

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Senator Burdick

Theodore Welds - Represented Winnebago County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 7 Oct 1836 Evansburg, Crawford County, Pennsylvania

2. Marriage (s) date place
(1) Nancy Graves Dec 1858

(2) Mrs. E. A. Moore

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business he later years he became financial manager of the First National Bank of Decorah over 20 years; also associated with First Savings Bank of Decorah, State Bank of Estherville Iowa, and in firm of Graves, Burdick and Company

B. Civic responsibilities G.A.R.

C. Profession Banker

4. Church membership Congregational

5. Sessions served 21st General Assembly 1886

6. Public Offices

A. Local Accepted his father in the treasurer and recorder office 1854-1857; at age 18 he took hold of this position until 1862

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death 16 July 1898 Decorah, Iowa; buried

8. Children Mrs. C. T. Bailey; Nelson A.;

9. Names of parents Nelson and Almira (Mason) Burdick

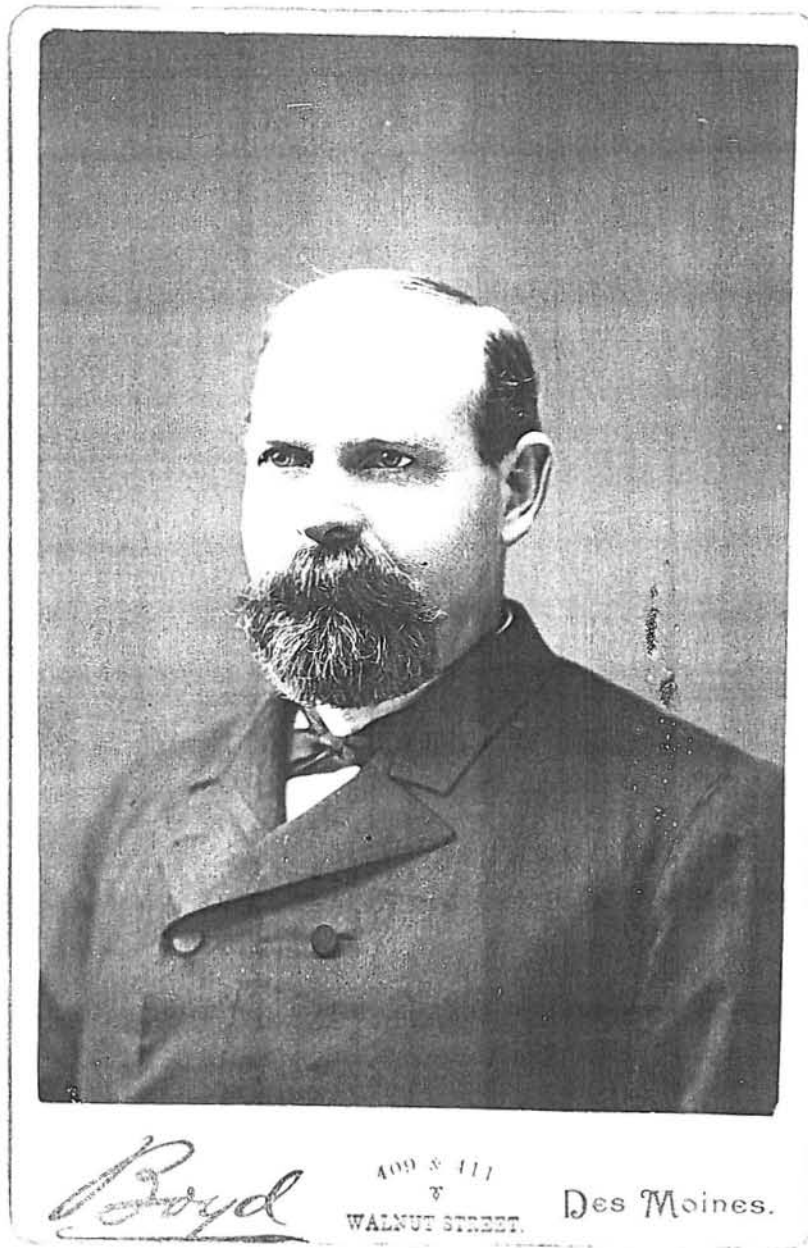
10. Education _____

_____11. Degrees _____

12. Other applicable information _____

Republican

- He came to Iowa with his parents in 1853 locating at Keosauqua.
- He taught school at Keosauqua, Iowa and Decatur, Iowa beginning spring 1853
- military service - Civil War - Company D, 6th Iowa Cavalry attaining rank of Captain; he recruited this company; sent to the frontier and out south
- In Feb 1865 he purchased an interest in the First National Bank of Decatur and was the cashier for many years.
- He also extensively dealt in real estate
- After 2 years as state senator he resigned moving to Laull He, Michigan where he lived 10 years working in the banking business. This was a boom period, but planned enterprises did not work out.
- His first wife, Nancy, died in 1889 in Battle Creek, Michigan





T. W. Burdick

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THIRTY-FIVE YEARS A MERCHANT.

ending of a long, successful and honorable Career.

It was in 1863 that O. P. Thompson and Hans Olson, who had been fellow workers in McGregor for several years, concluded to unite their frugal savings and start upon a business career in Decorah. Mr. Olson had been here and made one year's trial with O. A. Nelson, a trial that decided him in his faith that Decorah was a good point at which to do business. This was at a time when the people of this vicinity were recovering from the hard times of '77-8-9, and when a second era of settlement and improvement was beginning to be felt.

Mr. Thompson had been in training for a mercantile life by three years' experience as a clerk at Elgin, Ills., and six years spent with Allen & Southwyd, at McGregor. Mr. Olson had had about the same experience. Their capital was small; the first store occupied being on the site where Iversen's is now located; and the firm name was that which became so familiar in the quarter century that followed: Nelson & Thompson. Two years later, however, O. A. Nelson joined the firm, and remained a partner for three years. During this time they leased the ground, and built the frame store-building on the site now occupied by Charles Wegner's furniture store. This they occupied until 1874, when they felt financially able to build the brick store room, on the old Howell & Heivly site, at which they have since occupied.

In 1888, after twenty-five years of agreeable association Mr. Thompson bought the interest of his partner in the business and the personalty. And now, ten years later Mr. Thompson transfers his interest to his rival and competitor during all these thirty-five years, for Mr. N. Goddard had begun his career as a general merchant in 1862.

The ending of such a business life is not to be passed over lightly—not by this REPUBLICAN when it remembers the steady good will exhibited by members of that firm towards this journal. We make only a brief outline. A few

THEODORE WELD BURDICK.

It is with more than ordinary grief this pen is taken up to write the obituary of one who, from young-manhood to gray hairs, was a friend in the fullest sense of that endearing term.

Theodore Burdick was born in Crawford county, Pa., Oct. 7th, 1836, and the most active years of his life—from 1853 until 1888—were spent in Decorah. It is enough to say that during twenty-five of those years his influence was the widest and most potentially wielded of any one who resided in this county.

He very early entered into political life. When scarcely eighteen years old he became deputy Treasurer and Recorder under his father, Nelson Burdick, performing most of the labor of the office so satisfactorily that, when he became of age, he was promptly elected as his father's successor. This position he held until 1862, when he resigned the office in order to enter the service of his country in the War of the Rebellion. A call was made for a regiment of cavalry, and he at once began recruiting a company. The character of the man easily commanded a class of recruits equalling in most respects any company previously enlisted in the county. In men of ripened years and matured character it was excelled by none. They confidently expected to go South, but the necessities of the government caused the regiment to be sent to the frontier, and they had little chance to distinguish themselves, except as "Indian fighters."

Upon his return home he accepted the position of cashier of the First National Bank of Decorah, and in time became in effect the financial manager of that institution. This relation he held for over twenty years, except during 1877-8, with the highest credit to himself as a thoroughly capable financier. During the same time he was also associated in other financial organizations, chief of these being the first Savings Bank of Decorah and the State Bank of Estherville, the natural successor of the firm of Graves, Burdick & Co.

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The ending of such a business life is not to be passed over lightly—not by this REPUBLICAN when it remembers the steady good will exhibited by members of that firm towards this journal. We make only a brief outline. A few words covers the story of a generation. The career of Mr. Thompson is one that truly honors the man, because his life work has been one of continuous services to a large number of customers. The benefits to both the merchant and his patrons in this case have been mutual, because in every respect honorable and just. Essentially in all respects Mr. Thompson has been a fair dealer; he has striven to meet the wants of all who came into his doors, and never has asked more than a reasonable compensation for the service he has rendered. As a result he has secured a comfortable competence. His sons are settled in active business life; and no reason now exists why he should not rest from the care and fret which a business life entails.

Although his career as a business man now closes, his relations to Decorah as a citizen will continue, let us hope for a score of years. Physically he is at his prime, and he will have leisure to give to any services his fellow citizens may ask of him. It is men like Mr. Thompson, who have made a success of their own affairs, and who have leisure for public functions, to whom we can look to fill a mayoralty, a supervisorship, or a representativeship. We suggest that there is service in store for Mr. Thompson in one or more, or all, these lines.

THE WEALTH OF NATIONS.

Mulhall, the English statistician, figures the present wealth of eight leading nations to be:

United States	\$81,750,000,000
Great Britain	59,080,000,000
France	47,950,000,000
Germany	40,290,000,000
Russia	32,125,000,000
Austria	22,500,000,000
Italy	15,800,000,000
Spain	11,300,000,000

As he figures it the increase in our national wealth by decades has been:

In 1850	\$7,236,000,000
In 1860	16,160,000,000
In 1870	25,820,000,000
In 1880	61,600,000,000
In 1890	81,750,000,000

was also associated in other financial organizations, chief of these being the first Savings Bank of Decorah and the State Bank of Estherville, the natural successor of the firm of Graves, Burdick & Co.

In 1887 he, with other associated capitalists, became identified with property matters at Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., especially in a National Bank. They started at a boom period, but the enterprises which were expected to make that city the site of one of the greatest water powers on this continent failed to materialize, and none of these ventures proved compensating. They were but the beginning of adversities that at last reduced the man of competence to the rank of poverty.

In 1876, without his assent, and almost against his wishes, he was nominated as the Republican candidate for Congress from the district which then included Dubuque, Delaware, Buchanan and all the counties north of them. The political preponderance of the district was at that time trembling in the balance. The Democrats nominated Hon. J. M. Griffith, a widely known and wealthy lawyer of Dubuque. Mr. Burdick was comparatively unknown, except to a few working politicians in each county. Mr. Griffith was a trained speaker; Mr. Burdick never attempted that role. From the day of his nomination Mr. Burdick laid aside his private employment and devoted night and day to a thorough organization of the district. He enthused the workers in every county; and although unknown at the beginning of the struggle, when it closed on the night of election, he was the best known man in the district. The people believed in him, and accepted him at his worth—a worth which only his most intimate friends fully knew. He was elected by over 1200 majority; he “redeemed” the district; and to this day if you ask the old-timers what has been the great political contest in Northeastern Iowa, they will at once and unhesitatingly reply: “The Burdick-Griffith fight of 1876.” Every inch of territory in most of the seven counties was gone over carefully. School house meetings were held everywhere; the ablest stumpers in the state were called out; and the result was a state-wide reputation as orators contented to visit upon the all-

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As he figures it the increase in our national wealth by decades has been:

In 1850.....	\$7,236,000,000
In 1860.....	16,160,000,000
In 1870.....	25,982,000,000
In 1880.....	43,642,000,000
In 1890.....	61,600,000,000
In 1900.....	81,750,000,000

In brief the accumulation in the past eight years alone, exceeds by four billions the total wealth in 1860; just before the war of the rebellion broke out that by the abolition of slavery annihilated the property value of the four million of slaves in the south. Such figures are marvelous beyond comparison.

THE Commander at Guantanamo refuses to be included in Gen. Toral's surrender. He may have to be whipped into submission.

A GREAT scare exists in the seaport cities of Spain on account of the threatened visit by Admiral Watson and his fleet.

Congress from the district which then included Dubuque, Delaware, Buchanan and all the counties north of them. The political preponderance of the district was at that time trembling in the balance. The Democrats nominated Hon. J. M. Griffith, a widely known and wealthy lawyer of Dubuque. Mr. Burdick was comparatively unknown, except to a few working politicians in each county. Mr. Griffith was a trained speaker; Mr. Burdick never attempted that role. From the day of his nomination Mr. Burdick laid aside his private employment and devoted night and day to a thorough organization of the district. He enthused the workers in every county; and although unknown at the beginning of the struggle, when it closed on the night of election, he was the best known man in the district. The people believed in him, and accepted him at his worth—a worth which only his most intimate friends fully knew. He was elected by over 1200 majority; he "redeemed" the district; and to this day if you ask the old-timers what has been the great political contest in Northeastern Iowa, they will at once and unhesitatingly reply: "The Burdick-Griffith fight of 1876." Every inch of territory in most of the seven counties was gone over carefully. School house meetings were held everywhere; the ablest stumpers in the state visited the larger places, and men of state-wide reputation as orators consented to visit even the villages; and when the votes were polled there were scores of townships in which every last voter was accounted for, and only absence or severe sickness were permitted to excuse the act of voting.

One term in Congress satisfied Mr. Burdick's ambition. He loved the delights of a charming home-life too well to go deeper into public service, and the business affairs of himself and his patrons needed all the care and attention he could bestow.

In 1885 he reluctantly consented to become a candidate for State Senator. It was a time of political exigency when no person cared to make the fight that would become necessary. His opposition to the use of his name was so

positive that he had written a letter, on the day of the nominating convention, which, less than two hours before the convention assembled, he read to the writer of these lines. It was to be given to the writer, and in case his name was brought into convention, it was to be used. He was so modest in such matters that he would not presume to decline an honor not proffered. With some difficulty he was persuaded to withhold that letter and let matters take their due course, under the assurance that his nomination was the only one that could harmonize all interests. It so proved; he was nominated and again triumphantly elected. It was an important session into which he was plunged. The quarrel between Gov. Sherman and State Auditor Brown resulted in the impeachment of the auditor, and his trial by the senate ensued the following summer. In this matter Mr. Burdick's wise judgment and sound counsel were appreciated, and in that contest he bore an active and conspicuous part. The one measure he had at heart as a legislator was the creation of a "home" for invalid Iowa soldiers. He prepared a bill for such an institution, and the exertions of a few of like mind with him created the Iowa Soldiers' Home at Marshalltown. Little thought he, then, that for a brief while in the closing days of his life it would become his own shelter and refuge.

In 1887, as has been stated, moneyed investments led him to Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. As he expressed it, the home bank was becoming top heavy with high-class men, and it seemed wisest for him to go to that city to look after associated ventures. There he at once entered into the various projects, chief of which was the development of a magnificent water power. Several times it seemed almost an assured fact. Every thing was ready, including ample capital, when the panic of 1893 came and again crushed all hopes. Had this project succeeded all the plans of these capitalists would have been realized. During his residence at the "Soo" he was duly appreciated as a man of acts rather than words—as one who was capable of meeting trusts and responsibilities. One evidence of this was in his appoint-

A CUBAN BREEZE.

It Kisses the Folds of Old
Glory as They Are Un-
furled at Santiago.

The Star Spangled Banner Is Hoist-
ed Over the Palace at Noon
on Sunday.

The Ceremony Marked in Its Im-
pressiveness—Toral's Army
Lays Down Its Guns.

The Spanish Commander, After
Many Delays, Yields to Gen.
Shafter's Demands.

Terms of the Surrender—Recommen-
dation That Arms Be Returned
Has Not Been Granted.

Santiago de Cuba, July 18.—Amid impressive ceremonies the Spanish troops laid down their arms between the lines of the Spanish and American forces at nine o'clock Sunday morning. Gen. Shafter and the American division and brigade commanders and their staffs were escorted by a troop of cavalry, and Gen. Toral and his staff by 100 picked men. Trumpeters on both sides saluted with flourishes. Gen. Shafter returned to Gen. Toral the latter's sword after it had been handed to the American commander. Our troops, lined up at the trenches, were eye-witnesses of the ceremony. Gen. Shafter and his escort, accompanied by Gen. Toral, rode through the city, taking formal possession. The city had been sacked before they arrived by the Spaniards. At the palace elaborate ceremonies took place. Exactly at noon the American flag was raised over the palace and was saluted by 21 guns by Capt. Capron's battery. At the same time all the regimental bands in our lines played "The Star Spangled Banner," after which

...have been realized. During the presence at the "Soo" he was duly appreciated as a man of acts rather than words—as one who was capable of meeting trusts and responsibilities. One evidence of this was in his appointment and service as one of the commissioners who built the last Insane Hospital of Michigan, at Newberry, on the Upper Peninsula.

One more paragraph is due to the memory of Mr. Burdick, because of his relations to the public in another capacity. For upwards of a quarter of a century he was connected in some form with the official management of the Republican party. He was never a "high private," or in the rear rank. The many years this writer was associated with him on county committees, and in similar relations, enables us to say with absolute knowledge, that in this respect this was an honest, ungrudging, unselfish service. In important elections, such as congressional or presidential, he gave days and weeks of his time, likewise his best thoughts, and the wisdom of large experience with men in aid of his party principles. Often he was also one of the largest contributors of money to campaign funds, and, with all this, he was always a scrupulous stickler for economy in the use of such funds, in order that poor men might not be deterred from candidacy for office, and that there might be purity in politics. All this he did without hope of personal reward or political advantage. He loved to serve friends in this way, and therefore he possessed many who delighted to be known as his friends.

The failing health which led to Mr. Burdick's death began about a year ago. A shock of vertigo of which he made but little account was the first warning. In the winter this decline became more marked, but fears were not thoroughly aroused until spring was closing. The weakness of approaching death steadily grew more and more apparent. In his necessities a few weeks ago application was made for admission to the Soldiers' Home at Marshalltown, to which as an Iowa Soldier he had rights. Thither he went about the 3d inst., but he declined so rapidly that the authorities speedily notified his relatives in Decorah that Bright's disease was working its sure course, and the end was

raised over the palace and was saluted by 21 guns by Capt. Capron's battery. At the same time all the regimental bands in our lines played "The Star Spangled Banner," after which President McKinley's congratulatory telegram was read to each regiment. The Thirteenth and Ninth regiments of infantry will remain in the city to enforce order and exercise municipal authority. The Spanish forces are to encamp outside of our lines. Gen. McKibbin has been appointed temporary military governor.

An Impressive Scene.

The ceremony of hoisting the stars and stripes was worth all the blood and treasure it cost. A vast concourse of 10,000 people witnessed the stirring and thrilling scene that will live forever in the minds of all the Americans present. A finer stage setting for a dramatic episode it would be difficult to imagine. The palace, a picturesque old dwelling in the Moorish style of architecture, faces the Plaza de La Reina, the principal public square. Opposite rises the opposing Catholic cathedral. On one side is a quaint, brilliantly-painted building, with broad verandas—the club of San Carlos—on the other building of much the same description is the Cafe de La Venus.

Across the plaza was drawn up the Ninth infantry, headed by the Sixth cavalry band. In the street facing the palace stood a picked troop of the Second cavalry, with drawn sabers, under command of Capt. Brett. Massed on the stone flagging between the band and the line of horsemen were the brigade commanders of Gen. Shafter's division, with their staffs. On the red-tiled roof of the palace stood Capt. McKittrick, Lieut. Miley and Lieut. Wheeler. Immediately above them, upon the flagstaff, the illuminated Spanish arms and the legend "Vive Alfonso XIII." All about, pressing against the veranda rails, crowding to windows and doors and lining the roofs were the people of the town, principally women and noncombatants.

Old Glory Hoisted.

As the chimes of the old cathedral rang out the hour of 12 the infantry and cavalry presented arms. Every American uncovered, and Capt. McKittrick hoisted the stars and stripes. As the brilliant folds unfurled in a gentle breeze against a fleckless sky the cavalry band broke into the strains of "The Star-Spangled Banner," making the American pulse leap and the American heart thrill with joy. At the same instant the sound of the distant booming of

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Mr. Burdick was twice married. Nancy Graves, the wife of his youth, bore to him six children, of whom four survive. She died at Battle Creek early in 1889; and in the year following he married Mrs. E. A. Moore, who also survives him and has been his faithful companion in all the afflictions of the last years of his life.

Funeral services were held at 5 p. m. from the Burdick residence in West Decorah, Rev. Mahlon Willett officiating, and Messrs. L. L. Cadwell, C. N. Goddard, A. W. Grow, E. J. Riley, J. J. Marsh and A. N. Vance acting as bearers.

—the club of San Carlos—on the other building of much the same description is the Cafe de La Venus.

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At the same instant the sound of the distant booming of Capt. Capron's battery, firing a salute of 21 guns, drifted in. When the music ceased from all directions around our line came floating across the plaza the strains of the regimental bands and the muffled, hoarse cheer of our troops.

The infantry came to "Order arms" a moment later, after the flag was up, and the band played "Rally 'Round the Flag, Boys." Instantly Gen. McKibbon called for three cheers for Gen. Shafter, which were given with great enthusiasm, the band playing Sousa's "The Stars and Stripes Forever."

The ceremony over, Gen. Shafter and his staff returned to the American lines, leaving the city in the possession of the municipal authorities, subject to the control of Gen. McKibbon.

Madrid Sanctions Surrender.

The formal sanction by the Madrid government of the terms of capitulation unravelled the tangled skein of demands and counter demands between the opposing commanders, which threatened to end the negotiations and compel a return to arms. After numerous conferences had resulted in the agreement, already sanctioned by Gen. Blanco, Gen. Toral decided that the approval of the Madrid government

CANDIDATE FOR CONGRESSMAN.

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HON. T. W. BURDICK DEAD

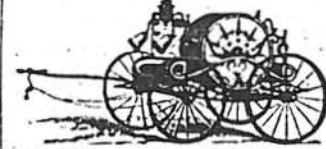
One of the Pioneer Business Men of
Decorah Passes Away.

Last Saturday morning, at the home
of his brother, C. W. Burdick, Hon.
Theodore W. Burdick died from
Brights Disease. On the third of July
he went to the Soldiers' Home at
Marshalltown, where he became very
ill, and on last week Tuesday C. W.
Burdick brought him to Decorah,
where his last few days were spent.
We copy almost verbatim a sketch of
his life from the History of Winne-
shiek County, up to the time he was
elected to represent this district in con-
gress:

Hon. Theodore W. Burdick was a native of
Pennsylvania, and was born at Evansburg,
Crawford county, on the 7th day of October,
1836, his parents being Nelson and Almira
Mason Burdick. Nelson Burdick was born in
the State of New York; removed from his
native State to Crawford Co., Penn., and in
1852 immigrated to Iowa and located at Free-
port, on the site now occupied by the paper
mill, but did not bring his family west until
1853. At that time the journey was made by
railroad to Rockford, Ill., thence by stage to
Dubuque; thence by river to Lansing, and
again by wagons to Freeport. Burdick soon
became a popular citizen, and in the spring of
1854 was appointed to fill a vacancy in the
Treasurer's and Recorder's office, caused by
the death of Thomas J. Hazlett, and was twice
re-elected to the same. When the civil war
broke out, he had five sons who were eligible
to serve their country, all of whom enlisted,
but only two returned from service, as three
filled soldier's graves. Theodore W. is the
oldest of the three living children. He early
applied himself to his studies, so that at the
age of 17 he was prepared to enter Oberlin Col-
lege, Ohio, but came with his parents to Free-
port in the spring of 1853. During the summer
of that year, a school house was completed at
Decorah, and the following winter the subject
of this sketch became the first teacher. In the
spring of 1854 he entered the Treasurer's and
Recorder's office as deputy, under his father,
having charge of the books as such until 1857,
when he became of age, and as his father's
term of office expired, the son, in compliance
with the votes of the people, succeeded him,
holding it until he resigned to enter the mili-
tary service. In 1862 Mr. Burdick recruited
Co. D, 6th Io. Cav., and in October was com-
missioned Captain of the same. Its field of
operation was on the western frontier, and he
participated in three battles with the Indians:
White Stone Hills, Dakota, Tah-kah-okuta,
near the line of Dakota and Montana; and
Bad Lands, on the Little Missouri river, Ne

A MASS OF RUINS.

Grand Opera House Building Guttèd by
Fire on Monday Night.



The beautiful
structure which
was a few hours
ago the pride of

all Decorah—the Grand Opera House—is
now a mass of charred ruins, des-
troyed Monday night by a raging fire.

At ten o'clock parties on the streets
near the opera house saw the rear of
the building which encases the stage
suddenly enveloped in flames, seeming
to shoot from the basement in one
solid mass and completely cover the
rear of the building. An alarm was
quickly turned in and the department
responded very quickly, but by the
time streams of water began to play on
the structure flames were shooting
high into the air, and it seemed that
the main business blocks in Decorah
were doomed to destruction. But the
boys never fought more manfully. The
magnitude of the fire seemed to impel
them to greater efforts, and for an hour
they struggled and fought the fire de-
mon from every part of the building,
and finally succeeded in subduing it,
but not before much damage was done
to the property. The roof and ceiling
of the entire building, with the towers
and cornices, are destroyed, also the
stage and all its contents, but the walls
of the building remain, and the ground
floor and balcony are not totally des-
troyed. Most of the goods were re-
moved from the Decorah Club rooms,
and from the store room occupied by
the Western Telegraph Co., and the
bicycle shop of I. N. Holmes. The
paper stock of A. Paulson in the west
store room is a loss of probably \$700
with \$400 insurance. The loss on the
opera house building is estimated at
from \$10,000 to \$12,000, which is partly
covered by insurance.

The origin of the fire is unknown,
but several theories are advanced, one
being that it was ignited from a live
electric wire, which is disbelieved by
many.

Of course the citizens

ments canvassed. We (the people) want no snap judgment. — *Postville Review*.

Our friend Burdick is indeed "prolix" in his support of Updegraff, and rather lonesome too. He himself makes the reply as to whom we are constrained to believe is the logical candidate for congressman. It is Hon. E. Blythe, of Mason City. We named the others as men who are honorable, capable and worthy, and any of them would be our choice in preference to Updegraff. The pretense that "if Blythe is a candidate it is very doubtful if he can carry his own county" is all bosh. The *Globe-Gazette*, *Cerro-Gordo County Republican* and *Times-Herald* of his home-city, have, we understand, all signified their intention to support him if he be a candidate, and he will go into the convention with a solid delegation from his county behind him. Burdick also discredits Trewin, Eaton, Burr and Fuller as having declined, and Johnson, of this county, who is now serving his third term as county attorney, and who has been one of the most successful prosecutors of criminals we ever had in this county; and Haugen, of Worth, whose ability has been demonstrated in the state legislature. But as the *Review* infers, Blythe is the plausible candidate against Updegraff, and while we have no knowledge as to whether or not he will make the canvass, and have no personal desires whatever as to his election, we feel that he is justly entitled to it. Two years ago he made the strongest fight the district has ever known, and when it became evident that his nomination was doubtful and the struggle was causing discord in the party, upon the plea of the Updegraff men that they wanted "just one term more" for their candidate, he manfully and true to principle withdrew his name and put forth his best endeavors for the election of Updegraff. The district knows how it has been represented in the two years past. The same nonentity has been receiving his salary, and has cast a shadow over the otherwise most brilliant delegation at the nation's capitol. Let us awake. We blush to acknowledge that the most prosperous district in the state is but nominally represented. Let the Updegraff men of two years ago, as they practically agreed to

Decorah, and the following winter the subject of this sketch became the first teacher. In the spring of 1851 he entered the Treasurer's and Recorder's office as deputy, under his father, having charge of the books as such until 1857, when he became of age, and as his father's term of office expired, the son, in compliance with the votes of the people, succeeded him, holding it until he resigned to enter the military service. In 1862 Mr. Burdick recruited Co. D, 6th Io. Cav., and in October was commissioned Captain of the same. Its field of operation was on the western frontier, and he participated in three battles with the Indians: White Stone Hills, Dakota, Tah-kah-o-kuta, near the line of Dakota and Montana; and Bad Lands, on the Little Missouri river. He served three years, when the regiment was mustered out. In the official reports Captain Burdick is honorably mentioned for gallant services on the field, and was recommended for promotion. In February, 1865, Mr. Burdick purchased an interest in the First National Bank of Decorah, and was for many years its cashier. He was also an extensive dealer in real estate, in which business he was quite successful. On the 6th of September, 1876, he received at the hands of the Republican party its unanimous and unsolicited nomination for Congress to represent the third district, and was elected by more than thirteen hundred majority in a district which two years before had elected the Democratic nominee. His opponent was Hon. J. M. Griffith, of Dubuque. Mr. Burdick's services in Congress were entirely acceptable to the people who elected him, and he again received assurance of the nomination, which, however, he declined, as his private business required all his care and attention. In 1885 he was elected state senator from this district, and after two years of service resigned to attend to business matters, removing to Sault Ste Marie, Mich., where he spent some ten years in the banking business, which proved a failure, and he was admitted to the Soldiers' Home at Marshalltown, where his health rapidly failed. He was married in December 1858, to Miss Nancy Graves, of Whitewater, Wis., who preceded him to the home beyond. Mr. Burdick leaves a widow and four children by his first wife: Mrs. C. T. Bailey, of this city, Nelson A., Klondike, and a son and daughter in Newburg, Mich.

The funeral services were held from the home of his brother, C. W. Burdick, in West Decorah, Monday afternoon at five o'clock, Rev. Dr. Willett officiating, attended by a large number of old friends and acquaintances.

Mr. Burdick had much to do with the growth of Decorah, was a popular citizen, and held many positions of honor and trust. He will long be remembered by those who were associated with him.

Pioneer Norwegian Gone.

The western Telegraph Co., bicycle shop of I. N. Holm paper stock of A. Paulson in store room is a loss of probal with \$400 insurance. The loss opera house building is estimated from \$10,000 to \$12,000, which covered by insurance.

The origin of the fire is unknown but several theories are advanced being that it was ignited from electric wire, which is disbelieved by many.

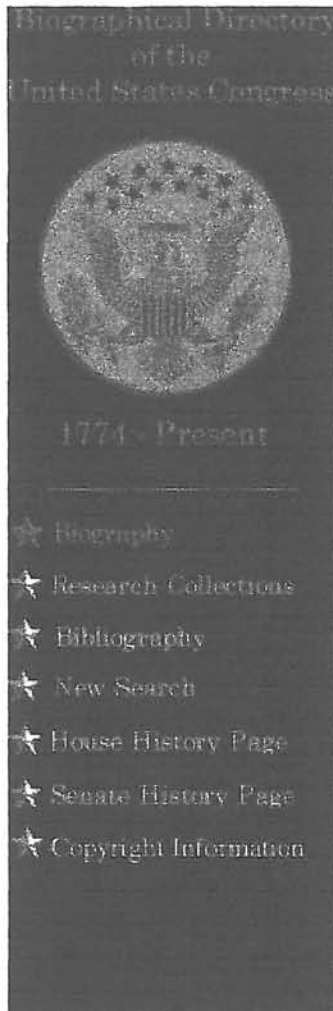
Of course the citizens of Decorah will rebuild the structure. We may have a modern opera house, and the city in northern Iowa will not have many months to pass before a better opera house will take its place. This building was erected by the citizens of Decorah in 1891, and that time the finest of its kind in the part of the state. Since its erection people of this vicinity have seen on its stage some of the best troupes traveling, as well as prominent musicians, lecturers and comedians. It has been a source of pride and pleasure to our people and all were indignant to see it destroyed.

RECENT WAR NEWS

The past week has marked a great victory for the American army. The siege of Santiago is ended, and on Monday at high noon Old Glory waved over the governor's palace in the presence of the enthusiastic victors. Gen. Toral's captive army, consisting of 12,000 men, the strains of the "Star Spangled Banner" were heard. Gen. Toral had accepted the surrender proposed by this government, and has given up his arms and ammunition, the United States agreeing to transport the prisoners, which will amount to between 10,000 and 25,000 men.

Gen. Miles has left for Puerto Rico with 10,000 troops, and about 10,000 more will be sent immediately to Tampa, Charleston, Camp A and Camp Chicamauga.

Admiral Dewey has protested against the disregard of the blockade of Manila by the German Admiral, and has urged that if Germany is at peace with the United States, she should



BURDICK, Theodore Weld, 1836-1898

BURDICK, Theodore Weld, a Representative from Iowa; born in Evansburg, Crawford County, Pa., October 7, 1836; attended the common schools; moved with his parents to Decorah, Iowa, in 1853 and engaged in banking; deputy treasurer and recorder of Winneshiek County 1854-1857; treasurer and recorder from 1858 to 1862, when he resigned to recruit a company for the Union Army; was commissioned as captain and assigned to the Sixth Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Cavalry, in which he served for three years in the Department of the Northwest; after the regiment was mustered out in 1865 he returned to Decorah and became cashier of the First National Bank; elected as a Republican to the Forty-fifth Congress (March 4, 1877-March 3, 1879); declined to be a candidate for renomination in 1878; resumed banking at Decorah, Iowa, and Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.; member of the State senate in 1886 and 1887; died in Decorah, Iowa, July 16, 1898; interment in Phelps Cemetery.

which he submitted many important amendments for the consideration of his committee, which were adopted by the committee, and afterward by the house and senate. He also favored the bill for the counting of the electoral vote, on which he delivered a speech of great ability and wisdom, in which the patriot rose above the partisan. He was reelected to congress in 1876, by a majority of four thousand votes.

In politics he has always affiliated with the republican party since its organization.

While quite young he became a member of the Christian church, but since arriving at manhood has not been a member of any church. He frequently attends the services of different denominations, and liberally assists in the maintenance of all Evangelical churches.

Mr. Sampson is a man of singular coolness and self-possession, and although naturally of quick temper, is seldom known to be excited, or to manifest feelings of anger or bitterness. In manners he is quiet, unassuming, courteous and dignified, and universally beloved by all classes of society, while his home is the synonym of all that is generous and affectionate. He is also characterized by great industry, being always employed, if not for himself, for others; although of small stature, and apparently delicate framework, he possesses great energy and endurance.

In appearance he is quite youthful, fair and ruddy complexion, blue eyes, and light hair unmixed, as yet, by a single thread of gray. He is governed by the most rigid principles of honesty and integrity—a stranger to deceit, cunning, and other vices so frequently chargeable to members of the bar. His mind is of an eminently legal cast, and as a practitioner his forte is in being thoroughly prepared, and never taken by surprise.

As a judge, he was most careful and conscientious, taking as many cases as circumstances would permit, under advisement, and studying them thoroughly ere he rendered decisions, which were as impartial as the code of the state, and he left the bench unanimously regarded as among the ablest of the district judges in Iowa.

In the year 1855 he married Miss Eunice Ellen, daughter of William McCann, formerly of Indiana, afterward of Keokuk county, Iowa, a lady of great amiability of character and modesty of disposition, devoted to home and the interests of her family. They have had a family of seven children, all living, two sons and five daughters. The sons are Lee and Edmund; the daughters are Flora, Leona, Clara, Ellen and Lavina. Flora is the wife of C. M. Brown, Esq., an attorney residing in Sigourney; the others are still at home, but preparing for lives of usefulness and honor.

HON. THEODORE W. BURDICK,

DECORAH.

THEODORE W. BURDICK, congressman elect to the forty-fifth congress from the third district, is a native of Pennsylvania, and was born at Evansburgh, Crawford county, on the 7th of October, 1836, his parents being Nelson and Amanda Mason Burdick. His father was treasurer and recorder of Winneshiek county from 1854 to 1858, and has long been one of the leading citizens of Decorah. His grandfather was Sheffield Burdick, of Wyoming county, New York, and his great-grandfather was Adam Burdick, third son of Nathan Burdick, of Rhode Island, whose two sons bore a conspicuous part in the struggle for our national independence.

At the age of seventeen Theodore was prepared to enter Oberlin College, Ohio, but at that time his father and the whole family immigrated to Iowa, reaching Decorah in the spring of 1853. During

the summer of that year a school-house was completed, and during the following winter the subject of this sketch became the first teacher.

In the spring of 1854, when his father assumed the responsibilities of the county office or offices already mentioned, the son took charge of the books, keeping them until, in 1857, he became of age; when his father's term of office expired, the son, in compliance with the vote of the people, succeeded him, holding it until he resigned to enter the military service.

In October, 1862, Mr. Burdick was commissioned captain of company D, 6th Iowa Cavalry, its field of operations being on the western frontier. He participated in three battles with the Indians: White Stone Hills, Dakota Territory; Tah-kah-o-kuta, near the line of Dakota and Montana Territories, and Bad Lands, on the Little Missouri river. He served

three years, when the regiment was mustered out. In the official reports of the engagements mentioned Captain Burdick is honorably named for gallant services on the field, and was recommended for promotion.

In February, 1865, Mr. Burdick purchased an interest in the First National Bank of Decorah; was elected its cashier, and at the time of writing still holds that position. Since his return from the army he has also been an extensive dealer in real estate, being quite successful in the business.

On the 6th of September, 1876, to his surprise, during an absence of several weeks east, visiting the Centennial, he received, at the hands of the republican party, its unanimous and unsolicited nomination for congress to represent the third district, and was elected by more than thirteen hundred

majority in a district which, two years before, had elected the democratic nominee, and in 1875 had given a larger majority for the democratic candidate for governor than the democratic congressman had received. Mr. Burdick's majority was a well-merited tribute to his character as a man, his fidelity and services to his party, and the confidence which the people generally have in his talents and his trustworthiness.

Mr. Burdick is a member of the Congregational church, and a faithful worker in the Sunday-school.

In December, 1858, he married Miss Nancy Graves, youngest daughter of the Hon. Gaylord Graves, of Whitewater, Wisconsin. She has had six children, five of whom are living.

Mr. Burdick is a conscientious, reliable man, and does everything well which he undertakes.

COLONEL OSCAR C. HALE,

KEOKUK.

OSCAR CUTLER HALE, a native of Wells River, Vermont, was born on the 26th of July, 1816, and is the son of Charles Hale and Mary Ann *née* Reed. His paternal ancestry is of an old Puritan English family, which still occupies the ancestral estate at King's Walden, in Hertfordshire. His branch settled in America in 1635. His mother traced her lineage from a Scotch Presbyterian family who immigrated to this country from the north of Ireland before the revolution, and settled at Londonderry, New Hampshire. Among his ancestors were many who were prominent in military and civil offices, and were active in the formation of the original government, in the states of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, and in the revolutionary war. In this his great-grandfather was a colonel, and his grandfather a soldier.

Oscar C. received his early education in the common schools of his native place, and at the age of fourteen years entered the Kimball Union Academy at Meriden, New Hampshire. Possessed of fine native endowments and a studious disposition, he made rapid progress, and developed a special fondness for mathematical and scientific subjects, also history and geography. At the age of sixteen, contrary to the wishes of his teachers and friends, he left school, and, although his father was in independent circumstances, resolved to begin life on

his own account. He first engaged as clerk in the mercantile business, and continued during six years, becoming thoroughly acquainted with every department of trade. At the expiration of this time, owing to impaired health, he relinquished his position, formed a partnership, and under the firm name of Holt and Hale, engaged in the manufacture of iron and steel goods. Owing to financial difficulties of his partner, the firm was dissolved at the end of one year, and in 1840 he started on an extensive tour, traveling through twenty-four different states, and visiting all the principal cities in the Union. During his absence, without his solicitation or even knowledge, he was elected cashier of the Bank of Newbury; and although but twenty-four years of age, he accepted the position and held it for a period of seventeen years, carrying the principal management of the institution, and by the success which attended him, made for himself a most worthy reputation among the business men of his native state as a skillful manager and financier. In 1857 he visited the west, intending to establish himself in the banking business. But, owing to the financial crisis of that year, the directors of his old bank called him back, and he remained with them till February 1858, carrying the institution safely through its peril. At this time he settled at Keokuk, Iowa, and organized the private banking house of Rix, Hale and

Department of Iowa
Grand Army of the Republic

Veteran's name Burdick, Theodore W

War

Residence

Battles, etc.

Occupation Banker

Nearest relatives.

Date birth 7 Oct 1836 Place Crawford, Ohio

Father

Nativity

Date death 20 J1 1898 Place
Cause Phelps Cemetery Place burial Decorah, Iowa

Mother

Nativity

War record Capt. D 6 Iowa Cav.

Wife

Rank Company Regiment State Organisation

Children

Age 26 Res. Decorah b. Penn

Enlisted Apptd Capt 20 S 1862
Must. Out. 17 Oct 1865, Sioux City, Iowa

Sources
Roster Iowa Soldiers: (Theodore W)
Graves Reg.: Died 11 16, 1898

Discharged

Date

Place

Department of Iowa
Grand Army of the Republic

Veteran's name Burdick, T. W

Offices of honor in G. A. R.

Record Membership and Dues Paid

Post name
Col. Hughes

Post No.
168

Place
Decorah

Date Joined
23 Je '83

Member-at-Large

Year Date Paid Amount

Year Date Paid Amount Year Date Paid Amount
Photograph taken in army uniform taken by C. L.
Hamilton, Sioux City, Iowa - received Sept 30, 1944
and on file.
Post #168 Desc Book: #19; Born Crawford, Ohio
Banker; Res Decorah, Ia.

Died



UPGRADE >

U.S. Civil War Soldiers, 1861-1865

Name: **Theodore W. Burdick**
Side: **Union**
Regiment: **Iowa**
State/Origin:
Regiment Name: **6 Iowa Cavalry.**
Regiment Name Expanded: **6th Regiment, Iowa Cavalry**
Company: **D**
Rank In: **Captain**
Rank In Expanded: **Captain**
Rank Out: **Captain**
Rank Out Expanded: **Captain**
Film Number: **M541 roll 4**

Source Information:

National Park Service. *U.S. Civil War Soldiers, 1861-1865* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., 2007. Original data: National Park Service, Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System, online <<http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/>>, acquired 2007.

Description:

This database contains the names of approximately 6.3 million soldiers who served in the American Civil War. In addition to their names, information for each soldier includes regiment, company, and rank. [Learn more...](#)

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