

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Sterling, John Charles Senator _____
Represented Hamilton County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 22 Jan 1863 Madison County, Missouri at
Le Roy, Missouri

2. Marriage (s) date place

Minnie Jane Hedmore 16 Aug 1886 Gibson City, Missouri

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business _____

B. Civic responsibilities Elks Lodge; Moose Lodge

C. Profession Farmer; Teacher

4. Church membership Congregational

5. Sessions served 38th, 39th General Assembly 1919, 1921

6. Public Offices

A. Local Clerk of the district court of Hamilton County for 3 terms;
Justice of the Peace for 8 years

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death 11 May 1939 Webster City, Iowa. buried Duelland Cemetery Webster City, Iowa

8. Children Lucille (Mrs Brock); Levi Paul; Irene (Mrs. Myrtle H. W. Lee);
Samuel G.; Rachel E.; Martha J. (Mrs. Perry Barber)

9. Names of parents Samuel and Martha A. (Hest) Sterling

Sterling, John Charles

10. Education He was educated in a district school in his home
neighborhood, graduate of La Roy, Illinois High School

11. Degrees He attended Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington,
Illinois

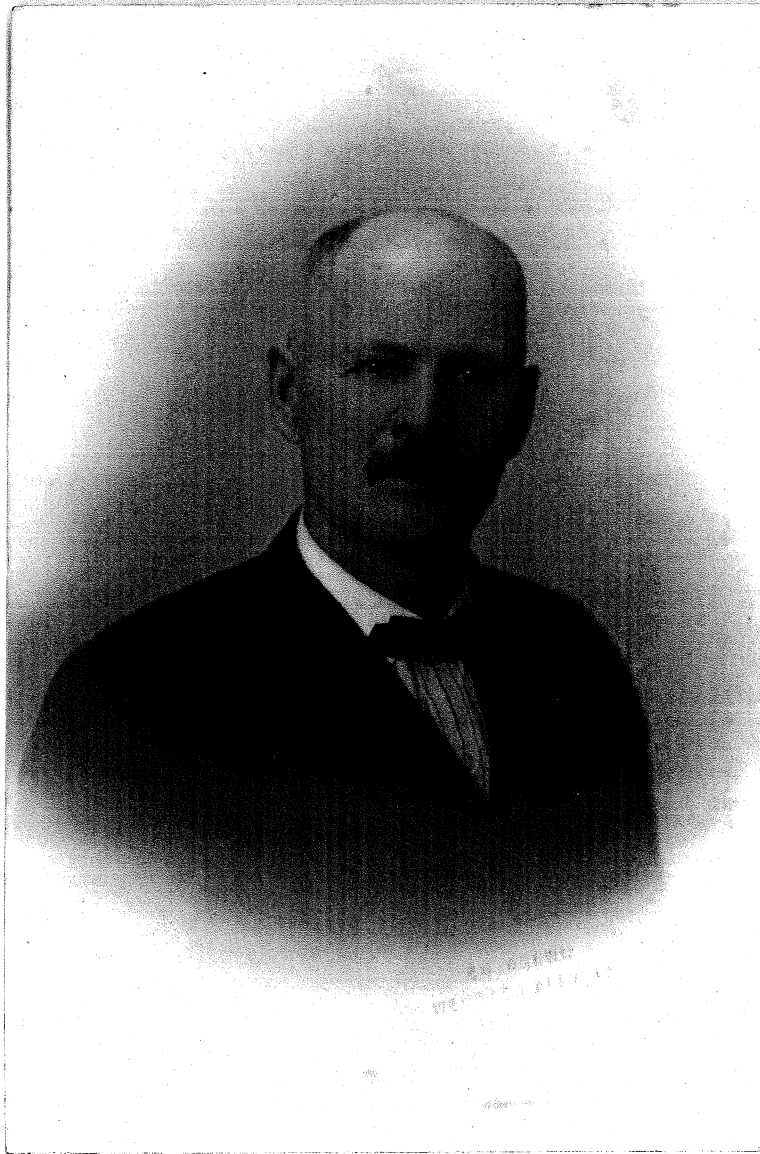
12. Other applicable information Republican
He taught school for several years in his home town in Illinois.
In 1890 he moved to Hamilton County, Iowa where he engaged in
farming and teaching until fall 1910.

Sterling, John Charles

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

Source	Non Applicable	Applicable	Information obtained
- <u>Obituary</u> -			The Webster City Record Journal, Webster City, Iowa, Fri. May 17, 1939, p. 8, col. 1
			Iowa Official Register 1921-1922, p. 355
			Iowa Journal 1941, p. 1498-1499
			ancestry.com (accessed 3 Aug 2010)
			Outline of Personal History for the Historical Department of Iowa (original is located in the library clipping file #2)
			- <u>Portrait</u> - The original photo is located in the archives of the State of Iowa Historical Library, 600 E. Locust, Des Moines, Iowa



DEATH TAKES J. C. STERLING

**Former County Clerk
Dies Suddenly at Home
of His Daughter.**

SERVICE SUNDAY

John C. Sterling, 76, a former representative from this county to the state legislature and also a former clerk of the district court, died suddenly last evening at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Maynard F. McKee.

Death was caused by a stroke. Although he had been in rather poor health for some time, he was up and about the house as usual yesterday and was downtown twice during the day.

Services Sunday

Funeral services will be Sunday at 2 p. m. at the Foster funeral home, with Dr. Ira J. Houston, Congregational pastor, officiating; burial in Graceland cemetery.

Mrs. Sterling died three years ago. Mr. Sterling leaves the following children: Mrs. Lucille Brock, city; Dr. Paul Sterling, Zeoring; Mrs. M. F. McKee, city; Sam Sterling, Bloomington, Ill.; Miss Rachel, Spencer, and Mrs. Perry Parker, Peoria, Ill.

There are two sisters, Mrs. F. M. Thompson, Paxton, Ill., and Mrs. C. E. Chapin, Bloomington, Ill., 13 grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Born In Illinois

John C. Sterling was born Jan. 22, 1863, in McLean county, Illinois, where he grew to manhood. He was married in Illinois to Miss Minnie Gilmore, Aug. 16, 1888, and the family lived in Illinois until 1890 when they came to Hamilton county.

Mr. Sterling farmed near Hamilton town until the fall of 1910, when



BACK FROM ERRAND
Thirty-one years ago Antl Kesey went to the store at Wl land, Pa., to get a gallon of k sene for his mother, Mrs. Ve ica Kesey. Now he is back h —with the can of fuel. "My p ers have been answered," Kesey said as he kissed her. said he was tired of wande and wanted to settle down.

FATE OF WEEKLY PAPERS SEEMS TO BE IN THE SENA

WASHINGTON, D. C., May —(AP)—Because of the action of house labor committee, hope exemption of newspapers of 2 to 5,000 circulation from the labor standards act apparently in the senate. R. p. John Gwy (AP) Iowa said today.

home, with Dr. Ira J. Houston, Congregational pastor, officiating; burial in Graceland cemetery.

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Born In Illinois

John C. Sterling was born Jan. 22, 1863, in McLean county, Illinois, where he grew to manhood. He was married in Illinois to Miss Minnie Gilmore, Aug. 16, 1888, and the family lived in Illinois until 1890 when they came to Hamilton county.

Mr. Sterling farmed south of town until the fall of 1910, when he moved to Webster City. He was elected county clerk and held this office three terms. He was also elected to the legislature for two terms.

For the past several years he had been retired from active business but was justice of the peace for the past eight years. He retired from this office in January.

He was a member of the Congregational church.

Served Public Well

He was widely known and much interested all his adult life in politics. As county clerk, his acquaintance was extended generally over the county and his two terms in the Iowa legislature gave him a large statewide acquaintance. As an official, he gave the best of service both to the county and the state.

He did not lose his interest in public affairs on his retirement, but continued his activities in politics and in matters of public welfare. He was sincere and honest in his convictions and was looked upon by his host of friends and acquaintances as a man who gave his best service to his county and to the state.

BACK FROM ERRAND
Thirty-one years ago Anth Kesy went to the store at Wheeland, Pa., to get a gallon of kerosene for his mother, Mrs. Veronica Kesy. Now he is back here—with the can of fuel. "My prayers have been answered," Mrs. Kesy said as he kissed her. He said he was tired of wandering and wanted to settle down.

FATE OF WEEKLY PAPERS SEEMS TO BE IN THE SENATE

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 14.—(AP)—Because of the action of the house labor committee, hope for exemption of newspapers of 3,000 to 5,000 circulation from the new labor standards act apparently is in the senate. Rep. John Gwynne (R) Iowa, said today.

The act contains an exemption for weekly and semiweekly newspapers of less than 3,000 circulation. Gwynne several weeks ago introduced an amendment raising the limit to 5,000 and urged the house labor committee to incorporate it in the Norton bill, containing numerous proposed labor standards amendments. After appearing before the committee he said he would seek action on his amendment on the floor of the house if the committee did not favorably upon it.

The committee this week reported the Norton bill, minus Gwynne's amendment. Then it arranged for consideration in the house next Monday under suspension of the rules. This means that it cannot be amended from the floor.

Gwynne said he hoped the senate would act favorably on the amendment introduced last week by Sen. Guy M. Gillette who would exempt all newspapers with less than 5,000 circulation.

If the senate passed the Gillette amendment, he said, it probably would receive consideration on the house floor.

Outline of Personal History of J. C. Sterling,

RESIDENCE 1725 Wilson Ave., Webster City, Iowa.

Kindly furnish on this sheet the necessary data for a personal sketch and return at your early convenience. Every question is important.

EDGAR R. HARLAN, CURATOR

The Historical Department of Iowa
DES MOINES, IOWA

(This form is for use in collecting data on deceased as well as living persons. Appropriate alterations may be made in matter below.)

1. What is your name in full? John Charles Sterling,
2. What is your present profession or occupation? Farmer,
3. Where and when did you begin? Hamilton County, Iowa, In 1890,
4. What other occupation have you followed; where and when? School teaching, Illinois and Iowa,
5. What is your residence address? 1725 Wilson Ave., Webster City, Iowa,
6. What is your business address? 1725 Wilson Ave., Webster City, Iowa,
7. What is the date and the place of your birth? Jan. 22, 1863, at Leroy, Ill.
8. If born abroad, when and where did you first settle in America?
9. If you removed again before settling in your present home, where and when was such removal?
10. What schools have you attended; if a graduate, when and with what degree?
High school, Leroy Ill., and Ill. Wesleyan University, at
Bloomington, Ill.
11. What was your father's full name? Samuel Sterling,
12. What was your father's occupation? Farmer,
13. What was your mother's full maiden name? Martha A. West,

14. Where did your parents reside at the time of their marriage? McHain Co., Ill.
15. What military service had your father; give as complete as you can? None,
16. What military service have you had? None,
17. What political offices have you held; do not omit even the smallest, and give date and place of service, if you can?
Township Trustee, 6 yrs. at Hamilton Co., Iowa, Clerk Dist. Court,
6 yrs., at Webster City, Ham. Co., Iowa, Member of the 38th General
Assembly, Member Elect of the 39th, from Hamilton Co., Ia.,
18. Of what financial, religious, or educational institutions are you a trustee or director; give dates if you can?
19. With what political parties have you been affiliated; give dates? Republican, all my life,
20. In what religious denominations have you a membership? Congregational Church,
21. If you have no church membership, to what sectarian faith do you incline?
22. In what societies of learning have you a membership?
23. Of what secular orders or secret societies are you a member?
24. What honors or offices have you held in your society or lodge; give dates?
25. Of what social clubs are you a member? Elks and Moose Lodges,
26. Of what business firms have you been a member?
27. Please enclose both a business card and your photograph for permanent record in the Historical Department of Iowa
28. For which of your works (as writer, sculptor, artist, architect, politician or other constructive influence) have you the highest esteem?

29. Please supply for permanent preservation in the Historical Department of Iowa a list of all your works.....

30. Will you attach your autograph to one or more of your works and present the same to the Historical Department of Iowa for permanent preservation?.....

31.

DOMESTIC HISTORY OUTLINE

FIRST MARRIAGE.

32. With whom was your first marriage?..... Minnie Gilmore,

33. Where and what date was this marriage?..... Leroy, Ill., Aug. 16, 1888.

34. When and where was your wife (or husband) born?..... Jan. 28, 1870, at Gibson City, Ill.

35. In what religious denomination did your wife (or husband) hold membership?.....
Congregational,

36. Where did your wife (or husband) die, if not surviving, and where and when was the interment?.....

37. What was the full name of the father of your wife (or husband) and where was he born?.....
John Gilmore, Cadiz, Ohio.

38. What was the full maiden name of the mother of your wife (or husband)?.....
Rachel Null,

39. Where and when was she born?..... Penn., Feb. 22, 1840.

CHILDREN OF FIRST MARRIAGE.

Full Name.	Date of Birth.	Place of Birth.
1. Lucile Sterling-Brock,	Oct. 11, 1890,	Webster City, Iowa.
2. Levi Paul Sterling,	July 15, 1892,	" " "
3. Irene Sterling-McKee,	June 15, 1894,	" " "
4. Samuel G. Sterling,	Sept. 11, 1895,	" " "
5. Rachel E. Sterling,	June 15, 1901,	" " "
6. Martha T. Sterling,	Mch. 15, 1908,	" " "

SECOND MARRIAGE.

40. With whom was your second marriage?.....
41. Where and what date was this marriage?.....
42. When and where was your wife (or husband) born?.....
43. In what religious denomination did your wife (or husband) hold membership?.....
44. Where did your wife (or husband) die, if not surviving, and where and when was the interment?.....
45. What was the full name of the father of your wife (or husband) and where was he born?.....
46. What was the full maiden name of the mother of your wife (or husband)?.....
47. Where and when was she born?.....

CHILDREN OF SECOND MARRIAGE.

Full Name.	Date of Birth.	Place of Birth.
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.

1941

Mr. Selby passed away about 5:30 following a heart attack on Sunday, November 17, 1940, at Odebolt, Iowa. His death has left a large gap in his community that is not likely to be soon filled.

Therefore, Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Forty-ninth General Assembly, That in the passing of the Honorable John H. Selby, the state has lost a valuable and honored citizen, and the House would tender by this resolution its sincere sympathy to the surviving members of his family in their sorrow, and

Be It Further Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the Journal of the House, and that the Chief Clerk be instructed to send an enrolled copy to the family of the deceased.

E. W. SCOTT,

GUSTAVE ALESCH,

M. F. BOCKWOLDT,

Committee.

Unanimously adopted, April 3, 1941.

HONORABLE JOHN C. STERLING

MR. SPEAKER: Your committee, appointed to prepare resolutions commemorating the life, character, and public service of the late Honorable John C. Sterling of Hamilton county, Iowa, begs leave to submit the following report:

John C. Sterling was born January 22, 1863, near LeRoy, in McLean county, Illinois, where he spent his boyhood amid the trying circumstances experienced by the early settlers during the reconstruction period that followed the Civil War. His parents, Samuel and Martha West Sterling, were of the pioneer group that emigrated from Ohio in a very early day and settled on a farm in the LeRoy community, where they lived for many years to raise their family, maintain their home, and contribute what they could to the educational and social life of their community.

Young Sterling first attended the rural district school, then the LeRoy high school, and later continued his studies at Illinois Wesleyan University. After the completion of his college education he taught school for several years in the county where he had grown to young manhood.

On August 16, 1888, he was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Gilmore, also of LeRoy, Illinois. Two years later they moved to Hamilton county, Iowa, and settled on a farm in what is known as the Pleasant Hill neighborhood. It was in this community that their family of six children were born and educated. At this early date many parts of Iowa, and particularly Hamilton county, was a comparatively new country. Mr. Sterling combined the work of farming and school teaching in a heroic effort to maintain and support his home. The family endured many hardships and at one time the house and most of their furnishings were destroyed by fire; but Mr. and Mrs. Sterling continued to strive on undaunted and to give freely of their life and effort to the upbuilding of the rich community life that is now enjoyed by those who have come after them.

In 1910 Mr. Sterling was elected Clerk of the District Court of Hamil-

ton county, which office he held for three consecutive terms. Upon his taking office the family retired from the farm and moved to a home he had purchased in Webster City. Later, Mr. Sterling was elected to the Iowa Legislature and served as a member of the House in the Thirty-eighth and Thirty-ninth sessions of the General Assembly. After retiring from business he served as Justice of the Peace for eight years.

In politics he was a Republican and he was an active member of the Congregational church.

Mr. Sterling was quiet in manner, yet sincere and honest in his convictions and he was looked upon by his host of friends and acquaintances as a man deserving confidence and one who always stood ready to give of his best and untiring service to his community, to his county, and to the state.

Mrs. Sterling passed away May 8, 1936, after which time Mr. Sterling made his home with his children. Although past seventy-six years of age he continued to enjoy fairly good health and was active in going about among his friends. He always maintained an interest in and was much concerned in world affairs; and only about an hour before his death he listened to a news broadcast and later discussed the affairs of the day with a daughter with whom he was residing at the time. He then retired for the night and shortly afterward he was found to have suffered a stroke from which he could not survive. He passed away May 12, 1939.

He leaves to mourn his loss, two sisters, Mrs. C. E. Chapin, of Bloomington, Illinois, and Mrs. F. M. Thompson of Paxton, Illinois; four daughters, Mrs. Luale Brock and Miss Rachel Sterling of Spencer, Iowa; Mrs. M. F. McKee of Webster City, Iowa, and Mrs. Perry Parker of Peoria, Illinois; and two sons, Sam Sterling of Bloomington, Illinois and Dr. L. P. Sterling of Zearing, Iowa, besides a host of admiring friends in his home community and many acquaintances in the state at large.

Therefore, Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Forty-ninth General Assembly, That in the passing of the Honorable John C. Sterling, the state has lost a valued and honored citizen and the House, by this resolution, tenders its sympathy to the members of his family in their sorrow.

Be It Further Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the Journal of the House, and that the Chief Clerk be directed to forward an enrolled copy to the family of the deceased.

JOHN S. HEFFNER,

C. A. BRYSON,

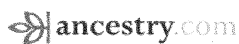
ALBERT STEINBERG,

Committee.

Unanimously adopted, April 3, 1941.

HONORABLE PETER STILLMUNKES

MR. SPEAKER: Your committee, appointed to prepare suitable resolutions commemorative of the life, character, and public services of the late Honorable Peter Stillmunkes, of Dubuque county, Iowa, begs leave to submit the following report:




You searched for **John Sterling** in Iowa

1900 United States Federal Census

Name:	John C Sterling	
Home in 1900:	Independence, Hamilton, Iowa	
Age:	37	
Birth Date:	Jan 1863	
Birthplace:	Illinois	
Race:	White	
Gender:	Male	
Relationship to Head of House:	Head	
Father's Birthplace:	Ohio	
Mother's Birthplace:	Ohio	
Spouse's name:	Minnie	
Marriage Year:	1889	
Marital Status:	Married	
Years Married:	11	
Occupation:	View on Image	
Neighbors:	View others on page	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	John C Sterling	37
	Minnie Sterling	30
	Lucille M Sterling	9
	Levi P Sterling	7
	Irene Sterling	5
	Samuel Sterling	4

Source Citation: Year: 1900; Census Place: Independence, Hamilton, Iowa; Roll T623_435; Page: 11B; Enumeration District: 106.

Source Information:
Ancestry.com. 1900 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2004.

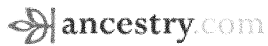


Original data: United States of America, Bureau of the Census. *Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1900. T623, 1854 rolls.

Description:
This database is an index to individuals enumerated in the 1900 United States Federal Census, the Twelfth Census of the United States. Census takers recorded many details including each person's name, address, relationship to the head of household, color or race, sex, month and year of birth, age at last birthday, marital status, number of years married, the total number of children born of the mother, the number of those children living, birthplace, birthplace of father and mother, if the individual was foreign born, the year of immigration and the number of years in the United States, the citizenship status of foreign-born individuals over age twenty-one, occupation, and more. Additionally, the names of those listed on the population schedule are linked to actual images of the 1900 Federal Census. [Learn more...](#)

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You searched for **John Sterling** in Iowa

1910 United States Federal Census

Name:	John C Sterling	
Age in 1910:	47	
Estimated birth year:	abt 1863	
Birthplace:	Illinois	
Relation to Head of House:	Head	
Father's Birth Place:	Ohio	
Mother's Birth Place:	Ohio	
Spouse's name:	Minnie J	
Home in 1910:	Independence, Hamilton, Iowa	
Marital Status:	Married	
Race:	White	
Gender:	Male	
Neighbors:	View others on page	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	John C Sterling	47
	Minnie J Sterling	40
	Lucile M Sterling	19
	Paul S Sterling	17
	Irene M Sterling	15
	Samuel G Sterling	14
	Rachel E Sterling	8
	Martha F Sterling	2
	Arnett S Chapin	19

Source Citation: Year: 1910; Census Place: Independence, Hamilton, Iowa; Roll T624_404; Page: 15A; Enumeration District: 116; Image: 698.

Source Information:
 Ancestry.com. 1910 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2006.

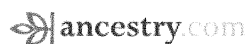
Original data: Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910 (NARA microfilm publication T624, 1,178 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C. For details on the contents of the film numbers, visit the following NARA web page: [NARA](#)

Description:
 This database is an index to the head of households enumerated in the 1910 United States Federal Census, the Thirteenth Census of the United States. In addition, each indexed name is linked to actual images of the 1910 Federal Census. The information recorded in the census includes: name, relationship to head of family, age at last birthday, sex, color or race, whether single, married, widowed, or divorced, birthplace, birthplace of father and mother, and more. [Learn more...](#)

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You searched for **John Sterling** in Iowa

1920 United States Federal Census

Name:	John C Sterling [John E Sterling]	
Home in 1920:	Webster Ward 2, Hamilton, Iowa	
Age:	56	
Estimated birth year:	abt 1864	
Birthplace:	Illinois	
Relation to Head of House:	Self (Head) [Head]	
Spouse's name:	Minnie	
Father's Birth Place:	Ohio	
Mother's Birth Place:	Illinois	
Marital Status:	Married	
Race:	White	
Sex:	Male	
Home owned:	Own	
Neighbors:	View others on page	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	John C Sterling	56
	Minnie Sterling	49
	Paul Sterling	27
	Sam Sterling	29
		[24]
	Rachel Sterling	18
	Martha Sterling	12

Source Citation: Year: 1920; Census Place: Webster Ward 2, Hamilton, Iowa; Roll T625_491; Page: 9B; Enumeration District: 122; Image: 821.

Source Information:
 Ancestry.com. 1920 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc. 2010. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.

Original data: Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920. (NARA microfilm publication T625, 2076 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29, National Archives, Washington, D.C. For details on the contents of the film numbers, visit the following NARA web page: [NARA](#). Note: Enumeration Districts 819-839 are on roll 323 (Chicago City).

Description:
 This database is an index to individuals enumerated in the 1920 United States Federal Census, the Fourteenth Census of the United States. It includes all states and territories, as well as Military and Naval Forces, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, and the Panama Canal Zone. The census provides many details about individuals and families including: name, gender, age, birthplace, year of immigration, mother tongue, and parents' birthplaces. In addition, the names of those listed on the population schedule are linked to actual images of the 1920 Federal Census. [Learn more...](#)

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You searched for **John Sterling** in Iowa

Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925

Name:	John C Sterling	
Birth Year:	abt 1863	
Birth Place:	Illinois	
Gender:	Male	
Race:	White	
Marital Status:	Married	
Census Date:	1 Jan 1925	
Residence State:	Iowa	
Residence County:	Hamilton	
Locality:	Webster City	
Relation to Head:	Head	
Mother:	Martha J West	
Mother's Birthplace:	Ohio	
Father:	Samuel Sterling	
Father's Birthplace:	Ohio	
Marriage Place:	Illinois	
Spouse Name:	Minnie G Sterling	
Roll:	IA1925_1736	
Line:	10	
Neighbors:	View others on page	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	John C Sterling	62
	Minnie G Sterling	55
	Rachel E Sterling	24
	Martha T Sterling	17
	Mildred G Sterling	16
Source Information:		
Ancestry.com. <i>Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925</i> [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2007.		
Original data: Microfilm of Iowa State Censuses, 1856, 1885, 1895, 1905, 1915, 1925 as well as various special censuses from 1836-1897 obtained from the State Historical Society of Iowa via Heritage Quest.		
Description:		
This database contains Iowa state censuses for the following years: 1856, 1885, 1895, 1905, 1915, and 1925. It also includes some head of household censuses and other special censuses from 1836-1897. Information available for an individual will vary according to the census year and the information requested on the census form. Some of the information contained in this database though includes: name, age, gender, race, birthplace, marital status, and place of enumeration.		
Learn more...		

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