

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Mills, Roswell Spencer Senator _____
Represented Keokuk County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 16. Apr 1817 Canton, Hartford County, Connecticut

2. Marriage (s) date place

- (1) Lucetta Stone Nov 1841 Ashtabula County, Ohio
(2) Nancy A. Billiland 17 July 1825 Brighton, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business He was admitted to the bar in 1864

B. Civic responsibilities _____

C. Profession Farmer; attorney

4. Church membership Methodist Episcopal

5. Sessions served 10th General Assembly 1864

6. Public Offices

A. Local Keokuk County Justice of the Peace 1842-1846; Notary Public 1881

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death 14 June 1906 Brighton, Iowa. Buried Clay Cemetery, Lee County, Iowa

8. Children James S.; Faith A. (Mrs. W.M. Hughes); Ella (Mrs. Thomas R. Eckley);
Randolph (predeceased his father in death); Mary (predeceased her father in death)

9. Names of parents Harlow and Faith A. (Spencer) Mills

Mills, Roswell Spencer

10. Education He was educated in the common schools in Trumbull County, Ohio neighborhood; he also took supplementary courses at an academy

11. Degrees _____

12. Other applicable information

Republican

- In 1819 he moved with his parents to Trumbull County, Ohio. They lived there until 1846 when they moved to Denmark in Lee County, Iowa.
- He is a brother of Oliver Mills who also served as a legislator in the 14th General Assembly in 1872 from Cass County, Iowa.
- Roswell grew to manhood in Trumbull County, Ohio.
- In 1841 he moved to Iowa, settling in Keokuk County where he spent one year and then returned to Ashtabula County, Ohio where he lived several years.
- After marriage they returned to Keokuk County, Iowa where he laid claim for 140 acres of land and there engaged in farming until 1864.
- As he had time he read law in the office of Samuel Clinton of Fairfield, Iowa. After passing a creditable exam he was admitted to the Iowa bar.
- In 1872 he moved to Brighton, Iowa in Washington County, Iowa and there he practiced law.
- His first wife, Lucetta, died 8 Apr 1884.
- He followed his career of attorney until becoming totally blind.

IT REALLY HAPPENED.

Forty-five tickets were sold Saturday to persons going to Fairfield to attend the John Robinson circus. All were well pleased with the performance and greatly enjoyed the day. . . . The Brighton Concert Band will furnish the music for the Richland 4th of July celebration. The baseball team from this place will also go to Richland on that day and are billed to play against Sigeurney. If the balance of the attractions are as good as these two there will be plenty of enjoyment in store for all who attend the Richland celebration. . . . There are two freaks on the main street of Brighton that no doubt have been over looked by nearly every one in town. They are located in the two large trees in front of the W. T. Israel property. In the tree that stands near the alley a large bunch of catnip is growing in the first fork about seven feet from the ground. In the fork of the tree that stands near the meat market a good sized, healthy looking raspberry bush has taken root and seems to thrive as well as if it were in the ground several feet below its lofty position. How these two plants started in this unusual manner probably no one knows but it is indeed worth the while to notice them the next time you pass that way. . . . Tom Marshall took a rest from his duties as mail carrier Tuesday and put in most of the day fishing in Skunk river. Tom is a mighty faithful old fellow and it had been a long time since he had had such a good rest as a day's rest so Postmaster Brinton

Another Old Settler Gone.

Roswell S. Mills died at his home in Brighton, yesterday (Thursday) afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, aged 89 years, 1 month and 27 days. Mr. Mills was one of the pioneers of this place having come from Ohio in 1841. He lived on a farm until 1863 when he was elected a member of the Tenth General Assembly of Iowa serving one term with distinction to himself and honor to his constituents. He was admitted to the bar by Judge E. S. Sampson in 1864 and followed his profession until total blindness compelled him to retire from active life. He bore his affliction bravely and it was only until recent years that he was compelled to give up entirely having suffered a stroke of paralysis.

"Squire" Mills, as he was known by all here, is survived by his wife and three children who have the sympathy of the entire community in their hour of sorrow.

The funeral will be held from the M. E. church tomorrow afternoon at 1:30 o'clock and the interment will be in the Clay cemetery.

It occurred to us as we ran over our thirty or forty exchanges to note the moral tone of them. These papers are of all sizes and grades from almost every variety of towns, and are edited by practical men who are pretty well acquainted with the world, the flesh, and the devil, and in not one did we find a defense of immorality. In none of them was there a trace of vulgarity, and none taught or justified dishonesty. Neith-

Personal I

—Mr. and Mrs. Aver with Fairfield friends

—Marsh W. Bailey caller here Tuesday af

—Verd Knerr and Di were Fairfield visitors.

—D. T. Stockman, of a business caller here y

—W. R. Beemer was er from Washington, V

—Mr. and Mrs. Tom at the Ed Blackwood h Sunday.

—H. F. Dolph, of the made a short visit in Saturday.

—Bert Gillis, of Eldon day with his cousins, M and Verne Gillis.

—Mrs. A. D. Sutherland went to Eldon, Sunday visit with relatives.

—Mrs. F. M. McCon home Monday after a with relatives in Washi

—Miss Elvie Menefee, visiting her sister, Mis other relatives here this

—Miss Hazel Israel Chariton, Iowa, where s in her brother George's

—Will and Grace B home for their summer the State University at

—Miss Etta Arnold r Wednesday morning fro her sister, Mrs T. C. Ky ington.

—Mrs. H. L. Nelson a Richardson and children ton, visited with Brighto Saturday.

—Mrs. Mary Martin i Miss Edna, expect to leav of next month for an ext New Mexico.

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for burns, scalds, chafed
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Sold by G. W. Dosh.

Fairfield, was in town on busi-
ness last week.

We are glad to report Walter
Ellis able to be about again af-
ter his recent illness.

Born, to Herbert Spencer and
wife, a son June 15.

R. E. Caviness and wife were
Fairfield callers Thursday.

Lloyd Mitchell, of Packwood,
was buying hogs here Thursday.

Mrs. Jake Mills visited rela-
tives in Richland last week.

Mrs. Joseph McConnell, of
Fairfield, visited her daughter,
Mrs. John Kyle, last week.

Miss Della Young, of Fair-
field, is the guest of Lake Mayer
this week.

Clay.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Her-
bert Spencer a son June 14.

The burial of R. S. Mills Sat-
urday takes the last of the first
settlers of this neighborhood.

Frank O. Mills, of Chicago,
was here Saturday attending the
funeral of his uncle and meet-
ing old friends.

Calvin Jones went on the ex-
cursion to Peoria Sunday to
visit his mother.

Our people are planning a
social celebration for July 4.

Misses Martha Meacham and

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PORTRAIT AND
BIOGRAPHICAL

ALBUM

— OF —

WASHINGTON COUNTY, IOWA,

CONTAINING

Full Page Portraits and Biographical Sketches of Prominent
and Representative Citizens of the County,

TOGETHER WITH

PORTRAITS AND BIOGRAPHIES OF ALL THE GOVERNORS OF IOWA, AND
OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

3272 a

CHICAGO:

ACME PUBLISHING COMPANY,

1887.

except in praise. Their children are six in number: Martha A., a resident of California; James R.; John B., deceased; Leonard G., Sarah M. and Rebecca. The last was born in this county. The oldest daughter is in business in San Diego, Cal., and the others remain with their parents. Energetic, honest to a fault, patriotic, and full of good deeds, this man is ranked high among the citizens of the county. In politics he is a Republican.



HON. ROSWELL S. MILLS, attorney at law, Brighton, was born in Canton, Hartford Co., Conn., April 16, 1817. He is the son of Harlow and Faith A. (Spencer) Mills, both of whom were natives of Connecticut. His father was originally a Whig, and was a great admirer of the Adamses, Webster and Clay. In later days he was a Republican, casting his vote for Abraham Lincoln for President. In 1819 he took his family to Trumbull County, Ohio, where they lived until 1846 and then moved to Denmark, Lee Co., Iowa. Both parents were members of the Congregational Church, and both died in Lee County. They had five children, three of whom are living: Oliver, of Lewis, Cass Co., Iowa; Harlow, of Newton, Harvey Co., Kan., and Roswell, the subject of this sketch.

When the family moved to Trumbull County, Ohio, the subject of this sketch was but two years old. There he grew to manhood and received his education in the common schools, supplemented by a partial course at the academy. In 1841 he came to Iowa and settled in Keokuk County, where he spent one year, and then returned to Ohio, and in Ashtabula County, that State, married Lucetta Stone, a daughter of James Stone, one of the prominent farmers of that county. She was born in Ashtabula County, Jan. 4, 1817. Soon after their marriage they came to Iowa, and Mr. Mills made a claim to 160 acres of land in Keokuk County, and there engaged in farming, following that occupation up to 1864. In 1842 he was elected Justice of the Peace, and held that office four years. In 1864 he was elected a member of the Tenth General Assembly, and was one of the active members

of that body. For a number of years, as opportunity was afforded him from the labors of his farm, Mr. Mills read law and subsequently entered the office of Samuel Clinton, of Fairfield, spending some time under his instruction. After passing a creditable examination he was admitted to the bar and licensed to practice in all the courts in the State. In his profession he has a good standing, and is regarded as a wise and safe counselor, as well as a good advocate. Since its organization he has been quite active in the councils of the Republican party, and has served on various committees in county and State. In 1872 he settled in Brighton, where he has since resided, engaged in the practice of his profession.

Mr. and Mrs. Mills became the parents of five children, three living: James S., of Keokuk County, Iowa; Faith A., the widow of H. M. Hughes, now of Colorado; Ella, the wife of Thomas R. Eckley, of Sigourney, Keokuk Co., Iowa. The deceased were Randolph and Mary. Mrs. Mills died at Brighton, Nov. 8, 1884. She was a member of the Congregational Church, a sincere Christian woman, a kind wife and loving mother. Mr. Mills was again married, July 17, 1885, to Miss Nancy A. Gilliland, who was born near Iowa City, May 24, 1839, her parents being among the earliest settlers of the State of Iowa.

Mr. Mills is truly one of the pioneers of this part of the State. In the forty-six years of his residence he has been active in everything tending to promote its interests. No man in Washington County stands higher in the estimation of the people.



MRS. NANCY A. HAMILL. It is fitting to record the history of those who have lived, and during their lifetime have aided in the development of a new country, as well as to preserve the record of their lives for the benefit of future generations. Our subject was born in Monroe County, Tenn., and is a daughter of John and Rachel Duncan, both of Scotch ancestry. Rachel Duncan made no change in her name at marriage. There may have been some relationship existing, but it could not be traced. Both were born in Washington County, Tenn., where they



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You searched for **Roswell S. Mills** in **Iowa**

1850 United States Federal Census

Name: **Roswell S Mills**
 Age: 33
 Birth Year: abt 1817
 Birthplace: Connecticut
 Home in 1850: District 26, Keokuk, Iowa
 Gender: Male
 Family Number: 1

Household Members:	Name	Age
	Roswell S Mills	33
	Lucetta Mills	33
	Eesoda E Mills	11
	James S Mills	7
	Farthy A Mills	5
	Mary E Mills	0
	Delphina Gibbons	16
	James M Ward	19

Source Citation: Year: 1850; Census Place: District 26, Keokuk, Iowa; Roll: M432_185; Page: 223A; Image: 450.

Source Information:

Ancestry.com. 1850 United States Federal Census [database online]. 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 **Roswell S. Mills** in **Iowa**

Iowa, State Census Collection, 1836-1925

Name: **Roswell S Mills**
 Birth Year: **abt 1817**
 Birth Place: **Connecticut**
 Gender: **Male**
 Marital Status: **Married**
 Census Date: **1856**
 Residence State: **Iowa**
 Residence County: **Keokuk**
 Locality: **Richland**
 Roll: **IA_73**
 Line: **7**
 Family Number: **103**
 Neighbors: [View others on page](#)

Household Members:	Name	Age
	Roswell S Mills	39
	Lucetta Mills	39
	James S Mills	13
	Faith A S Mills	11
	Elah Mills	4
	Nancy N Gileland	17

Source Information:
 Ancestry.com. *Iowa, State Census Collection, 1836-1925* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2007.
 Original data: Microfilm of Iowa State Censuses, 1856, 1885, 1895, 1905, 1915, 1925 as well various special censuses from 1836-1897 obtained from the State Historical Society of Iowa via Heritage Quest.

Description:
 This database contains Iowa state censuses for the following years: 1856, 1885, 1895, 1905, 1915, and 1925. It also includes some head of household censuses and other special censuses from 1836-1897. Information available for an individual will vary according to the census year and the information requested on the census form. Some of the information contained in this database though includes: name, age, gender, race, birthplace, marital status, and place of enumeration. [Learn more...](#)

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You searched for **Roswell S. Mills** in **Iowa**

1900 United States Federal Census

Name: Roswell S Mills
Age: 21
Birth Date: Oct 1878
Birthplace: Iowa
Home in 1900: Richland, Keokuk, Iowa
 [Keokuk]
Race: White
Gender: Male
Relation to Head of House: Servant
Marital Status: Single
Father's Birthplace: Iowa
Mother's Birthplace: Ohio
Occupation: [View on Image](#)
Neighbors: [View others on page](#)

Household Members:	Name	Age
	Hezekiah Bosworth	59
	Amanda J Bosworth	57
	Bessie P Bosworth	15
	Roswell S Mills	21
	Alice M Mills	19

Source Citation: Year: 1900; Census
 Place: Richland, Keokuk, Iowa; Roll: 441; Page: 10A; Enumeration District: 49; FHL microfilm: 1240441.

Source Information:

Ancestry.com. 1900 United States Federal Census [database online]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2004.



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

Description:

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



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Owner: jackoakley1

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Roswell S. Mills

Birth **16 Apr 1817** in [Canton, Hartford, Connecticut, USA](#)

Death **14 Jun 1906** in [Keokuk, Iowa, USA](#)

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Facts and Sources

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Comments

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Timeline [\(View details\)](#)

1817
16 Apr

[Birth](#)

[Canton, Hartford, Connecticut, USA](#)

[4 source citations](#)

1850

Age: 33

[Residence](#)

[District 26, Keokuk, Iowa](#)

[1 source citation](#)

1856

Age: 39

[Residence](#)

[Richland](#)

[1 source citation](#)

1870

Age: 53

[Residence](#)

[Richland, Keokuk, Iowa](#)

[1 source citation](#)

1900

Age: 83

[Residence](#)

[Brighton City, Washington, Iowa](#)

[1 source citation](#)

1906

Age: 89

[Death](#)

[Keokuk, Iowa, USA](#)

Family Members

Parents

[Harlow Mills](#)
1793 – 1875

[Faith Ann Spencer](#)
1795 – 1872

[Show siblings](#)

Spouse & Children

[Lucetta Stone](#)
1817 – 1884

[James S Mills](#)
1843 – 1895

[Faith Ann Mills](#)
1845 – 1887

[Mary E Mills](#)
1849 – 1850

[Ella Ruth Mills](#)
1852 – 1939

[Randolf Mills](#)
1852 – 1853

[Family group sheet](#)

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