

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Warren, Abram J. Senator _____

Represented Sioux County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place ca 1829

2. Marriage (s) date place

Julia D.

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business _____

B. Civic responsibilities _____

C. Profession Farmer

4. Church membership _____

5. Sessions served 24th General Assembly 1892

6. Public Offices

A. Local _____

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death 17 Feb 1913 Rock Valley, Iowa; Linn Valley View Cemetery, Rock Valley, Iowa

8. Children Ellen, Elsie

9. Names of parents _____

10. Education

11. Degrees

12. Other applicable information

Democrat

- *Wife Julia, born 1834, died 1918, also buried in Valley View Cemetery, Rock Valley, Iowa.*
- *He owned the land in 1879 which is now occupied by the town of Rock Valley. At that time when the Milwaukee Railroad was being built through the county platted the town known for a time as Harvinton, later as Rock Valley.*

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

[illegible]

er brother, W. F. Rieckhoff
en route to Los Angeles.

Popma of this city and F.
na of Ireton went to Pella
day to visit their mother Mrs.
who is seriously ill.

Tott, the manager of the
ers elevator attended the con-
tion of farmers elevator com-
es at Sioux City last week.

turday, Feb. 22, the Farmers'
perative Creamery Co. will
their annual meeting at the
hall.

Hospers has bought the Klu-
property east of town and in-
s to erect a dwelling there
summer.

rs. J. H. Thomassen has gone
ruble to visit here son George
the new grandson who arrived
e last week.

alter J. Popma formerly of
city is to be married to Anna
oria Rosene of Meriden, Iowa,
e'ary 26th.

good education opens the door
tying positions. Secure your
ation at Mankato Commercial
ge, Mankato, Minn.

and Mrs. Bert Lubbers at-
ed the wedding of Mrs. Lub-
' sister, Miss Kathryn Doek-
to Chas. Van der Meer at Hull
rsday.

ev. Harper addressed a union
ting at the First church Sun-
evening. Saturday evening
delivered an illustrated lecture
is work among the Indians.

ev. Engelsman performed the
mony today that united Miss
ie Van der Maaten and Jacob
vers. The wedding will take
e at the home of the bride's
n Mr. and Mrs. F. Van der
ten.

r. Weber's Eye and Ear Treat-
t has cured hundreds and his
ses are worn by thousands of
sed patients. See Dr. Weber
r 1:30 p. m. Saturday, Feb.

and Cedar Creek, Va.
In 1866 Mr. Struble went to St.
Louis, where he remained a year
as bookkeeper in the wholesale
house of J. H. Teasdale & Co.,
his uncle being the senior partner.
After admission to the bar in 1870
he began the practice of law at
Polo, Ill., where he remained un-
til 1872, when he removed to Le-
Mars. Here he applied himself to
his profession and held no public
office until he was elected to the
Forty-eighth congress in 1882 and
served four terms.

Mr. Struble was prominently
identified with the early pioneer
life of Sioux county as well as
with that of his own county. The
funeral will be held today at the
Congregational church of LeMars.

Col. Warren Passes Away at Rock Valley.

Col. A. J. Warren died at Rock
Valley last Monday at the advanc-
ed age of eighty-six. He is one
of the earliest settlers of this
county and took a prominent part
in the development of his town
and county. He served in the
General Assembly in the early
days and has held nearly all the
offices of honor and trust in his
city. In 1879 Col. Warren owned
the land which is now occupied by
the town of Rock Valley, and at
that time when the Milwaukee
railroad was being built through
the county platted the town, known
for a time as Warrentown and la-
ter as Rock Valley.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla

Tonic and alterative. Increases strength.
Restores healthy functions. No alcohol.
Sold for 60 years.

Ask Your Doctor.

J. C. Ayer & Co.
Lowell, Mass.

In the District Court of the State of Iowa in
and for Sioux County.

In the Matter of the Estate
of
Lammert Van Olt.

NOTICE.
You are hereby notified that on the 6th day
of January, 1913, a petition was filed in the

So cheap in
you can affo

NEW

again next f

C. HOSPERS & S

YOUR VA

PAPE

CODE

Are you running the risk
them in your desk, or about th
If you are, you had better
our vault. Two keys are requ
locks alike. You keep one key
place to keep your Deeds, Abs
cies, etc., etc., etc.

We invite you to come in
which we have just installed.

THE NORTHWESTERN STA

VAN PELT & V Lumber,

Coal.

Silos.

State Historical Society of Iowa

Journal, a democratic yesterday at Sharon, e of his nephew, James Des Moines last fall to spread the winter in the hope of benefitting his health. Mr. Porter had resided in Des Moines since 1855 and was well known over the state. The body will be buried in the family cemetery at Ripley, O.

Notes of the Politicians

Times wonders if the avoid a special session necessary laws in con- e popular election of session.

Senator E. L. Hogue of was in Des Moines this

auditor of state 1881-3, Cruz, Cal., where he is newspaper business.

er of the Webster City it it is understood in at the bull moose in- run Attorney General nate against Cummins.

postmaster at Newton, ess last fall, was auc- arbel and Nolin sale i Newton last Monday. Newton his auto broke alked the other eight

a candidate for reelec- Grinnell.

Sentinel wants county to the lowest bidder.

lo... l says that Jerry aalmy in the something lass.

nty Republican suspects are back of the scheme n suffrage in violation ges as are back of the

ho served Cass-Shelby e senate 1893-7, died in t week. He was con- rmanly, during the Me- tion.

E. Ranster, who may ench, plans a partner- & Longley of Water-

may go to Ames in a son homecoming cele-

commends the legisla- anti-Sunday baseball

decided to be a candi- or of Decorah.

nal says that 1912 was rah ever managed to saloons, and bak de- during the year.

the Missouri leg-

ublican has adopted West Union Argo-Ga- chereabouts and occu-

patton of the former residents of that city.

The Algona Upper Des Moines suggests that if Kossuth county is divided the north county should be named after a prominent resident in that section.

Lon H. Boydson, who used to run the Montezuma Democrat and later was in newspapering in Des Moines, is now very ill in California.

The Vinton Eagle says that the repub- lean party is as virile as at any time since 1861; what it needs, says Editor Murphy, is leaders.

W. W. Ward, inventor of the road drag, has highly indorsed Jim Brockaway. Per- manent roads would put the drag out of business.

Pella is raising \$1,000 for good roads and at last accounts had pledges for about \$700 of the amount.

The Audubon County Journal, published at Exira, favors Atlantic in Cass county for location for a normal school, although Audubon is a candidate.

B. F. Owens of Rockwell City is re- ported by the Calhoun County Republi- can to have discovered a sure cure for hog cholera which may save the state that \$5,000,000 appropriation.

W. P. McGuire, formerly in the news- paper business and a long time at Ames, Ia., and in St. Paul and Minneapolis, is now publicity manager of the St. Paul As- sociation of Commerce.

Col. A. J. Warren, who served in the legislature and died recently at Rock Val- ley, was the founder of that city.

The Centerville Weekly Sun asks how it would be to increase the working hours of the supreme judges, instead of the number of judges.

Elliott Hurd has taken the management of the Sharpsburg Review.

The Kansas legislature is considering a bill to reduce the salaries of all of he elective officers of that state.

The Iowa legislative committee on re- trenchment and reform is said to con- template boosting the salaries of all the state officers who now get \$3,000 a year.

C. E. Ormsby has retired from the Sharpsburg Review to take the manage- ment of the consolidated job printing of- fices of the Redford Free Press and Times-Republican.

They Voted for Lincoln in '60.

E. L. Witt, 1314 Twenty-third street, Des Moines.

George Hawkins, Bussey.

Justice of the peace of Des Moines town- ship, which included territory now di- vided into a half dozen townships.

In January, 1857, he purchased the Iowa Statesman and changed its name to the State Journal. He sold the paper several years later to Stillson Hutchins. After the war he became chief Iowa correspondent for the Chi- cago Times and represented that news- paper for more than twenty years. He reported a number of national political conventions for this paper and was a contributor to eastern newspapers and magazines. For several years he was editor of the Council Bluffs Globe. He

Thursday will give evening a chapel. T auspices of erick Vane

Tumult WASHIN ary of T. muly, wh secretary aured toda accept the eral defen instead of



ITS WHITE
OR BUSINESS

years ago as assistant secretary of the treasury. He served two years and entered the White house on April 1, 1911, succeeding Charles Dyer

\$22.35 Canada and
Via M. & St. L.

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

SIouxLAND:

A History of Sioux County, Iowa

State Historical Library
Des Moines, Iowa

63, 218

the sheriff at once.

Within minutes, the sheriff and his deputy were at the scene, and as they pulled up near the store the thieves jumped into their car and sped south on Highway 75. Sheriff Synhorst and his deputy, Dykstra, gave chase over the dusty graveled highway. The two cars roared through main street Sioux Center, the sheriff's automobile slowly gaining on that of the thieves. About this time one of the bandits began firing his 38 caliber revolver at the approaching sheriff's vehicle. Synhorst thereupon returned the fire while Dykstra drove at top speed. Synhorst's high-powered rifle began to have its effect on the car of the thieves, and as was learned later, one of the bullets hit one of the men in his left shoulder. When the two vehicles neared the Million Dollar Corner, the bandits pulled their car over to the side of the road and surrendered. The robbers were identified as Mickey Brienzo and Albert Thorngren. They were taken to the county jail to await trial.¹⁵

ROCK VALLEY

The third town to develop along the Milwaukee Railroad's right-of-way through Sioux County was Rock Valley. As early as 1875, J.L. Finch set up a grist mill along the Rock River in Section 21, at a point about a half mile from the townsite of Rock Mills, which was to become the town of Rock Valley. Finch was a veteran miller who had learned his trade on the Cedar River near Waterloo, Iowa. He was planning to develop a townsite near his mill, but before he could carry out his plans word came that the Milwaukee Railroad was soon to stake out a main line track through northern Iowa near the 43rd Parallel, which would place the road near his mill site.

In 1874, Dr. Edward O. Plumbe of Orange City was asked to be the special speaker at a Grange rally and picnic to be held at Rock Mills. A crowd of about six hundred gathered at the picnic on the 4th of July. In his speech, Dr. Plumbe evoked much merriment when he ventured the opinion that those alive ten years later would see a thriving town located within



This auto was used by robbers who were apprehended as they tried to rob the store at Perkins Corner, 1926. Sheriff Hugo Synhorst and his deputy, Harry Dykstra, captured the robbers between Sioux Center and Maurice. Photograph courtesy of Ed Stetson, photographer.

two miles of the site of the picnic.

Only five years later Dr. Plumbe moved with his family to the newly platted site of Rock Valley. He built the first dwelling in town, established a drug store and a newspaper there, and became Rock Valley's first resident physician. The Rock Mills post office was opened on March 3, 1877, and was discontinued on July 11, 1879, when Rock Valley's post office was officially opened.¹⁶

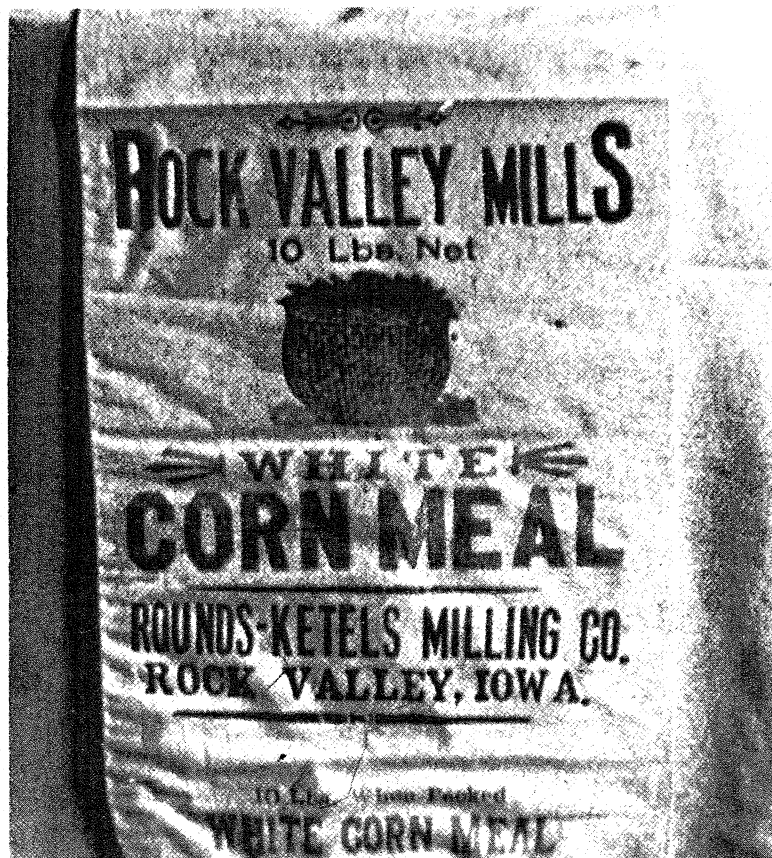
In October, 1878, the Milwaukee track layers reached a point about two miles west of Pattersonville, near the present site of Perkins Corner. A post office called Maybelle was located in Section 32, in the Northeast Quarter of the section, and it remained open until October 12, 1886.

For some months in the year 1878, it was not certain just where the Milwaukee tracks would be laid, and many people were curious to know, for it would help them in their plans to buy property. The track workers were laid off for the winter of 1878-1879, and further progress on the tracks had to wait until spring.

As soon as weather permitted in the spring of 1879, work was resumed from the point near Perkins Corner to Rock Mills. By May the track was near the Rock River just a half mile south from Rock Mills. A townsite was surveyed on the farm of Abram Warren in Section 21 of Rock Township, and in part of Section 20. Moses Buspel, surveyor for the Milwaukee Road did the survey work, and it is believed that Abram Warren suggested the name Rock Valley. The plat bears the signatures of Abram and Julia Warren, and the name Rock Valley. The first plat was signed by a Notary Public named G.W. Kuiss of Rock County, Minnesota, on December 2, 1879 and filed for the record in the Sioux County Courthouse on December 16, 1879.

Abram Warren planted the first trees in the town, and built some of the first stores. He built the Warren Hotel and donated lots for the first schoolhouse and the early churches.¹⁷

The official federal census for 1880 showed that Rock Valley had exactly one hundred persons within its borders. During the winter of



Pictured above is Rev. Thorpe who ministered to the early settlers in Hull in the 1870's. Notice his European collar. Photograph courtesy of Hull Iowa Centennial.

A picture of one of the grain bags used at the Rock Valley Mills. This corn meal bag is owned by Donald F. Klein.

1880-1881, heavy snow fell, which prevented the trains from reaching the town for fifty-nine days. The only mail was received by bob-sled. When warm weather arrived in the spring, the melting snows caused flood waters along the Rock River to completely destroy the Finch Mill. All the bridges along the river were also destroyed, including the newly completed railroad bridge near town. It was not until May 1 that the trains were running again west of Rock Valley. While the bridges were being built, ferries were used to get people and goods across the river.

When railroad service was resumed westward into South Dakota, hundreds of immigrants passed through Rock Valley, some by wagon and others by train. Some families stopped at Rock Valley and set up business places or sought employment in the new town.

One day in the spring of 1882, residents of Rock Valley went to the depot to see a train which had been loaded in Pattersonville and was bound for Douglas County, in the Dakotas. The train carried Sioux County

residents who were leaving Orange City with a view to founding another Dutch settlement. The train consisted of some stockcars for livestock, some boxcars for the household goods and farm implements, and one passenger car in the rear for the families. The special train was bound for the town of Plankington on the Milwaukee Road, and at that point the immigrants would disembark and make their way overland some eighteen miles south to the location of their new homesteads. An eyewitness to this event writes:

"The movement assumed the proportions of an exodus. The Milwaukee Road from Pattersonville to Plankington, South Dakota, became a veritable train of emigrants. Hardly sufficient cars were available. Household goods and farm tools lay in piles along the tracks at the station. Farm sale bills in Sioux County carried the significant preamble, 'By reason of moving to Dakota.' That is, part of the herds

Original home of the Bellesfields, located about five miles southwest of Rock Valley along the Rock River. This place was said to have been the sleeping place of pioneers for many years. It was also supposedly visited by Jesse James and his men.



and horses and equipment was converted into money which would contribute to the construction of new homes and farmsteads.”¹⁸

Shortly after the **Independent** was sold to Rufus Stone, **The Rock Valley Bee** began publication on January 1, 1883. Although other attempts were made to establish a second newspaper for Rock Valley, it was the **Bee** which survived to develop into “one of the most reliable weeklies in the State of Iowa.” A.L. Halstead’s long record of 33 years as editor and owner of the **Bee** began in 1907.

The federal census revealed that Rock Valley had a population of 542, a great increase over that of 1880. In spite of the emigration of many of its citizens, Orange City then had a population of 1246. The county’s population had reached 18,370.

On November 12, 1888, the citizens of Rock Valley voted to incorporate their town by a vote of 60 to 38. Following that, on December 18, the first town election resulted in the appearance of 98 electors to cast their ballots. For an unexplainable reason, no records are existent on the results. It appears, however, that Charles W. Carter, newly arrived from Orange City, served as acting mayor until the following spring, when W.C. Leonard was elected to that office.

In 1890, ten Rock Valley businessmen joined together for the purpose of building a small steamer which would be able to cruise up and down the Rock River. Each man contributed one hundred dollars to the project. The boat was named “The Rock Valley.” It had a capacity of fifty passengers. A coffer dam was constructed near town on the river so that the vessel could ride over the shallow spots near town. Will Skewis was the pilot for the craft and he manned the wheel on Sunday afternoon when the boat made a trip as far as Doon and return. Sometimes the boat was used for special cruises on moonlight nights or it was used for Sunday School picnics. When the boat would get mired on some sandbar, all the passengers would get off to lighten it enough so that it might float free again.

In 1895, the “Rock Valley,” Sioux County’s only passenger vessel was sold to parties in Spirit Lake, Iowa, where it steamed over the waters of West Okoboji for several years until it was again sold to persons in Wall Lake, Iowa. During all of its career, however, it always kept the name “Rock Valley”.

Following the destruction of Finch’s flour mill by the flood in 1882, H.E. Rounds constructed a new mill west of the town along the “cut-off.” The mill did a flourishing business. In 1893 it filled an order from a firm in Hull,



The main intersection of Rock Valley in the late 1800's. Intersection of 14th and Main. In the time of this picture, Main was Mitchell Street and 14th was Kimball Avenue. The street names were changed due to postal requirements for city delivery. The first were named by Col. Warren, founder of Rock Valley. Photograph courtesy of Marie Buckley, Rock Valley.



W

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Not sure where to start? Often it's helpful to contact others who share your research interests:

[Find others searching for Abram J Warren](#)

1870 United States Federal Census

Name: **Abram J Warren**

Estimated Birth Year: **abt 1829**

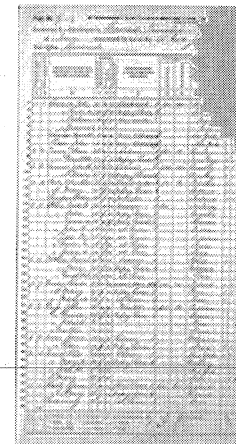
Age in 1870: **41**

Birthplace: **Ohio**

Home in 1870: **Waterloo Ward 4, Black Hawk, Iowa**

Race: **White**Gender: **Male**Value of real estate: [View Image](#)Post Office: **Waterloo**

Household Members:	Name	Age
	Abram J Warren	41
	Julia D Warren	37
	Ellen Warren	1
	Julia Dutton	67


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Save This Record

Attach this record to a person in your tree as a source record, or save for later evaluation.

Source Citation: Year: 1870; Census Place: *Waterloo Ward 4, Black Hawk, Iowa*; Roll: *M593_377*; Page: 528; Image: 463.

Source Information:

Ancestry.com. 1870 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., 2003. Original data: 1870.

• United States. *Ninth Census of the United States, 1870*. Washington, D.C. National Archiv

