

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Byerly, William M. Senator _____
Represented Jones County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 31 Mar 1854 Jackson Township, Jones County, Iowa
near Anamosa, Iowa

2. Marriage (s) date place
Eliza Haggner 17 Mar 1878

3. Significant events for example:
A. Business He was a director of Miles and Hatten Savings Bank
of Anamosa; director of the Anamosa District Fair Association
B. Civic responsibilities _____
C. Profession Farmer; stock breeder and feeder

4. Church membership Not a member, but preferred divine services at the
Congregational church
5. Sessions served 33rd, 34th General Assemblies 1909, 1911

6. Public Offices
A. Local County board of supervisors; township assessor 12 years;
school board 18 years
B. State _____
C. National _____

7. Death 30 Jul 1924 Anamosa, Iowa; buried Antioch Cemetery, Jones County, Iowa
8. Children Claude; Jay; Mory (Mrs. J. C. Tourtelott); Blanche (Mrs.
Roy Russell); Jennie (died at age 0); Guy; Grace; Lee; Beulah; Lillian;
Mildred
9. Names of parents Michael and Elizabeth (Jeffries) Byerly

10. Education He was educated in the rural schools of Jones
County, Iowa

11. Degrees Leland College, Hopkinton, Iowa and 1880-1883
at Boston, Kansas

12. Other applicable information Democrat

- He taught 12 terms of country school in the winters
and worked on the farm in the summers.
- He spent his life in Jones County, Iowa with the exception of 3
years 1880-1883 when he lived in Boston County, Kansas.
- He fed Dutch Jersey cows, processed and stored, and milked
selling it to the creamery

177-178



W. M. BYERLY

HARMONY IS THE FIRST IMPC

THE PASSING OF HON. W. M. BYERLY

Prominent Farmer, Citizen and Political Worker Passes Away at Home in Anamosa.

William M. Byerly, a native son of Jackson township, and nearly all his life associated with the active affairs of that community and of his county, died at his home in Anamosa Tuesday night.

Mr. Byerly's death came as a shock to his many friends and neighbors. He had been ill for a week or more, and it was known that he had been troubled with heart conditions of bothersome nature. It was also appreciated by some that he was in serious condition during his last illness. Nevertheless there seemed to be no preparation of the general public for announcement of his demise and the news brought surprise mingled with keen regret.

Mr. Byerly had lived a busy life. He was born in Jackson township where his parents settled in 1846. His birth occurred March 31st, 1854. His residence in that township, with the exception of three years spent in Kansas, was continuous until a few years ago he moved with his family to Anamosa.

His father entered 56 acres of timber land and 40 acres of prairie land, now incorporated in the large farm which W. M. Byerly owned at his death.

The subject of this sketch was one of six children. There survives only one, John W. Byerly of Anamosa.

Mr. Byerly was married on March 15th, 1878, to Eliza Waggoner. To them were born a large and interesting family. Eleven children comprised this family. Claude resides at Waterloo; Jay resides at home; Mrs. Roy Russell resides in Jackson township; Mrs. Floyd Tourtellot of Minneapolis, is the wife of a Presbyterian minister; Guy is a resident of Jackson; Lee also lives in Jackson; Mrs. Grace Johnson resides at Emmetsburg; Mrs. Beulah Miller lives at Anamosa; Lillian is a trained nurse at Davenport; Mildred is still at the parental home; Jennie died at the age of ten years.

Mr. Byerly was educated in the common schools of Jackson township, and at Lenox college, Hopkinton. Three years, 1880-1883, he spent at Barton, Kansas. Following completion of his school work as a student, he taught twelve terms of country school.

As a farmer, Mr. Byerly was successful. He accumulated several hundred acres of good Jackson township land. He had fine success as a stock breeder and feeder, and his products always brought good prices on the market. He was a progressive farmer and kept this equipment in good shape and ready for the work demanded in gathering big harvests from many acres.

He took great interest in public affairs and was largely through the democratic party with which he was loyally affiliated. His party honored him on several occasions as delegate to county

Effort to Restore Service is Earnest

The Iowa Electric Co., whose lines were badly riddled in the severe storm the first of last week, did excellent work in restoring service. Plants which needed power were out for some time, but while they were idle, through mud and rain, the crew plunged to reset poles, pick up grounded wires and restore working conditions. The company gives excellent service. This office has been on an individual motor basis—that is a motor for every machine—for many years. There is not as much interruption of power through the electric service company as there would be if the plant were attempting to supply its own power, by gasoline engine or similar device. And in the bargain, we miss all the grief and worry of trying to keep the power going. Electric power is the handiest, cleanest and most economical power that can be used. It is worth treble what it costs in this office, and the rate, at that, is considered high by some.

FOUND FREAK AT PARK.

The State Park was a mecca last Sunday for hundreds who drove in to see the havoc wrought by the storm. The broken limbs and uprooted trunks along the river form a sorry spectacle to those who appreciate the beauty of trees. Hundreds of wrecked oaks, elms and other varieties are strewn over the bottoms along the waterway.

Edward Earle of Cedar Rapids, found a freak which indicates something of the fury of the gale which passed over the park a week ago Monday. He discovered a strip of wood nine feet long and a half inch thick, which had been torn from an ash tree, driven into the bark of another tree so tightly that the end pointed upward at an angle of forty-five degrees. He removed the long sliver and took it to Cedar Rapids where it was placed on exhibition.

Mr. Earle's action may have been quite natural. It indicates the carelessness of visitors to the park in appropriating anything there which is movable and suits their fancy. It should be remembered at all times that the park is a "sanctuary for wild life," and that everything in it belongs to the public for the pleasure and recreation of the public, protected by law, and not to be removed except under orders of those with authority to direct park affairs.

Next Week the Big Annual Fair

Next week the annual Anamosa district fair will be held. Secretary Ireland and President Morey have been busy for weeks preparing for this event.

A good program has been prepared and prospects are bright. Tuesday there will be the usual sports for the children with free acts and a ball game.

Wednesday the judging of exhibits will be held. There will be a horse race, six in number, with horse racing and a rattling good ball game. It will make up the afternoon program. In the evening the society horse show

WEEKLY NEWS OF LOCAL FIELD

Those Who Come and Go—The News Notes Gathered for Those Who Read Histories

Mr. and Mrs. L. R. McMickle visited last Sunday, with relatives at Marion.

Mrs. Mary Smith and two children of Marion, are spending a week's vacation at Anamosa.

W. D. Sheehan, W. A. Hogan, M. Fay and C. J. Cash attended the state convention of democrats at Des Moines, last Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Gardner of Courtland, Nelomka, are here for their annual summer visit among Anamosa friends and acquaintances.

A baby girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Miles Landis July 22nd. She departed this life the following day, and on Thursday the little form was returned to earth at Antioch cemetery.

Mrs. Blanche Runyon of Phoenix, Arizona, who was visiting here with her sister, Miss Minnie Post, left yesterday morning, to make a visit at Clinton, before leaving again for the west.

Rotary's weekly luncheon was held Thursday evening at the usual hour at the Brown hotel. The program included an interesting account by Dr. A. N. Trevathen, of his trip to South Dakota.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel E. Radler of 203 Garnaville street, announce the engagement of their daughter, Maxine Elliott, to Alexis J. Genard of Toledo, Ohio. The wedding will take place in the early fall.

Attorney John McGuire of Oklahoma City, was an over-Sunday visitor here with his mother, Mrs. Thos. McGuire. He was accompanied north by his wife, who is visiting at Cresco. They expect to spend several months in Iowa.

Misses Norma Jurgenen, Pauline Peck, Leona Scott, Margaret Hall, Dorothy Easterly, Vanieta Cuttriel and Myrtle Kramer of Olin, have been camping at the Anamosa State Park. Their camp has been in charge of Mrs. Fred Jurgensen.

Sheriff John Bodenhofer and Supervisors John Mathieson, B. W. Streener, G. J. Hughes, Glenn Peck, and Fred Taylor, and County engineer Floyd Yetter went to Des Moines, Tuesday, to attend a state-convention of equity officers.

A number went from here last Thursday, to attend the Harmon Ringling show at Cedar Rapids, but were disappointed. The circus, he was so muddy that the heavy wagon could not pull the beds in, and the show was abandoned for the day.

Eddie Skinner came to the reformitory from Cedar Rapids, for an indeterminate sentence of one to ten years, for stealing an automobile. This is the first case of its kind in the county. He will keep their hands off the steering wheels of automobiles that belong to others.

General Manager.

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will live," and that everything in it belongs to the public for the pleasure and recreation of the public, protected by law, and not to be removed except under orders of those with authority to direct park affairs.

Mr. Byerly was educated in the common schools of Jackson township, and at Lenox college, Hopkinton. Three years, 1880-1883, he spent at Barton, Kansas. Following completion of his school work as a student, he taught twelve terms of country school.

As a farmer, Mr. Byerly was successful. He accumulated several hundred acres of land in Jackson township, which he brought to the market. He was a progressive farmer and kept this equipment in good shape and ready for the work demanded in gathering big harvests from many acres.

He took great interest in public affairs. His participation in such was largely through the democratic party with which he was loyally affiliated. His party honored him on many occasions as delegate to county, state and national conventions, and through preferment gained in his party, he was in turn honored by the voters of his county. He was elected to the county board of supervisors, completing his term in 1908, then stepped into the seat of a member of the state legislature at Des Moines.

Mr. Byerly was a partisan in his advocacy of political matters. He was thus led because of his abiding faith in the democratic party. His devotion to that party and its principles was one of honest convictions, based always on observation and a familiarity with public questions, that led him to thus pledge his loyalty.

He had served his party as a precinct organizer and as county chairman and was still the head of the county organization at the time of his death. No man ever gave more unsparingly of time and energy than he did in building for the party. He was a constant worker in the cause, and found a satisfaction in the task that comes to few men. His work was always in unselfish spirit. The honors which came to him from his party were bestowed voluntarily, without effort on his part to manipulate or work to his own individual gain or advantage.

Mr. Byerly was not affiliated with any church, but he was a regular attendant at divine services, choosing to thus exhibit his interest in christian teachings, through the Congregational church.

In addition to county offices he had held the position of assessor of Jackson township for twelve years, and had also served on the school board in that township for 18 years.

Mr. Byerly was honest and upright in his dealings. He was an obliging neighbor and a true friend. He was of keenly sympathetic nature, and his heart went out to those who suffered in time of trouble or want. He read widely, and courted discussion. Thus his mind was active, and he was no mean debater on matters of current interest.

He was a companionable man and sought the comradeship and the fellowship of his fellowmen. As a father and a husband there is abundant evidence of his real worth in his wonderful family of sons and daughters, and in the abundant way in

Next Week the Big Annual Fair

Next week the annual Anamosa district fair will be held. Secretary [Name] has been appointed to direct this event.

A good program has been prepared and prospects are bright. Tuesday there will be the usual sports for the children with free nets and a ball game.

Wednesday the judging of exhibits commences in the morning. The free nets, six in number, with horse racing and a rattling good ball game, will make up the afternoon program. In the evening the society horse show will take place, with the judging in front of the amphitheatre. Some great entries have been made for this event. It will be one of the features of the fair.

Thursday morning the ton litter, individual pig and baby beef clubs will exhibit their stock for judging. The afternoon will have two track events. There will be the usual free acts and a top-notch ball game. In the evening the annual stock parade, with judging of saddle horses in the society horse show, will take place in front of the grandstand.

Friday morning the baby beef entries will be sold at auction. In the afternoon the stock parade, headed by the entries of the society horse show, will be held. The free acts and a ball game will supplement a special program of automobile races. Some of the most noted dirt track drivers in the country have been booked.

Everything is in readiness at the grounds, the advertising has been judiciously placed, and there is a general feeling of optimism and enthusiasm over fair prospects.

Fair Coupon Books For Sale.

Anyone wishing coupon books for the Anamosa fair, call or write me before Saturday night and I will deliver them to you. \$3 book for \$2. Dorothy Byerly, Anamosa. Phone 22-F210.

which he provided for those dependent upon him.

During the late war he served on a number of the different committees which had in charge the necessary work here at home. He took an especial interest in the Red Cross, and following the war period was chairman of the county organization and carried the work on into the peacetime period.

In his death the community loses a good citizen whose industry had contributed, through the years, to its upbuilding and advancement.

The funeral will be held tomorrow afternoon at 3:30 o'clock from the residence on Booth street. Rev. Ernest Evans will conduct the services and interment will be at Antioch cemetery near the old family home in Jackson.

and Myrtle Kramer of been camping at the Anamosa Park. Their campmates of Mrs. Fred Jurgensen.

Sheriff John Bodenhofer, vicars John Matthews, Stregey G. J. Hughes, and Capt. Taylor, and Co. near Floyd Yetter at Des Moines, Tuesday, to attend convention of county office

A number went from [Name] was so badly that the [Name] could not pull the load, the show was abandoned for

Eddie Skinner came to [Name] terminate sentence of one for stealing an automobile a lesson to boys that to keep their hands off the wheels of automobiles the others.

The third division of the National Ladies Aid Society train in the church dining Friday afternoon, August one-net play, "Advent Cook," with several new will be given again. Come your friends.

In a double wedding at the Congregational parson day afternoon, July 24, Fr. Austin and Daisy Flores both of Morley, and El of Anamosa, and Thelma nor of Olin, were united by Rev. Ernest Evans.

R. D. McIntyre left on a vacation trip given agents by the Peoria Life Co., the destination being Alaska. Mrs. McIntyre the time in Chicago, and "Billie" will go to Bingham York, to make a visit to great-grandmother.

Mrs. C. J. Cash of Associate editor of the [Name] again honored by the state convention. She was as member of the state committee from the Fifth district honor come, as a recognized fact that she is the optimizer and worker among women in this locality.

Burglars again tried one week to force an entry Racket store, twice before recently. The same night was forced to the City Shotgun trap set by the pro charged a bullet through which the intruders were evidently caused them to retreat. Nothing in the taken.

"Bill" Daly returned Monday morning, having completed chautauqua contract for Mr. Daly spent [Name] two Dakotas and Minnesota ports crop prospects, as he states. He has made all the in the Vawter chautauque, with his original talk on for the farmer and [Name] new fields for his factory for the summer season. He [Name] for [Name] work during winter months.

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HISTORY
OF
JONES COUNTY, IOWA
PAST AND PRESENT

R. M. CORBIT, B. S. and LL. B.
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



IN TWO VOLUMES—ILLUSTRATED

VOLUME II

CHICAGO
S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING CO.
1910

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practice of veterinary surgery at Wyoming and is widely recognized as a prominent and successful representative of the profession in his native county.

In 1900 Dr. Bronson was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Franks, of Wyoming, by whom he has two sons, Howard and William. His political allegiance is given to the men and measures of the republican party, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, with which his wife is also identified. He belongs to Keystone Lodge, No. 206, F. & A. M., and likewise has membership relations with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. In whatever sphere of life he is found he is always the same honorable and honored gentleman and enjoys in unlimited degree the respect and confidence of his fellowmen.

HON. WILLIAM M. BYERLY.

Some men are personally popular enough to rise above party lines and ties and to carry all before them. They possess the characteristics needed in public men and these are recognized and appreciated by those in whose hands lies the voting privilege. The Hon. William M. Byerly of Jackson township, present member of the lower house of the general assembly from his district, is a man whose popularity is remarkable and whose public life is without a blemish. He was born in this township, March 31, 1854, and belongs to one of the best known families of Jones county, being a son of the pioneers Michael and Elizabeth (Jefferies) Byerly.

Michael Byerly was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, July 10, 1818, while his wife was born in Fauquier county, Virginia, May 6, 1815, but she was taken to Fairfield county by her parents and was there married November 1, 1840. Six years later they came to Jones county, Iowa, locating in Jackson township, which ever afterward was their home. The father died here July 10, 1896, and the mother passed away December 22, 1900. Michael Byerly entered the land now owned by his son William M., fifty-six acres being in timber and forty in prairie. He also bought other claims until he owned one hundred and sixty-six acres. This land has never been out of the family or been incumbered in any way. In politics he was a strong democrat and held various township offices. He was also active in religious work and was one of the founders of the Antioch Christian church as well as one of its trustees. He and his wife had the following family: Alvin R., who lives at Fredonia, Kansas; Milton J. and John W. who live in Jackson township; Malinda, who married R. B. Johnson, of Jackson township; William M., of this review; Elizabeth, who died at the age of eighteen years; and three children who died in infancy. The eldest, Alvin R. enlisted in 1862 in Company K, Sixth Iowa Cavalry and served three years in the Civil war, or until 1865.

William M. Byerly has spent his life in Jones county with the exception of three years, from 1880 to 1883, when he was in Barton county, Kansas. He was educated in the common schools of Jackson township and at Lennox College, Hopkinton, Iowa. Following this he taught school twelve terms during the winter in

the country and boarded among the people of his district. During the summer months he farmed and eventually became the owner of five hundred acres in three farms adjoining each other. For some years he has made a specialty of feeding Duroc Jersey hogs, having three hundred and fifty head. He also feeds horses and about three carloads of steers annually, and he milks about twenty-five cows, selling his product to the creamery. This farm, for it is conducted as one, is a thoroughly modern one and Mr. Byerly prides himself upon his superb equipment and methods. In addition to other interests, he is a stockholder and has been a director from its organization of the Miles & Walters Savings Bank of Anamosa. He is also a director of the Anamosa District Fair Association.

One of the strongest democrats in the county, he has held many of the township offices and was assessor for twelve years and school director for eighteen years. In 1906 he was elected a member of the board of supervisors by a majority of six hundred and nineteen and was serving as chairman of the board when elected to the legislature. in the fall of 1908, receiving at that time a majority of one hundred and thirty-six in a county normally republican by a thousand majority. Mr. Byerly is a member of the democratic county central committee and has often been sent as delegate to state conventions. His work in the house was marked by a broad-gauged policy, which, while defending and protecting the interests of his people, did not swerve from the straight path of moral rectitude. He was reared in the Christian church but is not a member of any religious denomination.

On March 17, 1878, occurred the marriage of Mr. Byerly and Eliza Waggoner. She was born in Jackson township, December 22, 1857, a daughter of Barnhart and Barbara (Emert) Waggoner, the former born in Alsace, Germany, (then a part of France) August 26, 1803, and the latter in Somerset county, Pennsylvania. The mother's death occurred in March, 1859, when she was but thirty-eight. Barnhart Waggoner came from his native land to New York City, February 23, 1827, and to Ohio in 1833. There he was married in 1840 and in 1852 he came to Jones county, where he lived until his death, which occurred February 6, 1898. By his first marriage he had eight children that grew to maturity, four boys and four girls, and one son by a second marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Byerly have had eleven children as follows: Claud, who is in the employ of the Illinois Central railroad at Waterloo; Jay, who is at home; Floy, who is the wife of Rev. J. C. Tourtellott, a Presbyterian preacher of Fairbury, Nebraska; Blanche, who married Roy Russell of Jackson township; Jennie, who died at the age of ten years; and Guy, Grace, Lee, Beulah, Lillian and Mildred, who are at home.

PETER C. LEVSEN.

Peter C. Levensen, the owner of an excellent and highly improved farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Madison township, is widely recognized as one of the most extensive and successful cattle feeders in the county. His birth occurred near Husum, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, on the 23d of October, 1858. his

Welcome, **helenjwh1** L
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Johnson Lee Family Tree

Entries: 3649 **Updated:** 2007-07-03 17:09:05 UTC (Tue) **Contact:** Cindy Tong

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- **ID:** I0592
- **Name:** William M. BYERLY ¹
- **Sex:** M
- **Birth:** 31 MAR 1854 in Jackson Township, Jones County, Iowa
- **Death:** 30 JUL 1924 in Anamosa, Iowa
- **Education:** Lenox College, Hopkinton, Iowa
- **_ELEC:** 1906 Member of Board of Supervisors
- **Burial:** From family residence on Booth Street to Congregational Church of Anamosa
- **Census:** 1885 Jackson, Jones, Iowa. Farmer. Living with grandparents were Jennie, J.M. and Nora, children of Alvin Byerly's first marriage.
- **Census:** 1895 Jackson, Jones, Iowa. Farmer, Christian.
- **Census:** 1900 Greenfield, Jones, Iowa. Farmer.
- **Census:** 13 JAN 1920 107 So. Booth, Anamosa, Jones, Iowa. No occupation.
- **Note:**

Died from heart trouble and severe pains diagnosed as neuritis.

Always lived in Jones County, Iowa except three years from 1880 to 1883 when he was in Barton County, Kansas. After graduating college, he taught school twelve terms during the winter. During the summer he farmed and eventually became owner of 500 acres in three farms adjoining each other. Also a stockholder in the Niles and Watters Savings Bank and director of Anamosa District Fair Association.

Stauch Democrat of the county. He was assessor twelve years and school director eighteen years. He was serving as Chairman of the Board when elected to legislature, and served in the 33rd and 34th General Assemblies.

Father: [Michael BYERLY](#) b: 10 JUL 1818 in Fairfield, Ohio

Mother: [Elizabeth JEFFRIES](#) b: ABT. 1816 in Virginia

Marriage 1 Eliza WAGGONER

- **Married:** 17 MAR 1878 in Jackson, Jones County, Iowa

Jren

1. [Claud BYERLY](#) b: DEC 1878 in Jones County, Iowa
2. [Jay BYERLY](#) b: AUG 1880 in Barton, Kansas

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

<http://awt.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=ctong&id=I0592>

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Byerly, William

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3. [Floy BYERLY](#) b: JAN 1882 in Barton, Kansas
4. [Blanche BYERLY](#) b: OCT 1885 in Iowa
5. [Jennie M. BYERLY](#) b: ABT. 1887 in Jackson, Jones County, Iowa
6. [Guy BYERLY](#) b: 2 JUN 1889 in Anamosa, Jones County, Iowa
7. [Grace BYERLY](#) b: MAR 1891 in Jones County, Iowa
8. [Lee C. BYERLY](#) b: DEC 1892 in Jones County, Iowa
9. [Bulah BYERLY](#) b: MAR 1895
10. [Lillian BYERLY](#) b: OCT 1896
11. [Mildred BYERLY](#) b: 1898

Sources:

1. Title: Anamosa Journal

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