

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative _____ Senator Sweeney,
Joseph Henry - Represented Mitchell County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 2 Oct 1845 Warren County, Pennsylvania

2. Marriage (s) date place
(1) Charlotte Johnson 1867
(2) _____

3. Significant events for example:

- A. Business Admitted to the bar in 1880; he was an organizer of the Sweeney
Brothers Bank of Osage, Iowa in 1894
- B. Civic responsibilities Trustee for Cedar Valley Seminary at Osage, Ia; GAR;
Mason; Shriner
- C. Profession Lawyer; banker; farming

4. Church membership Congregational

5. Sessions served 20th, 21st, 22nd General Assemblies 1884, 1886, 1888

6. Public Offices

- A. Local Director and president of the Osage Building and Loan Association
- B. State _____
- C. National Elected to 51st U.S. Congress 1889-1891

7. Death 11 Nov 1918 Norfolk, Virginia; buried Osage County, Iowa, Iowa

8. Children By 1st wife - Gail (Mrs. Willis Edson); by 2nd wife Virginia (Mrs. Hermet B. Ellsworth)

9. Names of parents Hugh and Esther P. Sweeney

Joseph Henry Sweeney

10. Education Educated in public schools of Pennsylvania
and Iowa

11. Degrees Graduate of the law department of the University of
Iowa in Iowa City, Iowa 1880

12. Other applicable information Republican

- He began his law practice in Osage, Iowa in 1881
- Military service - Civil War - Union Army, Co. K 27th
Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Infantry; Colonel of the 10th Regiment
National Guard of Iowa for 4 years; Brigadier and Inspector
General of the State
- After serving in Congress he resumed the practice of law in Osage, Iowa
- He came to Iowa with his parents in 1855, settling in Burr Oak Township,
Mitchell County, Iowa. He worked there on the family farm, attended school
and at age 16 entered the Civil War
- He died while visiting in Norfolk, Virginia.

OBITUARY OF WM. GILMAN

One of Earliest Settlers in Northern Iowa and Helped Organize Country

One of the earliest pioneers of northern Iowa passed away in this city on Wednesday, Nov. 6, at the home of W. C. Gardner, William Gilman came to Floyd county in 1852 when there was just one log house in Charles City. He went back to his home in Pennsylvania and stayed two years and then came with his family and his wife's family and bought 2400 acres of land on the Cedar river not far from where the town of Floyd now stands with government scrip. He was the first postmaster in northern Iowa at Gilman town, there being no other office west of McGregor, with two other men he organized Cerro Gordo county and as justice of the peace declared the newly elected officers the custodians of the county business. With his good wife, who was a member of the Methodist church, he organized the first Sunday school in this northern country, bringing the necessary supplies with him from Philadelphia, where he had gone to buy goods for his store in Gilman town. During the early years of Osage he was for eighteen years a member of the town council and had charge of putting in the first pavement in the city.

He was born in Utica, New York, Nov. 11, 1822, being at time of his death 95 years, 11 months and 25 days old. In his early life he removed to Cooperstown, Penn., where he was married to Miss Ruth Jane Mitchell in 1847. They were blessed with eight children, two of whom died in infancy, three after attaining maturity. Three of them are still living: Wm. Henry of Nestor, Calif.; Charles Martin of Carson, Wash., and Frank C. Gilman of Dubuque, Iowa. He has had eleven grandchildren, eighteen great grandchildren and three great great grandchildren. His wife died a number of years ago. He entered largely into the foundation life of this part of the state and with his early neighbors deserves great credit for making possible the present prosperity of the country.

The funeral services were held at the home of his grandson, W. C. Gardner, and were in charge of the Rev. L. C. Lemon. The music was rendered by Mrs. Frank Gardner.

COL. J. H. SWENEY DIED ON MONDAY

WAS ONE OF THE MOST PROMINENT MEN OF OSAGE IN YEARS GONE BY

When the life of Col. J. H. Sweney went out at Hampton, Va., last Monday morning there ended a life of usefulness and cheerfulness. Col. Sweney was not only prominent in his home town of Osage, but also throughout the state and even to the halls of national legislation in Washington. For a number of years he has made a brave fight against several diseases which finally gained the victory over his strong will. With him when he passed away were his daughter, Miss Virginia, and his brother, J. I. Sweney of this city. The deceased went to Asheville, N. C., a year or so ago and not finding the desired relief later went to Virginia. The funeral party will arrive in Osage at noon today and the services will be held at the Congregational church this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Col. Sweney was a veteran of the Civil war, going into the service in 1862 when only 17 years of age and was discharged three years later. In after years he was commissioned a colonel in the National Guard and later was promoted to brigadier and inspector for the state. In 1883 he was elected to the state senate from this district after a hard fight and at one time was president pro tem of the state senate. In 1888 he was elected congressman and served one term at Washington. He was known as a most forceful orator and was prominent in the legislative halls. Oct. 7. His passing brings great sorrow to all our people, who feel that our little city has been honored by his having been one of our citizens.

Peace Interfered with Hunt

That annual hunt which causes so much excitement among the sportsmen of the city was decidedly interfered with Monday by the sudden ending of the war. A number of

by there has passed out of our community a respected and much loved kind neighbor, an obedient son, kind and loving brother and relative. May the great comforter near to comfort the bereft and help them to bear their great loss in a true christian spirit.

Funeral services were held at the home of his parents in Osage Nov. 11 at 1:30 p. m. and at the church in Union at 3:30, Rev. H. G. Diekmann officiating, assisted by Rev. A. Willoughby. He was laid to rest beside his sister Lillie in the Union Presbyterian cemetery.

Those attending the funeral from away were Miss Helen Storer and Mrs. J. W. Gujer of Osborne, Kan. and Miss Gertrude Gujer of Keshon, Wis.

Cards of Thanks—We wish to express to the many friends and neighbors our thanks and appreciation for their kind sympathy and help during the sickness and death of our dear son and brother, also for the many beautiful floral offerings.—Mr. and Mrs. George J. Decker and family.

WAS NEARLY 100 YEARS OLD

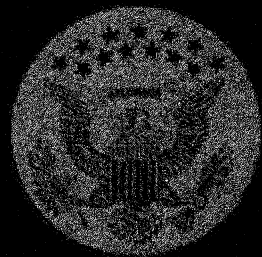
Mrs. Wm. Woodall Was Over Ninety Eight Years of Age at Time of Death Last Thursday

Sophia Grosscup was born in Herten, Germany, Sept. 28, 1820, and came to New York with her family when a small child. There she was married to John G. Grettenberg. In this union were born nine children—four boys and five girls. Her husband and three children preceded her to life beyond. Later she married Wm. Woodall, who also preceded her death. There survive Mrs. Woodall four daughters and one son—Mrs. Decker of Minneapolis, Mrs. C. Gibeaut of Osage, Mrs. A. W. Martin of Moberly, Mo., Mrs. A. L. Van Auken of Roseburg, Ore., and S. Greetenberg of Redlands, Calif.

Mrs. Woodall has been living at the Starr home at Charles City for several years and died there Nov. 1918, at the age of 98 years. She was one of the pioneers of Mitchell county and a member of the Methodist church of Mitchell, and a most conscientious woman. Her careful and frugal habits are evidenced by the long and happy years she lived, a most arriving at the century mark.

She was laid to rest by the side of her husband, Mr. Greetenberg, in the beautiful cemetery at Mitchell last Saturday morning, Nov. 9, 1918.

Rev. VanSwearingen officiating. Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

Biographical Directory
of the
United States Congress

1774 - Present

- ★ Biography
- ★ Research Collections
- ★ Bibliography
- ★ New Search
- ★ House History Page
- ★ Senate History Page
- ★ Copyright Information

SWENEY, Joseph Henry, 1845-1918

SWENEY, Joseph Henry, a Representative from Iowa; born in Warren County, Pa., October 2, 1845; attended the public schools of Pennsylvania and Iowa; was graduated from the law department of the University of Iowa at Iowa City in 1880; was admitted to the bar the same year and commenced practice in Osage, Mitchell County, Iowa; also engaged in banking and agricultural pursuits; during the Civil War enlisted in the Union Army and served as sergeant in Company K, Twenty-seventh Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Infantry; colonel of the Sixth Regiment National Guard of Iowa for four years and brigadier and inspector general of the State; member of the State senate 1883-1891, serving as president pro tempore in 1886; elected as a Republican to the Fifty-first Congress (March 4, 1889-March 3, 1891); unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1890 to the Fifty-second Congress; resumed the practice of law in Osage, Iowa; died while on a visit in Norfolk, Va., November 11, 1918; interment in Osage Cemetery, Osage, Iowa.

Department of Iowa
Grand Army of the Republic

Name Sweney, Joseph Henry
Residence Lawyer, Osage, Iowa.
Born Oct 2, 1848, Warren co., Pa
Died Nov 11, 1918, Hampton, Va.
Buried Osage, Iowa Osage Cem.
Age 73

War Record: Rank Company Regiment State
Sergt K 27 Iowa Infantry

Age 18. Res. Mitchell County, nat. Pa. Enl Aug 12, 1862 as 5th Corp
Must Sept 9, 1862. Prom 3d Corp
5th Sergt July 1, 1865. Must out
Aug 8, 1865, Clinton, Iowa

Membership

Post No.	Name	Location	Date Joined	age
F. A. Brush	77(1)	Osage	Apr 29,	1882
Sus Sept 30,	1884;	Dro D. 31,	1884	Re My 9, 1885
Sus Ja 26,	1903			

Offices of Honor in G. A. R.

Serial No.

Sources:

Roster Iowa Soldiers; J. Henry Sweney/
Post 77 Desc Book #1 J. Henry Sweney

Personal History

Father

Mother

Wife 1

2

Children

1st marriage:

Gail (Mrs. Willis) Edson
Hampton, Iowa

2d marriage:

Virginia Sweney Ellsworth(
m Kennet G. Ellsworth
res. 2848 Kingman Blv, Des Moines
Iowa

Places of Residence and Occupation:

General Assembly State of Iowa 1883
Congressman 1888, served one term. Went to
Ashville, N. C. a year or more previous to
his death, to find relief from various ills,
thence to Virginia. Member Congregational
Church. Enl at age 17, served 3 years. Was
Commissioned Colonel, National Guard and later
promoted Brigadier and Inspector for the State

Sources:

Mrs. R. G. Ellsworth

HISTORY
OF
Mitchell and Worth Counties,
IOWA,

TOGETHER WITH SKETCHES OF THEIR TOWNS, VILLAGES AND TOWNSHIPS, EDUCATIONAL,
CIVIL, MILITARY AND POLITICAL HISTORY; PORTRAITS OF PROM-
INENT PERSONS, AND BIOGRAPHIES OF
REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS.

HISTORY OF IOWA,
EMBRACING ACCOUNTS OF THE PRE-HISTORIC RACES, AND A BRIEF REVIEW
OF ITS CIVIL AND MILITARY HISTORY.

ILLUSTRATED.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.
UNION PUBLISHING COMPANY.
1884.

there in that helpless condition all night. The shock was so severe that she never recovered. Zenas C. was a graduate at Norwalk Seminary and attended Hudson College one year. In 1848 he was married in Medina Co., Ohio, to Louisa C. Castle, daughter of Judge Charles Castle. By this marriage they have had six children, four of whom are living—Fannie A., Harriet H., Mary B. and Zenas C. In 1851 Mr. Lindsley emigrated to Waterloo, Jefferson Co., Wis., where he was admitted to the bar. In politics he is a republican and has held several local offices. He is a member of the Masonic lodge at Mitchell, Iowa. For three years during the war Mr. Lindsley was provost marshal in Jefferson Co., Wis., and was also appointed by Gov. Lewis, of that State, as one of the commissioners to look after wounded soldiers in hospitals and see that they were cared for.

L. M. Ryce was born in West Milton, Crittenden Co., V., Oct. 18, 1839. He received a good academic education, and afterwards took a collegiate course at Hampshire College. In 1860 he read law in the office of George F. Edmunds. In 1861 he came to Waupun, Fond du Lac Co., Wis., where he entered the law office of John Ware and was subsequently admitted to the bar, Hon. David Taylor, then presiding circuit judge. He entered upon the practice of law at Waupun. In 1870 he came to Osage, Mitchell Co., Iowa. In 1871 he was married to Elizabeth Inley, daughter of Francis and Mary Inley.

Fred Sheldon located in Osage in 1874. He was born in Walworth Co., Wis., Aug. 17, 1849, being the son of Thomas R. and Mary (Eldrich) Sheldon. The father was

a native of Schenectady, N. Y. In 1841 he removed with his family to Kenosha, Wis., where he engaged in the grocery business. Frederick remained with his parents until fifteen years of age when he went to Chicago, where he was employed as clerk, after which he attended the Chicago University three years, when he went to Milwaukee and entered the office of L. J. Merrick, remaining one year, then he entered the office of J. V. V. Platt, after which he attended the law department of the State University of Wisconsin, and was admitted to the bar in the spring of 1874. Soon after which he came to Iowa, settling in Osage and prosecuting his profession. He is a lawyer of fine ability. He is a member of the Masonic order and a Knight Templar. Mr. Sheldon was married at Glenwood, Minn., Sept. 25, 1883, to Hattie E. Loomis.

Col. J. H. Sweney has been a resident of Mitchell county since 1855. He is by profession a lawyer, and was for a time connected with the Mitchell County Bank, being one of its founders. He was born in Warren Co., Penn., Oct. 2, 1845, being the son of Hugh and Esther A. Sweney. When he was nine years of age his parents emigrated to Mitchell Co., Iowa, where they endured the hardships of pioneer life. In August, 1862, he enlisted in the 27th Iowa Volunteer Infantry, company K, participating in the battles of Pleasant Hill, Tupelo, Old Town Creek, Nashville, siege of Mobile and others. He was mustered out at Clinton, Iowa, Aug. 8, 1865, at the age of nineteen, with rank of sergeant, after which he returned to Mitchell county. He graduated from the

law department of the Iowa State University, and in 1881 began the practice of law in Osage, where he has since lived. In 1880 he was commissioned lieutenant colonel of the 6th regiment, Iowa National Guards. He is a Knight Templar. He was married in 1867 to Charlotte, daughter of E. C. Johnson. They have one child living—Galil. In 1883 Mr. Sweney was nominated by the republican party in the forty-first senatorial district, composed of the counties of Howard, Mitchell and Worth, as its candidate for State Senator, and after the hottest campaign ever known in this locality, he was elected over his opponent, Hon. Cyrus Foreman (democrat), by about 700 majority.

F. A. Vanderpoel, of Mitchell, is a son of C. C. Vanderpoel, one of the old settlers of the county. F. A. was born in Sauk Co., Wis. In 1856 he came with his parents to West Mitchell, where he grew to manhood. After leaving the common schools he attended the State University at Iowa City, graduating in 1880 and receiving the degree of A. B. He then returned home and worked in his father's mill for two years, after which he returned to the university and attended the law department, graduating in June, 1883, as L. L. B. Returning to West Mitchell, he engaged in the practice of law, which he still pursues. Mr. Vanderpoel is a hard student and has a good prospect for standing high in the profession.

CHAPTER X.

AGRICULTURE AND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Mitchell county is acknowledged as being among the best and most prosperous agricultural counties in Iowa. Its people are awake and keep step with the progressive march of the times in all that pertains to a civilization of happiness, industry and culture. Its future possibilities may be set high among the cluster of its hundred sisters, a star of pride to the noble State. The early pioneers did not come loaded with wealth, and, in fact, few had more than enough to barely get settled upon their lands; but they came with that which was, in those days, equal to it—training in

agricultural pursuits, brawny hands that were able and not ashamed to do hard work, and, in connection with industrious habits, the energy and determination to win success. The country was new, and there was no alternative but that success must be wrought from the soil, which was their only wealth and their only hope. And, in spite of all the obstacles and inconveniences to be encountered, success has attended their efforts, and the transformation from the primitive to the present comfortable condition of things accomplished. Nor is the end yet reached, but

Biographies and Portraits

... OF THE ...

Progressive Men of Iowa

Leaders in Business, Politics and the Professions

TOGETHER WITH
AN ORIGINAL AND AUTHENTIC

History of the State

... BY ...

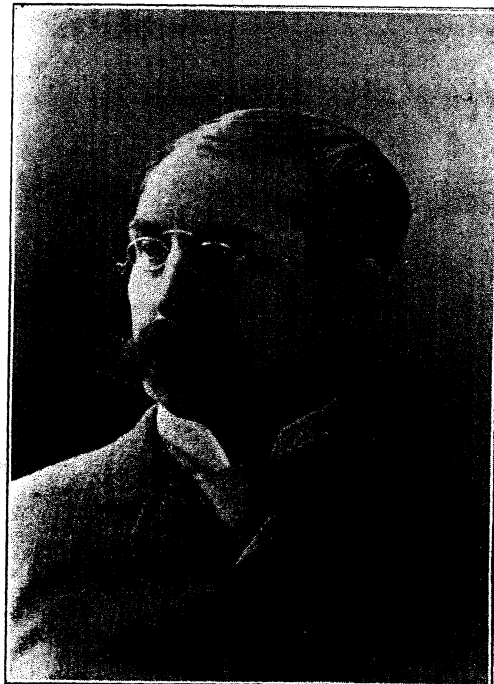
Ex-Lieutenant-Governor B. F. Gue

Des Moines
Conaway & Shaw, Publishers
1899

SWENEY, JOSEPH HENRY, son of Hugh Sweney and Esther A. Sweney, was born October 2, 1845, on farm in Warren county, Pa. There were four brothers and three sisters in the family. Two brothers are engaged in banking in Osage, the other, Dr. C. F., is a practicing physician in St. Paul, Minn. Mr. Sweney obtained his earliest education in the public schools in Pennsylvania. In 1855 he came with the rest of the family to Iowa, settling in Burr Oak township, Mitchell county, the father having visited Iowa in 1847 and again in 1854, when he entered and bought some 400 acres of land. Here was the family home. J. H. worked on the farm and attended school at home and at Mitchell until at the age of 16 years he entered the military service in 1862, as a member of Company K, Twenty-seventh regiment, Iowa infantry, under his former teacher, now Judge C. T. Granger. In this company he served as private, corporal and sergeant during three years, the entire term of the regiment, and took part in its numerous engagements and campaigns. The fighting of his regiment ended with the capture of Fort Blakely, the last of the defenses of Mobile, on the evening of April 9, 1865, several hours after Lee's surrender at Appomattox. Since then he has always taken much interest in military affairs. He entered the Iowa National Guard in 1877, in its early days, as a lieutenant in Company B, Sixth regiment, and served successively as captain, lieutenant-colonel, and was colonel of the regiment for four years, resigning that place to accept a commission as inspector-general, with rank of brigadier-general. The latter he resigned in the spring of 1889, after being elected to congress. In 1892, having served in Iowa organizations for fifteen years, he was placed on the retired list of the I. N. G. with rank of brigadier-general.

After returning from the war he resumed and continued his school work and studies, and graduated with honors from the law department of the State University of Iowa. He was one of the organizers of the banking house of Sweney Brothers at Osage in 1874, and took an active part in its management for several years. In 1881 he engaged in the active practice of law in Osage. He has always been a republican. In 1883 he was elected by that party to the state senate of the Twentieth General Assembly, from the Forty-first district, composed of Mitchell, Howard and Worth counties. He made so good an impression

that he was elected president *pro tem* of the senate of the Twenty-first General Assembly in 1886 by unanimous vote. He served on the judiciary committee and on the committee on mines and mining. He was re-elected in 1887 from Mitchell, Worth and Winnebago counties, and during the Twenty-second General Assembly occupied the responsible position of chairman of committee on railways, and under his able leadership and management our present railroad law was enacted. In 1888 he was elected from the Fourth Iowa district



to the lower house of the Fifty-first Congress, where he served on the committees of education, railways and canals and interstate commerce, and helped to enact the famous McKinley bill. After retirement he resumed his law practice and attention to his extensive farming interests.

Mr. Sweney is a member of the First Congregational church of Osage, and has for several years been president of the board of trustees in that organization. For twenty-two years he has been a member of the board of trustees of the Cedar Valley seminary at Osage, and served several years as president of the board. He is director and president of the Osage Building and Loan association. He belongs to the G. A. R., is a Knight Templar and a Shriner.

STATE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF IOWA

**BIOGRAPHICAL DIRECTORY
OF THE
UNITED STATES CONGRESS
1774-1989**

BICENTENNIAL EDITION

**THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS
SEPTEMBER 5, 1774, TO OCTOBER 21, 1788**

and

**THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
FROM THE FIRST THROUGH THE ONE HUNDREDTH CONGRESSES
MARCH 4, 1789, TO JANUARY 3, 1989, INCLUSIVE**



CLOSING DATE OF COMPILATION, JUNE 30, 1988

**UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
1989**

attended the common schools and Bethany (W.Va.) College; studied law; was admitted to the bar in 1853 and commenced practice in Liberty, Ky.; moved to Owensboro, Daviess County, in 1853; prosecuting attorney of Daviess County 1854-1858; presidential elector on the Democratic ticket of Douglas and Johnson in 1860; elected as a Democrat to the Forty-first Congress (March 4, 1869-March 3, 1871); was renominated in 1870, but declined to accept the nomination; resumed the practice of law in Owensboro, Ky., and died there April 21, 1895; interment in Elmwood Cemetery.

SWEENEY, George, a Representative from Ohio; born near Gettysburg, Pa., February 22, 1796; pursued academic studies and was graduated from Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa.; studied law; was admitted to the bar and commenced practice in Gettysburg in 1820; moved to Bucyrus, Crawford County, Ohio, in 1830; prosecuting attorney of Crawford County in 1838; elected as a Democrat to the Twenty-sixth and Twenty-seventh Congresses (March 4, 1839-March 3, 1843); was not a candidate for renomination in 1842; resumed the practice of his profession; moved to Geneseo, Henry County, Ill., in 1853, and continued the practice of law; returned to Bucyrus, Ohio, in 1856; was again elected prosecuting attorney of Crawford County; retired from the practice of his profession and engaged in literary and scientific pursuits; died in Bucyrus, Ohio, October 10, 1877; interment in Oakwood Cemetery.

SWEET, Burton Erwin, a Representative from Iowa; born on a farm near Waverly, Bremer County, Iowa, December 10, 1867; attended the common schools and the Iowa State Normal School at Cedar Falls; was graduated from Cornell College, Mount Vernon, Iowa, in 1893 and from the law department of the University of Iowa at Iowa City in 1895; was admitted to the bar in 1895 and commenced practice in Waverly, Iowa; city solicitor of Waverly 1896-1899; member of the State house of representatives 1900-1904; delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1904; member of the Republican State central committee 1902-1906; elected as a Republican to the Sixty-fourth and to the three succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1915-March 3, 1923); did not seek renomination in 1922, having become a candidate for Senator; unsuccessful candidate for United States Senator in the Republican primary election of 1922 and again in 1924; resumed the practice of law; died in Waverly, Iowa, January 3, 1957; interment in Harlington Cemetery.

SWEET, Edwin Forrest, a Representative from Michigan; born in Dansville, Livingston County, N.Y., November 21, 1847; attended the common schools; was graduated from the literary department of Yale College in 1871 and from the law department of Michigan University at Ann Arbor in 1874; was admitted to the bar in 1874 and commenced practice in Grand Rapids, Mich., in 1876; member of the board of education 1899-1906; mayor of Grand Rapids 1904-1906; elected as a Democrat to the Sixty-second Congress (March 4, 1911-March 3, 1913); unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1912 to the Sixty-third Congress; Assistant Secretary of Commerce 1913-1921; unsuccessful candidate for Governor of Michigan in 1916; member of the board of education of Grand Rapids 1923-1926; member of the city commission 1926-1928; operated a grain and stock ranch in North Dakota; resided in Grand Rapids, Mich., until 1928 when he retired and moved to Ojai, Calif., where he died April 2, 1935; interment in Oakhill Cemetery, Grand Rapids, Mich.

SWEET, John Hyde, a Representative from Nebraska; born in Milford, Otsego County, N.Y., September 1, 1880; moved to Palmyra, Nebr., with his parents in 1885; attended the Palmyra grade and high schools, the University of Ne-

braska at Lincoln, and the Lincoln (Nebr.) Business College; employed as a court reporter in western Nebraska in 1899 and 1900; wholesale grocer in Nebraska City 1902-1909; engaged in the newspaper publishing business at Nebraska City, Nebr., in 1909; delegate to the Progressive National Convention in 1912; elected as a Republican to the Seventy-sixth Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the death of George H. Heinke and served from April 9, 1940, to January 3, 1941; was not a candidate for renomination in 1940; resumed the newspaper publishing business in Nebraska City, Nebr., until his death in Community Hospital, Wickenburg, Ariz., April 4, 1964; interment in Wyuka Cemetery, Nebraska City, Nebr.

SWEET, Thaddeus C., a Representative from New York; born in Phoenix, Oswego County, N.Y., November 16, 1872; attended the public schools; was graduated from Phoenix Academy and High School; entered business and for two years served as a traveling salesman; in 1895 began the manufacture of paper and was president of the Sweet Paper Manufacturing Co.; also engaged in banking; town clerk of Phoenix 1896-1899; member, New York State assembly, 1910-1920, serving as speaker 1914-1920; elected as a Republican to the Sixty-eighth Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Luther W. Mott; reelected to the Sixty-ninth and Seventieth Congresses and served from November 6, 1923, until his death as the result of an airplane accident at Whitney Point, Broome County, N.Y., May 1, 1928; chairman, Committee on Expenditures in the Department of War (Sixty-ninth Congress); interment in the Rural Cemetery, Phoenix, N.Y.

SWEET, Willis, a Representative from Idaho; born at Alburg Springs, Vt., January 1, 1856; attended the common schools and the University of Nebraska at Lincoln; learned the printer's trade in Lincoln, Nebr.; moved to Moscow, Latah County, Idaho, in September 1881; studied law; was admitted to the bar in 1889 and commenced practice in Moscow; appointed United States attorney for Idaho in May 1888; judge of the first judicial district of Idaho from November 19, 1889, to January 1, 1890; appointed associate justice of Idaho Supreme Court November 25, 1889; first president of the board of regents of the University of Idaho 1889-1893; upon the admission of Idaho as a State into the Union was elected as a Republican to the Fifty-first Congress; reelected to the Fifty-second and Fifty-third Congresses and served from October 1, 1890, to March 3, 1895; was not a candidate for renomination in 1894; unsuccessful candidate for election to the United States Senate in 1896; resumed the practice of his profession in Coeur d'Alene, Kootenai County, Idaho; attorney general for Puerto Rico 1903-1905; editor of a newspaper in San Juan, P.R., from 1913 until his death there July 9, 1925; interment in Santurce Cemetery.

SWEETSER, Charles, a Representative from Ohio; born in Dummerston, Vt., January 22, 1808; moved with his parents to Delaware, Ohio, in 1817; attended the public schools; engaged in mercantile pursuits; studied law; was admitted to the bar in 1832 and commenced practice in Delaware, Delaware County, Ohio; elected as a Democrat to the Thirty-first and Thirty-second Congresses (March 4, 1849-March 3, 1853); chairman, Committee on Public Expenditures (Thirty-second Congress); resumed the practice of law; died in Delaware, Ohio, April 14, 1864; interment in Oak Grove Cemetery.

SWENEY, Joseph Henry, a Representative from Iowa; born in Warren County, Pa., October 2, 1845; attended the public schools of Pennsylvania and Iowa; was graduated from the law department of the University of Iowa at Iowa

City in 1880; was admitted to the bar the same year and commenced practice in Osage, Mitchell County, Iowa; also engaged in banking and agricultural pursuits; during the Civil War enlisted in the Union Army and served as sergeant in Company K, Twenty-seventh Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Infantry; colonel of the Sixth Regiment National Guard of Iowa for four years and brigadier and inspector general of the State; member of the State senate 1883-1891, serving as president pro tempore in 1886; elected as a Republican to the Fifty-first Congress (March 4, 1889-March 3, 1891); unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1890 to the Fifty-second Congress; resumed the practice of law in Osage, Iowa; died while on a visit in Norfolk, Va., November 11, 1918; interment in Osage Cemetery, Osage, Iowa.

SWICK, Jesse Howard, a Representative from Pennsylvania; born near New Brighton, Beaver County, Pa., August 6, 1879; attended the public schools and Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Pa.; taught school in Beaver County, Pa., 1895-1900; graduated from Hahnemann Medical College of Philadelphia in 1906; moved to Beaver Falls, Pa., in 1906 and commenced the practice of medicine; president of the Beaver Falls Bureau of Health 1907-1914; during the First World War served as a first lieutenant and later as a captain in the Medical Corps of the United States Army, with overseas service, from August 31, 1917, to May 9, 1919; resumed the practice of medicine in Beaver Falls, Pa.; also interested in banking and the manufacturing of steel products; member of the Beaver Falls City Council 1925-1927; elected as a Republican to the Seventieth and to the three succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1927-January 3, 1935); was an unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1934 to the Seventy-fourth Congress; resumed the practice of medicine until August 1945, when he retired; died in Beaver Falls, Pa., November 17, 1952; interment in Concord Cemetery, North Sewickley Township, Beaver County, Pa.

SWIFT, Allan Byron, a Representative from Washington; born in Tacoma, Pierce County, Wash., September 12, 1935; attended the Pierce County public schools; graduated from Lincoln High School, Tacoma, 1953; attended Whitman College, Walla Walla, 1953-1955; B.A., Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Wash., 1957; broadcaster; public affairs director, KVOS-TV; administrative assistant to United States Representative Lloyd Meeds, 1965-1969; member, Bellingham City Charter Revision; chairman and member, Bellingham Citizens' Advisory Committee on Schools; member, Bellingham Housing Authority; elected as a Democrat to the Ninety-sixth and to the four succeeding Congresses (January 3, 1979-January 3, 1989); is a resident of Bellingham, Wash.

SWIFT, Benjamin, a Representative and a Senator from Vermont; born in Amenia, N.Y., April 3, 1781; moved with his father to Bennington, Vt., in 1786; completed preparatory studies; studied law; was admitted to the bar in 1806 and commenced practice in Bennington; moved to Manchester and then to St. Albans in 1809; practiced law and also engaged in banking and agricultural pursuits; member, State house of representatives 1813, 1825, 1826; elected to the Twentieth and Twenty-first Congresses (March 4, 1827-March 3, 1831); was not a candidate for renomination in 1830; elected to the United States Senate as a Whig and served from March 4, 1833, to March 3, 1839; was not a candidate for renomination in 1839; resumed the practice of law and agricultural pursuits; died in St. Albans, Vt., on November 11, 1847; interment in the Old Cemetery, South Main Street.

SWIFT, George Robinson, a Senator from Alabama; born at Swift Post Office, Baldwin County, Ala., December 19,

1887; attended the public schools of Baldwin County, Ala., the University Military School, Mobile, Ala., and the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa; engaged in the lumber industry in Alabama; member, Alabama house of representatives 1931-1935; member, State senate 1935-1939; State highway director 1943-1946; appointed as a Democrat to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the death of John H. Bankhead II and served from June 15, 1946, to November 5, 1946, when a successor was elected; was not a candidate for election to the vacancy in 1946; member, State senate 1947-1951; president of Southern Pine Association 1954-1955; president, Swift-Hunter Lumber Co., of Atmore, Ala.; retired and resided in Atmore, Ala.; died in New Orleans, La., September 10, 1972; interment in Oak Hill Cemetery, Atmore, Ala.

SWIFT, Oscar William, a Representative from New York; born in Paines Hollow, Herkimer County, N.Y., April 11, 1869; moved to Michigan with his parents, who settled in Adrian in 1877; attended the public schools and the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor; was graduated from the New York Law School, New York City, in 1896; was admitted to the bar in 1897 and commenced practice in New York City; elected as a Republican to the Sixty-fourth and Sixty-fifth Congresses (March 4, 1915-March 3, 1919); unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1918 to the Sixty-sixth Congress; resumed law practice in New York City; died in Brooklyn, N.Y., June 30, 1940; interment in Kensico Cemetery, Valhalla, N.Y.

SWIFT, Zephaniah, a Representative from Connecticut; born in Wareham, Plymouth County, Mass., February 27, 1759; moved with his parents to Lebanon, New London County, Conn.; completed preparatory studies; was graduated from Yale College in 1778; studied law; was admitted to the bar and commenced practice in Windham, Conn.; member of the State house of representatives 1787-1793, serving as speaker in 1792; clerk of the house for four sessions; elected to the Third Congress and reelected as a Federalist to the Fourth Congress (March 4, 1793-March 3, 1797); resumed the practice of law at Windham; also engaged in literary pursuits; secretary of the French mission in 1800; judge of the supreme court in 1801 and chief justice 1806-1819; member of the Hartford Convention in 1814; again a member of the State house of representatives 1820-1822; died in Warren, Trumbull County, Ohio, September 27, 1823; interment in Oakwood Cemetery.

Bibliography: DAB.

SWINBURNE, John, a Representative from New York; born at Deer River, Lewis County, N.Y., May 30, 1820; attended the public schools and academies in Denmark and Lowville, Lewis County, and in Fairfield, Herkimer County; was graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1847 and commenced practice as a physician and surgeon; during the Civil War was appointed a medical officer; appointed by Governor Seymour in 1864 health officer of the port of New York and reappointed by Governor Fenton in 1866, holding the position six years; in charge of the American Ambulance Corps during the siege of Paris by the Prussians in 1870 and 1871; elected mayor of Albany in 1882 and counted out, but after fourteen months' litigation was awarded the office by the courts; elected as a Republican to the Forty-ninth Congress (March 4, 1885-March 3, 1887); resumed the practice of his profession; died in Albany, N.Y., March 28, 1889; interment in Albany Rural Cemetery.

SWINDALL, Charles, a Representative from Oklahoma; born at College Mound, near Terrell, Kaufman County, Tex.,

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HISTORY OF IOWA

FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES
TO THE BEGINNING OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

FOUR VOLUMES ²²/₃₅

By BENJAMIN F. GUE

*Illustrated with Photographic Views of the Natural Scenery of
the State, Public Buildings, Pioneer Life, Etc.*

WITH PORTRAITS AND BIOGRAPHIES OF NOTABLE MEN AND WOMEN OF IOWA

VOLUME IV
IOWA BIOGRAPHY



SEAL OF THE STATE OF IOWA

THE CENTURY HISTORY COMPANY
41 LAFAYETTE PLACE
NEW YORK CITY

51619a

and for thirteen years an officer in the Iowa National Guards, attaining the rank of colonel. He was for some years on the Governor's staff. In 1897 he was appointed Consul to Montevideo, in Uruguay, South America, by President McKinley. In March, 1903, Colonel Swalm was by order of the President transferred to Southampton, England.

PAULINE GIVEN SWALM was born at Dahlonaga, Wapello County, Iowa, on the 7th of October, 1850. She prepared for college in the public and private schools and graduated from Iowa College at Grinnell. Miss Given was an accomplished writer and in 1871 became associate editor of the *Iowa State Register*. In October, 1872, she was united in marriage with Albert W. Swalm. In 1874 she was associated with her husband in the publication and editorial management of the *Fort Dodge Messenger*. Some years later they removed to Oskaloosa and purchased the *Herald*, where for many years they gave their time to the editorial and business management of that journal. They soon established a daily edition which became one of the most influential Republican journals in the State. During all of this time Mrs. Swalm was a contributor to leading political papers and magazines. She was an accomplished public speaker and was often invited to deliver lectures. She accompanied her husband to Montevideo, where she has been a close observer of South American people and countries, which will be the subject for a book from her pen.

JOSEPH H. SWENEY was born in Warren County, Pennsylvania, on the 21 of October, 1845. He came to Iowa when a young man and graduated from the regular as well as the law course of the State University. Mr. Sweny has been engaged in farming and banking but gives most of his attention to law. In the War of the Rebellion he served three years in Company K, Twenty-seventh Volunteer Infantry. After the war he was for four years colonel of the Sixth Regiment of the National Guards and was promoted to Brigadier, and Inspector-General of the State. In 1857 he was elected on the Republican ticket State Senator for the Forty-first District, composed of the counties of Howard, Mitchell and Worth. He was in 1886 elected president *pro tem.* of the Senate. Mr. Sweny was reelected to the Senate at the close of his first term, serving two years, most of the time being on the judiciary, railroad and military committees. In 1888 he was elected to Congress in the Fourth District, serving one term. He was nominated by the Republicans in 1890 but was defeated at the election by the Democratic candidate.

RICHARD H. SYLVESTER was one of the pioneer journalists of Iowa. He was born in Charlestown, New Hampshire, and attended school at Dexter Academy, taking a course at Yale College and graduating at the Law School of Ann Arbor. In 1854 he came to Iowa and continued

State of Iowa
1919

THIRTY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Journal of the Senate

OF THE

Thirty-Eighth General Assembly

REGULAR SESSION

CONVENED JANUARY 13

ADJOURNED APRIL 19, 1919



WILLIAM L. HARDING, Governor
E. R. MOORE, President of the Senate
A. W. MacFARLANE, Speaker of the House

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THE STATE OF IOWA
DES MOINES

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bears his name is the Stookey bill, an educational bill which provides that the diploma of any of the accredited colleges of the state,—some seventeen independent colleges, are on the accredited list. This bill provided that any diploma should have the same force and effect as far as teaching is concerned as a diploma from the state college or state teachers' college, and that is the law today, known as the Stookey Law. He was a very genial man and well beloved by his friends.

JOSEPH H. SWENEY.

Senator Kingland, from a special committee, submitted the following report and moved its adoption:

Mr. PRESIDENT—Your committee appointed to prepare resolutions commemorating the life, character and public services of Joseph Henry Sweney beg leave to submit the following report.

Joseph Henry Sweney was born in Warren County, Pennsylvania, October 2nd, 1845. He was educated in the public schools of Pennsylvania and Iowa. He finished his education in the State University of Iowa, where he graduated. He was early admitted to the bar and engaged in the practice of law and was engaged also in his early active career at farming. He early enlisted in the Union army and served as sergeant in Company K, Twenty-seventh Regiment of Iowa Infantry. He was later made colonel of the 6th Regiment, Iowa National Guard for four years and also held the position of Brigadier and Inspector General of the state. He was a member of the Iowa Senate in the twentieth, twenty-first, and twenty-second general assemblies. He was president pro tempore of the Senate in the session of 1886 and was elected and served as a member of the fifty-first congress.

The above recited facts of the public career of Colonel Sweney evidences the esteem and confidences in which he was held by his fellowmen. In all capacities in which he served, both in public and private, he served with honor and distinction to himself and rendered faithful service to those whom he served. He was unassuming and the positions of honor and trust which he occupied during his life were due to the worth and ability of the man rather than to any self-seeking on his part, and it may be said of him that the office sought the man rather than the man the office.

He spent his entire active life in Osage, Mitchell County, Iowa, where he practiced law as his occupation when not holding office and the esteem and confidence he enjoyed from his fellowmen and colleagues is well attested by the following extract from the memorial resolutions offered by the Mitchell County Bar Association at its meeting held December 6th, 1918, and which resolutions were spread upon the record of the district court:

Resolved, That it is our judgment that in the death of our brother, Joseph Henry Sweney, the citizens of this county and state have lost a worthy citizen, whose life spanned almost our entire history, a citizen who was put to many severe tests with honor, patience and confidence in

his Maker and his fellowmen; that our part of the universe is certainly better because he lived and mingled with us for so many years. His memory will always be fondly cherished by us, and by all who had the privilege of knowing him intimately."

Joseph Henry Sweney died on November 11th, 1917, having lived more than the allotted years of man. His had been a life of usefulness and he died esteemed most by those who knew him best. He had been a faithful servant in private and public capacities. This is the most substantial encomium and praise that can be given to any man and constitutes the success most to be desired in the life of a human being. By his demise the community in which he lived so long feels the loss of one of natures noble men, a most worthy man and neighbor and the state mourns the loss of one of its prominent and influential citizens.

Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Senate has heard with deep sorrow and regret of his death and that it recognizes the high character of his service to this state, and in his death the state has lost a worthy, distinguished and noble citizens and

Be It Resolved, That this Senate extend to his family its sincere sympathy in their great bereavement, and,

Be It Further Resolved, That these resolutions be entered upon the Senate journal and a copy sent to the bereaved family of the deceased.

T. A. KINGLAND,

J. D. BUSER,

B. J. HORCHEM.

Committee.

The resolutions were adopted unanimously by a rising vote.

Senator Kingland spoke in part as follows:

It was not my privilege, Senators, to be personally acquainted with Senator Sweney; I perhaps had met him and that is about all. He was rather to be classed among the pioneer lawmakers of this state. He was one of the sturdy pioneers who came to this state when it was young and it seems to me it is a tribute to a man to say that he lived in the same community for sixty-three years and had a large part in the development of that community and in the history of the state. It always appeals to me that the unassuming man who rounds out a career as has been recited that Colonel Sweney did, has been an eminent success. He not only held office in the state, but he was a member of the Fifty-first Congress, and in all these positions, I have not heard but what he filled them all to the satisfaction of his constituents.

Now I doubt not that the older men of the state, especially those who had a part in public affairs, could add a great deal to what has been recited in these resolutions. I only want to say that it is my personal satisfaction to have heard nothing but good said of the subject of these resolutions, and it can be truthfully said from the positions he occupied and his reputation as a man and as a legislator that this state has lost one of its most prominent citizens. I doubt whether the Senator from Clayton was personally acquainted with Senator Sweney, but if so, I will yield the floor to him.

Senator Newberry said in part:

I desire to say regarding Senator Sweney that he was a good presiding officer, a good lawyer. I happened to be in the convention when he was nominated to Congress. It was a very hot contest. There were three candidates. Colonel Sweney was selected by one-sixteenth of one vote. He served a term in Congress. He was a very capable man and when he came back, I think, being a man of considerable means, did not engage in his practice in law at Osage to any great extent.

JOHN C. VOORHEES.

Senator Nelson, from a special committee, submitted the following report and moved its adoption:

MR. PRESIDENT—Your committee appointed to prepare resolutions to commemorate the life, character and public services of the Honorable John Crammer Voorhees, late of Anita, Cass County, Iowa, and a former member of the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, beg leave to submit the following report:

John Crammer Voorhees was born at White House, New Jersey, May 18, 1865, and died at his home at Anita, Iowa, on November 21st, 1918, at the age of fifty-three. He lived at White House, New Jersey, until sixteen years of age and removed to Anita, Iowa, where he has resided until his death. He was a member of the Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh General Assemblies.

Besides being a banker he was engaged extensively in farming, operating two large farms near Anita. He was also interested in oil lands in Oklahoma; and had extensive land interest in different parts of the United States. As a business man he made a wonderful success, being reputed the richest man in Cass County. When Mr. Voorhees came to Iowa he had nothing, and went to work and took a great deal of interest in his hardware, implement and furniture business and built up one of the largest businesses of this kind in southwestern Iowa.

On October 1st, 1884, in Atlantic, Iowa, he was united in marriage to Miss Ottumwa E. Gaylord, the Rev. E. S. Hill performing the ceremony. Mrs. Voorhees passed from this world only a few months preceding her husband. They left one son, Leon Voorhees, surviving.

Mr. Voorhees was a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Masons, the Elks of Atlantic, and the Chapter and Commandery of Masons in Atlantic. In 1914 he was elected to the state Senate from the Cass-Shelby district. His career in politics was a success. One of his strongest characteristics was his happy sunny disposition. Therefore, It Resolved, That in his death, the state of Iowa and the nation lost a worthy and upright citizen, an honest able and fearless man and an advocate of all things for the betterment of his country and state, and we hereby extend to the bereaved family and friends, our sincere sympathy, and



You searched for **J. H. Sweney** in **Iowa**

Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925

Name:	J H Sweney	
Census Date:	1905	
Residence State:	Iowa	
Residence County:	Mitchell	
Locality:	Osage	
Roll:	IA_100	
Line:	127	
Neighbors:	View others on page	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	J H Sweney	

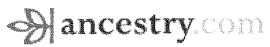
Source Information:
 Ancestry.com. *Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2007.
 Original data: Microfilm of Iowa State Censuses, 1856, 1885, 1895, 1905, 1915, 1925 as well various special censuses from 1836-1897 obtained from the State 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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You searched for **Joseph H. Sweney** in **Iowa**

1900 United States Federal Census

Name:	Joseph H Arveney [Joseph H Sweney]	
Home in 1900:	Osage, Mitchell, Iowa	
Age:	53	
Birth Date:	Oct 1846	
Birthplace:	Pennsylvania	
Race:	White	
Gender:	Male	
Relationship to Head of House:	Brother-in-law	
Father's Birthplace:	Ireland	
Mother's Birthplace:	Pennsylvania	
Marital Status:	Divorced	
Occupation:	View on Image	
Neighbors:	View others on page	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	John F Dailey	65
	Margaret Dailey	58
	Joseph H Arveney	53

Source Citation: Year: 1900; Census Place: Osage, Mitchell, Iowa; Roll T623_448; Page: 11B; Enumeration District: 118.

Source Information:
Ancestry.com. 1900 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2004.



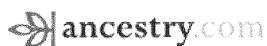
Original data: United States of America, Bureau of the Census. *Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1900. T623, 1854 rolls.

Description:
This database is an index to individuals enumerated in the 1900 United States Federal Census, the Twelfth Census of the United States. Census takers recorded many details including each person's name, address, relationship to the head of household, color or race, sex, month and year of birth, age at last birthday, marital status, number of years married, the total number of children born of the mother, the number of those children living, birthplace, birthplace of father and mother, if the individual was foreign born, the year of immigration and the number of years in the United States, the citizenship status of foreign-born individuals over age twenty-one, occupation, and more. Additionally, the names of those listed on the population schedule are linked to actual images of the 1900 Federal Census. [Learn more...](#)

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You searched for **J. H. Sweney** in Iowa

Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925

Name:	J H Sweney					
Birth Year:	abt 1846					
Birth Place:	Pennsylvania					
Gender:	Male					
Race:	White					
Marital Status:	Widowed					
Census Date:	1915					
Residence State:	Iowa					
Residence County:	Mitchell					
Locality:	Osage					
Mother's Birthplace:	Pennsylvania					
Father's Birthplace:	Ireland					
Roll:	IA1915_346					
Line:	600					
Neighbors:	View others on page					
Household Members:	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name</th> <th>Age</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>J H Sweney</td> <td>69</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Name	Age	J H Sweney	69	
Name	Age					
J H Sweney	69					

Source Information:
 Ancestry.com. *Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2007.
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Joseph Henry Sweney

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Birth: Oct. 2, 1845
Death: Nov. 11, 1918

US Congressman. During the Civil War, he served in the Union Army as a Sergeant in Company K, 27th Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Infantry. In 1880, he graduated from the law department of the University of Iowa, was admitted to the bar and commenced practice in Osage. From 1883 to 1891, he was a member of the Iowa State Senate, serving as president pro tempore in 1886. In 1889 he was elected as a Republican to the Fifty-first Congress, serving until 1891. An unsuccessful candidate for reelection, he resumed the practice of law until his death. (bio by: John "J-Cat" Griffith)



Added by: John "J-Cat" Griffith



Added by: GeneGraver

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Burial:
Osage Cemetery
Osage
Mitchell County
Iowa, USA
Plot: 0008, Grave 7

Maintained by: Find A Grave
Originally Created by: John "J-Cat" Griffith
Record added: May 11, 2007
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