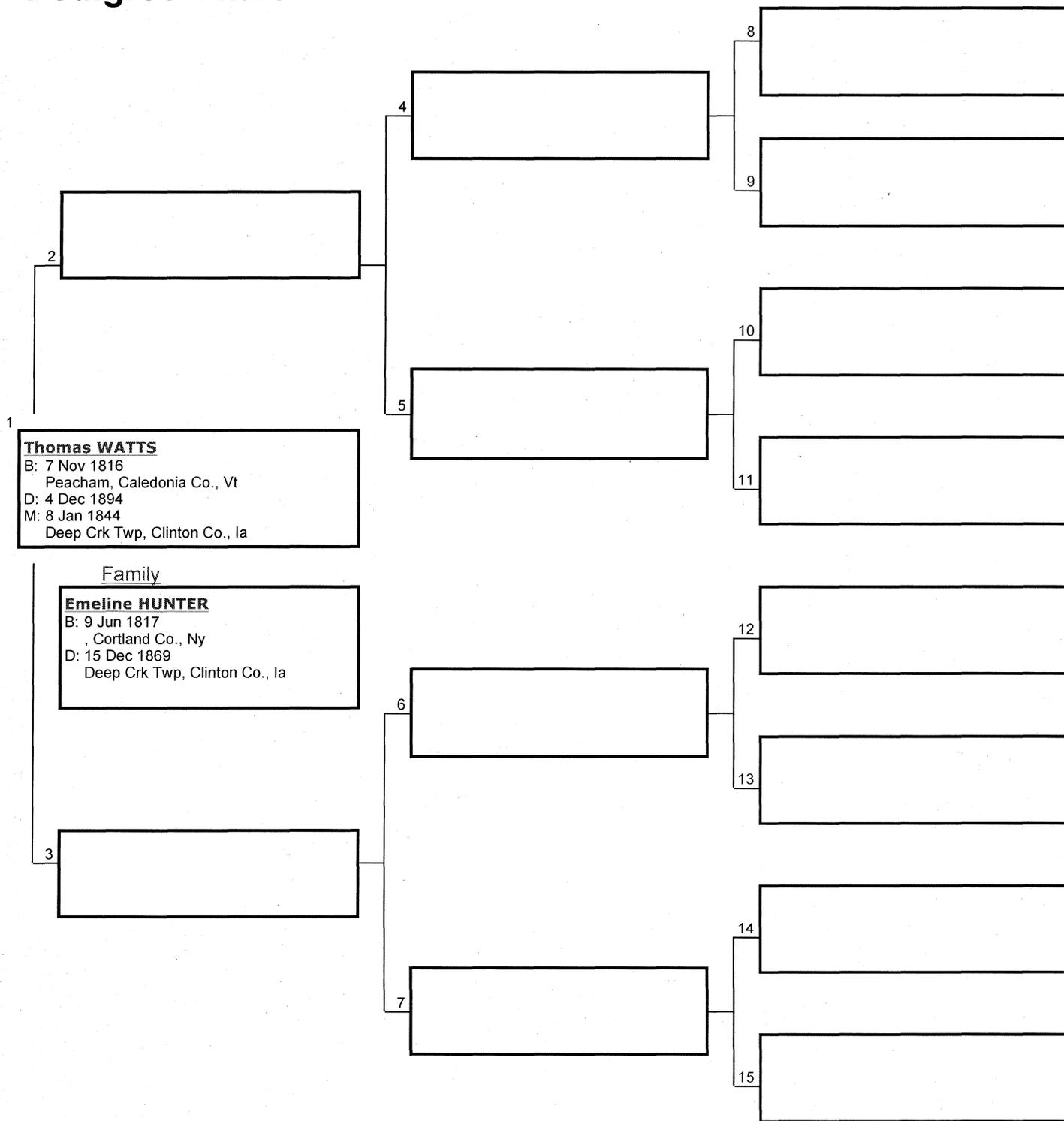
Names and address of submitters to Ancestral File and those who have a research interest are provided to help in the coordination of research. The use of this information for any other purpose, including commercial use, is strictly prohibited.

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# Pedigree Chart

FamilySearch™ Ancestral File v4.19



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# Family Group Record

FamilySearch™ Ancestral File v4.19

## Husband's Name

Thomas WATTS (AFN:19KD-WRG)

[Pedigree](#)

**Born:** 7 Nov 1816      **Place:** Peacham, Caledonia Co., Vt  
**Died:** 4 Dec 1894      **Place:**  
**Buried:**                      **Place:** Deep Crk Val Cem, Clinton Co., Ia  
**Married:** 8 Jan 1844      **Place:** Deep Crk Twp, Clinton Co., Ia

**Father:**

**Mother:**

## Wife's Name

Emeline HUNTER (AFN:19KD-WSN)

[Pedigree](#)

**Born:** 9 Jun 1817      **Place:** , Cortland Co., Ny  
**Died:** 15 Dec 1869      **Place:** Deep Crk Twp, Clinton Co., Ia  
**Married:** 8 Jan 1844      **Place:** Deep Crk Twp, Clinton Co., Ia

**Father:** Robert HUNTER (AFN:VGMF-XF)

[Family](#)

**Mother:** Eliza JONES (AFN:VGMG-1W)

## Children

### 1. Sex Name

**F** Eliza WATTS (AFN:19KD-WTV)

[Pedigree](#)

**Born:** Abt 1846      **Place:** , , Ia  
**Died:** Bef 1860      **Place:** , , Ia

### 2. Sex Name

**M** Isaac WATTS (AFN:19KD-WV3)

[Pedigree](#)

**Born:** Abt 1847      **Place:** , , Ia  
**Died:** Bef 1901      **Place:**

### 3. Sex Name

**M** Thomas WATTS (AFN:19KG-XN9)

[Pedigree](#)

**Born:** Abt 1849      **Place:** , , Ia  
**Died:** Aft 1901      **Place:**

### 4. Sex Name

**F** Jane "Jennie" HUNTER (AFN:19KG-XRW)

[Pedigree](#)

**Born:** Abt 1851      **Place:** , , Ia  
**Died:** Aft 1901      **Place:**

### 5. Sex Name

**F** Mary WATTS (AFN:19KG-XTB)

[Pedigree](#)

**Born:** Abt 1857      **Place:** , , Ia

### 6. Sex Name

**F** Emeline "Emma" WATTS (AFN:19KG-XWQ)

[Pedigree](#)

**Born:** Abt 1859      **Place:** , , Ia

### 7. Sex Name

**M** Fremont WATTS (AFN:19KG-XXX)

[Pedigree](#)

**Born:** Abt 1862      **Place:** , , Ia

8. **Sex Name****M** Lambert WATTS (AFN:19KD-X29)[Pedigree](#)**Born:** Abt. 1864 **Place:** , , Ia  
**Died:** Bef 1886 **Place:**9. **Sex Name****M** Robert WATTS (AFN:19KD-X3H)[Pedigree](#)**Born:** Abt. 1866 **Place:** , , Ia  
**Died:** Bef 1886 **Place:** , , Ia10. **Sex Name****U** Infant WATTS (AFN:19KD-X4P)[Pedigree](#)**Born:** Abt. 1868 **Place:** , , Ia  
**Died:** Bef 1886 **Place:** , , Ia

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