

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Ainsworth, Lucian Lester Senator Ainsworth,
Lucian Lester - Represented Blacks Hawk, Grundy and Jayette
Counties, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 21 June 1831 New Woodstock, Madison County, New York

2. Marriage (s) date place

Margaret Elizabeth McCool 8 Dec 1859 West Union, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business He was admitted to the bar from New York in 1854

B. Civic responsibilities Mason, G.A.R.

C. Profession Lawyer

4. Church membership Methodist Episcopal

5. Sessions served 8th 9th General Assemblies 1860, 1863 - Senate

6. Public Offices 12th General Assembly 1872 - House of Representatives

A. Local Trustee of Upper Iowa University, Jayette Iowa; West Union School director

B. State

C. National

7. Death 19 Apr 1902 West Union, Iowa; Buried West Union Cemetery, West Union, Iowa

8. Children James Walter; Charles Gray; Porter Lester; Fred Lee (died 12 Dec 1906)
Hillard Joseph; Mrs. F. H. White

9. Names of parents Parmenas and Reziab (Webber) Ainsworth

Ainsworth, Lucian Lester

10. Education He was educated in public schools of his community;
he attended the Oneida Conference Seminary at
Cazenovia, New York

11. Degrees _____

12. Other applicable information

Summary

- He taught school while attending the seminary. He then studied
law in the office of Mines and Glens in De Rayther New York.
- After being admitted to the bar in 1854 he moved to Belvidere, Illinois
where he practiced one year with J. R. Beck with.
- He moved to Jay's County, Iowa in August 1855, settling at West Union, Iowa.
There he began to practice law, proving to be well recognized.
- Military service - Civil War - he was commissioned Captain of Company C,
6th Iowa Cavalry - served 3 years in the northwest against the Indians.
- After the war he returned to West Union practicing law with C. H. Miller until
July 1873.
- In 1874 he was elected to the 44th United States Congress, serving
one term 1875-1877. He declined a nomination for a second term.
- He returned to West Union and resumed his law practice.
- He was a prominent person in Jay's County for over 50 years.

ainsworth, Lucian Lester

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

Source	Non Applicable	Applicable	Information obtained
- <u>Obituary - The Argon, West Union, Iowa, Sat. Apr. 23, 1902,</u>			
			p. 2, col. 2, 3, 4 and p. 6, col. 5
- <u>Iowa Its History and Its Foremost Citizens by Johnson</u>			
			Brigham 1916 p. 267, 289, 302, 437, 483, 686
- <u>History of Iowa by Benjamin J. Guw, 1903, p. 3</u>			
- <u>A Narrative History of The People of Iowa by Edgar Karla, 1931</u>			
			p. 85, 100
- <u>Jayette County Grave Records WPA, p. 2</u>			
- <u>Portrait and Biographical Albums of Jayette County, Iowa 1891,</u>			
			p. 313 - 314, 279
- <u>Past and Present of Jayette County, 1910, p. 1272 - 1277</u>			
- <u>Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa 1890 p. 129-132</u>			
- <u>Pioneer Law - Makers of Iowa 1886, p. 45, 13, 16, 46, 51, 64, 67, 76, 77,</u>			
			122, 138
- <u>Pioneer Law - Makers of Iowa 1894, p. 13, 20, 22, 23, 29, 46, 47, 52, 62, 124,</u>			
			129, 130, 131, 132, 150
- <u>Pioneer Law - Makers of Iowa 1915 p. 10</u>			
- <u>Pioneer Law - Makers of Iowa 1902, p. 64, 32, 10, 115, 64, 72</u>			
- <u>Pioneer Law - Makers of Iowa 1886, p. 13, 56</u>			
- <u>The United States Biographical Dictionary 1878, p. 139-140</u>			
- <u>Jayette County Biography (accessed 2/1/2008)</u>			



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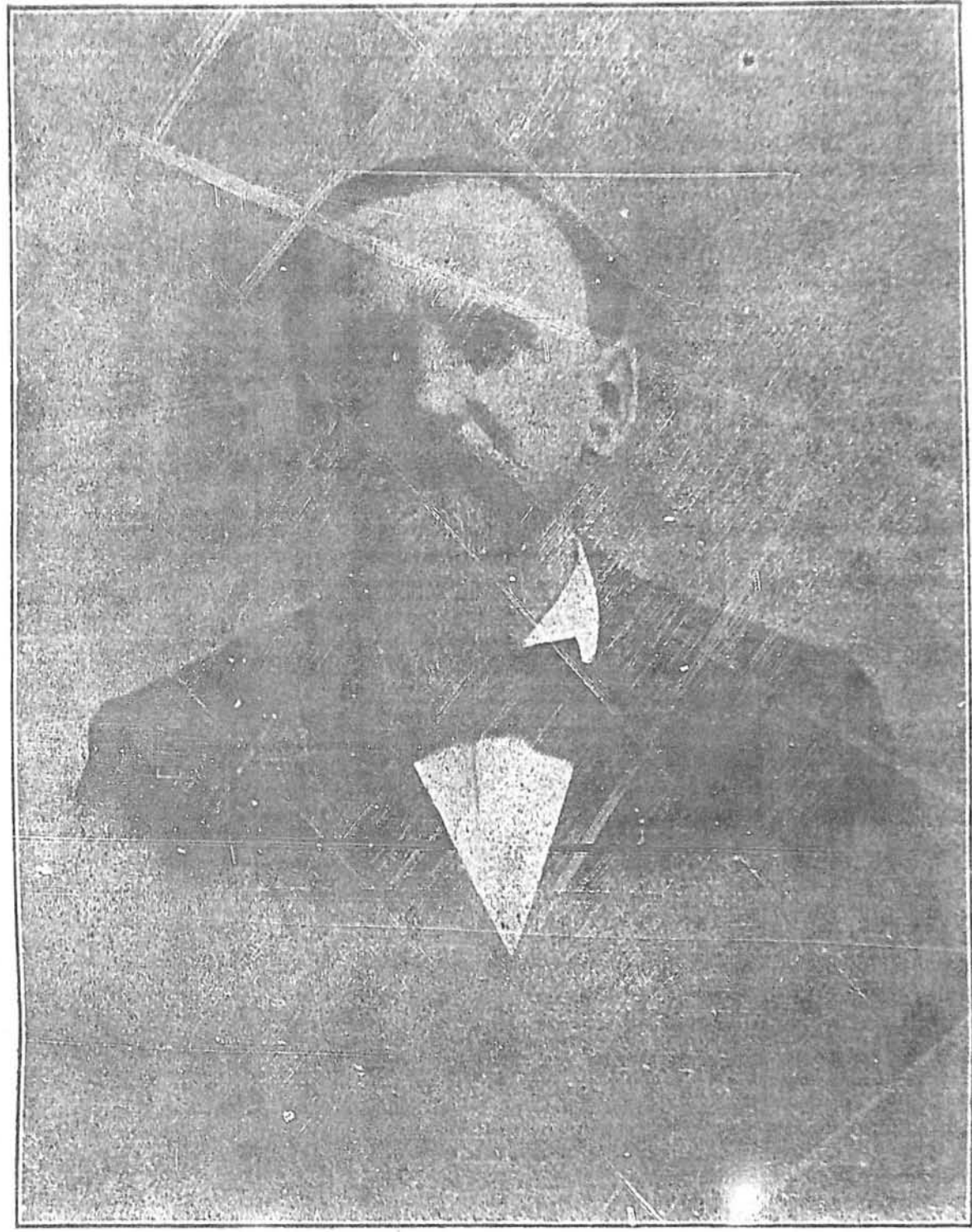
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The funeral services were held at the
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practice in which he is, and none cer-
 tainly in a greater degree than the sub-
 ject of our sketch, who had an extensive
 view, and the state as well.

Mr. Ainsworth at once acquired a large
 and profitable business and from his
 first appearance in Iowa was recognized
 as a lawyer of unusual strength, a po-



LUCIAN LESTER AINSWORTH.

Born in Woodstock, Madison county, New York, June 21, 1831. Died in West Union, Iowa, April 19, 1902.

ton, D. D., of Dubuque, assisted by
 Rev. M. S. Rice. At the request of Mr.
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Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

ARGO.

APRIL 23, 1902.

THE PASSING OF A PIONEER

Hon. L. L. Ainsworth Dies at His Home in This City After an Extended Illness. A Prominent Character in Fayette Co. Life For Nearly 50 Years Has Scived the Unknown.

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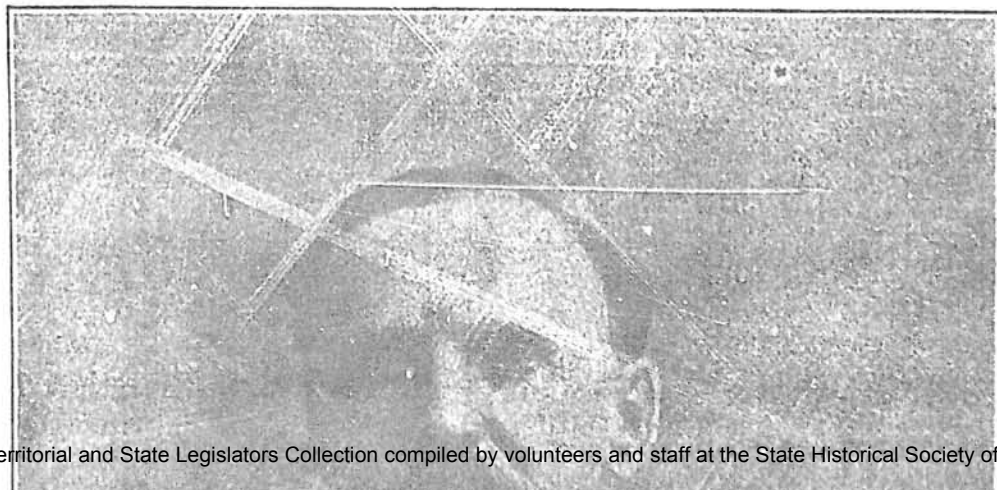
Saturday afternoon at 1:30, after an illness of many weeks, L. L. Ainsworth dropped quietly to sleep and the great heart was stilled forever. He was a lover of his home, the idol of his children, worshiped by his grandchildren, and the big-hearted, sympathetic friend of the tiniest tot who met him daily while on the way to the big school house to learn the first lessons of life, or of the burly giant who sought him in a tangle of legal troubles. But why should THE ARGO recount his virtues or record his failings, for he was better known, perhaps, in Fayette county and north-eastern Iowa than any other man in it? The sketch of his life which follows this preliminary statement and account of his funeral was written by Judge A. N. Hobson, a gentleman who was in partnership with Mr. Ainsworth for many years, and who stood closer to the deceased than any other person possibly could save members of his immediate family. Judge Hobson's tribute to Mr. Ainsworth does exact justice to a colossal figure in our local life; to one who will be missed in the home, in our social life and as a member of the legal fraternity who attained more than a state-wide reputation.

The funeral services were held at the new M. E. church yesterday afternoon at two, conducted by Rev. W. O. Rus-

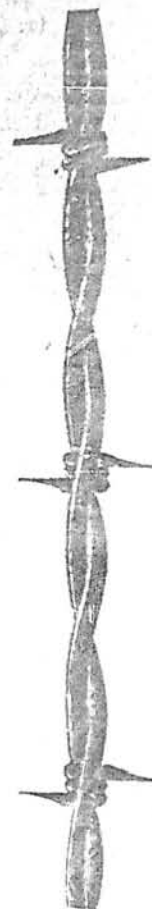
torneys at De Ruyther, New York, and was afterwards admitted to the bar in Madison county in 1854. Shortly after his admission to the bar he removed to Belvidere, Illinois, where for one year he practiced law with J. R. Beckwith, under the firm name of Beckwith & Ainsworth.

Thinking the new west offered greater advantages to young men than those afforded in Illinois, he came to Fayette county, Iowa, in August, 1855, locating at West Union, and shortly thereafter commenced the practice of law. The country was then new and sparsely settled, the law unsettled and practice crude. Lawyers then traveled the circuit, following the court from place to place—a practice long followed but now obsolete as the growth of the counties in population and wealth has produced in each county its local bar—now equal to all requirements of the profession. Many of the earlier lawyers of the state became eminent locally through the practice here referred to, and none certainly in a greater degree than the subject of our sketch, who had an extensive acquaintance throughout northeastern Iowa, and the state as well.

Mr. Ainsworth at once acquired a large and profitable business and from his first appearance in Iowa was recognized as a lawyer of unusual strength, a po-



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Born in Woodstock, Madison county, New York, June 21, 1831. Died in West Union, Iowa, April 19, 1882.

ton, D. D., of Dubuque, assisted by Rev. M. S. Rice. At the request of Mr. Ainsworth he was buried with Knight Templar honors, and the attendance of Longbridge Commandery No. 47, of which he had long been a member, was very large. There were also a number of Sir Knights from other Commanderies in attendance. The audience filled the beautiful church to its fullest capacity, and it was probably the largest gathering that ever assembled at a funeral in this city. The floral tributes were many and very beautiful.

The following members of Mr. Ainsworth's company C, Sixth Iowa Cavalry, were all notified of the death of their old commander, and most of them were present at the funeral: T. D. Reeder, A. R. Burrett, L. L. Farr, H. E. Foster, O. Conrad, M. Lang, West Union; Jas. Bissell, Volga City; Geo. Hawkins, Wesley Noble, Whitcomb Noon and Smith M. Todd, all of Nashua. George Whiteley, Mark Hubbell, Warner Aylesworth and C. B. Vansickel, all of Fayette. Arthur Crawford, Schuyler Maynard and James Conrad, of Maynard. R. E. Burlingham and George Armstrong, of Oelwein; and Mike Ungerer, of Independence.

The Knight Templar pall bearers were Sir Knights S. B. Zeigler, S. E. Robinson, A. N. Hobson, J. S. Sampson, Wm. Kinsey and E. B. Shaw. The honorary pall bearers were the following members of his old company: T. D. Reeder, A. R. Burrett, West Union; Geo. Whiteley, Fayette; Arthur Crawford and Schuyler Maynard, Maynard; R. E. Burlingham, Oelwein.

A large concourse followed the remains to the city of the dead over on the hill, and after the beautiful ritual ceremony of the Commandery they were consigned to their last resting place, and gentle memories of him who was but now is not will linger with us through all time. Peace to his ashes.

Lucian Lester Ainsworth, the eldest child of Parmenas and Keziah Webber Ainsworth, was born in New Woodstock, Madison county, New York, June 21, 1831. His ancestors were of English descent, having settled in America in the early Colonial days. His grandfather moved to New York, where the father of Mr. Ainsworth was born, and where he died several years ago at an advanced age. Mr. Ainsworth's great grandfather served in the Revolutionary war and died a prisoner on an English ship, a martyr to the Colonial cause.

Young Ainsworth received his early education in the public schools of his native state and subsequently attended Oneida Conference Seminary at Cazenovia, New York. At intervals during his course at the seminary he taught school and was said to be a very popular teacher and educator. After finishing his course at the seminary he commenced the study of the law in the office of Miner & Sloan, then the leading at-

sition which he has ever since retained. He has been engaged in general practice and his name is connected with many important cases in which legal principles of great importance have been settled. Well grounded in the fundamental principles of the law, a close student of the law, learned in the technical rules and practice, precise in his application of legal principles, a natural advocate, quick to perceive the point in issue and adapt himself to the situation—he was, and always has been, a lawyer of unusual strength and cleverness as a practitioner, and had by years of practice justified the estimate of his friends that he was one of the most successful advocates his portion of the state had yet produced.

A prudent and careful counselor, conscientious in the discharge of his duties as an attorney, advising against litigation when it could be avoided, Mr. Ainsworth possessed in a peculiar degree the confidence of the people among whom he had lived and practiced. Possessed of unusual talent as a jury lawyer, a thorough tactician, full of resources, with an unusual knowledge of apt Scriptural quotations, and appropriate illustrations culled from his extensive experience and reading, with an active vein of wit and humor, he proved himself always a formidable opponent.

Mr. Ainsworth early evinced an interest in politics and in the fall of '56 was a candidate for county attorney, but the county was overwhelmingly Republican, he a stranger, and was defeated as a matter of course. His defeat was expected from the start, but his candidacy gave him an opportunity to become acquainted with the people of his county and educated him in campaign work, which at a later date did him good service.

In the fall of 1859 he was nominated for State Senator in the district then comprising Fayette and Bremer counties, and was elected over Hon. Aaron Brown who had then served one term in the Senate and who was afterwards prominent as Colonel of the Third Iowa Infantry in the war of the Rebellion, and subsequently as a member of the House of Representatives in the Iowa legislature, and as Register of the Land Office.

Mr. Ainsworth served during two regular sessions of that body. During this early legislative experience he served as a member of the Committee on Judiciary and Railways, and was a very efficient member of each, but particularly the former, which then had charge of the revision of the laws of Iowa—and the fruits of which labor was the revision of 1860.

In the meantime the strife of civil war had spread over the land and Hon. Samuel J. Kirkwood, the war governor, gave him a commission as captain of the Third Iowa Infantry, which was then forming in Iowa. But as a special session of the legislature had then been

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After leaving the army returned to West Union in the practice of law with H. Millar, which engaged until July, 1873.

In the fall of 1871 Mr. Ainsworth was elected to the Fourteenth Iowa Legislature as a member of the House of Representatives, and served two sessions of 1872 and 1873 during his term of service he served on the judiciary committee, and rendered valuable service in the revision of the Code of 1873.

In 1874 Mr. Ainsworth was elected to the Forty-fourth Congress as a member of the committee on public lands, post-roads and claims.

At the succeeding election he was re-nominated, and elected to the first term of being the first representative from Iowa in the United States in a pe- years.

After retirement from public office he devoted his entire time to the study of the law and held no office except that of county director, a position to which he was elected for several years. Mr. Ainsworth has taken a deep interest in all matters relating to the public relation, and for a number of years was a member of the school board of West Union, and gave this post thoughtful care he did not neglect held by him, and his work was a commendation of his no repeated elections to the position.

In addition to his work in the public schools he has taken a deep interest in higher education for several terms as one of the trustees of the Upper Iowa University, Iowa.

Mr. Ainsworth was a student; kept abreast of general reading, and his library was the largest and best selected.

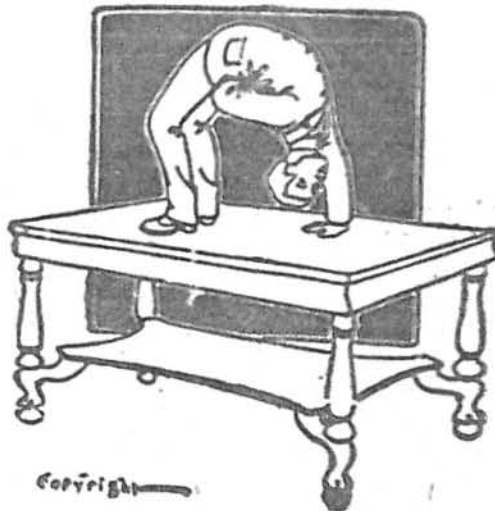
(Continued on Page 6, n)

BROMO-LAX (contains mildest and best laxative ingredients) for colds, grippe, headache, etc. At druggists 25 cents.

UNDERTAKING A SPECIALTY.

L. W. BURNHAM.

Bent on Furniture



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THAT is good, people of discernment come to this store. And we don't disappoint them. If we made a practice of doing that we would be disappointed ourselves in the long run. This stock of FURNITURE has been selected carefully and each piece has something besides good looks to recommend it. It has the qualities that made the furniture of our grandfathers famous—strength and durability.

PHILIPS & LOOMIS,

Funeral Directing Given Special Attention.

SMOKE THE "EMMA • ABBOTT"

A TEN-CENT SMOKE FOR A NICKEL.

BE LOYAL TO HOME INDUSTRIES AND SMOKE JOE EDMUND'S LATEST AND BEST.

Manufactured by JOE EDMUNDS, West Union, Iowa

Indians and drive them in and the regiment received a flattering report of its action in the campaign. The regiment took part in several other engagements, among others that of Tah Ka Kohuta, on July 28, 1864, and was finally mustered out of the service at Sioux City, Iowa, October 17, 1865. Service on the frontier was largely confined to garrison duty, and only occasionally were the soldiers permitted to engage in conflict. The soldiers were just as brave and patriotic as those engaged in southern service, but opportunity was lacking to most of them to distinguish themselves on the field of battle; but their service, while lacking those opportunities, was just as essential to the welfare of the nation, and was full of hardship and privation and fraught with dangers as great as other branches of the service.

After leaving the army Mr. Ainsworth returned to West Union and re-engaged in the practice of law with Captain C. H. Millar, which engagement continued until July, 1873.

In the fall of 1871 Mr. Ainsworth was elected to the Fourteenth General Assembly as a member of the House of Representatives, and served during the sessions of 1872 and 1873, and was, during his term of service, a member of the judiciary committee, rendering valuable service in the formation of the Code of 1873.

In 1874 Mr. Ainsworth was elected to the Forty-fourth Congress to represent the Fourth District of Iowa, and served as a member of the committee on post-offices, post-roads and private land claims.

At the succeeding election he declined a re-nomination, and enjoyed the distinction of being the first Democrat to represent Iowa in the Congress of the United States in a period of twenty years.

After retirement from Congress he devoted his entire time to his profession, and held no office except that of school director, a position to which he was elected for several successive terms. Mr. Ainsworth has taken an active interest in all matters relating to education, and for a number of years was a member of the school board of West Union, and gave this position the same thoughtful care he did the great offices held by him, and his work received the commendation of his neighbors by repeated elections to the position.

In addition to his work in behalf of the public schools he has also taken an interest in higher education, and served for several terms as one of the trustees of the Upper Iowa University at Fayette, Iowa.

Mr. Ainsworth was considerable of a student; kept abreast of the times in general reading, and had one of the largest and best selected private libraries.

(Continued on Page 6, fifth column.)

BROMO-LAX (contains no quinine) mildest and best laxative and cure for colds, grippe, headache and neuralgia. At druggists 25 cents.

CAPITAL, \$80,000. ●● SURPLUS, \$6,000.

SAFETY DEPOSIT BOXES to rent by the year at low rates. Protect your valuable papers from fire and burglars

H. B. HOYT, President S. B. ZEIGLER Vice-President. E. B. SHAW, Treasurer

DIRECTORS—S. B. Zeigler, J. S. Scallon, John Owens, W. Clements, Thos. Loftus, W. J. Ainsworth

FAYETTE COUNTY SAVINGS BANK.

WEST UNION, IOWA.

INTEREST PAID ON ALL DEPOSITS.

Passage Tickets for sale to and from all parts of Europe and Fayette county. Also drafts available in any part of the world. Enquire at Fayette Co. Nat. Bank.

pany Ordered to Pay.

Akron, O., April 19.—Noon comes at 12:57 legal standard time in Akron, according to a decision handed down by the supreme court. Thomas Mier took out a fire insurance policy on his property at 11:30 standard time four days ago, the policy being dated noon that day. At the very minute that was getting the policy the saloon caught fire and burned. Ohio law requires standard time legal time, and the insurance company refused to pay the \$2,000 insurance on Mier's saloon. The case was fought through to the supreme court, which has decided that "noon" meant the time the sun passed the meridian at Akron, which is at 12:57 standard time. The court ordered the insurance company to pay.

British Expenditures.

London, April 15.—The statement showing the revenues and expenditures for 1902-3 has been presented in the house of commons by the chancellor of the exchequer, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, on opening the budget announcements. It showed a total ordinary expenditure for 1902-3 estimated at £29,150,000, with war charges amounting to £45,450,000, making a grand total of £74,600,000, which is £2,993,000 below the total for 1901-2. The chancellor of the exchequer estimated the total deficit for the present year at £26,824,000.

The deficit must be added sixteen or seventeen millions additional war charges.

Three Men Killed by a Train.

Philadelphia, April 16.—Ralph D. McKee, Joseph White and William Beaumont were run down and instantly killed by a Royal Blue line train on the Philadelphia and Reading railway at Langley, a short distance from this city. McKee and White were painters employed by the Reading company, and Beaumont was a colored resident of the neighborhood.

General Malvar Surrenders.

Washington, April 17.—The war department has received the following telegram from General Chaffee: "I have accepted the unconditional surrender of Malvar to Brigadier General J. Franklin Smith. Organized armed resistance in the Philippines terminated departmental operations with the Philippines."

Woman and Children Cremated.

Frankfort, Mich., April 17.—Mrs. Ellice E. King and her two children were burned to death at their home in Wallin, a village fifteen miles from Frankfort. The fire which started from some unknown cause, destroyed one store and two houses. The financial loss is \$300.

THE PASSING OF A PIONEER

Continued from Page Two.

ries in the county. In addition to his legal studies he had as a branch thereof made a study of the subject of insanity, and had with the exception of two terms, occupied the position of a member of the commission of insanity in the county ever since its organization, and was an incumbent of the position at the time of his death.

Mr. Ainsworth was married December 8, 1859, to Margaret McCool who was born in Louisburg, Pennsylvania, November 20, 1833, and is a daughter of Joseph and Eleanor (Nerius) McCool. She came with her parents to Freeport, Illinois, in 1839 and subsequently came to West Union on a visit to her sister, and it was on this occasion she met Mr. Ainsworth. She is a woman of unusual force of character and energy and modest and retiring withal. Of superior natural ability, extensive reading, liberally educated, herself always a student, she was a fitting helpmeet to the subject of our sketch. Six children, five sons and one daughter, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Ainsworth, five of whom still survive, all settled in life.

Mr. Ainsworth was a member of the Masonic orders, and a charter member of the West Union Lodge No. 69, and Langridge Commandery No. 47, Knights Templar. Prominent in social circles, always welcome at the social gatherings of neighbors and friends, always active in all questions incident to the development of a new country, he was a prominent character in the life of the county.

It is announced that the Texas oil well in which Senator Mason of Illinois is interested is a gusher. This would seem to be entirely in accordance with the fitness of things.

**DISINFECTING,
UNDERTAKING,
EMBALMING.**

All calls promptly attended day and night. Prices within reason. Competent service.

PHILIPS & LOOMIS

WEST UNION.

DON'T BE FOOLED!

Take the genuine, original **ROCKY MOUNTAIN TEA**

Made only by Madison Medicine Co., Madison, Wis. It keeps you well. Our trade mark cut on each package. Price, 35 cents. Never sold in bulk. Accept no substitutes. Ask your druggist.

INCORPORATED 1888

GET IT AT WHITE'S

CONSTIPATION

the frequent cause of Appendicitis and many other serious ailments should never be neglected. The objection to the usual cathartic remedies is their coactive reaction which increases constipation instead of curing it. PARKER'S GINGER TONIC is the proper remedy. It acts on the Liver, and when used as directed, permanently removes the constipation. 50 cts. & \$1.00 at all Druggists.

HON. L. L. AINSWORTH

Lucian Lester Ainsworth, the eldest child of Parmenas and Keziah Webber Ainsworth, was born in New Woodstock, Madison county, New York, June 21, 1831. His ancestors were of English descent, having settled in America in the early colonial days. His grandfather moved to New York, where the father of Mr. Ainsworth was born, and where he continued to reside until his death, March 3, 1901. Mr. Ainsworth's great-grand father served in the Revolutionary war and died as a prisoner on an English ship, a martyr to the colonial cause.

Young Ainsworth received his early education in the public schools of his native state and subsequently attended Oneida. Conference Seminary at Cazenovia, -New York. At intervals during his course at the seminary he taught school and was said to be a very popular teacher and educator. After finishing his course at the seminary he commenced the study of the law in the office of Miner & Sloan, then the leading attorneys at De Ruyter, New York, and was afterwards admitted to the bar in Madison county in 1854. Shortly after his admission to the bar he removed to Belvidere, Illinois, where for one year he practiced law with J. R. Beckwith, under the firm name of Beckwith & Ainsworth.

Thinking the newer West offered greater advantages to young men than those afforded in Illinois, he came to Fayette county, Iowa, in August, 1855, locating at West Union, and shortly afterwards commenced the practice of law. The country was then new and sparsely settled, the law unsettled and practice crude. Lawyers then traveled the circuit, following the court from place to place—a practice long followed, but now obsolete, as the growth of the counties in population and wealth has produced in each county its local bar, now equal to all usual requirements of the profession. Many of the earlier lawyers of the state became eminent locally through the practice here referred to, and none certainly in a greater degree than the subject of this sketch, who had an extensive acquaintance throughout northeastern Iowa, and the state as well.

Mr. Ainsworth at once acquired a large and profitable business and from his first appearance in Iowa was recognized as a lawyer of unusual strength, a position which he has ever since retained. He was engaged in general practice and his name was connected with many important cases in which legal principles of great importance have been settled. Well grounded in the fundamental principles of jurisprudence, a close student of the law, learned in the technical rules and practice, precise in his application of legal principles, a natural advocate, quick to perceive the point in issue and adapt himself to the situation, he was a lawyer of unusual strength and cleverness as a practitioner, and did by years of practice justify the estimate of his friends that he was one of the most successful advocates his portion of the state had ever produced.

A prudent and careful counselor, conscientious in the discharge of his duties as an attorney, advising against litigation when it could be avoided, Mr. Ainsworth possessed in a peculiar degree the confidence of the people among whom he lived and practiced, Possessed of unusual talent as a jury lawyer, a thorough tactician, full of resources, with an unusual knowledge of apt Scriptural quotations, and appropriate illustrations culled from his extensive experience and reading, with an active vein of wit and humor, he proved himself always a formidable opponent.

Mr. Ainsworth early evinced an interest in politics and in the fall of 1856 was a candidate for county attorney, but the county was overwhelmingly Republican, he a stranger, and was defeated as a matter of course. His defeat was expected from the start, but his candidacy gave him an opportunity to become acquainted with the people of his county and educated him in campaign work, which at a later date did him good service.

In the fall of 1859 he was nominated for state senator in the district then comprising Fayette and Bremer counties, and was elected over Hon. Aaron Brown, who had then served one term in the Senate and who was afterwards prominent as colonel of the Third Iowa Infantry in the war of the Rebellion, and subsequently as a member of the House of Representatives in the Iowa Legislature, and as register of the land office.

Mr. Ainsworth served during two regular sessions and also during two special sessions of that body. During this early legislative experience he served as a member of the committee on judiciary and railways, and was a very efficient member of each, but particularly the former, which then had charge of the revision of the laws of Iowa and the fruits of which labor was the revision of 1860.

In the meantime the strife of civil war spread over the land and Hon. Samuel J. Kirkwood, the war governor, gave him—Mr. Ainsworth—commission as captain in the Third Iowa Infantry, which was then forming in Iowa. But as a special session of the Legislature had then been called he felt that he could be of greater use to his constituents by serving out his term in the Senate than by entering the army, so declined the appointment, but gave the commission to his former law partner, Hon. C. A. Newcomb, late of St. Louis, now deceased, who accepted the position and went to the war as captain of Company F. Afterwards, in the fall of 1862, Mr. Ainsworth recruited a company for the Sixth Iowa Cavalry, then forming, and on January

31, 1863, he was commissioned as captain of Company C, Sixth Iowa Cavalry, under command of the late Col. D. S. Wilson. The regiment was ordered to the west to engage in the campaign against the Indians, and was for some months stationed at Ft. Randall, Dakota. On August 21, 1863, the command left the Big Cheyenne and on September 3d encountered the enemy at White Stone Hill, at or near the present site of Frederick, South Dakota. A sharp engagement followed. Captain Ainsworth was in command of Company C, and this company, with three others, were detailed as a scouting party. The troops, some two hundred and sixty in number, advanced and discovered a large body of Indians at White Stone Hill. The Indians were engaged in parley until the main body of troops were notified and had an opportunity to advance. Upon the arrival of the balance of the command the Indians fired upon the troops and then retreated. The fire of the enemy was returned with effect. Under the cover of night the Indians retreated and the prairie was strewn with provisions, packs, tents and ponies, and the Indians speedily placed themselves beyond the reach of the soldiers.

The Sixth Iowa Cavalry in this encounter was detailed to surround the Indians and drive them in and the regiment received a flattering report of its action in the campaign. The regiment took part in several other engagements, among others that of Tah Ka Kohuta, on July 28, 1864, and was finally mustered out of the service at Sioux City, Iowa, October 17, 1865. Service on the frontier was largely confined to garrison duty, and only occasionally were the troops permitted to engage in conflict. The soldiers were just as brave and patriotic as those engaged in Southern service, but opportunity was lacking to most of them to distinguish themselves on the field of battle; but their service, while lacking these opportunities, was just as essential to the welfare of the nation, and was full of hardships and privation and fraught with dangers as great as other branches of the service. After leaving the army, Mr. Ainsworth returned to West Union and re-engaged in the practice of law with Capt. C. H. Millar, which engagement continued until July, 1873.

In the fall of 1871 Mr. Ainsworth was elected to the fourteenth General Assembly as a member of the House of Representatives, and served during the sessions of 1872 and 1873, and was, during his term of service, a member of the judiciary committee, rendering valuable service in the formation of the code of 1873.

In 1874 Mr. Ainsworth was elected to the forty-fourth Congress to represent the fourth district of Iowa, and served as a member of the committee on post-offices, post-roads and private land claims. At the succeeding election he declined a renomination, and enjoyed the distinction of being the first Democrat to represent Iowa in the Congress of the United States in a period of twenty years.

Since his retirement from Congress, he devoted his entire time to his profession, and held no other office except that of school director, a position to which he was elected for several successive terms. Mr. Ainsworth took an active interest in all matters relating to education, and for a number of years was a member of the school board of West Union, and gave this position the same thoughtful care that he did the greater offices held by him, and his work received the commendation of his neighbors by repeated elections to the position.

In addition to his work in behalf of the public schools he also took an interest in higher education, and served for several terms as one of the trustees of the Upper Iowa University at Fayette, Iowa.

Mr. Ainsworth was considerable of a student, kept abreast of the times in general reading, and had one of the largest and best selected private libraries in the county. In addition to his legal studies he, as a branch thereof, made a special study of the subject of insanity, and, with the exception of two terms, occupied the position of a member of the commission of insanity in the county from the time of its organization to the time of his death.

Mr. Ainsworth was married on December 8, 1859, to Margaret McCool, who was born in Louisburg, Pennsylvania, November 20, 1833, and is a daughter of Joseph and Eleanor (Nerius) McCool. She came with her parents to Freeport, Illinois, in 1839, and subsequently came to West Union on a visit to her sister, and it was on this occasion she met Mr. Ainsworth. She is a woman of unusual force of character and energy and modest and retiring withal. Of superior natural ability, extensive reading, liberally educated, herself always a student, she was a fitting helpmeet to the subject of this sketch. Six children, five sons and one daughter, were born to Mr. and Mrs. Ainsworth.

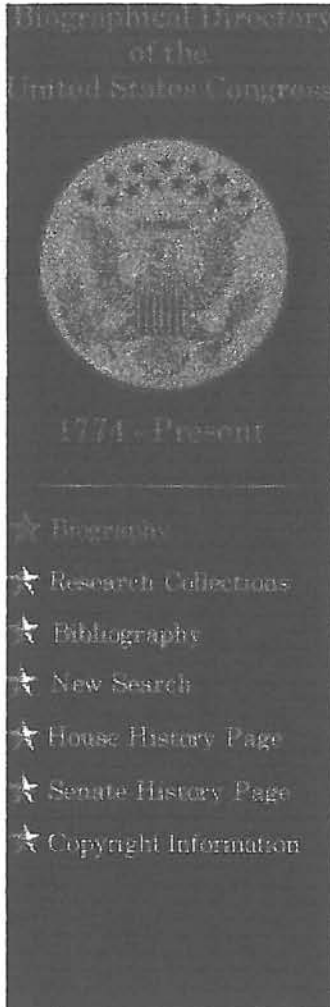
Mr. Ainsworth was a member of the Masonic order, and a charter member of the West Union Lodge No. 69, and Langridge Commandery No. 47, Knights Templar. Prominent in social circles, always welcome at the social gatherings of his neighbors and friends, always active in all questions incident to the development of a new country, he was a prominent character in the life of the county. He died on April 19, 1902, leaving his widow; James W. Ainsworth, now of Princeton, West Virginia; Lester Ainsworth, now of Mason City, Iowa; Mrs. F. W. White, late a resident of Seattle, Washington; W. J. Ainsworth, who is engaged in the practice of law in this city; and Fred L. Ainsworth, who died at Newport, Washington, December 12, 1906.

—By JUDGE A. N. Hobson

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~iafayett/ainswhon.htm>

2/1/2008

Ainsworth, Lucien Lester



AINSWORTH, Lucien Lester, 1831-1902

AINSWORTH, Lucien Lester, a Representative from Iowa; born in New Woodstock, Madison County, N.Y., June 21, 1831; attended the public schools, and the Oneida Conference Seminary, Cazenovia, N.Y.; studied law; was admitted to the bar in Madison County, N.Y., in 1854; moved to Belvidere, Ill., and commenced practice the same year; moved to Iowa in 1855 and continued the practice of law in West Union; member of the State senate 1860-1862; during the Civil War entered the Union Army in 1862 as captain of Company C, Sixth Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Cavalry, and served three years against the Indians in the Northwest; after leaving the Army returned to West Union and resumed the practice of law; member of the State house of representatives 1871-1873; elected as a Democrat to the Forty-fourth Congress (March 4, 1875-March 3, 1877); declined to accept a renomination in 1876; resumed the practice of law in West Union, Fayette County, Iowa, and died there April 19, 1902; interment in West Union Cemetery.

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HISTORY OF IOWA

FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES
TO THE BEGINNING OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

FOUR VOLUMES ²²/₃₅

BY BENJAMIN F. GUE

*Illustrated with Photographic Views of the Natural Scenery of
the State, Public Buildings, Pioneer Life, Etc.*

WITH PORTRAITS AND BIOGRAPHIES OF NOTABLE MEN AND WOMEN OF IOWA

VOLUME IV
IOWA BIOGRAPHY



SEAL OF THE STATE OF IOWA

THE CENTURY HISTORY COMPANY
41 LAFAYETTE PLACE
NEW YORK CITY

sister of Mrs. Adams became the wife of Governor John J. Bagley of Michigan. Her early education was received from her mother, but after the family removed to Cleveland, Ohio, Mary enjoyed the privilege of entering the classes of Emerson E. White, who was one of the great educators of the State. When eighteen she graduated from the Emma Willard Seminary at Troy, New York, and at nineteen was married to Austin Adams, a talented young lawyer. They came to Iowa, making their home in Dubuque. Both were students of science, history, philosophy and poetry. Mrs. Adams was one of the earliest and most enthusiastic advocates of the advancement of women, and was a leader in the progressive movements of the times. She was one of the original members of the Association for the Advancement of Women, of the Social Science Association, the Anthropological Society, National Science Association, Woman Suffrage Association, American Historical Association, the Federation of Women's Clubs and many other progressive and scientific organizations. She was an accomplished public speaker and addressed various associations and meetings throughout the country on subjects in which she was deeply interested. She was chairman of the historical committee of the Columbian Exposition at Chicago in 1893. Mrs. Adams died at Dubuque, August 5, 1901.

LUCIAN L. AINSWORTH was born in Madison County, New York, on the 21st of June, 1831. He acquired a liberal education, studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1854. Mr. Ainsworth came to Iowa in August, 1855, locating at West Union in Fayette County where he opened a law office. He soon attained high rank in the profession and in 1859 was nominated by the Democrats for State Senator in the district composed of the counties of Fayette and Bremer. He made a vigorous canvass, overcame the Republican majority and was elected, serving four years with marked ability. In 1862 Mr. Ainsworth raised a company for the Sixth Cavalry, of which he was appointed captain. In 1871 Captain Ainsworth was again elected to the Legislature, serving two years in the House. In 1874 he was nominated by the Democrats of the Third District for Congress and by his personal popularity overcame the Republican majority of nearly 2,000 and was the first Democrat elected to Congress from Iowa in twenty years. He died in April, 1902.

CHARLES ALDRICH was born at Ellington, Chautauqua County, New York, October 2, 1828. He attended the public schools and for one year was a student at Jamestown Academy. In 1846 he entered a printing office, learned the trade, and in 1850 established a paper at Randolph. In 1857 he removed to Iowa and located at the then frontier town of Webster City, Hamilton County, where he established the *Hamilton Freeman* in May of that year. In 1860 he was chosen Chief Clerk of the

State of Iowa

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

Des Moines, Nov. 8th, 1871.

Hon. _____

Iowa.

DEAR SIR:

It has been the custom of each House, at the commencement of every session of the General Assembly, to cause to be prepared and published, a table, showing certain statistics in connection with the names of the members thereof. This is usually done in much haste, hence is frequently incorrect; especially in the orthography of names. In order to prevent errors of this kind, and to have the table in print at the commencement of the session, I transmit you this circular, with a request that you will fill up the blanks found below, and return to this office as soon as practical. You will please give the first name in full, and write plainly.

Name..... *L. S. Ainsworth*
P. O. Address..... *West Union Fayette Co*
County..... *Fayette*
Occupation..... *Lawyer*
Nativity..... *New York*
Married or Single..... *Married*
Religion..... *Mixed Baptist*
If in the Service; regiment and rank..... *Capt. 6 Iowa Cav. 7th*
Years in Iowa..... *Sixteen*
Age..... *Forty*
Weight..... *One Hundred & Thirty Five*

I send herewith a copy of the rules of last Session of the General Assembly, in which you will see the table above referred to.

Yours truly,

ED WRIGHT,

SECRETARY OF STATE.