

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of **Representative** BARRETT, ORSMUND M. **Senator** BARRETT, ORSMUND M.

1. Birthday and place 28 May. 1837, Oswego Co., NY

2. Marriage (s) date place

Ellen C. Waggoner, (NY c. 1841 - ), probably bef 1860, as she is wife in 1860 census, but GAR record says m. 1864.

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business farmer, lawyer

B. Civic responsibilities Mason; Knights of Pythias

C. Profession \_\_\_\_\_

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

5. Sessions served 19th GA 1882, HD 75, Clay, Osceola, O'Brien & Dickinson Co.  
20th-23rd GA, 1884-1891, SD 49, Lyon, Osceola, O'Brien, Sioux,  
Plymouth & Dickinson Co.

6. Public Offices

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

B. State 1st Lt. Co. #, 38th Ia Inf

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

7. Death 1 March, 1899, San Diego, Calif. bur. San Diego.

8. Children (1) Chasley O. (c. 1861 - ); (2) Nellie E. (c. 1866 - )  
(2) Warner (c. 1870 - ); (4) Paul D. (c. 1872 - ) (5) Jessie (c. 1878 - )

9. Names of parents \_\_\_\_\_

10. Education \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. Degrees He attended Holy Trinity at Fulton, New York;  
graduate of law school at Albany, New York

12. Other applicable information Farmer in Bur~~o~~OakTwp, Winneshiek Co., on  
1860 census, with Ellen. He does not appear on 1870 census. In 1880 he is lawyer in Sheldon.  
came to Sheldon 1875 and began practice of law there that year.

Appointed 1st Lt, Co. D, 38th Ia Inf., Aug 1862, mustered in Nov. 1862. Was on staff of  
Maj. Gen. Herren at New Madrid and Vicksburg. Resigned June 1863 because of health.

Was leading attorney in several law offices in Sheldon. Story in county history says he  
was chess aficionado, and one day when he had hired Irishman to dig his garden, add told him to  
dig until he returned from town, he started playing a chess game and when he came home the  
Irishman had dug a hole over ten feet deep. Took a day to fill up the hole.

Platted 5th addition to Sheldon.

Had kidney disease; because of health moved to San Diego c. 1894.

Republican  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

Source	Non Applicable	Applicable	Information obtained
Sheldon Mail, 3 March 1899		x	report of death, no obit
Stork/Blingan, Legislators		x	sessions served
GAR records		x	bio notes
Perkins, History of O'Brien Co, 1897		x	picture
Past & Present O'Brien & Osceola Co. 1914		x	bits of info
1860 Census Winneshiek Co. 888		x	farmer
1870 Census	x		not in Index
1880 Census O'Brien Co. 161/12/20		x	lawyer, wf and 5 ch
Sheldon Area Centennial 1872		x	says came to Sheldon 1873

*Obituary - The Sheldon Mail, Sheldon, Iowa, Fri. Mar. 8, 1899, p. 5, col. 5 and Tue. Mar. 7, 1899, p. 4, col. 5*

*Obituary - The Sheldon Eagle, Sheldon, Iowa, Thurs. Mar. 2, 1899, p. 5, col. 1.*

*Biographical Sketches of the 22<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly of Iowa, March 1888, p. 36-37*

early evening on horse back to attend a grange meeting, and when he was returning home had completely lost his bearings, got turned around as men will after dark on the prairie, and got lost. He was taken in and put to bed, but was all right in the morning. C. P. Jones also went to Dakota the same year with Mr. Klindt, and afterwards to the Pacific coast, where he now resides. A nephew of Mr. Mennig's, S. L. McCallum, while here in 1896, was curious enough over Jones' log house, to make a picture frame out of the wood.

The writer came to O'Brien county in the fall of 1870, and having boarded with the family of W. C. Butterfield at Durant, did, upon Mr. Butterfield's return from O'Brien county in the summer of 1870, catch some of the



O. M. BARNETT.

pioneer spirit and enthusiasm with which Mr. Butterfield was thoroughly imbued. I came up with Mr. Butterfield in September, 1870, and selected the southwest quarter of section 32 in Floyd township, and a part of which is now an addition to Sheldon.

The first act was to build a shack which Mr. Butterfield and myself erected in a day. It was 6 by 8, that is, the walls, and we laid a few boards across the top for a roof. A piece of an old horse blanket constituted the floor, and a window frame with every light out, was inserted among the sods in the south wall for a window, while a piece of board, laid up against the building, where there was an aperture, we called a door. In filing at the land office it was required to state that the building on the claim had a roof, a door, a floor and

general land, abstract and law business and later publishing a newspaper. In 1895 he removed to Des Moines, where he died. Walker was an indefatigable worker, of great personal bravery, and an intense fighter in his business and legal enterprises.

Orsmond M. Barrett, at one time the leading lawyer of Sheldon, was born in 1837, served in the Civil War as a Union soldier, and settled in the practice of his profession at Sheldon in 1875. He was at various times associated with Charley Allen, Alfred Morton, C. H. Bullis and S. A. Callvert, his name always heading the firm. He was a representative in the nineteenth General Assembly, and senator in the twentieth, twenty-first, twenty-second and twenty-third General Assemblies of Iowa. In his later years he removed to California, residing at National City, where he died March 1, 1899.

John T. Stearns, born in 1841, was admitted to practice in Franklin county, Iowa, and came to Primghar in 1875, where he was interested in real estate ventures in connection with his legal practice. For many years he resided at Chamberlain, South Dakota, where he was actively engaged in law and land business until 1895, when he returned to O'Brien county and actively engaged in the practice of law. He made a specialty of land title litigation and was for many years associated with other attorneys in the conduct of litigation in behalf of settlers on the litigated railroad lands of the county. This litigation was generally successful, as most of his clients had secured and remained in possession of the lands, but the contest was long and arduous and J. T. Stearns' ability led in no small degree to the success of that series of legal battles. He died March 14, 1907, without an enemy in the county.

Charles Allen, familiarly known as "Charley," was born in 1835, admitted to practice in 1868, and came to the county in 1875 and associated himself at Sheldon with O. M. Barrett in the practice of law, the firm being known as Barrett & Allen. In 1879 we find him at Primghar temporarily engaged in the drug business, but he soon returned to his profession and was a successful practitioner in the county until 1881. Later he was a practicing attorney at Lander, Wyoming, where he died in 1911. He was a good lawyer, absolutely honest in money matters, and a man of varied talents, being at one time leader of the band.

J. L. E. Peck engaged in the practice of law at Primghar in 1877 and with but a short interruption, during the time his daughters were receiving

It all worked out to exact time and fact. Tom's leg was all fixed up true to the expert surgeon, ready for the show with the boys. They actually carried him up stairs by main strength, some dozen assisting. In the meantime "Pomp" had said to the town boys that it would be a mean trick to leave the planted weed decorations at his office, under such affliction. They had all carefully removed same when Tom arrived. To round it up, when the right time came, and after they had all gone through with their great sympathies and carefully handling him to his room, he jumped up and danced all over and down stairs and over the hotel, and all wound up in a hilarious time during the evening. But "Pomp" could work both sides of such a joke to perfection, and on good sized scale.

"POMP" M'CORMACK ON THE COUNTY CAPITOL LOOKATORY.

This time the joke was on "Pomp" himself. One Sunday forenoon a bunch of the court house officials set up a job, and induced all hands, including "Pomp," to go up on Mt. Aetna to the top of the capitol building, the "Court House Lookatory." It worked, without "Pomp" hooking on, and all hands landed in the cupola. Keeping "Pomp" engaged in conversation, they one by one slid down the ladder in the attic, and drew the ladder after them, leaving "Pomp" as monarch of all he surveyed. For some reason, he had no means of escape. The court house rats for once in their lives all went to church, but first passing the word all along the line, around the square and at hotels, that "Pomp" was holding Sunday services up on high, but that no one should listen to him nor attend upon his services. He remained there until sometime in the afternoon. It was one time that he thought justice was called for.

DIG TILL I COME BACK.

It was Col. Osmond M. Barrett, an attorney at Sheldon and for eight years state senator of this district, who loved a game of chess. He hired an Irishman to dig and prepare a hot bed in the spring. He started the man at work by platting off the size desired, and told him to dig away until he returned and went down town. He was soon engaged in a game of chess. He did not return until nearly night. As he approached his home he could see some spadefuls of dirt coming up over a great pile. The man had proved faithful. He had dug a great hole some ten or twelve feet deep. He had dug until he came back. It took another day to fill it up.

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Styles.

O. M. Barrett Dead.

Our community was greatly shocked and surprised when the news came over the wire last Wednesday, that one of Sheldon's former citizens, an old pioneer of this county and at one time a representative of this district in the state senate, O. M. Barrett, had died at his home in National City, Cal.

Mr. Barrett was well known all over northwest Iowa and the length of time he served as state senator from this district gave him a wide acquaintance all over the state.

He was one of the early settlers of Sheldon, coming here in 1873. He formed a law partnership with Charley Allen, which firm, Barrett & Allen, continued in business here for years until Mr. Allen's removal to the west. Then he formed a partnership with Judge Morton, and later joined himself with Charley Bullis. The inexorable law of nature has now carried every member of these last two firms, Barrett, Morton and Bullis, into the great beyond. His last partnership was formed with Judge Calvert, who is now located in the state of Washington.

Mr. Barrett, like all of the rest of us, had his virtues and his faults, his enemies and his friends. He was a devoted worshiper of Mammon and deeply absorbed in the accumulation of worldly goods in which pursuit he was highly successful.

He moved to California about eight years ago and in his frequent visits here since was full of praise of the land of fruit and flowers.

Mr. Barrett was endowed with a very tender nature. A pathetic and touching story would immediately fill his eyes with tears and his love of home, wife and children and keen sympathy for the unfortunate and suffering was great indeed. As a lawyer he never distinguished himself, though his firm always had their share of the business while he was located here, a period covering nearly a quarter of a century.

He was about sixty five years of age, leaves a wife and several children, now residing at National City. None of us knew of his sickness, and it is supposed that his death was sudden and unexpected. It was a surprise to all here, who knew him, but the summons of the grain-measure company, after a warning and when least expected.

Local Happening

Barrett Bros. have a new ad. THE EAGLE office for job print Henry Cram went to Onawa day.

L. F. Barnett was over from S yesterday.

E. J. Skewis was here from I yesterday.

Get your sale bills printed at EAGLE office.

T. C. Lewis, of Hartley was in city last Monday.

S. E. Gannon was in the city Boyden yesterday.

County Attorney Waldsmith Sanborn last Tuesday.

C. S. McLaurry transacted business in Minnesota Thursday.

Miss Jesse Wilber came down Worthington last evening.

T. Hansen and wife, of Hartley here last Friday afternoon.

For a neat job of printing of kind call at the EAGLE office.

Miss Harriett Burnell attended Hollister-Roe wedding at Hull.

When needing anything in the job printing call at the EAGLE office.

Miss Lucile Keith spent Friday Sunday with relatives at Rock Island.

First church of Christ, Scientific services 10:45 a. m; Subject "Substitution."

If you have lost, found, want to buy or sell anything, advertise in the EAGLE.

Curt Cutting, the popular Sheldon restaurant man, was in the city yesterday.

N. F. Worth, the only one in Sheldon has a new suit in this issue.

The Collins boys shipped their goods to South Dakota, from Boyden, this week.

It is reported that the "Hy-Cream Separator man" caused his friends to mourn by his departure.

Mrs. Geo. Barragar went up to Rock Island Thursday morning to visit a couple of days with her daughter, Mrs. Brown.

C. D. Ray, who now has charge of the Iowa Osteopathy Institute made a professional trip to Sibley Sunday.

Visit Our Grocery Department.

# STARRETT BROS.

## Leaders of Popular Prices and Correct Styles.

Montgomery has been announced candidate for Representative in x county in addition to Bailey others. As Representative Bailey Mr. Montgomery both live in the township there is every prospect that there will be a "hot time" when the Reading caucus is

wa Democrat, Bro. W. H. del good paper, comes to us bed in a dress of new type and ing as bright and neat as a sum- belle. The Mail is gratified to this indication of Bro. Wonder's perity. He deserves it all, and inley times shine upon the just unjust alike.

re of the last of Speaker Reed's isms was to discourteously ignore Wheeler when that hero of two humbly asked to be permitted address the House, just previous to adjournment. Notwithstanding snub, the speaker was "thanked" rding to custom by friends and alike for his distinguished ser- s as a presiding officer, showing graceful way that the House is greater than Reed, despite his ion to the contrary.

re Mail has received from Hon. E. Roberts, director of the mint, ra' elial statistical reports of work of his bureau for which it is ly thankful. Mr. Roberts seems much at home in his present tion and these reports are more r ordi Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

### THE LATE COL. BARRETT.

Complimentary Press Tributes to the Memory of the Deceased Pioneer Citizen of Sheldon.

Alton Democrat: Col. O. M. Barrett was a brave soldier, a pioneer of the northwest, a lawyer of ability. Col. Barrett was a notable figure in state politics a number of years ago, was a strong Republican in his political beliefs, but loved justice. He possessed a genial and sunshiny nature that was a pleasure to come in contact with; he was large-hearted and his hand clasp was like a benediction.

Only a few months ago Col. Barrett was in the city looking after the old Alton House property which he owns, and while here paid us a pleasant call. At that time he seemed to be in excellent health and spirits, and remarked that "the climate was so mild and salubrious out in California, that one just lives on until they get so old that they grow tired of living, and enjoy every minute of it."

Many will sincerely mourn his sudden death, for it might be said of Col. Barrett, that he was a good man and made the world better for having lived in it.

Des Moines Capital: Former State Senator O. M. Barrett, a pioneer settler of O'Brien county, died recently in California. There was an honest, candid trait of character about Mr. Barrett that caused him to be highly esteemed among his associates in the general assembly, all of whom will regret of his death with sincere regret.

### Southwest O'Brien Items.

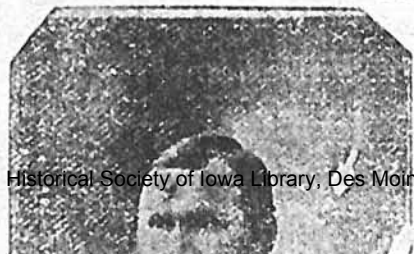
Paullina Times: One hundred signers have been secured to the association agreement to build a German hall on the Ewoldt farm just east of town.

D. H. Adkins and family will leave Paullina about the 10th for their new home in Tehama county, California.

A little bird sat on a tele-  
phone pole,  
Sunning its soft brown  
breast;  
It sang of MASTER'S  
SPECIFICS and said:  
"Now this is the very  
best, best."

E. L. BARRAGAR,  
Manufacturer,  
CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST,  
Sheldon, Iowa.

## Not How Cheap But How Well!





ried Wednesday to John S. Roe of x Falls. Miss Hollister clerked a long time in Starrett Bros.' s. Mr. Roe is the young man who ed Sheldon last fall and gave in- ctions at the Baptist gymnasium. yo people have a number of ds in Sheldon who tender them r best wishes.

arshal Hudson reports that he a clue to the whereabouts of J. T. aury's horse and carriage. An lt answering the description of stolen steed and vehicle passed ough a town in Jackson county, nesota, one day this week. The ty sheriff and Mr. Higley are ecuting a vigorous search after thief and his plunder.

### THE SECRET OF A SUCCESS.

Case of Arthur Stewart—How He is Prospered By a Few Years' Industry and Good Management.

Arthur Stewart and family depart- for their newly-acquired farm ne near Valley Springs, S. D., rursday morning.

Arthur is a noteworthy example of at a man can do who does as has done. About twenty years ago he began work in the Prairie en Mill elevator on the moderate ry of \$35.00 per month. He had ested a few hundred dollars he accumulated up to that time ightly acres of Sioux county land. dint of industry and careful man- ment he paid in full for this land now goes onto a 240-acre n which is nearly free from mbrance, the possessor of ty head of cattle, fifteen hogs, rses, all necessary farming uten- and \$1,100 in cash. For twelve rs Arthur supplied the Arlington el with milk for which service he eived another income of \$35.00 month. Both Mr. Logan and Mr. cker speak in high terms of bur. His way of managing things, steady industry and the increase the value of the 89-acre farm he t owned, resulted in his becoming eptionally well-to-do in only a few rt years.

Arthur has done other men do. His success shows that by cking early and late and by being orable, careful and temperate one certain to get on in the world, even ough he begins at the bottom and only a small income to go on. It et the amount of a man's revenue

peace.

The Sheldon dramatic company, composed of Pomp McCormack, Wm. Strong, N. H. Barnum, F. T. Piper and others, visited LeMars.

H. B. Wyman was mayor, treasurer and school director.

### O. M. BARRETT DEAD.

He Died Suddenly on Wednesday Morning at His Home in San Diego, California.

H. B. Wyman received a telegram soon after noon on Wednesday stat- ing that O. M. Barrett had died at 9 a. m. that day. The telegram was from J. P. Christiansen, presumably a a neighbor. No particulars were giv- en, nor has any further word been received up to this time, either by Mr. Wyman or Mrs. Bullis, Mr. Barrett's sister. It is not known by anybody here that Mr. Barrett had been ill, hence the presumption that his death occurred suddenly.

Sheldon people were shocked by the announcement, and additional in- telligence is awaited with anxious in- terest. Mr. and Mrs. Barrett visited here several weeks last fall. Mr. Barrett was known to be afflicted with a kidney trouble, but he was naturally so genial and uncomplaining that people here were not at all prepared to hear of his death, and are at a loss to know what the immediate cause of his decease could have been.

Mr. Barrett was 62 years of age. During his many years' residence in Sheldon he was prominent and popu- lar. He served several terms in the House of Representatives and Senate from this part of the state and had an extended acquaintance and a great many personal and political friends. A man of means, he lived well and was especially devoted to his family, which in turn was more than ordi- narily attached to him. He came to Sheldon from Burr Oak, Ia., nearly 25 years ago. Some seven years ago he moved with his family to San Diego, California. His life was insured in the Northwestern Mutual of Milwau- kee for \$8,000 and in the Bankers' Life for \$4,000. His sister, Mrs. Mary Bullis, understands that he carried other life insurance, in all aggregat- ing \$20,000 or more.

### THE CHURCHES.

A congregation of Sunday School First Church of Christ, Scientist— Services 10:45 a. m. Subject, "Sub-

Sanborn will have three millinery stores this summer. Ought to be a good place to buy hats.

Hartley Herald: Robbie Trowbridge of Sanborn spent Sunday in Hartley with his aunt, Mrs. Farley.

Mrs. Anderson is here from Mason City on a visit to her mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Green.

Fred Peters and family of Lincoln township have moved to Freeport, Illinois, to make their future home.

School election occurs a week from Monday, but we have not heard of any names mentioned as candidates.

The Merry Makers club will give one of their pleasant dances at Tel- kamp's Union hall Wednesday night, March 8.

Larrabee Review: A. L. Raymond and wife of Sanborn are visiting Mrs. Raymond's parents, Mr. and Mrs. N. W. Smith.

The ladies of the Presbyterian church will hold a social at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kissler a week from Friday night.

The young people of the Epworth League will hold a "Shingle Social" at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Will Wolf Saturday evening, March 4.

W. H. Home & Son's sow sale was quite a success last Thursday, not- withstanding the bad weather. The sows averaged a little over \$15 a head.

The W. R. C. gave Mrs. R. C. Free a farewell party last Friday evening. The young people gave a party in honor of her two daughters Thursday evening.

Rev. Clearwater of Lake Park preached at the Methodist church last Sunday. The pastor, Rev. Huger, was conducting revival meetings at that place.

Many of our citizens expect to at- tend court at Primghar next week. The case of Parsons comes up, also the fellow who stole a harness from H. Telkamp.

The Franklin township Eating club gave Wm. Dummit and family a great surprise last Wednesday. About thirty people attended the party and had a royal good time.

Theo. Zimmerman of northwest Franklin township sold a carload of fine fat cattle to the East Side meat market. He also raised, brood and bought 100 nice sheep of Geo. Peck.

Cedar Rapids Republican: W. A.