

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Wright Merrill S. (Merrill) Senator \_\_\_\_\_

Represented Brown County Iowa

1. Birthday and place 19 July 1838 Littleton, Massachusetts

2. Marriage (s) date place

Mrs. Elizabeth A. "Lizzie" French 1871

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business \_\_\_\_\_

B. Civic responsibilities G.A.R.; Mason; Ancient Order of United Workmen

C. Profession Merchant; farmer

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

5. Sessions served 21<sup>st</sup> General Assembly 1886

6. Public Offices

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

B. State \_\_\_\_\_

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

7. Death 13 November 1909 Jayward, Iowa; buried Evergreen Cemetery, Itaska,

8. Children Mar M. Ben Hill County, Georgia

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

10. Education He received an academy education in Lowell, Massachusetts

11. Degrees \_\_\_\_\_

12. Other applicable information

Des Moines, Iowa

- Military service - Civil War - Company C, 6<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Infantry, Mechanics' Phalanx

- When he was quite young his parents moved to Lowell, Massachusetts

- At age 19 he went into the produce business with his brother, A. J. Knight under the firm name of A. J. and M. S. Knight until 1870

- In 1870 he came to Iowa settling in Sumner Township of Bremer County, Iowa.

- Here he farmed 4 years. Then he moved to Lafayette Township of Bremer County, for one year.

- After that year he returned to Sumner, Iowa and with a Mr. Case he entered the mercantile business under the firm name of Case and Knight. This business continued one year and then he returned to the farm in Lafayette Township of Bremer County. There he remained until August, 1882, when he again formed a partnership with Mr. Case and there under the firm name of S. J. Case and Company. There Mr. Knight managed one of the stores and kept the books for for both of the stores owned by his firm

- He moves to Intergard, Georgia around 1879 where for a time he managed a grocery store.



a speciality at M. E. ladies  
 rmence went to West Union  
 on business.

Livingston from Dakota is  
 friends in this city.

Downing, of Oelwein spent  
 with her sister, Mrs. Nancy

Mitchie visited Sunday and  
 with his mother Mrs. Jahn  
 ace.

W. Miller visited Mrs.  
 Lewis at Westgate Monday  
 lay.

Mrs. Hartung of Dunkerton  
 over Sunday with Fred  
 d wife.

Wilkening, who is attend-  
 ed Cedar Falls, came home  
 Thanksgiving.

ause was in Waterloo Mon-  
 took his son Harry down  
 attend school.

Stella Lease and Alice  
 went to Waverly Friday  
 to visit Stella's aunt.

ertha Geiseman returned  
 evening from a visit with her  
 Will Topp in Westgate.

ina Schwam, of Oelwein,  
 iday and remained until  
 the guest at the Fred Zell

Mrs. Geo. Wescott returned  
 Waverly Monday morning  
 spent Thanksgiving with

ll Northrop, who has been  
 at the Hugo Rhode home, re-  
 her home in West Union,  
 afternoon.

Mrs. A. A. Kloss, who  
 is visiting at the Adolph

**Merrill S. Wright.**

Mr. Merrill S. Wright died Satur-  
 day evening Nov. 13 at his home on  
 North Lee street.

He was 71 years old and had been  
 in failing health for some months,  
 which in a sense had prepared his  
 loved ones for the inevitable, as they  
 knew that he could remain with them  
 only a short while.

Mr. Wright was a native of Massa-  
 chusetts, but came to this city from  
 Iowa, where he was a very prominent  
 citizen, having occupied a seat in the  
 Iowa State legislature for a number  
 of years.

He came to Fitzgerald twelve years  
 ago and although he has lived a very  
 quiet and unpretentious life, is known  
 and loved by practically every body.  
 Preceding his recent illness he was  
 manager of the Clare Grocery store on  
 Ocmulgee street.

The funeral service was conducted  
 yesterday afternoon at the home. Rev.  
 E. Everett Hollingworth officiating,  
 and a number of friends were present  
 to pay their last respects. The floral  
 offerings were many and beautiful.  
 Following the funeral, interment took  
 place at Evergreen Cemetery.

Mr. Wright is survived by a wife  
 and a grandson, Mr. Merrill H.  
 Wright, who have the deepest sympa-  
 thy of their many friends in the loss  
 of their husband and grandfather.  
 —Fitzgerald Daily News, Georgia.

Mr. Wright was formerly a highly  
 esteemed citizen of Sumner, and will  
 be remembered by all the old settlers.

Chas. Wall and wife spent Sunday  
 with relatives in McIntire.

Wm. Treloar took a carload of cat-  
 tle to Chicago Tuesday and was ac-  
 companied by Wm. Block.

Miss Anna White returned to her  
 work in New Hampton, Monday, after

**IF HE HA  
 HIS**



**IT WOULD**

51.

VAIN REGRETS  
 hour of need. Your f  
 not that they had just  
 The road to indepe  
 self in a position to hel  
 Make OUR bank

**FIRST**

Paid up Capital and S

R. D. McCook.....  
 Frank Wescott..... Vice  
 Nelson McCook.....  
 W. A. Heyer..... Assistan

Clare Hausner returned to  
 Saturday afternoon, after a v  
 relatives in this city.

HISTORY  
OF  
Butler and Bremer Counties,  
I O W A,

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.

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

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ILLUSTRATED.

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SPRINGFIELD, ILL.  
UNION PUBLISHING COMPANY.  
1883.

Eugene and Claude. Dwight H. died in 1862, at the age of three months; Ernest died May, 1878, at the age of four and a half years.

Myron Congdon, born in Broome county, New York, June 23, 1831, is a son of Elias and Rosamond Congdon. His father was a native of Vermont, and his mother of New York. His father was a farmer, but devoted a part of his time to railroad building; he died in 1867 at the age of 68. His mother is still living and a member of his family; she is 78 years old and in good health. When he was six years of age his parents moved to Belvidere, Boone county, Illinois. There he was brought up on a farm, receiving but a limited education. There he continued to live until 1861, when he came to Iowa, and settled in the northwest quarter of sec. 3, Sumner township. There he lived, following farming, until March 1, 1882, when he came to this village; and in August of the same year formed a partnership with S. F. Cass, M. S. Wright and C. F. Reimler, under the firm name of S. F. Cass & Company, having an interest in both stores. Mr. Congdon has been township trustee for eleven years, was one of the charter members of Sumner Lodge, Number 88, A. O. U. W., of which he is the financier. He still owns his farm in Sumner township. Was married to Miss Gertrude Orvis, a native of New York. They have two children, H. W. and Alice.

C. F. Reimler was born in Hille, Minden county, Germany, November 24, 1849. At the age of fifteen he came to America and settled in Schenectady, New York, where he went to work on a farm. He received a good German education, and

attended school awhile after coming to this country. He remained in New York for two years, then went to Wisconsin, where he settled at Madison and was engaged in a store as clerk for two years. In 1872 he came to Sumner, Iowa, and worked on a farm about nine months, after which he worked on S. F. Cass's farm for two years, when he was taken into the store as clerk. Afterwards he, in company with others, bought Mr. Cass out, the firm name being Tibbitts, Reimler & Co. This firm continued business until August, 1882, when it was succeeded by S. F. Cass & Co., Mr. Reimler remaining in the firm. About this time he was appointed postmaster and express agent of the American Express Company, which offices he still continues to hold. Mr. Reimler is a young man with fine business abilities, honest and upright in all his dealings and will undoubtedly make a mark in the financial world. He was married in 1880 to Miss Rosa Hagg, a native of Wisconsin.

M. S. Wright was born in Littleton, Massachusetts, July 19, 1838. When quite young his parents went to Lowell, where he received an academical education. At the age of nineteen, he went into the produce business with his brother, A. F. Wright, under the firm name of A. S. & M. S. Wright. In this he continued until 1870, when he came to Iowa, and settled in Sumner township. He was on a farm four years, then went to Lafayette township, where he remained one year, and then returned to Sumner, and formed a partnership with Mr. Cass, in the mercantile business, under the firm name of Cass & Wright. In this business he continued one year, and then returned to his farm in

Lafayette township, where he remained until August, 1882; he then formed a partnership with Mr. Cass and others, under the firm name of S. F. Cass & Co. He has the management of one of the stores, and keeps the books for both of the large stores owned by this firm. Mr. Wright is a member of the Masonic Lodge, Knight Templar, and also of Pilgrim Commandery, of Lowell, Massachusetts, and is, also, a member of the A. O. U. W., of this place. He was married, in 1871, to Mrs. Lizzie French, a native of New Hampshire. She had one child, a daughter, named Ida M.

Hardware.—Copeland & Langmier are successors to Hoffman & Foster and came in possession in November, 1882. Joseph Copeland has charge of the business and is making many friends.

One of the oldest dealers in this town is M. Robish, having been in business here eight years. He deals in hardware and machinery, besides having a tin-shop in connection with his store. By close application to business, Mr. Robish has become one of the growing and prosperous men of the town.

Boots and Shoes.—The store of J. F. Fassel is filled with a good stock of boots, shoes and groceries. He has a store-room 18x56 and a good cellar. He is a practical shoemaker and has a good, increasing trade.

Meat-market.—The first meat-market in the town was started by D. R. Littell in 1875, and continued until 1880, when he sold to Fred Frank, who continues in the business, and has a well appointed market, for a town of this size.

D. R. Littell, son of David and Almira Littell, was born in New Jersey, October

30, 1843. In 1850 his parents moved to Illinois, making the trip by water, in the steamer "Belle of the West." They met with a severe loss in the burning of the steamer, losing all of their goods, and \$2,000 in money. There were fifty-three lives lost, Mr. Littell and his parents barely escaping the tragic death of burning or drowning. After reaching Illinois they remained there only nine months, and then went to Fairchild county, Wisconsin, where they engaged in farming for four years, when they moved to Monroe county, where Mr. Littell lived until 1869, when he came to Bremer county, Iowa, settled in Sumner township, and engaged in farming for two years. In 1875 he started the first meat-market in the town, which he kept for five years. He was in the harness business one year, and then went into general mercantile business with the Cass Brothers, under the firm name of Cass Brothers & Littell. He continued in this until August, 1882, when he retired from business. He has been justice of the peace for six years. He was made a Mason in 1881, and was elected Junior Warden at the last election. He is, also, a member of the A. O. U. W., of which he is a charter member. He was Recorder of the lodge for three years. Mr. Littell's father is still living with him, and is seventy-seven years old. His mother died in Wisconsin in 1868. He was married, in 1867, to Miss Laura C. Davis. They have three children—William O., Franklin D., and Ezra B.

Fred H. Frank, the present proprietor of the meat market, was born in Germany in 1850. He is the son of Henry and Dora Frank, both living near Charles City. They came to America in 1866.

**IOWA CLOSE-UP**

**Sumner**  
in Bremer County



**POPULATION:** 2,000  
**FOUNDED:** 1872  
**HOW IT WAS NAMED:** According to "From Ackley to Zwingle, The Origins of Iowa Place Names," it was for Charles Sumner, a U.S. senator from Massachusetts.  
**TOP EMPLOYER:** Rockwell Automation.  
**CLAIM TO FAME:** Sumner Days, the fourth weekend each July.

1998

Department of Iowa  
Grand Army of the Republic

Veteran's name Wright, Merrill S

Residence

Occupation S. F. Cass & Co., Mercantile bus. Nearest relatives

Date birth J1 19, 1838 Place Littleton, Mass

Date death Cause

War record Prvt: C. 6. / Mass. Inf

Rank Company Regiment State Organization

Enlisted 16 May 1861 res. Lowell age 22

Must 19 Je 1861 Must out 2 Ag

Discharged

Place

Father

Mother

Wife Mrs. Lizzie French, b. N. H. m. 1871

Children Ida M. French

Nativity

Nativity

Source Ex. Soldiers living Ia. 1886:-  
Sumner, Mass. Soldiers, Sailors and  
Marines in Civil War, v. 1: Wright, Merrill  
S/

Department of Iowa  
Grand Army of the Republic

Veteran's name Wright, Merrill S

Record Membership and Dues Paid

Offices of honor in G. A. R.

Post name	Post No.	Place	Date Joined
Bent	439(5)	Sumner	30, 1881
Tr. 2nd Term	1393;		

Year	Date Paid	Amount	Year	Date Paid	Amount
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Member-at-Large

Year	Date Paid	Amount
------	-----------	--------

Suspended

Died

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Merill  Wright  Nationwide

Record Type:  Vital  Birth  Death  Marriage  Divorce

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# Merill S Wright

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Birth: **Unknown** *19 July 1838*

Death: **Nov. 12, 1909**

Burial:

[Evergreen Cemetery](#)

Fitzgerald

Ben Hill County

Georgia, USA

Plot: 3-2-5

Created by: [Dorothy J. Thompson](#)

Record added: Apr 05, 2007

Find A Grave Memorial# 18782840



Added by: Dorothy J. Thompson



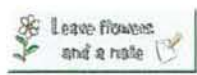
Cemetery Photo

Added by: Dorothy J. Thompson

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Record Type:  Vital  Birth  Death  Marriage  Divorce

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## Merill S Wright

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Added by: Dorothy J. Thompson  
4/20/2007

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First Name: Lizzie Last Name: Wright State: Nationwide



Record Type:  Vital  Birth  Death  Marriage  Divorce

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# Lizzie A Wright

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Birth: Apr. 12, 1836  
 Death: Aug. 30, 1914

Burial:  
[Evergreen Cemetery](#)  
 Fitzgerald  
 Ben Hill County  
 Georgia, USA  
 Plot: s-1

Created by: [Dorothy J. Thompson](#)  
 Record added: Feb 02, 2009  
 Find A Grave Memorial# 33491010



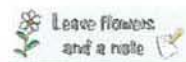
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Added by: Dorothy J. Thompson

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# Lizzie A Wright

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Added by: Dorothy J. Thompson  
2/03/2009

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You searched for **Merrill S. Wright** in **Iowa**

### Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925

Name:	<b>Merrill S Wright</b>	
Birth Year:	<b>abt 1840</b>	
Birth Place:	<b>Massachusetts</b>	
Gender:	<b>Male</b>	
Marital Status:	<b>Married</b>	
Census Date:	<b>1885</b>	
Residence State:	<b>Iowa</b>	
Residence County:	<b>Bremer</b>	
Locality:	<b>Sumner</b>	
Roll:	<b>IA1885_152</b>	
Line:	<b>16</b>	
Family Number:	<b>123</b>	
Neighbors:	<a href="#">View others on page</a>	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	Merrill S Wright	45
	Elizabeth Wright	46
	Ida M Wright	20
	Jette Fresth	20

#### Source Information:

Ancestry.com. *Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, 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. [Learn more...](#)



You searched for **Merrill S. Wright in Georgia**

## 1900 United States Federal Census

Name:	<b>Lmerrill S Wright</b> <b>[Merrill S Wright]</b>	
Home in 1900:	<b>Fitzgerald, Irwin, Georgia</b>	
Age:	<b>62</b>	
Birth Date:	<b>Jul 1837</b>	
Birthplace:	<b>Massachusetts</b>	
Race:	<b>White</b>	
Ethnicity:	<b>American</b>	
Gender:	<b>Male</b>	
Relationship to Head of House:	<b>Head</b>	
Father's Birthplace:	<b>Massachusetts</b>	
Mother's Birthplace:	<b>Massachusetts</b>	
Spouse's Name:	<b>Lizzie A</b>	
Marriage year:	<b>1870</b>	
Marital Status:	<b>Married</b>	
Years Married:	<b>30</b>	
Residence :	<b>Fitzgerald City, Irwin, Georgia</b>	
Occupation:	<a href="#">View on Image</a>	
Neighbors:	<a href="#">View others on page</a>	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	Lmerrill S Wright	<b>62</b>
	Lizzie A Wright	<b>64</b>
	Merrill H Houghton	<b>7</b>

**Source Citation:** Year: 1900; Census Place: *Fitzgerald, Irwin, Georgia*; Roll *T623\_205*; Page: *2B*; Enumeration District: *48*.

**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...](#)