

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative William Fields ^{Capt.} Senator Vermillion

Represented Appanoose County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 18. Oct 1830 Macon County, Kentucky

2. Marriage (s) date place
Martha A. G. Simpson 23 Feb 1858 Moore, Iowa
Kate B. Day 1898 Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business _____

B. Civic responsibilities _____

C. Profession Physician; Lawyer

4. Church membership _____

5. Sessions served 13th General Assembly 1870

6. Public Offices

A. Local _____

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death 28 Dec 1894 Centerville, Iowa; buried Oakland Cemetery, Centerville, Iowa

8. Children Charles F.

9. Names of parents Joel G. and Nancy (Shaw) Vermillion

10. Education

11. Degrees

He graduated from the Rush Medical College in Chicago

12. Other applicable information

- His parents moved from Kentucky to Indiana in 1840 settling in Putnam County, Indiana. Here he spent his boyhood days
- After medical school he moved to the northern part of Appanoosa County, Iowa at a small town named Aconia
- Military service - Civil War - Captain of Company F. 36th Regiment, Iowa Infantry Volunteers
- When he returned from the war, he read law with Captain Lee and then they formed a partnership as lawyers
- He later formed a law partnership with Judge Ames until 1876 and then with Colonel E. C. Hayes until 1880. In 1894 he admitted N. E. Valentine until Feb. 1894.
- His wife, Martha, born 14 May 1831, died 3 Jan 1883
- His second wife, Catherine (Kate) Day born 1840, died 1914.
- Both are buried in Oakdale Cemetery, Centerville, Iowa

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

- | Source | Non Applicable | Applicable | Information obtained |
|--|----------------|------------|----------------------|
| - Obituary - <u>The Centerville Journal</u> , Centerville, Iowa,
Thurs. Jan. 3, 1895, p. 4, col. 3 | | | |
| - <u>History of Appanoose and Monroe Counties, Iowa</u> 1903, p. 56, 57
GAR Records | | | |
| - <u>Appanoose County, Iowa Counties, Vermillion Township</u> ,
p. 68, 103 | | | |
| - <u>familysearch.org</u> (accessed 8/28/2008) | | | |
| - <u>findagrave.com</u> (accessed 19 Oct 2009) | | | |
| - <u>Recollections and Sketches of Notable Lawyers and Public Men of Early Iowa</u>
by <u>Stiles</u> 1916, p. 698-699 | | | |
| - Obituary - <u>The Progress Review</u> , La Porte City, Iowa
Sat. Jan 12, 1895, p. 3, col 5 | | | |

any of their kindred orders, are in any way deserving of this denunciation, and our guess is that each will gain rapidly in membership henceforth.

The anticipated revival in business is beginning to be apparent, but its progress is not as rapid as could be hoped. We think it is plainly evident that the tide has turned in the direction of prosperity, and unless some unforeseen event shall occur to check it, that it will continue with increasing volume until the country shall have returned to its old-time status of general prosperity and advancement. We do not look for any very decided improvement until the expiration of the present congress, for the reason that there are so many wild schemes pending, that it is impossible to convince the owners of capital that investments may be made with safety. As soon as this congress adjourns a decided improvement will be apparent, and it will continue in moderate degree until the next presidential election, when with the advent of a republican administration there will be inaugurated an era of prosperity which will go far toward causing the people to forget the dark and troublous days which accompanied the passing of the government into the full control of the democratic party. We think that the business world is now unreasonably cautious in regard to investment, and that business men should understand that there is no longer any danger of disaster in consequence of democratic imbecility. It is now apparent that the visionaries now in congress are powerless during the brief period in which this congress will exist to do harm, and that they should at once cast their money and their influence earnestly in aid of furthering a return of prosperity. They should carefully study the history of all instances of commercial stringency in the past, and note that prosperity always follows closely upon the heels of adversity, and that those who were brave enough to make the early investments of the

From Saturday's Daily.

A SAD DEATH.

Capt. W. F. Vermilion Passes Away.

One of the saddest deaths that has ever entered into a home in our beloved little city occurred last evening between the hours of eight and nine, when Capt. William F. Vermilion was called away to another world. Captain Vermilion had only returned from a business trip in Des Moines but a few days and was then in his usual good health. Thursday he spoke of a slight pain in his chest but thought little or nothing of it at the time. Early Friday morning the pains became more severe and Dr. Sawyers was sent for and greatly alleviated the patient's suffering. The physician made several visits during the day and towards evening the Captain was feeling considerably better and resting easily. After supper he retired and had been in bed but a few moments when it was noticed that he was breathing heavily. Mrs. Vermilion, who was alone with him at the time, hastened to his side, but it was too late. The Captain had breathed his last. He passed away peacefully and without pain. Not a sign of suffering was on his brow. Today all the state mourns his loss. Capt. Vermilion was born in Indiana in October, 1830, where he spent his boyhood days. An early inclination for medicine lead him into the study and he was graduated from the Rush Medical College and settled in Leonium in the northern part of this county. He was married in 1859, and began to build up what soon became an enormous practice.

Capt. Vermilion went into the army from Leonium, in this county in the summer of 1862, and was mustered into the U. S. service Oct. 4th, 1862, as Capt. of Co. F. 36th Regiment Iowa Infantry. He was mustered out with his regiment August 10th, 1865, at Des Moines, Iowa.

From Monday's Daily.

BAR MEETING

At a meeting of the Bar of Appanoose county, at the office of W. G. Claiber 29th, 1894, the following things were had.

Present, T. M. Fee, G. C. F. Howell, L. C. McElliott, E. C. Haynes, W. H. Sanders, W. G. Porter, A. J. Baker, J. C. S. Payne, O. H. Law, W. John Elliott.

On motion, Hon. T. M. Fee lected as chairman and C. R. Porter secretary. Purpose stated by A. J. Baker after.

Motion, that the members of the Association and officers attend the funeral of W. F. Vermilion. Carried.

Motion that a committee be appointed by the chair, to attend to the arrangements concerning the death of Vermilion, to be presented at its next setting and make the record of said court, etc.

Motion, that the chair appoint a member of this association to attend to the above resolutions to the effect.

Amended, that T. M. Fee be appointed to present said resolutions to the court and as one of the members of the committee to draft said resolutions as amended; the chair appointed G. C. F. Howell, E. C. Haynes and E. C. Elliott to draft resolutions.

Motion, that notice be given to the public of time of present resolutions and speeches of bar, carried. Adjourned.

T. M. Fee, Chairman.
C. R. Porter, Sec'y.

CENTERVILLE S

Mr. Reister is back from Colorado, Nebraska, where he has been on the National Reserve. Of course he is enthused in result and brings back the

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MR. GEAR AND HIS ILLNESS.

The people of Iowa have been glad to note the gradual recovery of Senator-elect Gear, who was so sorely stricken in Washington last week.

Mr. Gear is a man well along in years, but he has a constitution that is tenacious and hardy. Into the three score years and ten the fires of life have continued to burn brightly in him. Physically he has shown but few of the ravages of time and mentally he has certainly shown no deterioration. Whatever we may think of Mr. Gear's abilities it is certain that he has filled a large role in the politics of the state, and that he will fill an equally large place in the political history of Iowa. No man in Iowa affairs has left more personal memories. During his sickness he has been tenderly thought of in hundreds of homes where his cordial greetings have been exchanged. It may be said of him that he has visited almost every home in the First district.

In connection with this The Register can hardly refrain from expressing regret that any papers, or men, should have been led into speculations as to Mr. Gear's successor in the senate. Why shall not politicians learn to wait until a man is dead? Such a speculation is unfeeling. It makes the consideration of a man's life unimportant as compar-

Medical College and settled in Leonium in the northern part of this county. He was married in 1859, and began to build up what soon became an enormous practice.

Capt. Vermilion went into the army from Leonium, in this county in the summer of 1862, and was mustered into the U. S. service Oct. 4th, 1862, as Capt. of Co. F. 36th Regiment Iowa Infantry Volunteers and served until mustered out with his regiment August 24th, 1865, at De Valls Bluffs, Arkansas. He and Capt. Fee, served in the same regiment, and shared the perils of the army together. He was a faithful soldier, a warm friend and a magnificent citizen. On his return home he read law with Capt. Fee and after his admission to the bar he and Capt. Fee formed in partnership which lasted for years. He has been a leading member of the bar in Appanoose county, honorable, honest, able and conscientious and a worthy model for all younger lawyers to follow. He despised shams, trickery and deception and was always honest with the court, his clients and the jury. Capt. Fee says: "He was one of a few lawyers whose honesty could always be relied on; whose word was good as gold, and whose courtesy he carried with him on all occasions, and with whom it was a pleasure to try a case or have business with. He was an antagonist one should always fear, because of his ability, and devotion to his cause. When he entered on the trial of a case there was nothing in law and honor he omitted, and when he finished his plea there was nothing left on his side of the case for any one else to do. If a client wanted a mean or dishonorable thing done, Capt. Vermilion was not the lawyer he wanted or sought."

Such a tribute is seldom received from such a source, for of all men in the world who knew Capt. Vermilion as a lawyer, Capt. Fee is the best qualified to speak. These two men were as warm steadfast friends in the army, we are informed, as they were at the bar and in society.

In 1869, Capt. Vermilion was elected

public of time of present resolutions and speeches of bar, carried. Adjourned T. M.

C. R. PORTER, Sec'y.

CENTERVILLE SCHOOL

Mr. Reister is back from Colo, Nebraska, where he National Penman's Association course he is enthused in result and brings back that Centerville was the only school that has a commendation. That being the case watched from this on at least, for other cities will pattern after us when the commercial department school, the size of ours. We feel like commending board for the hearty manner they support this measure.

Mrs. Bradrick is back home, where of course she vacation.

Miss Janet Wilson, the number who attended the graduation, is at her post of she has recovered from pedagogy. She reports the graduation was passed doing the title of professor. As the we hope that gentlemen Centerville will quit calling her and say Mr. instead caution may keep us from attack of bighead.

Miss Sala is back from her home in Keokuk.

Of course all the teachers for business.

P. H. Bradley and A. J. our school this morning.

—John Beer, of Cincinnati to-day.

—Miss Nora Steele returned Albia to-day.

—C. A. Richey, of Keokuk in town to-day.

the ravages of time and mentally he has certainly shown no deterioration. Whatever we may think of Mr. Gear's abilities it is certain that he has filled a large role in the politics of the state, and that he will fill an equally large place in the political history of Iowa. No man in Iowa affairs has left more personal memories. During his sickness he has been tenderly thought of in hundreds of homes where his cordial greetings have been exchanged. It may be said of him that he has visited almost every home in the First district.

In connection with this The Register can hardly refrain from expressing regret that any papers, or men, should have been led into speculations as to Mr. Gear's successor in the senate. Why shall not politicians learn to wait until a man is dead? Such haste is unfeeling. It makes the consideration of a man's life unimportant as compared with a political office. The Register has only one feeling and that is that of sympathy for the man who has been stricken just at the threshold of the highest honor which the state of Iowa can confer upon any of its citizens, and we earnestly hope, as we now believe, that Mr. Gear may be permitted to taste the sweets of the office which he achieved at the end of his long life.

It is sincerely desired that the ailment under which Senator Gear is suffering will have no permanent effect upon his health. Mr. Gear is one of Iowa's best men, and his friends entertain high hopes that his career in the senate, if he shall be spared therefor, will be one highly creditable to himself and to the state; hopes which has passed abundantly justifies.—Iowa Capital.

[We echo the sentiments that the Register and Iowa Capital have expressed. —Ed.]

ATLANTIC FIRE.

COUNTY COURT HOUSE DAMAGED.

Atlantic, Dec. 29.—Special: The roof of the west end of the county court house was discovered to be on fire late yesterday afternoon. The fire companies were on the scene promptly and soon put out the fire which, caught from a

on all occasions, and with whom it was a pleasure to try a case or have business with. He was an antagonist one should always fear, because of his ability, and devotion to his cause. When he entered on the trial of a case there was nothing in law and honor he omitted, and when he finished his plea there was nothing left on his side of the case for any one else to do. If a client wanted a mean or dishonorable thing done, Capt. Vermilion was not the lawyer he wanted or sought."

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In 1869, Capt. Vermilion was elected senator from this county and served four years. In 1871, a partnership was formed with Judge Amos Harris, which continued until 1876, when a new partnership was formed with Col. E. C. Haynes which continued until 1880. Then the firm became known as Vermilion, Haynes & Vermilion and in 1884 it was Vermilion & Vermilion. In February, 1894, H. E. Valentine was admitted to the firm, and since then the business has grown to immense proportions.

Capt. Vermilion's death comes like an avalanche to his many friends, and is one of the most sorrowful that has ever occurred. No man was ever more universally respected, loved and esteemed. No character was ever adorned with nobler virtues. His was one of those characters to which all intelligence bows with reverence. He was an honest man, a considerate husband and a loving father, an eloquent advocate and a patriotic citizen.

With all of Centerville the DAILY CITIZEN extends its heartfelt sympathies to the bereaving wife and sorrowful children.

The funeral will be held from the home on Washington street tomorrow at 2:30 p. m.

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tion was passed doing a title of professor. As th we hope that gentlemen Centerville will quit call sor and say Mr. instead caution may keep us fr attack of bighead.

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Miss Sala is back from her home in Keokuk.

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Of course, all the tead for business.

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P. H. Bradley and A. I our school this morning.

—John Beer, of Cincin to-day.

—Miss Nora Steele r Albia to-day.

—C. A. Richey, of Ka in town to day.

—R. M. Hicks came i vills this afternoon.

—Mr. and Mrs. Tho of Unionville, are visito to-day.

—Mrs. Fannie Davis, visiting is her mother, of this city.

—L. P. Wilcox, adv the Aunt Sally company book a date here.

—We are glad to re to F. McHenry is consider this evening.

—What is known as th Plan" for a currency sys like the present curren Canada. In this connec esting to note that a C failed a few days ago w amounting to millions an that bank not worth forty dollar. The people of States would find that so banking as destructive as thistle. The people of States have too long bee paper money to be cont other kind. This is no question and should not I it is a broad patriotic

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its renting. However, Mr. Lane, we understand, gave out his ultimatum this morning that no more public dances will be held in his building. At the dance given by the colored people in Russell's Hall, very good order was observed within, though at the foot of the stairs just outside several lawless brawls occurred, in which razors were freely drawn, with however, no serious injury to anyone.

Although the Citizen itself has no doubt but that our city guardians were actively engaged in their official duties, it reproduces, as a matter of news, a very common query today, "Where was our police force last night."

The above is clipped from the Daily Citizen of Wednesday Dec. 26, which further proves the former statements made in the JOURNAL that Centerville is and always has been far from a prohibition town and license would have been granted here long ago, if it had not been for the work of so called prohibitionists who desired to give the pet boot leggers a chance to make some cash. Rev. Swartz a prohibition fanatic who has just finished a course of lectures at this place, left his home at Burlington where well regulated licensed saloons are running in full blast, in all probability thinking that the evil of intemperance in Centerville, a boot-legging town, is in a much more dangerous condition than in a community where saloons were running under a license system. Mr. Swartz left his home and came to tell the people here of the evil of intemperance of which they only know too well, and advise the dear people not to try to regulate or control this growing evil. All power is in the hands of the republican party and if they cannot enforce their own law they should feel satisfied to give the authority over to another party who could. In the voice of the Daily Citizen we exclaim where? Oh! where!! were the republican officials at, on Christmas night?

REPUBLICANS SAVED THE SUGAR TRUST.

The Globe-Democrat candidly acknowledges that the Republican senators in defeating the motion to take up the sugar bill were guilty of that sort of blundering which if not a crime is worse than a crime. In its

On the motion to bring up this bill the negative votes were twenty-seven or four more than were on the

shall see.—Courier Journal.

OBITUARY.

Capt. W. F. Vermilion one of the best of our citizens was born in Indiana, in October 1834 and died at his home on Washington Street this city on last Friday evening, December 28.

Mr. Vermilion's boyhood days were spent in Indiana; he early showed a desire for the study of medicine, was a graduate from the Rush Medical College locating in the northern part of this county at Iconium and commenced the practice of his profession and, was married in 1859. Soon a large and lucrative practice was built up. In 1862 Capt. Vermilion was mustered into the U. S. service as Captain of Company F, 36 Regiment Iowa infantry volunteers and served until the close of the war. On his return he commenced the study of law and was soon admitted to the bar and has for years not only been at the head of the bar in this county but has possessed one of the leading legal minds of the state, being honest and upright in all his dealings. He had just returned from Des Moines where he had been called on legal business, seemingly in the best of health. On Thursday he spoke of a slight pain in the chest, early Friday morning he became worse and Dr. Sawyers was called, who administered medicine which alleviated the sufferer. The doctor made several visits during the day and in the evening the patient seemed much better. After supper Mr. Vermilion retired, but it was soon noticed by his wife, who was alone, that he was breathing heavily, she hastened to the bed-side only to find him in the embrace of death, he had breathed his last. The funeral sermon was preached at his late residence on Monday by Rev. G. H. Putman, formerly pastor of the Presbyterian church of this place, now of Carthage, Missouri, after which the burial services were conducted by the G. A. R. A large concourse of relatives and friends attended the services and followed the remains to their last earthly resting place, Oakland cemetery.

There is a great division in the republican majority in the Michigan Legislature, but the democratic party in that body is solid on all questions. Mr. Donovan

time: "Masina, aho!" (I am p This sprinkling is said to ty abundance of rain during the year

To be absent from the ce would be to incur the royal disp so that the French plenipot minister himself, M. le Myre de who is now again on his way t gascar, had to submit himself, to this strange ordeal. Eve also, must be with her husband time, or it is considered that al good as divorced. The new, then supposed to have beg several weeks there is a great visiting and feasting.

PUNISHMENTS OF CRIM

Penalties for Transgressing the French Prison.

Crimes of a serious nature cor in the prison of Melun, France, viously referred to the c tribunals, says the Contempor view, but disciplinary offen dealt with each morning in room by the governor, assisted inspector, the schoolmaster chief warden. The punishm inflicted are—first, reprimand; deprivation of use of canteen punishment cell, with ordinal fourth, punishment cell, with and water, each fourth day b ordinary food; fifth, deprivation its—this, however, is rarely i sixth, deprivation of correspo when the prisoner has atten misuse it; seventh, fines; eig duction of scale of proportion c ings, and, ninth, discipline roo

This latter punishment, whi be inflicted for two or more d exceeding fifteen, consists of p passing the day from five a. m. p. m., alternately, sitting for minutes, and walking for twer utes, being allowed neither t to speak nor to work. The bread and water, with soup e day. On the occasion of my vis were thirteen men sitting a yard apart from each other, on square stools built of stone wooden top.

The punishment cells do not to be such formidable affairs, b wooden bed fixed to the floor, being supplied at night. Th are of polished wood. By an arrangement, the amount of be admitted into the cell can lated at will from the corrid out. Incurables, whom it is impossible to employ in the shops, owing to their turbulent persistent breaches of disciplin in their cells. This sequestrati be carried on for any period ninety days, and gives no claim reduction of the original senten

Such Is Fate.

Such is fate. The rays of the sett entangled themselves in her



back, as shown, the ends at the center, where they are ice by velvet rosettes. Simms are put at the top, and the ves are finished with velvet with rosettes matching those above. A folded velvet belt the gown, which is especially neat and well suited to a pump.

ling bobbees of fur are seen to be of-mutton sleeves of skin. There is always the hat last year's fur has thus over, but, considering the doubt it be made over here is a hair of it left to Inter Ocean.

Notes of the Notes.
Large lace shoulder caps seen in the portraits of the queen Henrietta Maria, are now in favor, and they no lamorphone a plain eos-

the plain perfect cut tailor worn for most occasions. English modists agree in the former allow draper-gowns.

plateaux, upon which are of black silk braids, are novelties shown in new mod, bent into becoming trimmed with three or five they are very stylish.

of basques and waists is id designs for skirts, ranging from the most conservative to the most conservative, are so numerous that any lady find styles to suit her self.

notebooks are of green they are odd looking affairs, and to be the rage. Small ones with silver clasps are They are convenient for any of them are adorned with monogram and lined with

coats for street wear are h an open work embroidery of silk like the skirt over the of thinner silk in a which is a vast improvement. On evening skirts need it is folded over silk headed by a twist of ribbons at intervals all around

Des Moines. The following officers were elected: R. C. Barrett, Osage, president; D. S. Condit, Red Oak, Anna E. McIlvorn, Cedar Falls, C. C. Carstens, Ames, vice-presidents; W. F. Kramer, Iowa City, secretary; G. W. Sanson, Cedar Falls, treasurer; W. F. King, Mt. Vernon; W. M. Brookes, Tabor, educational council.

A few days ago the Burlington fast mail made a remarkable run between Creston and Council Bluffs. The distance is 104 miles and the time consumed, including seven stops, was 115 minutes. This is the fastest run ever made in the west. The mail train was nineteen minutes late out of Creston but this time was made up and the train reached the Union Pacific transfer at the Falls three minutes ahead of time.

A meeting of the sash and door manufacturers in the river cities, held in Dubuque, a stock company was formed with a capital of \$10,000. It is called the Central Credit Company. The main object of the association is the collection of reliable information regarding the trade. Officers were elected as follows: W. L. Roach, Muscatine, president; J. Alden Smith, Minneapolis, vice president; Frank Adams, Dubuque, secretary; E. A. Eagle, Dubuque, treasurer.

CAPT. W. F. VERMILION died suddenly at his home in Centerville on the 28th of angina pectoris. He was sick only about twenty-four hours, and his death was a great surprise and cause of universal regret. Capt. Vermilion was one of the prominent lawyers of the state. He was state senator in 1868 and has been more or less identified with politics for thirty-five years. He served in the war of the rebellion and was captain of Company F, Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry.

Address The News, Des Moines, Ia., enclosing this notice and fifty cents, and you will receive the Twice-a-Week News one year.

The fine residence of Capt. Thomas French, of Burlington, was destroyed by fire. Loss \$7,000, insured for \$5,000.

A Mason City dispatch says: A hot county seat war is on in Winnebago county. The old court house at Forest City is to be condemned and Lake Mills is a candidate for the honor. Her citizens have already subscribed \$50,000 to build a new court house. Forest City will try and hold it, but as yet nothing has been subscribed for building purposes. Lake Mills is geographically nearer the center of the county.

among the after the relatives bereaved as Mary A. children, is beque among the Fair, best resides a bequeathe Fair, and Grove, is a and Jane deceased children \$10,000 is I is willed Fair, of decreased's

ON the 4 four and a quoketa, death a few net. Jos brothers, wood with known exa earned, but fortunate tripped an left hand a mangled fact with the jaw, exploded its the neck, from the artery and blood stream presented almost parers. He with assistance, wrote his wife and et to articulate lance was e he died.

Fifty cent Iowa, Twice

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Wilkins— answered was Pock.

In the many, other piles which 2,000 years a bridge ne

CAPTAIN W. F. VERMILION

BIOGRAPHICAL AND GENEALOGICAL
HISTORY
OF
APPANOOSE AND MONROE
COUNTIES, IOWA.

Compiled under the Editorial Supervision of
S. THOMPSON LEWIS.

ILLUSTRATED.

NEW YORK CHICAGO
THE LEWIS PUBLISHING COMPANY
1903

Republic, and in all the relations of life is found to be genial, sociable and ready to oblige.

WILLIAM F. VERMILION.

Among the men of Appanoose county who have gone, leaving the impress of their lives on the institutions and welfare of their community, is William F. Vermilion. The parents of this gentleman were Joel and Nancy (Shaw) Vermilion, natives of old Kentucky; the father was a minister in the Baptist church and about 1840 removed from Kentucky and settled in Putnam county, Indiana, where he continued in his ministration until his death.

William was also a native of Kentucky, born there on October 18, 1830; coming with his parents to Indiana he obtained his mental training in the primitive schools of that state and grew up to healthy and vigorous manhood. He then went to Illinois, and having made medicine his choice of the professions began the study of that science and later attended the Rush Medical College in Chicago. The date of his arrival in Appanoose county, Iowa, was about 1857. He had accompanied an invalid brother to Texas and drove from there to this county, where he remained; he was united in marriage to Mary Kemper, whose father, Valentine Kemper, had settled in Monroe county from Putnam county, Indiana. At Iconium, Appanoose county, Mr. Vermilion began the practice of medicine and continued until the Civil war threw all peaceful pursuits into confusion. In 1861 he organized a company which was known as Company F, Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry; of this he was commissioned captain and serving loyally through the struggle was mustered out in September, 1865.

On his return from the war he devoted himself to the study of law, was admitted to the bar, and thereafter continued the practice of this profession in Centerville. On the Republican ticket he was elected and served one session in the state senate, but outside of this held no public office. His wife, Mary Kemper Vermilion, having died, he was in 1894 united in marriage with Mrs. Kate B. Day, of Centerville, who survived him. When in his sixty-fifth year he passed away in his home at Centerville, on December 28, 1894.

C. W. VERMILION.

C. W. Vermilion, the son of William F. and Mary (Kemper) Vermilion, and a sketch of whose father appears above, has followed in the profession of his father. He was born in Centerville, Iowa, on the 6th day of November, 1866, and was reared and educated in his native town; his higher education was received in DePauw University in Indiana, and in 1889 he graduated in the law department of the University of Michigan. In October of the same year he was admitted to the Iowa bar and began practice in Centerville. Mr. Vermilion has also given some attention to politics, being a member of the Republican party. In 1892 he was made county attorney and was re-elected two years later. In 1901 Governor Shaw appointed him judge of the second judicial district court to fill the unexpired term caused by the resignation of Judge T. M. Fee, and at the election of the following year he was elected for the ensuing full term. In 1897 Mr. Vermilion was married to Clare Eloise Biddle, who is the youngest daughter of William M. Biddle, a pioneer of Appanoose county.

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.

by his gallantry on every occasion. At the Battle of Marks Mills he was in command of the second brigade of General Solomon's division and, with 1,000 men, fought the rebel General Fagan, who had a greatly superior force. General Drake's horse was shot in five different places and he, himself, so severely wounded as to be thought beyond recovery. He fell from his horse and was captured, but was immediately paroled on account of his condition, which was thought to be hopeless.

When he entered the service he left his family at Centerville, and at its close, returned to his home there. He had read law before entering the army. He resumed the study upon his return and was admitted to the bar at Centerville in 1867. For some three years he was associated with Amos Harris in the practice, under the firm name of Harris & Drake. In 1871 he engaged in building a railroad, in which he displayed great force and ability and made great success. He organized what was known as the Missouri, Iowa and Nebraska Railroad and built its line to Centerville, the cars entering Centerville in December, 1872. In this enterprise he displayed energies that attracted wide attention. He was made President of the company, and acquired an immense fortune. In 1875 he resumed the practice at Centerville, in partnership with General Andrew J. Baker.

General Drake was a man of genuine merit, and had he adhered to the profession, he would, in my opinion, have been one of the greatest lawyers in the Northwest. He was rugged and frank in character. He carried much of the homeliness of the old-fashioned pioneer. The wealth he had amassed in railroad enterprises did not change his character or habitudes. It had been gained by the legitimate exercise of his extraordinary energies. He remained plain, natural, unassuming to the last. He had been without many opportunities of education and deeply lamented the loss of it. Instead, therefore, of absorbing his wealth by other pursuits, he was the principal factor in establishing what is now Drake University at Des Moines. General Drake, Professor George T. Carpenter, afterward Chancellor of Drake University, and Elder D. S. Lucas, of the Christian Church, were the founders of the Drake University, but General Drake was its principal donator, and it was given its name despite his protest.

In 1895 he was elected Governor of Iowa, and gave the State a good administration. He died like a soldier, a philanthropist and a Christian gentleman, in November, 1903.

W. F. Vermilion, Captain Vermilion, as he was familiarly called, and of which he had well earned the title during the great Civil War, was among the early settlers and became one of the prominent lawyers of Appanoose County. He located at Iconium in 1857. It was here that I first became acquainted with him. He was a native of Kentucky, where he was born in 1830, and his easy manners and good fellowship were characteristic of that State. He was, in all respects, a

lovable gentleman. He had been a physician and surgeon of distinction, a heroic soldier, an influential legislator, and finally a lawyer of ability and wide repute.

He was educated as a physician, graduated at Rush Medical College, Chicago, came to Iconium and established himself in his profession and followed it for several years with marked success. But the appeals of patriotism proved stronger than those of his profession, and early in the Civil War he entered into the service of his country by raising a military company, which became Company F, of the Thirty-Sixth Regiment of Iowa Infantry, and of which he was elected captain, and gallantly served as such through the war.

At the close of his military services he concluded to fit himself for, and enter the legal, rather than return to the medical profession; following in this respect the course of Samuel F. Miller, Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and of that equally distinguished lawyer, Judge John F. Dillon, who were both doctors and practiced several years before they became lawyers, as will be seen by reference to their sketches elsewhere contained in this volume.

He accordingly entered upon the study of his new profession, and in 1868 was admitted to the Centerville Bar and commenced practice. His rise was rapid, and in a few years he ranked among the ablest members of the district bar. Upon this point Judge Robert Sloan, for very many years an ornament to the bench of that district, at the memorial services held on the death of Captain Vermilion, said, that though Vermilion had been only a few years at the bar when he met him, in 1873, "he was in the enjoyment of a large and lucrative practice, such as most lawyers only attain in half a lifetime."

Principal factors in this rapid advancement were doubtless his spirit of industrious research, his trained mind, his quick and solid common-sense, his knowledge of men, his popularity with the soldiers, and his unflinching courtesy. In addition to these qualities he had a happy gift of speech; he knew how to touch the sympathies and the symphonies of human nature, that pathos in the breast of others that he carried in his own, and was a persuasive advocate, as well as a good reasoner. Judge Sloan, who had known him well, said of him on the occasion before referred to:

He was naturally a ready and fluent speaker and often eloquent in addressing a jury. In discussing questions of law he was clear and forcible, and his arguments exhibited painstaking study of the principles involved and the authorities supporting them.

In 1869 he was elected to the State Senate and took a prominent part in the legislation of the Thirteen General Assembly.

Had he lived longer he would doubtless have attained a still higher rank, for he died in what might be said his prime, at the age of sixty-four, in 1894. He was succeeded by his son, Charles W. Vermilion, the able Judge of the District Court of the Second Judicial District.

Vermillion, William F

Co F 36th Infantry
Iowa

Born 1830 Kentucky

Died Dec 24, 1894 Centerville, Iowa

Buried Oakland Cem.
Centerville, Iowa

Wife: Mrs. Kate Russell
Vermillion

Centerville Daily Citizen,
My 31, 1904

Graves Reg. Post 122

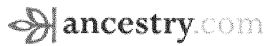
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Vermillion, Will
Philander

Co. H 39th
Iowa

Died Jan. 19,
Stuart, Iowa

Graves Reg.



You searched for **William F. Vermilion** in **Iowa**

**Civil War Pension Index: General Index to Pension Files,
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Source Information:

National Archives and Records Administration. *Civil War Pension Index: General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1934* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., 2000. Original data: *General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1934*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. T288, 544 rolls.

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HusbandWILLIAM FIELDS VERMILLION[Pedigree](#)**Birth:****Christening:****Marriage:** 23 FEB 1858 , Monroe, Iowa**Death:** 28 DEC 1894**Burial:****Father:** JOEL VERMILLION[Family](#)**Mother:** MARTHA SHAW

WifeMARTHA A. C. KEMPER[Pedigree](#)**Birth:****Christening:****Marriage:** 23 FEB 1858 , Monroe, Iowa**Death:** 03 JAN 1883**Burial:**

Children

None

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William F Vermilion

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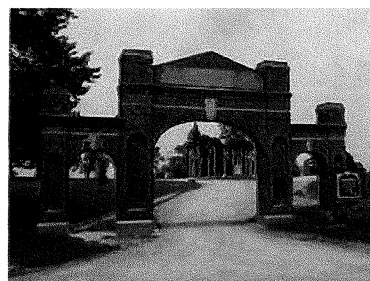
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Kentucky, USA

Death: Dec. 28, 1894
Centerville
Appanoose County
Iowa, USA



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William was the son of Joel Vermilion and Nancy Shaw. He attended Rush Medical College in Chicago and moved to Appanoose County, Iowa around 1857. At Iconium, Appanoose County, Iowa he began the practice of medicine until the Civil War. In 1861 he organized Company F, Thirty-Sixth Iowa Infantry and was commissioned as Captain. He was mustered out with his regiment August 12, 1865 at DeValls Bluffs, Arkansas. Upon his return to Appanoose County, Iowa he read law with Captain Thomas M. Fee and after his admission in the bar he and Captain Fee formed in partnership. In 1869 Captain Vermilion was elected to the Iowa State Senate, as a Republican, serving one term in 1870. In 1871, a partnership was formed with Judge Amos Harris, which continued until 1876, when a new partnership was formed with Colonel E.C. Haynes which continued until 1880. The firm then became known as Vermilion, Haynes and Vermilion and in 1884 it was Vermilion and Vermilion. In February 1894 Hosford E. Valentine was admitted to the firm. William married Mary Kemper in 1859. He was a member of the G.A.R.



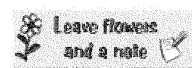
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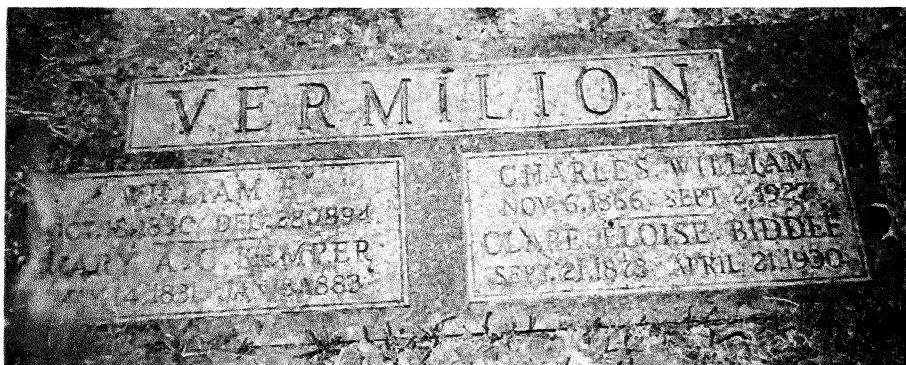


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You searched for **W.F. Vermilion** in **Iowa**

1860 United States Federal Census

Name:	W F Vermilion	
Age in 1860:	29	
Birth Year:	abt 1831	
Birthplace:	Kentucky	
Home in 1860:	Chariton, Appanoose, Iowa	
Gender:	Male	
Post Office:	Iconium	
Value of real estate:	View image	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	W F Vermilion	29
	M A C Vermilion	28

Source Citation: Year: 1860; Census Place: Chariton, Appanoose, Iowa; Roll M653_311; Page: 121; Image: 278.

Source Information:
Ancestry.com. 1860 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. *Eighth Census of the United States, 1860*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1860. M653, 1,438 rolls.

Description:
This database is an index to individuals enumerated in the 1860 United States Federal Census, the Eighth 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 1860 Federal Census. [Learn more...](#)