

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Neely, Thomas Butler Senator \_\_\_\_\_

*Represented Harrison, Shelby, Carroll, Crawford, Monona, Woodbury, Ida, Sac, Clay,  
Dane, Iowa, Cherokee, Plymouth, Lewis & Clark, Dickinson and Anckerl Counties, Iowa*

1. Birthday and place 22 Mar. 1827 Kenia, Green Bay, Wis.

2. Marriage (s) date place

Margaret Ann Smith

3. Significant events for example:

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

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

C. Profession Farmer

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

5. Sessions served 5<sup>th</sup> General Assembly 1854

6. Public Offices

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

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

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

7. Death 1 Mar 1915 Los Angeles, California

8. Children Isabelle Alena; Thomas Francis; George Pittman; Charles Albert;  
James Horace; Irene Paul; Maggie May; Raymond LeRoy; Lorna Ellen

9. Names of parents Nathaniel and Melinda (Butler) Neely

Neely, Thomas B

10. Education

11. Degrees

12. Other applicable information

*He was living in Washington State in 1891 and in 1908 he was located in  
Licking, Hancock County, Washington*



HISTORY  
OF  
POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY,  
IOWA.

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*Containing a History from the earliest settlement to the present time, embracing its topographical, geological, physical and climatic features; its agricultural, railroad interests, etc.; giving an account of its aboriginal inhabitants, early settlement by the whites, pioneer incidents, its growth, its improvements, organization of the County, the judicial history, the business and industries, churches, schools, etc.; Biographical Sketches; Portraits of some of the Early Settlers, Prominent Men, etc.*

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ILLUSTRATED

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O. L. BASKIN & CO., HISTORICAL PUBLISHERS,  
LAKESIDE BUILDING.

1883.  
D. 1

highly honored by her people. Mr. Babbitt continued to reside in Council Bluffs, in 1868, serving in the Legislature; also several terms as Mayor, at various times, and, in 1881, removed to Beebe, in the State of Arkansas, which now is his permanent home. He was also the editor and publisher of the daily and the weekly *Bugle*, during a large portion of the existence of that paper, and during its vicissitudes held it to its duty as the standard of the Democratic party.

It may be of some interest to know that the first entry made at the Council Bluffs Land Office was by Joseph D. Lane, the second by Jacob Bush and the third by Mrs. Maria Mynster, the land of the latter including what is now known as Mynster's Addition to the city, on the north side of Indian Creek, and extending northward beyond Mynster's Springs, where this venerable old lady has her beautiful and romantic home.

Among the necessary improvements made in the part of the city embraced in the locality just referred to, was the erection of a water-mill, at a point about one-third of the length of Scott street, from Washington avenue, and where the bluff slopes to the west. Indian Creek, though only a crooked, devious, shallow brook, was utilized and dammed above Market street, the water carried north-westward, in a race which crossed what is now Washington avenue, where the City Mills stand, and to the mill in question. Traces of this primitive water-way are still visible at several points, though every other vestige of the mill has long since disappeared. That was the last and only effort made to employ this fickle stream for any other purpose than drainage and sewerage.

The first fire that is noted in the annals of the city occurred on the 14th of November, 1853. Twenty-five buildings, nearly all of them log houses, standing in a group in the

vicinity of the junction of Madison street and Broadway, were consumed. Stutsman & Donnell, R. B. Pegram and Tootle & Jackson were the principal sufferers. The *Bugle* office was also seriously damaged.

An incident characteristic of frontier life was attached to this fire. Thomas B. Neeley, an eccentric individual of the Davy Crockett species, had emigrated from Indiana and settled in a lonely cabin, on the borders of what afterward became Monona and Harrison counties, and lived in that remote spot as a bachelor long before he had any neighbors. By and by settlers surrounded him, and, in the turn of the political wheel, he was chosen to the Legislature in 1853. To make a respectable appearance at the capital of the State, he came to Council Bluffs in his frontier garb and bought a new suit of clothes and a satchel. With these he intended to surprise his fellow-members from the more fortunate districts in the eastern part of the new State. The young woman whom he intended as his wife was living at D. B. Clark's, and, going out there that evening to see her, he concluded that he would leave his new clothes at Tootle & Jackson's store, and wear them for the first time at the State Capital. That night the store was destroyed by fire, and with it his new satchel and its contents. Nothing daunted, he went his way, dressed as he came, and when he appeared in his seat in the House, his uncouth appearance and garb were the wonder of his fellow-members. One of them, with more nerve and assurance than the rest, approached Neeley with the inquiry: "Why is it that they don't send men here from your part of the State that seem to know more than you do, Mr. Neeley?" "I don't know any other reason," replied Mr. Neeley, "than that it is because I am the only one out there who has clothes good enough to come." With all his oddi-

ties, he was a useful member, and at the end of his term settled down again to hunting, farming, in a way, fishing and telling stories, of the latter of which he had an abundance, with much native wit, and, having reared a large family in frontier style, much after the manner of Rip Van Winkle, and growing restless of his surroundings, in 1881, he hied away to Washington Territory, with all he had, to begin the world over in the virgin forest. Like Daniel Boone, when he left Kentucky for Missouri, he began to feel that he was crowded, and wanting more elbow room, sought it on the Pacific coast.

An event notable in that day was the opening of the Pacific House, on Christmas, 1853. The extraordinary influx of strangers during the summer, prompted S. S. Mayles to build a new hotel in the addition laid out by him, and this resulted in the erection of the Pacific House, where it now stands on Broadway, opposite the junction of Pearl street with the latter. At first, it did not cover the space that it now includes. The three-story brick "L" on the west side was added in 1869, destroyed by fire in the winter of 1871, and rebuilt two years later. For many years, this constituted the principal hotel in the city, and until the erection of the Ogden House, in the summer of 1869.

Council Bluffs, during the winter of 1853 and the spring and summer of 1854, received many accessions of citizens, who performed an important part in its development, and who have, under all circumstances, adhered to its fortune, good or ill. Among these were Addison Cochran, A. V. Larimer and Judge R. L. Douglass. Col. Cochran is a native of Loudoun County, Va., having been born near Hillsboro, a few miles from Harper's Ferry. Being of an adventurous disposition, as a young man, he took part in the war for Texan independence, and participated in quite

a number of the actions which formed the prominent events of that notable conflict. He engaged in the real estate business upon coming to Council Bluffs, and pursued that for many years. In 1878, he became Mayor of Council Bluffs, having served in the Council in 1858, 1859, 1860 and 1861. During the last three years, he has spent most of his time improving and cultivating a large farm in the river bottom, in the vicinity of Little Sioux, in Harrison County.

Judge Douglass, who came to Council Bluffs in 1854, was born at Hagerstown, Md., and removed to Indiana in his youth. In the latter State, he studied law, and after practicing his profession there for some years, came here to resume it. His great force of character soon assigned him a leading position in local affairs. His professional success was positive, and all his business enterprises brought him wealth and independence. In 1855, he became City Attorney, and held that office during that year, when C. E. Stone was Mayor, and also during the next year, 1856, when Capt. D. W. Price was Mayor. Mr. Douglass became a member of the City Council in 1864, and served the term of two years, and was again chosen, in 1866, for another two years. In 1873, he was again chosen for a full term, which he served. The Legislature which met in January, 1868, for the purpose of increasing the facilities for administering justice in the rapidly expanding interests of the State, constituted two Circuit Judges and two separate circuits in each of the twelve judicial districts into which Iowa was then divided. At the November election of that year, Mr. Douglass was chosen one of those Judges for this, the then Third Judicial District, for a term of four years, in the circuit embracing Council Bluffs; and James W. McDill, at present a United States Senator, was chosen the other Circuit

HISTORY

—OF—

HARRISON COUNTY,

IOWA.

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.

CHICAGO:  
NATIONAL PUBLISHING COMPANY.  
1891.

thousand rails for Solomon Smith; he also worked in a sawmill on Soldier River, and cut shingles with John Ellis, also cut wood for the steamboats. In 1859, he bought a farm on section 31, and farmed that until 1877, and then started a store in River Sioux, carrying a general stock, including lumber, machinery, wagons, etc.

Our subject was united in marriage at Fairfield, Adams County, Pa., March 8, 1866 to Mary Musseman, by whom five children were born—John, Christian, Charles, Milhe and Olive.

Politically, our subject affiliates with the Democratic party. He started the first store in River Sioux, and built the second dwelling in the place.



**S**ETH PALMER, a farmer living in Little Sioux Township, is a native of Ohio, and came to this county in 1852, being among the earliest pioneer band. He was born in Medina County in 1824, the son of Ambrose Palmer, of Richfield, Conn., and of Scotch-Welsh extraction.

Our subject accompanied his parents to Missouri in 1836, and received his education in Ohio and Missouri. The family removed in 1839 to Nauvoo, Ill., lived ten years and in 1846, came to Council Bluffs. Our subject returned to Nauvoo the same fall, and followed steamboating for three years. We next find him in Montrose, Lee County, Iowa, and in 1852, made a claim in Harrison County, on section 36, of Little Sioux Township, where he still lives. He owns three hundred acres of land in Harrison County.

He was married March 16, 1844, to

Daphin Roberts, who died November 21, 1845, and March 8, 1847, he was united in marriage to Harriet Newberry, who was the mother of two children. She died July 27, 1849, and October 11, 1860, our subject was again married to Miss Sylvia Goldsmith, and by this union two children were born—Edmund A., and Valens A. Our subject is a Republican in his political belief.



**N**ATHANIEL NEELEY, (deceased), was one of the early pioneers in Harrison County, coming in 1852, and located in Little Sioux Township. He was a native of Kentucky, born in Fayette County, October 1794, the son of James and Margaret Neeley. He spent his early life and obtained his education in Kentucky and moved to Green County, Ohio, in 1835, and in 1850 to Des Moines, Iowa, and from there to Harrison County. The sons, Thomas and Robert, came in 1850, owned several farms, and helped plat the village of Little Sioux. Thomas was the first Representative the county had in the General Assembly. Mr. Neeley first located on section 18, where he bought a claim of Sission A. Chase, who went to Salt Lake with Brigham Young.

Our subject was married in 1821 to Melinda Butler, a native of Scott County, Ky. They reared a family of nine children—Sarah A., (Mrs. Sharpe); James, (deceased); Robert H., (deceased); Thos. B., in the State of Washington; Melinda, (Mrs. Knight), of Washington; Louisa, (Mrs. McEvers), (deceased), who was the first person married in Harrison County;

Mary J., (Mrs. McCollough); Martha E., (Mrs. Porter). (deceased); Hugh, lives at Mapleton, Iowa.

The subject of this sketch, who will long be remembered by the early settlers of Harrison County, passed from the scenes of this life, in March, 1875. His wife died in 1861. Mrs. Malinda (Butler) Neeley belonged to the Presbyterian Church, while he held to the Universalist faith. They were both buried in the Murray Cemetery.

**N**OEL FOUTS, an extensive farmer, living on section 24, of Harrison Township, is a native of Putnam County, Ind., born May 18, 1826. He is the son of Noel and Jane (Wright) Fouts, who were from North Carolina and among the early settlers of Indiana. When our subject was twenty-three years of age he, in company with the family, came to Shelby County, Iowa, where the parents both died. They were the parents of twelve children: Abner, Reuben, Delilah, Rachel, Andrew and Mary, all deceased; Nancy, wife of Ed Sandy, a resident of Shelby County; Martha, deceased; Sarah, widowed; Noel, our subject; Cynthia and Eli, deceased.

Our subject received his education in the subscription schools of the Hoosier State, and bought a claim in Elk Grove, Harrison County, Iowa, in 1850, which he farmed one year, then sold and moved to Galland's Grove, Shelby County, where he bought a claim of three hundred and twenty acres. He remained in that county until 1879, and then returned to this county, where he had a farm of eighty acres. He now possesses two hundred

and forty-five acres in this county, and eighty acres in Shelby County.

He was united in marriage in November, 1848, to Martha Simpson, and they have a family of nine children—Cynthia, widow of R. T. Laird; Mary, wife of W. J. Benjamin, of Harrison County; Sarah, wife of Luther McCord, a resident of Shelby County; William T., a resident of Harrison Township; Martha E., wife of Walter Smithers, of Shelby County; Nancy, wife of E. D. McCord, of Shelby County; George B., a resident of Dunlap; James W., a resident of Harrison Township, and Edith, at home.

Politically our subject affiliates with the Democratic party, and is one of the leading and enterprising citizens of his county. Mrs. Fouts is a member of the Baptist Church.

**S**AAC W. COX, a farmer of section 34, Allen Township, has been a resident of the county since the autumn of 1862, when he located near Missouri Valley, where he purchased two hundred acres of wild land, upon which he made improvements and remained one year, and afterward bought two hundred and forty acres in Calhoun Township, and has owned various tracts of land from that time to this.

Mr. Cox was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, in November, 1817, and is the son of Abraham and Lydia Cox, natives of Tennessee and Virginia, who reared a family of eight children, seven of whom still survive. Our subject remained in the Buckeye State until he was six years old, and then removed to Indiana, and remained at home until he was of age; then



You searched for **Thomas B. Neely** in **Iowa**

### Selected U.S. Federal Census Non-Population Schedules, 1850-1880

Name: **Thomas B Neely**  
 Locality: **Little Sioux**  
 County: **Harrison**  
 State: **Iowa**  
 Enumeration: **12 Aug 1870**  
 Date:  
 Schedule Type: **Agriculture**

**Source Citation:** Census Year: 1870; Census Place: Little Sioux, Harrison, Iowa; Archive Collection Number: T1156; Roll: 9; Page: 3; Line: 10; Schedule Type: Agriculture.

**Source Information:**

Ancestry.com. Selected U.S. Federal Census Non-Population Schedules, 1850-1880 [database online]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010.

Original data:

- Nonpopulation Census Schedules for California, 1850-1880. Microfilm. The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.
- Nonpopulation Census Schedules for Illinois, 1850-1880 (NARA microfilm publication T1133, rolls 1-11, 13-56). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
- Nonpopulation Census Schedules for Iowa, 1850-1880 (NARA microfilm publication T1156, 49 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
- Non-population Census Schedules for Kansas, 1850-1880 (NARA microfilm publication T1130, rolls 1-2, 5, 8-41). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
- Nonpopulation Census Schedules for Maine, 1850-1880. Microfilm. Maine State Archives, Augusta.
- Nonpopulation Census Schedules for Massachusetts, 1850-1880 (NARA microfilm publication T1204, rolls 1-8, 11-16, 18-22, 24-32). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
- Nonpopulation Census Schedules for Michigan, 1850-1880 (in the custody of the Michigan State Archives), 1850-1880 (NARA microfilm publication T1164, rolls 1-13, 16-25, 28-68). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
- Nonpopulation Census Schedules for Nebraska, 1860-1880 (NARA microfilm publication T1128, rolls 1-13). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
- Nonpopulation Census Schedules for New York, 1850-1880. Microfilm. New York State Library, Documents and Digital Collections, Albany.
- Nonpopulation Census Schedules for North Carolina, 1850-1880: Mortality and Manufacturing (NARA microfilm publication M1805, 9 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
- Agriculture schedules (South Carolina) 1850-1880. Microfilm F 600204, 15 rolls. South Carolina Department of History and Archives, Columbia.
- Industry/manufacturers schedules (South Carolina) 1850-1880. Microfilm F 600206, 2 rolls. South Carolina Department of History and Archives, Columbia.
- Social statistics schedules (South Carolina) 1850-1880. Microfilm F 600207, 2 rolls. South Carolina Department of History and Archives, Columbia.
- Nonpopulation Census Schedules for Texas, 1850-1880 (NARA microfilm publication T1134, rolls 2-49). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
- Nonpopulation Census Schedules for Virginia, 1850-1880 (NARA microfilm publication T1132, rolls 1-8, 11-15, 17, 20-32). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
- Nonpopulation Census Schedules for Washington Territory, 1860-1880 (NARA microfilm publication A1154, rolls 1-2, 4-7). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

**Description:**

This database contains U.S. federal non-population schedules from 1850-1880 for the following states: California, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, and Washington Territory. Additional states will be added in the future. Non-population schedules contained in this database include: agriculture, industry/manufacturers, social statistics, and supplemental schedules. [Learn more...](#)