

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Powers, Phineas H. Senator \_\_\_\_\_  
Represented Floyd County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 8 Mar 1840 ? Canada

2. Marriage (s) date place

Opheia Cramer 10 Mar 1869 Vienna, Iowa County, Wisconsin

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business He organized the Powers Manufacturing Company, of Waterloo, Iowa  
and the Powers Manufacturing Company of Santa Ana, California

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

C. Profession Farmer; creamery owner and operator;  
livestock farmer; owner and operator of manufacturing companies

4. Church membership Methodist

5. Sessions served 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> General Assemblies 1902, 1904, 1906

6. Public Offices

A. Local Postmaster at Powersville

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

C. National In 1898 he was appointed by the Iowa Governor as a member of the  
National Farmers Congress that met at St. Paul, Minn.

7. Death 12 Mar 1915 Santa Ana, California buried Fairhaven Memorial Park, Santa Ana, California

8. Children Lydia Marie; Leonard John; Calvin Herman; Clara

9. Names of parents Orlando and Lydia (Hatchins) Powers

10. Education

11. Degrees

12. Other applicable information

Republican

- Arrived from Canada in 1867, purchased 160 A in Pleasant Grove Township.
- He built a house in 1883, added a creamery to the small settlement, post office located, grocery store, blacksmith
- Named it after himself.
- The town eventually had 10 families, post office discontinued around 1916.
- Each week he put in a stack of goods and the post office was in one end of his house. He would take the mail to Nashua, Iowa and work along with a load of bills.
- Within a few years he outgrew his home and built a new store, post office and meat market.
- Later the creamery burned and he replaced it with a larger one. He also built a blacksmith shop that would later burn down twice.
- In 1894 the Methodist Church was built in Powersville.



# WHY NOT DRAIN INTO COYOTE CREEK?

Artesia News: And while we are on this matter of drainage, why not drain the water east of Artesia into Coyote creek? We realize that this creek is the boundary line between Los Angeles and Orange counties, and that whatever improvements were made to the drainage way this creek offers would have to be done by the counties jointly. But, even so, we have no doubt but that our neighboring county would be willing to do its share toward the work. It seems to us that this would not only provide our citizens in the vicinity of Coyote creek with a proper drainage channel, but would, or should, if properly done, protect the ranchers along its banks and tributaries from the damaging flood and surface waters in the wet seasons. The citizens of both counties suffer now and the officials of both counties should be interested.

# FIVE-MINUTE CURE IF STOMACH IS BAD

'Pape's Diapepsin' Is Quickest, Surest Indigestion Cure Known

You don't want a slow remedy when your stomach is bad—or an uncertain one—or a harmful one—your stomach is too valuable; you mustn't injure it with drastic drugs.

Pape's Diapepsin is noted for its speed in giving relief; its harmlessness; its certain unfailing action in regulating sick, sour, gassy stomachs. Its millions of cures in indigestion, dyspepsia, gastritis and other stomach trouble has made it famous the world over.

Keep this perfect stomach doctor in your home—keep it handy—get a large fifty-cent case from any drug store and then if anyone should eat something which doesn't agree with them; if what they eat lies like lead, ferments and sours and forms gas; causes headache, dizziness and nausea; eructations of acid and undigested food—remember, as soon as Pape's

# IS TO IMPROVE RANCH LOCATED NEAR ORANGE

Los Angeles Times: Word has been received from Philadelphia that Mrs. J. D. Thomas, a well-known suffragist, is en route to this city to confer with her local business agents and plan extensive improvements for her big ranch at Orange. It is said Mrs. Thomas expects to present a new scheme to the California Fruit Growers' Association for exploiting California products.

# FORMER PROMINENT IOWAN DIES HERE

Friday there passed away in Santa Ana P. H. Powers, a man who played a prominent part in political and business life in Iowa.

Mr. Powers was a clean-cut, straight man, held in high esteem by all who knew him. He served two terms as state representative from the eighty-fifth district of Iowa. In 1898 he was appointed by the governor of Iowa as a member of the National Farmers' Congress, which met in Ft. Worth that year, and held many positions of trust in his home county. He was very successful in his business career. He had one of the finest equipped stock farms in the state of Iowa, consisting of 800 acres. He organized the Powers Manufacturing Company of Waterloo, Iowa, and also the Powers Manufacturing Company of Santa Ana, and was the president of both of these successful institutions until his death.

Mr. Powers was born in Canada in 1840. He settled in what is now Powersville, Ia. He came to Santa Ana nine years ago, living at 719 East Fifth street.

Mr. Powers leaves of his immediate family his widow, Ophelia Powers; two sons, Leonard Jr., manager of the company at Waterloo, Iowa, and Calvin, and one daughter, Mrs. Springer, of Powersville. Two brothers, Abelino and Orlando, both live here. Mrs. Springer and his son Leonard were both here before his death and the son, Calvin, is now on his way here to attend the funeral, which will be held from Smith & Tuthill's funeral parlors, Wednesday, March 17, at 10 a. m.

## LEG HURT BY BUGGY

Newport News: Benny Shafer, the 12-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Will Shafer, was quite severely injured, Friday afternoon by catching his leg in the rear wheel of a buggy. He was riding on the back of the rig when his foot slipped into the wheel, causing his

# PRODUCTS OF EL MODENA ARE ON

Arrangements for a hand exhibit to advertise the resort products of the El Modena have been gotten well under the Improvement Association town at the Santa Ana Chamber of Commerce.

An attractive stand has been placed in the exhibit room of the fair and a jar of splendid navy blue has been put on display by the Clayton of El Modena. Other products are expected to arrive in a few days and El Modena will then hold a play that will compare favorably with those from other Orange towns.

## NAMES REGISTERED IN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

March 12—Harry Madse, Okla.; A. C. Madsen, Byans, Okla.; Mrs. A. R. Wylie, Lorain, Cal.; Willis McCurn, Skayka, A. H. Shaw and wife, Park, Canada; G. Augstadt, Goodrich, N. Dak.; W. N. Sells, Falls, Idaho; D. C. Porter, M. Neb.

J. L. Boyes, Napanee, Ont.; W. G. Starkey, Duluth, Minn.; Braid, Los Angeles, Cal.; L. Ta, West Liberty, Iowa; Mr. John Vanatta, West Liberty, Iowa; Mr. O. F. Schoenfeld, Fox Lake, Ill.; Mrs. C. J. Schoenfeld, Fox Lake, Ill.; L. F. Koblas and wife, Minn.; Emilie Goepfinge, Iowa; Emma Herman, Boston; Martha F. Clark, Summerfield, Wis.; W. J. Miller, Waukegan, Ill.; Geo. H. Dietz and wife, St. Louis, Mo.

March 13—Mrs. Srella, St. Paul, Minn.; L. P. Eldridge, Okla.; Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Pawness, City, Neb.; J. B. Sells, wife, Long Beach, Cal.; M. Tewellin, Waterloo, Wis.; M. Shephard, Columbus, Wis.; A. Phillips, Los Angeles, Cal.; Leata Tewellin, Waterloo, Wis.; Edna Shephard, Columbus, Wis.; E. Johnson, Machsville, Kan.; Johnson, Machville, Kan.

Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Oder, Ark, N. J.; Mrs. Charles F. Barto, N. Y.; Mrs. Ella B. Williamson, N. Y.; W. A. Dulley, Valley, Minn.; Dorothy S.

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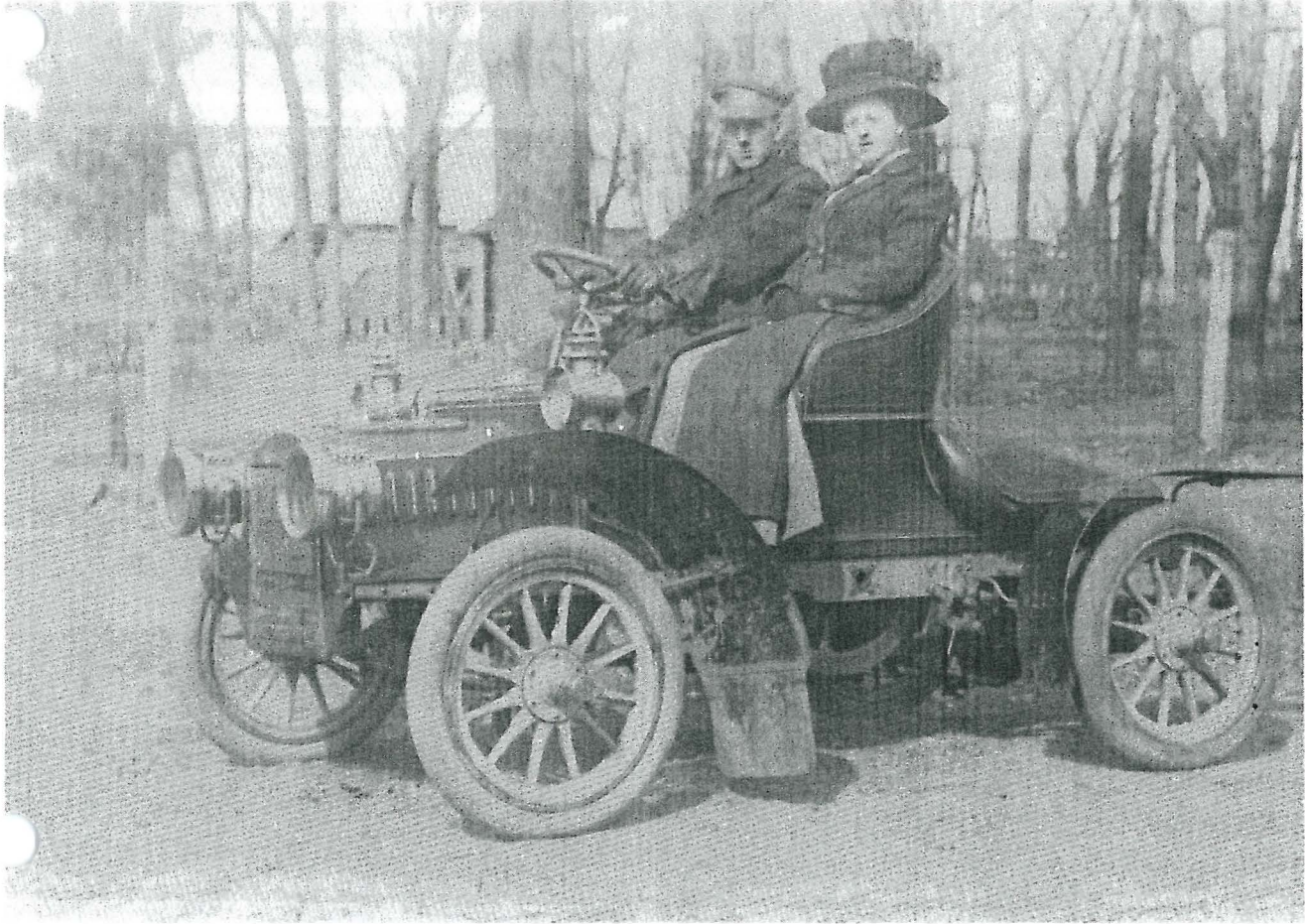
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# *Past Harvests*



*A  
History  
of Floyd  
County to 1996*

Cameron W. Hanson and Heather M. Hull, editors  
Floyd County Historical Society



Earl Neal and a friend ride in a 1905 Cadillac down Main Street Powersville.

## Ghost Towns

As the seven incorporated towns of Floyd County grew into the communities they have become today, several smaller, unincorporated villages came and went.

While they could be considered ghost towns, many of the areas in which the towns sat still retain their identity from the stores, post offices and houses that once existed and, in some cases, still stand there.

With the exception of Ernie (Floyd's Crossing), which is described in the section on the town of Floyd, here's a look at some of the towns of years past.

### Howardville

Howardville was a stage coach stop in Section 26 of Cedar Township. Two Howard brothers and an uncle were the first settlers in 1852. They named the area Howard's Woods.

A letter written by Fred Hammer gave some early information that the first Sunday School was held in the home of Elbert Howard in 1854.

Howardville, as it was later renamed, would

later grow to include a general store, post office and a blacksmith shop.

### Powersville

In 1867, **Phinas Powers**, a native of Canada, arrived in Floyd County and purchased 160 acres of land in the Pleasant Grove Township.

He built a house the following year and, around 1883, added a small creamery to his young settlement, which he had named after himself: Powersville.

The creamery was located near Powers' house and used horse power to churn the butter. He later moved it to the east end and enlarged it.

Powers also put a stock of goods and a post office in one section of his house. Once a week, he would take the mail to Nashua along with a load of butter.

Within a few years, Powers outgrew his home and built a new store with accommodations for a post office. By this time, there was also a meat market run by Pete Miller.

The creamery then burned down, and Powers

replaced it with a larger one. He also built a black smith shop that would later burned down twice.

In 1894, the Methodist Church was built in Powersville. The Modern Woodmen of America built their hall shortly afterwards, and from time to time, houses were built on the south side of the road. Eventually, there were 10 families in Powersville.

Around 1916, the hall burned down, and shortly thereafter, the store met the same fate. It was rebuilt, but due to the lack of business, the post office was discontinued.

### Lithograph City

Once a speculator's dream, the former town in northern Floyd County known as Lithograph City is now just pretty pasture land accented by trees, slopes and a meandering stream.

Two rows of trees mark the former Main Street of the town, which was located seven miles northwest of Floyd and about three and a half miles southwest of Orchard.

Sidewalks that lead to nowhere and a monument of fine limestone stand as proof that this pasture land was once a vibrant community.

Credited with founding the small settlement was a Rockford geologist named Clement L. Webster, who had been courting a girl who lived on a farm north of Floyd.

One day, while they were strolling across the countryside, Webster noticed an unusual outcropping of rock. It was a fine texture limestone which he recognized as ideal for lithograph work.

Webster then organized the Interstate Investment and Improvement Company and was elected the organization's first president. Land was acquired, and Lithograph City was platted June 10, 1905.

By April of 1913, two houses had been erected, and \$50,000 worth of machinery had been ordered for processing the rock. Lithograph stone was to be the prime product, but Webster expected by the end of the summer to have rock crushing machinery operating and providing crushed rock, cement and fertilizer as by-products.

By 1914, Lithograph City had grown to include 15 houses, a hotel, blacksmith shop, stone-polishing plant, museum, lumberyard, general store and a dance hall.

Within two years, a town newspaper call the *Lithograph City Enterprise* began publication, and a post office opened the following year.

The rosy prospects of the town, which had become known as Devonia and continued as such at least through 1961, did not last long, however.

Although the limestone was good and often better than the stone imported from Bavaria, art-

ists refused to work on the domestic product. By the time the artisans could be sold on its quality, zinc, copper and lead began replacing the old lithographic method.

In addition to the loss of markets, the directors and stockholders of the Interstate Investment and Improvement Company were divided by discord. Litigation brought the company operation to a halt.

One by one, the houses in Devonia were moved from their foundations. Boarded up, the one remaining house finally succumbed to the winds and weather and collapsed into its basement. Trees and shrubs matured in the other basements.

Today, there are only sidewalks that go nowhere and a monument, intended to be a landmark of Lithograph City, has become more like a gravestone for a speculator's dream.

### Niles

Still referred to as Niles Corner, the four-way intersection of Floyd County roads T-64 and T-66 five miles northeast of Charles City was once home to the little village of Niles.

Named for its first settler, the town was originally known as Platt's Corner. A farmer, F. M. Platt, came from New York state in 1855 and purchased land in Section 17.

On March 16, 1858, Joseph Beckwith sold a parcel of land for the sum of \$10 to Niles Township and Floyd County to become School No. 1 of Niles Township. This was located one mile east of Platt's Corner. The school building was built and church services were also held there, until the Niles Congregational Church was officially organized in 1893 and built one and one-half miles north.

A sorghum mill was located on the southwest corner of the intersection of Niles and directly south of the mill a creamery was built. In March of 1887, the Niles Creamery Association was organized but was later sold to John Brunner, who lived with his family above the creamery.

In 1904, John's brother, Frank Brunner, bought a part interest in it, and he and his family lived there until moving to the new town of Colwell in 1917. The creamery was relocated there as well.

The corner's first general merchandise store which also had living quarters, was owned and operated by Herbert B. Waters. Some time after 1881, a post office was located in this store as well and Waters served as its postmaster.

In 1891, the strip of land and store were sold to John Calvin Bonsall, who also a postmaster. The town was renamed Nilesville in 1898, and the post office continued until Oct. 15, 1902.

A second general store was owned and operated



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**Bo Peggy Julie Tumaszk Oct 06** [Return to family tree](#) | [Tree pages](#) Owner: [find a person in this tree](#)

**Phineas H Powers** [Save this person to your tree](#)  
 Birth **MAR 1840** in [La Chute, Quebec, Canada](#) [Comment on this](#)  
 Death **13 MAR 1910** in [Modoc Co, CA](#)

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**Media Gallery**

*No photos, stories, audio or video have been added yet.*

**Timeline** [\(View details\)](#)

1840 Mar	<b>Birth</b> <a href="#">La Chute, Quebec, Canada</a>	<a href="#">4 source citations</a>
1860 Age: 20	<b>Arrival</b>	<a href="#">1 source citation</a>
1861 Age: 21	<b>Arrival</b>	<a href="#">1 source citation</a>
1861 Age: 21	<b>Arrival</b>	<a href="#">1 source citation</a>
1869 10 Mar Age: 29	<b>Marriage to Ophelia Cramer</b> <a href="#">Vienna, Dane, Wisconsin, United States</a>	<a href="#">1 source citation</a>
1880 Age: 40	<b>Residence</b> <a href="#">Pleasant Grove, Floyd, Iowa, United States</a>	<a href="#">1 source citation</a>
1895 Age: 55	<b>Residence</b> <a href="#">Pleasant Grooe, Floyd, Iowa,</a>	<a href="#">1 source citation</a>
1900 Age: 60	<b>Residence</b> <a href="#">Pleasant Grove, Floyd, Iowa</a>	<a href="#">1 source citation</a>
1900 Age: 60	<b>Residence</b> <a href="#">Pleasant Grove, Floyd, Iowa,</a>	<a href="#">1 source citation</a>
1910 13 Mar Age: 70	<b>Death</b> <a href="#">Modoc Co, CA</a>	
1910 Age: 70	<b>Residence</b> <a href="#">Santa Ana Ward 2, Orange, California</a>	<a href="#">1 source citation</a>

**Comments**

*No comments have been added yet.*

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**Family Members**

**Parents**

- Orlando Powers**  
1804 – 1877
  - Lydia Hutchins**  
1805 – 1854
- [Show siblings](#)

**Spouse & Children**

- Ophelia Cramer**  
1849 – 1930
- Lydia Maria Powers**  
1870 – 1900
- Leonard Johial Powers**  
1873 – 1972
- Calvin Hiram Powers**  
1878 – 1958
- Clara Powers**  
1883 – 1959

[Family group sheet](#)

**Source Information**

[view details](#)

**1880 United States Federal Census**

1 citation provides evidence for **Residence, Name, Birth**

**1900 United States Federal Census**

1 citation provides evidence for **Birth, Name, Residence, Marriage, Arrival**

**1910 United States Federal Census**

1 citation provides evidence for **Residence, Arrival, Name, Birth**

**Ancestry Family Trees**

3 citations provide evidence for (Phineas H Powers)

**Iowa State Census, 1895**

1 citation provides evidence for **Birth, Name, Residence**

**Web Links**

*There are no weblinks available for this person.*

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Children (4)

Lydia Maria Powers B: 1870  
 Leonard Johial Powers B: 1873  
 Calvin Hiram Powers B: 1878  
 Clara Powers B: 1883

**Phineas H Powers**

**B:** MAR 1840 in La Chute, Quebec, Canada  
**D:** 13 MAR 1910 in Modoc Co, CA

Parents  
**Orlando Powers**  
 1804-1877

**Lydia Hutchins**  
 1805-1854

**Ophelia Cramer** B:15 DEC 1849 in Rock, Rock, Wisconsin, United States

1880 United States Federal Census

Name: **Phineas Powers**  
 Home in 1880: **Pleasant Grove, Floyd, Iowa**  
 Age: **40**  
 Estimated Birth Year: **abt 1840**  
 Birthplace: **Canada**  
 Relation to Head of Household: **Self (Head)**  
 Spouse's Name: **Oplelia Powers**  
 Father's birthplace: **Canada**  
 Mother's birthplace: **Canada**  
 Neighbors: [View others on page](#)  
 Occupation: **Farming**  
 Marital Status: **Married**  
 Race: **White**  
 Gender: **Male**  
 Cannot read/write:  
 Blind: [View image](#)  
 Deaf and dumb:  
 Otherwise disabled:  
 Idiotic or insane:

Household Members:	Name	Age
	<a href="#">Phineas Powers</a>	40
	<a href="#">Oplelia Powers</a>	31
	<a href="#">Lydia Powers</a>	10
	<a href="#">Leonard Powers</a>	6
	<a href="#">Calvin Powers</a>	1
	<a href="#">Isabell Cole</a>	20
	<a href="#">Hugh Mcmann</a>	23

**Source Citation:** Year: 1880; Census Place: Pleasant Grove, Floyd, Iowa; Roll: 340; Family History Film: 1254340; Page: 280A; Enumeration District: 215; Image: 0163.

**Source Information:**

Ancestry.com and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. 1880 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2010. 1880 U.S. Census Index provided by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints © Copyright 1999 Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved. All use is subject to the limited use license and other terms and conditions applicable to this site.

Original data: Tenth Census of the United States, 1880. (NARA microfilm publication T9, 1,454 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

**Description:**

This database is an index to 50 million individuals enumerated in the 1880 United States Federal Census. Census takers recorded many details including each person's name, address, occupation, relationship to the head of household, race, sex, age at last birthday, marital status, place of birth, parents' place of birth. Additionally, the



You searched for **P. H. Powers** in **Iowa**

### Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925

Name:	<b>P H Powers</b>	
Birth Year:	<b>abt 1840</b>	
Birth Place:	<b>Canada</b>	
Gender:	<b>Male</b>	
Marital Status:	<b>Married</b>	
Census Date:	<b>1885</b>	
Residence State:	<b>Iowa</b>	
Residence County:	<b>Floyd</b>	
Locality:	<b>Pleasant Grove</b>	
Roll:	<b>IA1885_186</b>	
Line:	<b>7</b>	
Family Number:	<b>118</b>	
Neighbors:	<a href="#">View others on page</a>	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	<a href="#">P H Powers</a>	45
	<a href="#">Ophelia Powers</a>	35
	<a href="#">Lydia M Powers</a>	35
	<a href="#">Leonard Powers</a>	12
	<a href="#">Calvin H Powers</a>	6
	<a href="#">Clain Powers</a>	2
	<a href="#">Emma Hartshorn</a>	24

#### Source Information:

Ancestry.com. *Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925* [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 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.  
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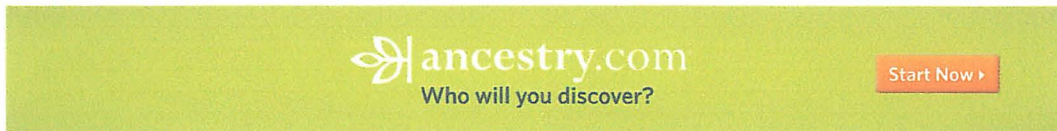
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### Phineas H. Powers

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Birth: Mar. 8, 1840  
Death: Mar. 12, 1915

Burial:  
[Fairhaven Memorial Park](#)  
Santa Ana  
Orange County  
California, USA  
Plot: Lawn L

Created by: [Tony & Cindy Lloyd](#)  
Record added: Sep 26, 2010  
Find A Grave Memorial# 59262264



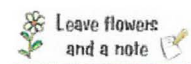
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Added: May. 19, 2011



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