

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Owens, Abraham Senator _____

Represented Howe County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 27 Oct 1817 Rutland County, Vermont

2. Marriage (s) date place

Cyrena Ford 27 Oct 1856 Iowa City, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business _____

B. Civic responsibilities _____

C. Profession Carpenter, millwright; Sawmill business; hunter; trapper; miner; lumberman; farmer

4. Church membership Methodist Episcopal

5. Sessions served 22nd General Assembly 1888

6. Public Offices

A. Local _____

B. State In 1841 he was one of a company appointed to explore the Iowa, Cedar and Des Moines Rivers

C. National _____

7. Death 4 April 1907 Maingo, Iowa; buried North English Cemetery, North English, Iowa

8. Children Frank, Wally, Glenn; Thomas B.; Charles; Mary (Mrs. Chapman); Hugh (died 27 Oct 1900); two additional children died in infancy

9. Names of parents Abraham and Mary (Butler) Owens

10. Education

11. Degrees

12. Other applicable information

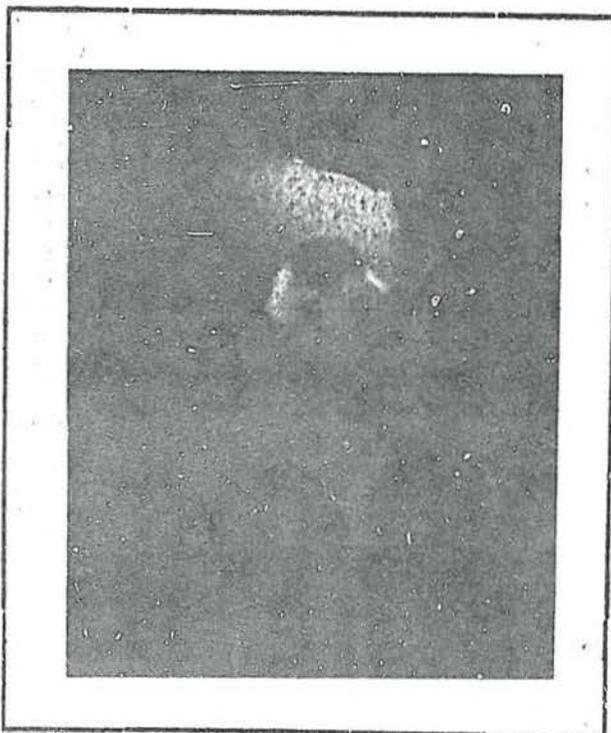
- At age 15 he went to Massachusetts where he engaged in the carpenter and millwright business for 2 years.
- He then went to Mississippi where he engaged in contracting cotton gins and presses for 4 years.
- He moved to Iowa on 13 June 1838 settling in Washington County, Iowa near the mouth of the English River. There he built a sawmill with Mr. Haskins. He followed this business for 2 years.
- In 1840 he moved to Iowa City, Iowa where he engaged in the carpentry business.
- In 1841 he was appointed to explore the Iowa, Cedar and Des Moines rivers down to the Indian Agency.
- He then worked as a hunter and trapper for a livelihood.
- In 1849 he went to California in the "gold rush." He mined for 2 years and then worked in the lumber business until 1855.
- He returned to Iowa City in spring 1856. He settled on a farm near North English, Iowa where he lived until Oct. 1902 when he moved into North English.
- He moved to Marengo, Iowa where he died.
- His wife died 3 Mar 1902.

HON. ABRAHAM OWEN

Death of an Honored and Respected Citizen of Iowa County. He served his County well in the Legislature and Other Positions of Honor and Trust

The death of Abraham Owen, removes from Iowa County one of its best beloved pioneers, a sturdy unflinching character, the best years of whose life were given to the development of this part of Iowa. Massive in physique, big of heart, generous, brave, faithful; he combined all the fine characteristics of the noble race of men who blazed the way of civilization in this western country. He was a man whose charity was as great as his heart was large. His honesty was proverbial, and the word of "Abe" Owen was everywhere taken as his bond. He was a hater of sham and

hypocrisy and despised mean and narrow men. He believed in the good that was in everyone, and seldom failed in his judgment of those with whom he came in contact. His broad teaching in the school of Experience, made him more charitable and kindly to the faults of men, as he found them. He was one of the very few left of that great type of men, capable of heroic deeds, with will and physical power to accomplish that which would seem impossible. His friends were as numerous as his acquaintances, and he passed from life with the honor and respect of all.



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OBITUARY.

Abraham Owen was born in Rutland County, Vermont, October 27th, 1817. When 15 years old he went to Massachusetts where he engaged in the carpenter and mill-wright business this he followed for two years, and then went to Mississippi where he engaged in contracting cotton gins and presses, he followed that occupation four years and then came to this state June 12, 1838. Settling in Washington County, [near the mouth of] English River. There he built a saw mill in Company with Mr. Hasken, which business he followed two years. In 1840 he moved to Iowa City, where he engaged in the carpenter business and helped to build the first frame house in Iowa City. He was one of the company appointed in 1841 to explore the Iowa, Cedar and Des Moines Rivers, down to the Indian Agency.

He then engaged in the trapping and hunting business, for a livelihood. He went to California in 1849, at the time of the first gold excitement on the Pacific coast, leaving Iowa City March, 31st, 1849, and arriving on Feather River California in the following October, having traveled a distance of over two thousand miles through an unknown country swarming with hostile Indians.

He followed mining for two years, then engaged in the lumber business until 1855, when he returned to Iowa City, and in the spring of 1856, came to Iowa County, and settled on a farm four miles north of North English Iowa, where he resided until Oct. 1902 when he moved to North English Ia.,

and in February 1907, moved to Marengo, Iowa, where he died April 4th, 1907, at 8:15 o'clock a. m., aged 89 years, 5 months and 7 days. He was married Oct. 27th, 1856 to Miss C. Ford, a native of Virginia. To this union were born nine children—seven sons and two daughters.

Two children died in infancy, and Hugh, aged 43, died Oct. 27th, 1900. The surviving children are: Frank of Marengo, sheriff of Iowa County; Tally of North English, Glenn, in South Africa; Rev. Thos. B. Owen, a missionary in China; Charles of Erick Oklahoma; and Mary Chapman of North English.

Mrs. Owen died March 3rd, 1902, since which time Mr. Owen made his home with his son Frank in this city, and North English, where he received every care and attention during his last days.

Mr. Owen was elected representative from Iowa County in 1888, and served his county faithfully in the legislature as well as in nearly all the minor offices within the gift of the people of his township. He was faithful to every trust, and his memory will long abide in the hearts of the people among whom he lived.

The remains were take to North English Saturday morning, and funeral services held in the M. E. church, at 2 o'clock p. m., Rev. E. C. Brooks the pastor conducted the services, which were very impressive, after which the remains were laid to rest in the family lot in the North English cemetery.

Obituary

Mrs. Georgia Whitworth, daughter of William W. and Mary A. Watson was born January 3, 1854 in Logan county, Ohio, and died suddenly at her home at Victor, Iowa, early Thursday morning, March 28. She was married at Victor, Iowa, to Harry Whitworth on April 9, 1878.

To this union three children were born: Mrs. Edna Ferguson, Mary A. Whitworth and Thos. H. Whitworth, all living in Victor.

The life of Mrs. Whitworth was one in which every moment counted for

Watson of Chicago, Ill.

"There is no Death! What seems so is transition,
This life of mortal breath, is but the suburb of the life Elysian,
Whose portals we call Death."

Suddenly Killed.

A distressing accident happened between 4 and 5 o'clock Wednesday afternoon by which Cloyd, the 13 year-old son and only child of George and Myrtle Ehret lost his life. The lad was digging in an old cave when the earth caved in burying him under its

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Stanley Yates has been seriously ill for the past two weeks but is now well on the road to recovery.

When we sell a man a hat we fit his face as well as his head. We're the hats to do it. Hub Clothing Co.

Miss Margaret Hughes returned on Monday from Des Moines where she had spent the winter with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Harrington and baby Dean of North English visited over Sunday at the parental Sheetz home.

The line of buffets, china closets and mission tables carried by Rock combines style, durability and quality. Call and see the fine display. If

Mrs. F. Faltinson returned on Saturday to her home in Hilton after having spent four weeks with her daughter, Mrs. Johnson, south of town.

Evan Edwards shipped on Monday to Chicago a car load of hogs that averaged 315 pounds. The age of the pigs was eleven months so this makes one of the record bunches of the season.

Remember I have in stock anything you need in floor coverings.—Axminster, Velvet, Tapestry, Brussels and Ingrain Rugs. Prices right. Rock's furniture Store.

Miss Estelle Miller, of Iowa City, arrived on Saturday and visited till yesterday with her sister Mrs. L. V. Beaulieu. Miss Miller is in her last year in the Iowa city high school and found much to interest her while here.

David Hillman of Sumner was in the city on Monday and favored us with a friendly call. David is one of the early settlers of Iowa County. He was born in Lincoln township fifty years ago and has resided all his life in this county with the exception of a short time spent in Poweshiek. Twenty-seven years ago he moved to his present home in Sumner where he has since resided. David can tell all about the early days in the county and delights to talk over the times when neighbors were close together though they lived ten miles apart.

No Quarter.

The evils which always follow after indigestion, biliousness or constipation will give no quarter. Better fight them to a finish with Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin. It is a weapon against these dangerous diseases which will give you quick relief and permanent cure. Sold by T. J. Perry at 50c and \$1. Money back if it fails.

Hon. Abraham Owen.

Answers the Final Summons. Died in Marengo at the home of his son, Sheriff Owen, at the age of ninety.

Hon. Abraham Owen died in Marengo at the home of his son, Sheriff Owen on Thursday April 4th aged 90 years. The body was taken to North English where it was buried on Saturday beside that of his wife who died five years ago.

In the passing of Abe Owen Iowa County loses a man who saw much history made and one who had also contributed to its making. He was a pioneer among pioneers and the sturdiness of his character was largely formed by the years he spent in overcoming the obstacles with which nature guarded her strongholds.

Abraham Owen was born in Rutland county Vermont, October 27th, 1817. At the age of fifteen years he went to Massachusetts where he engaged in the carpenter and millwright business. Two years at this work and we find him in Mississippi engaged in building cotton-gins and presses and after four years in this calling he was lured to the north land by the tales coming from Iowa territory. He decided to cast his lot in the new country and in June 1838 he located in Washington county near the mouth of English river. Here he built a saw mill which he operated for two years when he sold out and moved to Iowa City where he again followed his trade as a builder. He helped to build the first frame house in Iowa City. In 1841 he was one of the company appointed to explore the Iowa, Cedar and Des Moines rivers down to the Indian agency. This finished, he engaged in trapping and hunting for several years and it was in this that he acquired such an extensive knowledge of wood and field and stream. In the spring of 1849 he left Iowa City for California arriving in the land of promise in October. The trip was made overland and was marked here and there by incidents well calculated to test the heart and hope of man. Hostile Indians dogged the trail of the gold seekers while disease and death weakened and thinned their ranks. Seven years were spent in California, two as a miner and five in lumbering. In 1855 he recrossed the plains and the following spring he located in English township on a farm upon which he lived for nearly half a century. In 1856 he was married to Miss C. Ford a native of Virginia. To this union were born nine children, seven sons and two daughters, one son and one daughter died in infancy and

Hugh, the first-born, died seven years ago in Oklahoma. The wife and mother died in 1902 and since then the father lived with his son Frank. The surviving children are: Frank, now sheriff of Iowa County, Tally of English township, Glenn of Johannesburg, South Africa, Thomas, engaged in missionary work in China, Charles of Erick, Oklahoma and Mrs. Mary Chapman of North English.

Mr. Owen was a grand type of the good citizen. In politics he was a democrat and in 1888 his party elected him to the Iowa general Assembly in which he served with honor to himself and credit to his constituency. He was a quiet, peace-loving, unassuming man and ready to support any movement directed for the good of a neighbor or community.

Full of years and honors he crosses that silent river that loses itself in the eternal sea. His was a useful life. He gave his best years to a work whose fruit is the common heritage of our state. The pioneer, alone, and above all earthly children is entitled to an honor near allied to reverence,

Remember each old pioneer!
With reverence speak his name,
His courage blossoms in the cheer
That is today our fame;
He fought the fight, then laid him down
To his eternal rest,
A nation is his Victor's crown,
His shrine—the fruitful West.

An Egg Roast.

(Too late for last week.)

On Saturday evening March 30th quite a number of the young folks of Genoa Bluff planned and successfully carried out an egg roast. Just as the great moon rose in the east the party assembled at the woods where a camp fire was kindled and the eggs were put to roast. Games were enjoyed until the eggs were done when they soon disappeared. An enjoyable time was reported by all.

Those present were: Misses Maude Keil, Edith and Dora Morse, Edith and Olive Whitehead, Ella, Millie and Lydia Bigbee, Sadie and Eva Fetzer, Ruth Rumpie, and Messrs. Walter Fetzer, Walter Thomas, Dwight Whitehead, Frank Rathjen, Andra Keil, Charles Conrad, Alva Rumpie, Charles Morse, John Alberts and Chris Gahring. A Guest.

Marriage Licenses.

Marriage licenses were issued to the following couples during the month of March by the Clerk of the District Court:

- Chas Gersh and Rhoda Kithcart.
- John Lane and Jennie Close.
- Homor Sims and Kate Floersching.
- C H Umbarger and Jessie Lucas.
- Edward S McDonald and Emma E Bowers.
- Robt F Clark and Mary Jensen.

- Leroy E B
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First Publication

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THE
HISTORY
OF
IOWA COUNTY,

IOWA,

CONTAINING

A History of the County, its Cities, Towns, &c.,

Biographical Sketches of its Citizens, War Record of its Volunteers in the late Rebellion, General and Local Statistics, Portraits of Early Settlers and Prominent Men, History of the Northwest, History of Iowa,
Map of Iowa County, Constitution of Iowa,
Miscellaneous Matters, &c., &c.

—♦♦♦—
ILLUSTRATED.
—♦♦♦—

DES MOINES:
UNION HISTORICAL COMPANY,
BIRDSALL, WILLIAMS & CO.
1881.

county. Mr. O. made Greene county his home from March, 1851, until the spring of 1852 when he came to Johnson county, Iowa, and remained there until 1860. Then came to this county where he has since resided. He first settled in Iowa township, and in 1865 he moved to his present location, where he owns a farm of 140 acres. He has held many offices during his residence in Iowa, was steward of Johnson county poor-farm four years, justice of the peace, in Johnson and this county, six years, and was school treasurer in this county four years. Their family consists of seven children: J. P., Eliza Ellen (wife of M. Roller), Richard S., Abigail (wife of William Mahana), Granville, Hugh and Mary. Lost one, an infant.

OWEN, ABRAHAM—Farmer and stock-raiser, Sec. 12, P. O. North English. Among the pioneers who have identified themselves with the interests of the county is the subject of this sketch, who was born in Rutland county, Vermont, October 27, 1817. When he attained his fifteenth year he went to Massachusetts, where he engaged in the carpenter and millwright business. This he followed for two years, and then went to Mississippi, where he engaged in contracting cotton-gins and presses. He followed that occupation for four years and then came to this State, June 12, 1838, settling in Washington county, near the mouth of English River. There he built a saw mill in company with Mr. Haskenn, which business he followed for about two years, sold out his share to Mr. McClure and then went to Iowa City, where he engaged in carpentering. He helped to build the first frame house in Iowa City. He was one of the company that were appointed in 1841 to explore the Iowa, Cedar and the Des Moines rivers down to the Indian agency. He then engaged in trapping and hunting. He went to California in 1849, leaving Iowa City March 31, 1849, and arrived in California October, 1849, on the Feather River upper mines, there he engaged in mining, which occupation he followed for two years, he then engaged in the lumber business, which he continued until 1855, when he returned to Iowa City and the following spring, 1856, came to Iowa county and settled in his present location. He was married October 27, 1856, to Miss C. Ford, a native of Virginia. Their family consists of seven children living: Hugh B. (now of Atlantic, Iowa), Frank (now of Montana), Tally Glem, Thomas B., Charles A. and Mary L. Lost two: Fred and Jessie. Mr. Owen has been associated with E. T. Nucomb for the past forty years. They have trapped and hunted together for several years. E. T. Nucomb was born August 11, 1810 in the State of New York. He was there educated and raised, and in 1841 came to this State, Iowa City, and in the spring of 1850 he went to California. There he remained for four years, then returned to Iowa City, at which place he remained for two years working at his trade of tailor. He then came with Mr. Owen, and has since lived here. Mr. Owen owns a fine farm of 184 acres, of which 125 are under good cultivation.

PARKS, J. S.—Blacksmith and plow manufacturer, Millersburg. Prominent among the business men of Millersburg, who have identified themselves with the prosperity of the town, is the subject of this sketch, who was born in Logan county, Indiana, on the 22d of October, 1834. He there spent his days until 1848, when he came to Iowa and settled in Keokuk county. Resided there until 1852, when he went to California, remaining until 1865, then returned to Iowa and settled in Millersburg. He learned his present business in Iowa City, commencing in 1849, and in the year 1866 he embarked in business for himself. He has now built up

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North America

Family Group Record

Husband

[Abraham Owen](#)

[Pedigree](#)

Birth: 26 OCT 1817 Pittsford, Rutland, Vermont

Christening:

Marriage:

Death: 04 APR 1907 Iowa City, Johnson, Iowa

Burial:

Father: [Abraham Owen](#)

[Family](#)

Mother: [Mary Butler](#)

Wife

[Cyrena Ford](#)

[Pedigree](#)

Birth: 01 MAR 1831 Of, , , Virginia

Christening:

Marriage:

Death: 03 MAR 1902 Iowa City, Johnson, Iowa

Burial:

Children

1. [Hugh B. Owen](#)

[Pedigree](#)

Male

Birth: About 1857 Iowa City, Johnson, Iowa

Christening:

Death: Before 1907

Burial:

2. [Frank Owen](#)

[Pedigree](#)

Male

Birth: 27 OCT 1859 Iowa City, Johnson, Iowa

Christening:

Death:

Burial:

3. [Fred Owen](#)

[Pedigree](#)

Male

Birth: About 1861 Iowa City, Johnson, Iowa

Christening:

Death: About 1861

Burial:

4. [Unavailable](#)

[Pedigree](#)

5. [Unavailable](#)

[Pedigree](#)

6. [Thomas B. Owen](#)

[Pedigree](#)

Male

Birth: 17 APR 1867 Iowa City, Johnson, Iowa

Christening:

Death:

Burial:

7. [Unavailable](#) [Pedigree](#)

8. [Unavailable](#) [Pedigree](#)

9. [Jessie Owen](#) [Pedigree](#)
Female

Birth: About 1873 Iowa City, Johnson, Iowa

Christening:

Death: About 1873

Burial:

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Abraham Owen

Birth **27 OCT 1817** in [Pittsford Village, Rutland, Vermont, USA](#)

Death **04 APR 1907** in [Iowa City, Johnson, Iowa, USA](#)

[View his family tree](#) [View family members](#) [More options](#)

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Media Gallery

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

Timeline ([View details](#))

1817
27 Oct

Birth

[Pittsford Village, Rutland, Vermont, USA](#)

[1 source citation](#)

1856
27 Oct
Age: 39

Marriage to Mary Cyrena Ford

[Iowa City, Johnson, Iowa, USA](#)

[1 source citation](#)

1907
4 Apr
Age: 89

Death

[Iowa City, Johnson, Iowa, USA](#)

[1 source citation](#)

Comments

No comments have been added yet.

[Add a comment](#)



You searched for **Abraham Owen in Iowa**

1870 United States Federal Census

Name: **Abraham Owen**
 Birth Year: **abt 1817**
 Age in 1870: **53**
 Birthplace: **Vermont**
 Home in 1870: **English, Iowa, Iowa**
 Race: **White**
 Gender: **Male**
 Value of real estate: [View image](#)
 Post Office: **Millersburg**

Household Members:	Name	Age
	Abraham Owen	53
	Cyrena Owen	39
	Hugh Owen	12
	Franklin Owen	10
	William L. Owen	6
	Glen Owen	5
	Thomas Owen	3
	Charles Owen	1

Source Citation: Year: 1870; Census Place: English, Iowa, Iowa; Roll: M593_396; Page: 176A; Image: 356; Family History Library Film: 545895.

Source Information:



Ancestry.com. 1870 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.

Original data:

- 1870 U.S. census, population schedules. NARA microfilm publication M593. 1,761 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.
- Minnesota census schedules for 1870. NARA microfilm publication T132. 13 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.

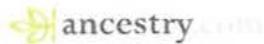
Description:

This database is an index to individuals enumerated in the 1870 United States Federal Census, the Ninth Census of the United States. Census takers recorded many details including each person's name, age at last birthday, sex, color, birthplace, occupation, and more. No relationships were shown between members of a household. Additionally, the names of those listed on the population schedule are linked to actual images of the 1870 Federal Census. [Learn more...](#)

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You searched for **Abraham Owen** in **Iowa**

1880 United States Federal Census

Name: **Abraham Owen**
 Home in 1880: **English, Iowa, Iowa**
 Age: **63**
 Estimated birth year: **abt 1817**
 Birthplace: **Vermont**
 Relation to head-of-household: **Self (Head)**
 Spouse's name: **Cyrena Owen**
 Father's birthplace: **Vermont**
 Mother's birthplace: **Vermont**
 Neighbors: [View others on page](#)
 Occupation: **Farmer**
 Marital Status: **Married**
 Race: **White**
 Gender: **Male**
 Cannot read/write:
 Blind:
 Deaf and dumb: [View image](#)
 Otherwise disabled:
 Idiotic or insane:

Household	Name	Age
Members:	Abraham Owen	63
	Cyrena Owen	49
	Tally Owen	16
	Glenn D Owen	14
	Thos. B. Owen	13
	Charley A. Owen	11
	Mary L. Owen	9
	E. T. Newcomb	67

Source Citation: Year: 1880; Census Place: English, Iowa, Iowa; Roll: 345; Family History Film: 1254345; Page: 283C; Enumeration District: 212; Image: 0428.

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, 1454 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

Description:

This database is an index to 30 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 names of those listed on the population schedule are linked to actual images of the 1880 Federal Census. [Learn more...](#)



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PERSONAL INFORMATION

Abraham Owen
Born: 27 Oct 1817
 Pittsford Village, Rutland, Vermont, USA
Died: 4 Apr 1907
 Iowa City, Iowa, USA
[View person's info](#)

[Abraham Owen](#)
[Mary Butler](#)

[Abraham Owen](#)
[Anthony Butler](#)
[Jerusha Hill](#)

[See Pedigree View](#)

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Family Groups

Spouse

[Cyrena Ford](#)
Born: Culpepper, Virginia, USA
Died: Mar 1902 in North English, Iowa, USA
Marriage: 27 Oct 1856 in Iowa City, Iowa, USA

[View Info](#)

Children	Sex	Birth
Charles Owen	M	
Frank Owen	M	
Glenn Owen	M	
Mary Loraine Owen	F	North English, Iowa, USA
Tally Owen	M	
Thomas B. Owen	M	
Hugh Brady Owen	M	16 Dec 1857 in Iowa City, Iowa, USA

HISTORICAL RECORDS

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Birth: Oct. 27, 1817
Death: Apr. 4, 1907

Burial:
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North English
Iowa County
Iowa, USA

Created by: [Richard Weston](#)
Record added: Jun 23, 2009
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