

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Seevers, William Hans Senator

Represented Iowa, Poweshiek and Mahaska Counties, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 8 April 1822 Spencetown, Virginia

2. Marriage (s) date place

Caroline Malinda Lee 20 Feb 1849 Oskaloosa, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Admitted to the bar in 1846; prosecuting attorney
1850-1851; Judge of the 3rd District 1852-1857; President of Oskaloosa
National Bank

B. Civic responsibilities

C. Profession Lawyer, Supreme Court Justice; clerk; district attorney

4. Church membership

5. Sessions served 7th, 16th General Assemblies 1858 and 1876

6. Public Offices

A. Local In 1852 he was elected Judge of the District Court

B. State Served on the Iowa Supreme Court 17 Feb 1876 - 31 Dec 1882 - for 3
years he was the Chief Justice

C. National In 1872 he was a delegate to the Republican National Convention

7. Death 24 Mar 1895 Oskaloosa, Iowa, buried Forest Cemetery, Oskaloosa, Iowa

8. Children Virginia E. (Mrs. George Briggs - died 1881); Carrie L. (Mrs. James C. Stitches);
Donald H. Grace (Mrs. Charles W. Hoffman); Nell (Mrs. William H. Kalkb); William S.

9. Names of parents James and Rebecca (Wilkins) Seevers

10. Education He was educated in common and select schools
in Virginia

11. Degrees

12. Other applicable information

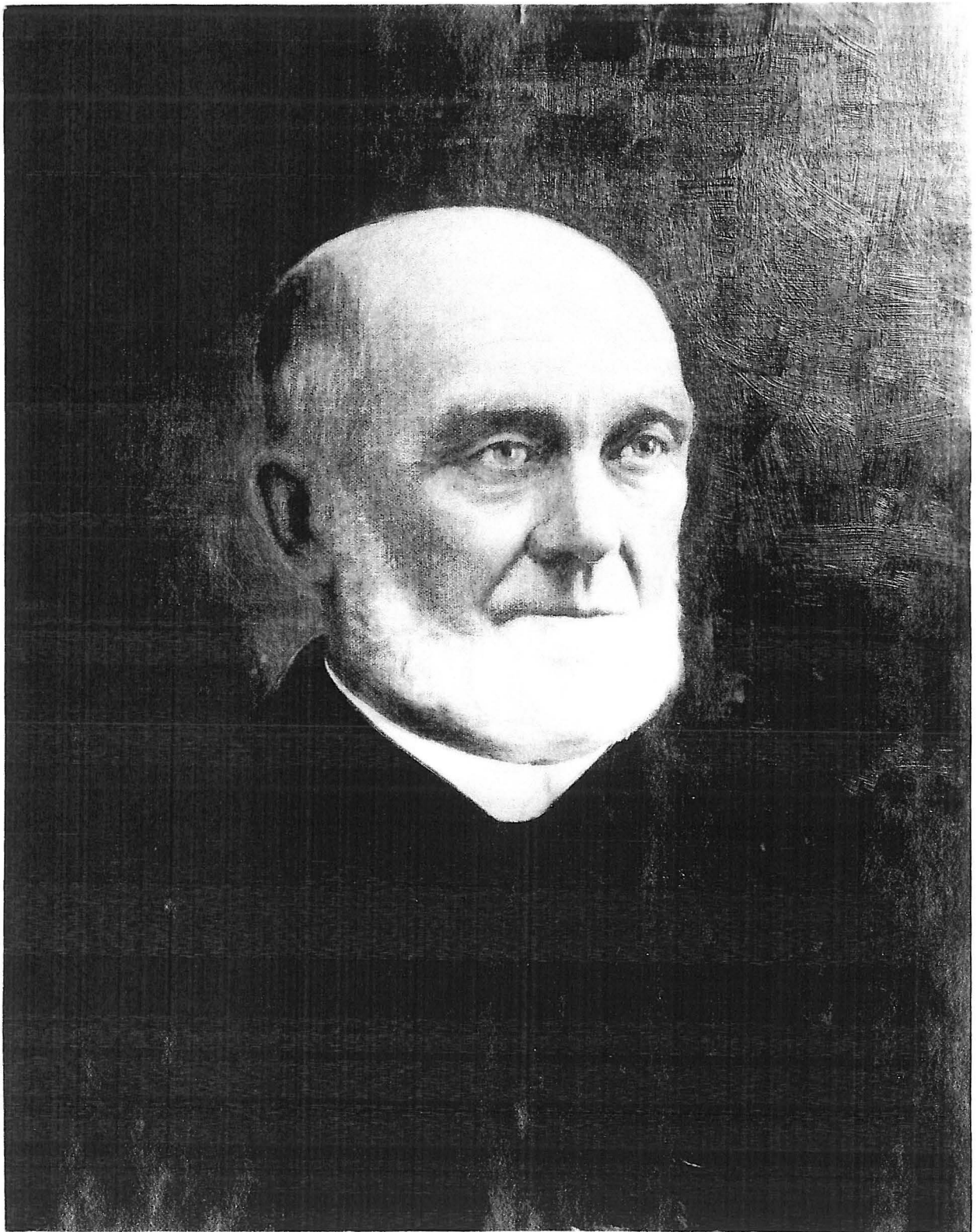
Republican

- Came to Oskaloosa 22 June 1844 with his parents
- He had read law prior to move to Oskaloosa so he completed
his study of law with Milton T. Peters
- 1846 - 1852 associated with Hon. H. T. Smith and later with
James A. Seevers
- Later they established the law firm of Seevers, William and Seevers.
- After the Civil War the firm of Seevers and Cutler was formed
- After retirement from the supreme bench, he took up
law practice in Oskaloosa.
- He spent his boyhood near Winchester, Virginia.
- He clerked in a country store in Virginia
- He started reading law in Virginia in 1843.
- He took part in the organization of the Iowa Central Railroad Company and
at one time served on the board of directors as well as vice-president.
- He was a stockholder of the Mahaska County Savings Bank and the
Oskaloosa National Bank

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

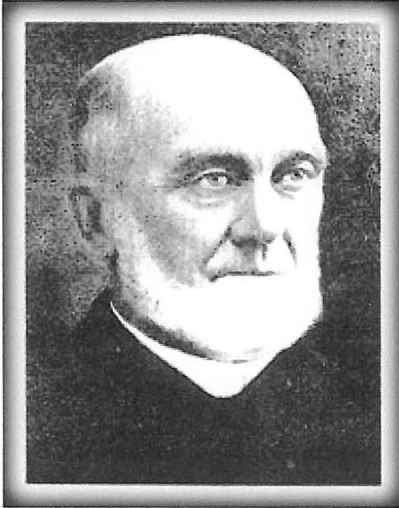
Source	Non Applicable	Applicable	Information obtained
- Obituary			<u>The Ashland Daily Evening Herald,</u> <u>Ashland, Iowa, Mon. July 2, 1895</u> <u>p 2, col 1-3</u>
-			<u>judicial.state.ia.us (accessed 27 May 2007)</u>
-			<u>familysearch.org (accessed 23 May 2010)</u>
-			<u>Iowa Gene Records - NPA - Mahaska County, Iowa</u>
-			<u>ancestry.com (accessed 23 May 2010)</u>
-			<u>Portrait - The original is located in the archives of the State of Iowa Historical</u> <u>Library, 600 E. Locust, Des Moines Iowa</u>
-			<u>Biographic Dictionary - Iowa Volume 1878, p. 776-777</u>
-			<u>Recollections and Sketches of Notable Lawyers and Public Men of Iowa</u> <u>by Stiles 1916, p.</u>
-			<u>Past and Present of Mahaska County, Iowa 1906, p. 255-256</u>



No. 1000

IOWA JUDICIAL BRANCH

< Previous Next >



William H. Seevers (1876 - 1888)

Served on the Iowa Supreme Court from February 17, 1876, when he was appointed to fill the vacancy occasioned by the retirement of Chester C. Cole, until December 31, 1888, For three years he was Chief Justice.

Born in Shenandoah County, Virginia, in 1820, He came to Mahaska County, Iowa, in 1843, where he was admitted to the bar in 1846 - one of the first lawyers in that county. In 1852 he was elected Judge of the District Court.

He was a member of the House of Representatives in the Seventh General Assembly, which was the first session following the adoption of the new Iowa Constitution. He was also one of the Code Com- missioners who prepared the Code of 1873, He later served as a member of the Sixteenth General Assembly.

Justice Seevers wrote the opinion on the first appeal in the famous Jones County Calf Case. This case is often cited as an outstanding example of protracted litigation. [See 63 Iowa 562; 82 Iowa 693 and 93 Iowa 165.]

He died in Oskaloosa in 1895.

< Previous Next >

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PARALYSIS SATURDAY EVENING.

After having spent the week in a very industrious and laborious manner in his profession, Judge William H. Seevers went to his home on Saturday evening, very tired, but yet in his accustomed cheerful spirits. The evening meal was had; the Judge seated himself at the family reading table and took up his papers; Mrs. Seevers and the other members of the family busied themselves in the usual way. Then the Judge made arrangements for an early breakfast Sunday for himself, in order that he might take the Central train north, and on to Council Bluffs to attend to some legal matters on Monday. Members of the family were out of the room for the moment; little Gladys Hoffmann, his granddaughter, came to bid him good night, when the little one found the Judge with his head resting on the table. "Why don't you speak to me, gran'pa?" said Gladys, as no response came to her sweet, childish good night. In a few moments after members of the family came into the room, and the sad discovery was made—of the stroke that came so swiftly and to such sudden undoing. Dr. Hunter was summoned, and then the full truth of the case became apparent—a paralytic stroke had fallen, involving the whole of the right side, and bringing for the time total unconsciousness apparently. During Sunday a medical consultation was held by Drs. Hunter, Beaudry and Barringer and such measures adopted as naturally suggested themselves by the plain case before them. During Sunday night there was a rallying of the forces of nature, and on Monday morning he seemed to be in a more active condition, now and then recognizing some one, but also being in a delirious state—trying to do some legal business, and give direction to other matters. But the general condition was reported as not being any more hopeful—and so it is written:

From that December day to the day of his death all was done that the best medical skill could suggest, or the best of nursing and watching afford, but the mind once so clear and prompt in decision was never brought out of the clouds that paralysis put upon it. He recognized members of the family and a few friends in a momentary way—and save for that, was groping in the darkness of mental gloom and wreck—that fell upon him through no cause of his own save that of honorable and industrious application to his life-long

when the legal mind of Seevers & Co. was formed—one of the strongest the Iowa bar has ever known. All of these former business associates save Mr. Smith, are now with the dead! He has joined them in the great beyond!

Judge Seevers was repeatedly honored by his fellow citizens of the county and state. Twice he was elected to the general assembly—in 1847 and 1875. He was appointed to the supreme bench by the late Gov. Kirkwood and served two terms thereafter by election by the people. He was the prosecuting attorney in 1850 and 1851 and was chosen judge of the Third district in 1852, serving four years as such. When he retired from the supreme bench, he again took up the practice of law here and Judge Seevers never took any other than the first rank at the bar. Work of the best class always sought him and he was never happier than when every minute of his time was taken up. He loved his profession for the law of it, and no counsellor was ever at the bar more sincere to his clients and the law than he. He served as one of the codifying commissioners in 1873 and was of counsel in the noted "Granger" cases. These were the cases that brought from the supreme court of the United States the decision that gave legislative control of railway corporations and the written evidences of his great common sense suggestions as to the law that should emanate are yet in existence. We have heard the late Justice Samuel F. Miller speak in profoundest respect of Judge Seevers' marked ability to get at the law and the justice of great questions and notably that presented in these vitally important cases.

Judge Seevers was president of the Oskaloosa National bank and had been identified with many of our business interests, and in the earlier day, one of the very few potential factors in the county. In his domestic relations Judge Seevers has been an old fashioned model. Save for business calls his home knew him most and there he was the kindest and most indulgent. For his family he was always found willing and doing all that was conducive to its

many years, with severe pains in his back and also that his bladder was affected. He tried many so-called kidney cures but without any good results. About a year ago he began the use of Electric Bitters and found relief at once. Electric Bitters is especially adapted to cure all Kidney and Liver troubles and is often almost instant relief. One trial will prove our statement. Price only 50 cents for large bottle. At Green & Bentley Drug Co.

Carbonado Declamatory Contest.

Carbonado Lodge I. O. G. T. to the front! On last Saturday night was held the declamatory contest under its auspices. The contestants were Miss Mary Wilson, Miss Laura Minkler, Arthur Davis, John Roberts, John Moxlin, Ada Woodard and John L. Jones. The judges were Mr. J. P. McMurray, of Beacon; Miss Florabel Patterson, county superintendent; and O. C. Scott, city superintendent. Dr. Parry presided.

Choice pieces of music, vocal solos, were rendered by Miss Ollie Tenant, Mrs. Dr. Parry and Prof. Wm. Solomon.

Principal E. D. Ball, in charge of the Carbonado schools, and, by the way, a bright and energetic man, is secretary of the lodge, and had much to do in arranging for the contest. While the judges were preparing their report Mr. Ball, in a taking way, recited "How Ruby Plays."

The first prize was awarded to Miss Ada Woodard. The second prize was shared equally by Misses Mary Wilson and Laura Minkler, they being but the fraction 1/2 below the first. The third was won by John T. Jones.

A good audience listened to the exercises, which were highly creditable to the participants and to the community.

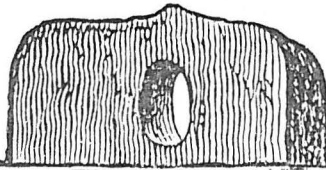
How's This!

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & CO. Props. Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the past 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by their firm.

West & Truax, Wholesale Druggist, Toledo, O. Walding, Kinnam & Marvin, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, Ohio.

Hall's Catarrh Remedy is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surface of the system. Price, 75 cents per bottle. Sold by all druggists. Testimonials free.



If you are posted on Chewing
Tobaccos you know that

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Recollections and Sketches of Notable Lawyers and Public Men of Early Iowa

Belonging to the First and Second
Generations, with Anecdotes and
Incidents Illustrative of the Times

By

EDWARD H. STILES

For many years a member of the Iowa Bar; member of its House of Representatives, 1863-1864; member of its Senate, 1865-1866; Reporter of its Supreme Court, 1867-1875; author of Complete Digest of its Decisions from the earliest Territorial period to the 56th Iowa Reports.

"In old age alone we are masters of a treasure of which we cannot be deprived, the only treasure we can call our own. The pleasures of memory and the retrospect of the varied images which in an active life have floated before the mind, compensate, and more than compensate, for the alternate pleasures and cares of active life."—SIR ARCHIBALD ALLISON.

"Personal anecdotes, when characteristic, greatly enliven the pages of a biography."—SAMUEL SMILES.

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DES MOINES
THE HOMESTEAD PUBLISHING CO.
1916

William H. Seevers was a Virginian by birth, where he was born in 1820, in Shenandoah County. His father, James Seevers, was a soldier in the war of 1812, and came with his family to Mahaska County in 1843. His son, William H., came there the following year. He was admitted to the bar in 1846, and was one of its first lawyers. His father's family consisted of eight sons and two daughters, one of the latter of whom became the wife of Micajah T. Williams.

In 1848 he was elected Prosecuting Attorney of the County. In 1852 he was elected Judge of that Judicial District, and served with marked ability. In 1857 he was elected to the Lower House of the Seventh General Assembly, representing the counties of Mahaska, Iowa and Poweshiek. This was the first meeting of the Legislature at Des Moines, which had become the new capital, and the first after the adoption of the constitution of 1857, which made great changes in the organic law of the State. It became necessary to reorganize the entire system of state government, and provide a new code of civil and criminal practice. The House numbered among its members many able lawyers and legislators. On the Republican side Judge Seevers was regarded as a leader and made chairman of the Judiciary Committee. There was a general understanding among the members, that owing to the radical changes made by the new Constitution, all important bills should be submitted to the Judiciary Committee for examination. Judge Seevers examined carefully every bill submitted to his committee, and when its approval was given to any measure, it was passed. It is said that the Seventh General Assembly had to enact more laws of importance than any of its predecessors or successors. The position of Judge Seevers, therefore, was an arduous one, but his superb legal mind enabled him to perform all its duties in the most satisfactory manner. The laws placed on the Statutes of Iowa by that assembly have, to a large extent, survived to the present period, and much of their perfection can be traced to the clear and controlling mind of William H. Seevers.

As a lawyer, he had few equals in Iowa or any other state. He was not only a jurist, but a trial lawyer of the first order. Living in adjoining counties, I became acquainted with him early in my professional career.

The last time I saw him in a trial court was when we were associated in a somewhat noted blackmailing case, brought against Dr. Paul Castor, and tried in the District Court at Ottumwa, some forty years ago. We represented Doctor Castor in the defense, which proved a successful one. In 1872 Judge Seevers was a delegate to the Republican National Convention. He was appointed one of the commissioners to revise the laws, which became the Code of 1873. To show his characteristic industry in this work, and the pains he took to gather helpful information in regard to it, I may be pardoned for subjoining the annexed letter, written to me by Judge Seevers:

Oskaloosa, Iowa, December 14, 1870.
 Dear Sir: If the Commissioners of Revision can get a few suggestions from you where the code can be amended, they will be greatly gratified.
 I know you can give us valuable aid. Can't and won't you take the time?
 Respectfully,
 W. H. SeEVERS.

In the fall of 1875 he was elected to the House of the Sixteenth General Assembly, where his fine legislative abilities were again conspicuously displayed. In 1875 he was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court to fill a vacancy, and in the fall of the same year was elected by the people, and was continued to be elected and served until 1888, and would have been again nominated and elected had he not been with the majority of the court in holding the Prohibition Law of the State unconstitutional, on the ground that it had not been submitted to a vote in accordance with the law governing the subject. This decision, in my opinion, was correct; at any rate it was the result of the fair and honest judgment of judges as pure and unsullied as ever graced the bench of this or any other land. It did not, however, suit some of the leading papers and politicians who were urging the Constitutional Amendment, and they at once proclaimed that every one of the judges who composed the majority of the court, should be retired at the next election; and they were. No greater act of injustice was ever done, or more regretted that it had been done, in after years.

Judge SeEVERS was a grand man, whose pure character and eminent services gave real distinction to the State. He died at his home in Oskaloosa, in 1895.

William T. Smith was not only one of the early lawyers and public men of Mahaska County, but a most important factor in its early and medieval history. He was a native of Pennsylvania, where he was born in 1824. When a boy he moved to Xenia, Ohio, with his parents, where he was reared and educated. He was admitted to the Bar of Ohio in 1847, and the following year came to Oskaloosa, Iowa, and entered upon the practice in partnership with William H. SeEVERS. Mr. Smith was always a Democrat of the old and patriotic school, and as such was elected and became the first prosecuting attorney of the County, in the first year of his arrival at Oskaloosa. His partnership with Judge SeEVERS continued four or five years. He was later associated in the practice with William Loughridge, subsequently judge and member of Congress. After the dissolution of this partnership, he formed one with Micajah T. Williams, under the firm name of Smith & Williams. In addition to their legal business they engaged in that of banking. In 1857 Mr. Smith retired from the firm and became the sole proprietor of the banking house of William T. Smith & Co. In this new pursuit he and his firm were prominent for many years.

In addition to his being the first prosecuting attorney, he filled other offices of public trust, and always with fidelity and efficiency. For several years he was president of the school board, and as a member of the board he rendered valuable services to the cause of public education. He was a large subscriber towards founding Oskaloosa College. He was greatly interested in the promotion of agriculture

PAST AND PRESENT

OF

MAHASKA COUNTY, IOWA

BY

MANOAH HEDGE

TOGETHER WITH

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

OF MANY OF ITS PROMINENT AND LEADING CITIZENS AND ILLUSTRIOUS DEAD

ILLUSTRATED

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CHICAGO:
THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING CO.

in the State Normal School. During his course in Penn College he was editor and manager of the college paper. In the meantime he had taken up the profession of teaching which he first followed in the district schools, while from 1897 until 1899 he was principal of the Webster School in Oskaloosa. In the latter year he accepted the superintendency of the schools of Mount Pleasant, where he remained for six years, and in July, 1905, he was called to the superintendency of the city schools of Oskaloosa.

In 1899 Professor Else was married to Miss Máry Himes, a daughter of D. A. and Anna (Dixon) Himes, of this county. They have one child, Dorothy Anna. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and are prominent socially. Professor Else belongs to the Masonic fraternity. He has great zeal and interest in his work and believes in maintaining a high standard of scholarship. He is constantly seeking out new methods for the improvement of the schools that the work of public instruction shall be effective as a preparation for life's practical and responsible duties. He has become recognized as one of the strong and able educators of Iowa and under his guidance the schools of Oskaloosa are making substantial progress.

JUDGE W. H. SEEVERS.

When the history of Iowa and her public men shall have been written Judge W. H. Seevers will be numbered among her illustrious citizens, for he had a distinguished career as a member of the bar and of the supreme court of the state. Following his retirement from the office of chief justice of Iowa he resumed the practice of law in Oskaloosa. He was one of the pioneer residents of Mahaska

county, Virginia, April 8, 1822, a son of James and Rebecca (Wilkins) Seevers. In his youth he resided in Frederick and afterward in Clarke county, Virginia, where he entered upon the study of law. He came to Oskaloosa, June 22, 1844, and continued a resident of this city to the time of his death. He pursued the study of law under the direction of Milton T. Peters and was admitted to the bar in the district court of Mahaska county in 1846. He at once entered upon the practice of his profession as a partner of William T. Smith, which connection continued until 1852. He was subsequently associated with his brother James under the firm name of William H. & James A. Seevers and several years later M. T. Williams, now deceased, was admitted to a partnership under the firm name of Seevers, Williams & Seevers. When James A. Seevers entered the United States service at the time of the Civil war the firm style of Seevers & Williams was adopted and several years later the partnership was dissolved, at which time Mr. Seevers became associated with M. E. Cutts, now deceased. This connection continued until 1876, when Judge Seevers was elected to the supreme bench of Iowa.

For many years he had figured prominently in public life. He was elected to the general assembly of Iowa in 1847 and again in 1875, but resigned during his second term in 1876 upon his appointment to the supreme bench of the state. He had been elected and served as county attorney in 1850 and 1851 and in the spring of 1852 was chosen judge of the third judicial district of Iowa. He served upon the bench for four years and his record as a judge was in harmony with his record as a man and lawyer, distinguished by a masterful grasp of every problem presented for solution and by strict and unswerving devotion to duty. Called to the highest tribunal of the state, he served for thirteen years on the supreme bench

chief justice. His service on the bench was distinguished by the highest legal ability. To wear the ermine worthily it is not enough that one possess legal acumen, is learned in the principles of jurisprudence, familiar with precedence and thoroughly honest. Many men, even when acting uprightly, are wholly unable to divest themselves of prejudice and are unconsciously warped in their judgments by their own mental characteristics or educational peculiarities. This unconscious and variable disturbing force enters more or less into the judgments of all men, but in the ideal jurist this factor becomes so small as not to be discernible in results and loses its potency as a disturbing force. Judge Seevers was exceptionally free from all judicial bias. His varied legal learning and wide experience in the courts, the patient care with which he ascertained all of the facts bearing upon every case which came before him, gave his decisions a solidity and exhaustiveness for which no members of the bar could take exception.

Judge Seevers was prominently identified with the educational interests of Oskaloosa and with various interests bearing directly upon the welfare and progress of the city. He took an active part in the organization of the Iowa Central Railroad Company, served as a member of its board of directors for many years and was at one time vice-president. He was also a stockholder in the Mahaska County Savings Bank and in the Oskaloosa National Bank, acting as president of the latter for a number of years. He took an active interest in the development of the coal resources of the county and was a stockholder and director of two local companies formed for this purpose.

Judge Seevers was married in Oskaloosa, February 20, 1849, to Caroline M. Lee, a native of Ohio, who died in 1903. By this marriage there were born seven children. Virginia E. became the wife of Henry L. Briggs and died in 1881, leaving a daughter. Carrie L. is

the wife of James C. Fletcher, a real-estate dealer of Chandler, Oklahoma, by whom she has two children. Harry W. was married May 18, 1887, to Stella M. Wilson, a daughter of Rezin and Amelia (Baer) Wilson. His wife was born and reared in Oskaloosa and they have one child, Grace, now thirteen years of age. Grace Seevers is the wife of Charles V. Hoffmann and has two children. Nell Seevers is the wife of William H. Kalbach, a hardware merchant of Oskaloosa, and has two children. William H. Seevers is a merchant of Altus, Oklahoma, and has two children. All of the members of this family were born in Oskaloosa.

After retiring from the supreme bench Judge Seevers resumed the practice of law in Oskaloosa. He continued to make his home in this city until his death, at which time the state mourned the loss of one of its representative and honored men. No man was ever more respected, ever more fully enjoyed the confidence of the people or more richly deserved the esteem in which he was held. In his life time, the people of his state, recognizing his merit, rejoiced in his advancement and in the honors to which he attained and since his death they have cherished his memory. In his private life he was distinguished by all that marks the true gentleman and in his public career he displayed the profound legal wisdom and the quiet dignity of an ideal follower of his calling.

WILLIAM C. ANDERSON.

William C. Anderson is one of the extensive landowners of Mahaska county, his home farm comprising four hundred and thirty-six acres on section 23, Spring Creek township. Here in addition to tilling the soil he is engaged in raising and breeding stock, and his life record proves that success is not a matter of genius but is the outcome of clear judgment, experience and indefatigable energy. He is, moreover, en-

THE UNITED STATES
BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY

AND

PORTRAIT GALLERY

OF

EMINENT AND SELF-MADE MEN.

IOWA VOLUME.

CHICAGO AND NEW YORK:
AMERICAN BIOGRAPHICAL PUBLISHING COMPANY.
1878.

tled with a full discharge, without the loss of a dollar to the government or himself. He went into the service not to enrich himself, but to aid in saving the country, and left a record as clean as his motives were pure.

Politically, Captain McCall is a republican, with free-soil, whig antecedents, and has usually been quite active. He has attended nearly all the congressional and state conventions of his party since settling in Nevada; has once been on the state central committee, and chairman of the county committee twice. He is a man of much influence in politics in the central part of the state.

In Odd-Fellowship he is also prominent, and has twice been a representative to the Grand Lodge of the state.

He has been a member of the Presbyterian church for twenty-four years, and an elder of the Nevada body the last half of that period. He is a man whose purity of motives and of life secure him great respect.

Captain McCall has had three wives, the first being Miss Sarah Garrett, of Polk county; married on the 1st of March, 1849. She had four children, and died on the 19th of January, 1855. Only one of her children, John A. McCall, attorney, of Des Moines, is

now living. His second wife was Miss Mary A. Boynton, of Marion, Linn county; married on the 28th of October, 1858, and dying on the 4th of August, 1875, leaving three children, four preceding her to the land of spirits. His present wife was Miss Clara Kennedy, of Carrollton, Ohio; married on the 19th of October, 1876. She has one child.

Captain McCall came into Iowa driving an ox team, with no capital but a resolute will and a small fund of learning acquired in the home circle, and by his own application, energies and business talents has become one of the wealthiest men in the county. Two years after he came to Iowa, his father, who was not in good health, joined his sons, who had provided him a home in Polk county, where he died, and where the step-mother of Captain McCall still resides.

The subject of this sketch gave his entire earnings to the family until after he became of age, all of his accumulations having been made since he was twenty-three years old. He has a great deal of village property, and at least twenty-four hundred acres of land in Story county, fourteen hundred acres of it under good improvement. He has always been a fair, straightforward dealer, patient and obliging, and for integrity, no man's character in the county stands better.

HON. WILLIAM H. SEEVERS,

OSKALOOSA.

WILLIAM HENRY SEEVERS, the junior member of the supreme bench of Iowa, is a native of Shenandoah county, Virginia, and dates his birth on the 8th of April, 1822. His grandfather, Henry Seevers, settled in the State of Pennsylvania. James Seevers, the father of William H., was born in Virginia, and was a private in the war of 1812-15. He was a general business man, and is now, at the age of eighty-five years, living with his son. The Seevers family have some Huguenot blood in their veins. The wife of James Seevers was Rebecca Wilkins, who died in 1875.

The subject of this sketch spent his boyhood near Winchester, Virginia, farming, attending a common and select school, and clerking in a country store. He commenced reading law in his native state in 1843; removed to Oskaloosa, Iowa, the next year, where he finished reading; was admitted to the bar in 1846, and has since attended steadily to his pro-

fession, except when serving his constituents in some other capacity.

He was elected district attorney in 1848 and served one term; was elected judge of the third judicial district in 1852; served nearly five years in all, and then resigned; was a member of the lower house of the general assembly at the session in 1858, the first session held at Des Moines, and again in the session of 1876, and resigned in February of the latter year to accept an appointment to the supreme bench, serving as chief justice the rest of that year. In the autumn of the same year he was elected by the people, and hence is now the junior member of the supreme bench. Before he went on the bench he was regarded as one of the most adroit and best read practitioners in the state. His knowledge of the practice of the law is immense. He was the editor of the code in 1873. His opinions are very high authority with the bar of Iowa.

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Politically, Judge Seevers is a republican, strong and unwavering. He was formerly a whig. He was a delegate to the national convention which renominated President Grant in 1872.

His wife was Miss Caroline M. Lee, a native of Ohio, who was married in Oskaloosa on the 20th of February, 1849. They have lost one daughter, and have six children living. Virginia, the eldest daughter, is the wife of Henry L. Briggs, druggist, of Os-

kaloosa; Carrie is the wife of James C. Fletcher, merchant at Wall Lake, Wright county, Iowa; Harry W. is a student at Cornell College, Mount Vernon; Grace is at school in Davenport; and Nellie and William H. are at home.

Mrs. Seevers is a christian mother, a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, where the family worship, and a woman of strong mental faculties, and active and benevolent in all good causes.

GEORGE H. MAISH,

DES MOINES.

GEORGE H. MAISH, a native of York county, Pennsylvania, was born on the 30th of September, 1835, and is the son of David Maish and Sarah *née* Neiman. His paternal ancestors settled in Chester county, Pennsylvania, about one hundred and fifty years ago, having emigrated thither from Bavaria, while his maternal ancestors came from Germany more than a hundred years ago. His grandparents were David and Mary Maish, and George and Mary *née* Rupert.

Our subject is the eldest of three sons. His brother, Levi Maish, born on the 22d of November, 1837, received a common-school education, and afterward served an apprenticeship of two years under a machinist. During the war of the rebellion he was lieutenant-colonel, and also colonel of the 130th regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and was wounded at the battle of Antietam, and also at Chancellorsville.

After the close of his military service he pursued a course of study in the law department of the University of Pennsylvania, and in 1864 was admitted to the bar.

In 1867 he was elected to the general assembly of Pennsylvania for a term of two years, and in 1872 was appointed by the legislature as one of a committee to reëxamine and reaudit the accounts of certain public officers of York county, Pennsylvania, and elected to the forty-fourth congress on the democratic ticket in the fall of 1874.

His youngest brother, Lewis Maish, was born on the 2d of July, 1840. He also served as an apprentice and worked as a machinist for several years. At the opening of the rebellion he enlisted in the 87th regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, commanded by Colonel George Hay, of York, Pennsylv-

vania. He became second lieutenant, and for three years served as captain of company D. Being taken prisoner, he was confined in rebel prisons about six months. He resumed his trade, after the close of the war, and in 1867 removed to his present home in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

George had the advantage of a common-school education, and after closing his studies was for several years engaged with his father. At the age of seventeen he placed himself in the employ of Messrs. P. A. and S. Small, machinists, of York, Pennsylvania, and after remaining with them a period of nine years formed a partnership with Mr. John M. Brown, and during the next four years was engaged in the coal business with good success.

During that time he became well known as a thorough and competent business man, and at the earnest solicitation of the board of directors of the old York Bank, accepted the position of teller in that institution. After four and a half years of most satisfactory service he relinquished his position, and, removing to Iowa, settled at Des Moines, where, with his brother-in-law, Charles A. Weaver, under the firm name of Weaver and Maish, he engaged in the drug business.

To this business he gave his close attention until the fall of 1875, when, with other gentlemen, he organized the Iowa National Bank of Des Moines, and was elected to his present position of cashier of the same.

As a business man, Mr. Maish has from the first been eminently successful. Beginning without capital, other than his own native abilities, and prompted by the ambition to become known as an upright, honorable and influential man, he has by his own effort gradually risen to his present commanding po-



You searched for **William H. Seevers** in Iowa

1850 United States Federal Census

Name:	William H Seevers	
Age:	28	
Estimated birth year:	abt 1822	
Birth Place:	Virginia	
Gender:	Male	
Home in 1850 (City,County,State):	Oskaloosa, Mahaska, Iowa	
Family Number:	108	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	William H Seevers	28
	Caroline Seevers	22
	Virginia Seevers	1
	James A Seevers	19
	Elizabeth Lee	55

Source Citation: Year: 1850; Census Place: Oskaloosa, Mahaska, Iowa; Roll M432 187; Page: 162A; Image: 191.

Source Information:



Ancestry.com. 1850 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.

Original data: Seventh Census of the United States, 1850; (National Archives Microfilm Publication M432, 1009 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

Description:

This database is an index to individuals enumerated in the 1850 United States Federal Census, the Seventh Census of the United States. Census takers recorded many details including each person's name, age as of the census day, sex, color, birthplace, occupation of males over age fifteen, and more. No relationships were shown between members of a household. Additionally, the names of those listed on the population schedule are linked to actual images of the 1850 Federal Census. [Learn more...](#)

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You searched for **William H. Seevers** in Iowa

1870 United States Federal Census

Name:	William H Seevers	
Birth Year:	abt 1822	
Age in 1870:	48	
Birthplace:	Virginia	
Home in 1870:	Oskaloosa Ward 4, Mahaska, Iowa	
Race:	White	
Gender:	Male	
Value of real estate:	View image	
Post Office:	Oskaloosa	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	William H Seevers	48
	Caroline M Seevers	42
	Virginia E Seevers	20
	Carrie L Seevers	14
	Harry W Seevers	11
	Grace Seevers	8
	Nellie Seevers	5
	William H Seevers	2
	Elizabeth Lee	77
	Walker Foster	19

Source Citation: Year: 1870; Census Place: Oskaloosa Ward 4, Mahaska, Iowa; Roll M593_408; Page: 382B; Image: 411; Family History Library Film: 545907.

Source Information:



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

Original data:

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

Description:

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

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You searched for **William H. Seevers** in **Iowa**

1880 United States Federal Census

Name: **William H. Seevers**
 Home in 1880: **Oskaloosa, Mahaska, Iowa**
 Age: **12**
 Estimated birth year: **abt 1868**
 Birthplace: **Iowa**
 Relation to Head of Household: **Son**
 Father's Name: **W. H.**
 Father's birthplace: **Virginia**
 Mother's Name: **Caraline**
 Mother's birthplace: **Ohio**
 Neighbors: [View others on page](#)
 Occupation: **At School**
 Marital Status: **Single**
 Race: **White**
 Gender: **Male**
 Cannot read/write:
 Blind: [View image](#)
 Deaf and dumb:
 Otherwise disabled:
 Idiotic or insane:

Household Members:	Name	Age
	W. H. Seevers	56
	Caraline Seevers	51
	Grace Seevers	18
	Nellie Seevers	15
	William H. Seevers	12
	Hannah Van Dollen	21

Source Citation: Year: 1880; Census Place: Oskaloosa, Mahaska, Iowa; Roll: 353; Family History Film: 1254353; Page: 330A; Enumeration District: 174; Image: 0666.

Source Information:
 Ancestry.com and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. 1880 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2010. 1880 U.S. Census Index provided by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints © Copyright 1999 Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved. All use is subject to the limited use license and other terms and conditions applicable to this site.

Original data: Tenth Census of the United States, 1880. (NARA microfilm publication T9, 1,454 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

Description:
 This database is an index to 50 million individuals enumerated in the 1880 United States Federal Census. Census takers recorded many details including each person's name, address, occupation, relationship to the head of household, race, sex, age at last birthday, marital status, place of birth, parents' place of birth. Additionally, the names of those listed on the population schedule are linked to actual images of the 1880 Federal Census. [Learn more...](#)

Individual Record

FamilySearch™ Pedigree Resource File

William H. Seevers Compact Disc #140 Pin #4226366
Sex: M

Pedigree

Event(s)

Birth: 1825

Virginia

Death: 1895

Oskaloos, IA.

Parents

Marriage(s)

Spouse: [Caroline Malinda Lee](#) Disc #140 Pin #4226354

Marriage:

Notes and Sources

Notes: Available on CD-ROM Disc# 140

Sources: Available on CD-ROM Disc# 140

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