

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Bass, George L. Senator _____

Represented Clayton County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 23 June 1824 Brooklyn, New York

2. Marriage (s) date place

Anna Moore 13 June 1848 Benton, Wisconsin

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Director of McGregor, Iowa branch of the State Bank of Iowa

B. Civic responsibilities Mason

C. Profession Merchant

4. Church membership _____

5. Sessions served 9th General Assembly 1862

6. Public Offices

A. Local Mayor of McGregor 1859-1860; board of trustees

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death 21 Nov 1902 McGregor, Iowa; buried Oakland Cemetery, McGregor, Iowa

8. Children George L.; William L.; Elizabeth Ann;
Thomas

9. Names of parents Lyman and Sarah (Holmes) Bass

10. Education _____

11. Degrees _____

12. Other applicable information _____

Democrat

- At the early age of 10 he began learning the painter's trade.
 - At age 12 he went to Wayne County, New York and divided time between working on a farm, tending a saw mill working a carding machine and in a clock factory until age 18.
 - He went to Chicago in 1842, on to Galena, Illinois, then to Plattville where he had relatives and worked in the mercantile business, made rails, built fences, mined, bought and sold lead ore and ran a furnace.
 - After marriage they moved to Mc Gregor, Iowa where he began life as a merchant in partnership with Andrew T. Jones.
- On 15 Apr 1852 he left for California to be water agent in the mines, managed a trading post, brought gold dust but he returned to Mc Gregor in July 1854.
- He started his mercantile store and business was good until fall of 1856 when he sold out to Merrill and Garrison.
 - In 1859 he formed a partnership with Robert Grant until 1861, then dissolved the firm and became partner with J. J. Elmendorf.
 - He was an advocate of the Mississippi River improvement.

hus, etc.

Applicability

Source	Non Applicable	Applicable	Information obtained
- Obituary -			The North Iowa Times, McGregor, Iowa, Thurs. Nov. 27, 1902, p.1, col. 6-7
- Clayton County Grave Records -			WPA, p.10
- Clayton County, Iowa Surname Index -			Oct 1985
- The Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Iowa by A.T. Andreas			1876, p.372

TIMES

The Times One Year
And County Map
\$2.50.

, NOV. 27, 1902.

NO



HON. GEO. L. BASS, DECEASED.

MCGREGOR FORTY-FIVE YEARS AGO.

Collected from the Files of the
North Iowa Times of Dec.
22, 1857.

The McGregor Leather Co. will soon offer for sale or exchange one of the largest, handsomest and best lots of leather (tanned by the new process) ever exhibited in Iowa. Buyers and manufacturers are respectfully requested to examine it. Town or county rights for sale on reasonable terms and process warranted. Call at the tannery.

A Long Street.—Within a week past we have seen merchants and teamsters in McGregor from Waucoma, Fayette Co., St. Charles City, Floyd Co.; Bradford, Chickasaw Co.; Mitchell, Mitchell Co.; Osage, Mitchell Co.; Albert Lea, Blue Earth and Rochester, Minn., and from a point in Dakota, the name of which is forgotten. This immense range of trade dependent in a great degree upon the town and river crossing of McGregor seems to imply that our Main Street is a little over 200 miles long.

McGregor R. R. Post Notes.—About \$4,000 of these will be issued. They are of large size, not very well lithographed, and read as follows:

"The McGregor, St. Peter's & Missouri River R. R. Co., promise to pay to.....or bearer, on the 1st of June, 1858,.....Dollars with interest at the rate of ten per cent per annum.

.....for all dues to the company."



er,

33333

OBITUARY.

HON. GEO. L. BASS died at McGregor, Iowa, Friday evening Nov. 21, aged 78 years and 5 months.

GEO. L. Bass was born in Brooklyn, New York, on the 23rd day of June, 1824. At the early age of ten years he commenced learning the painter's trade. After working two years at that, he went to Wayne county, New York, and there devoted his time alternately to working on a farm, tending saw mill, carding machine and cloth factory until he was eighteen years of age.

At this point in life with the sagacity that characterized the business of his maturer years, he discerned the opportunities held in the west for the young men of energy, and accordingly took his course westward, arriving in the young city of Chicago in June, of 1842. After paying his stage fare for Galena, \$3.50, to the agent of the famous Frink & Walker line of stages, he had but "five shillings" left, and with that in his pocket, started for the famous lead mines, over the rocking route of the old stage-coach on the prairie. From Galena to Plattville, where he had some relatives, he went on foot, a distance of twenty-five miles. Here for six years he worked at various occupations; he built fence, made rails, carried on merchantile business, mined, bought and carted lead ore and ran a furnace.

Here also he met the young lady of his choice, Miss Ann Moore, and to whom he was married on the 13th of June, 1848. On the way home from the wedding, with his wife, one of the iron connecting the hills with the axletree of his buggy broke, and he stopped at a smithy by the roadside and worked it himself. He left the smithy at Centerville, Wis., with his wife, his only child being then a babe in his mother's arms, in the Spring of 1849, and arriving at the Mississippi River, crossed in a skiff to McGregor, among the first settlers.

Here he began life as a merchant, with a stock of general merchandise, in partnership with Andrew T. Jones a former acquaintance at the mines, and the first firm, Jones & Bass, was thus formed at McGregor the growing river landing. Just previous to this however in the same year, Mr. H. D. Evans had opened a store alone. After a little over a year's time in business, on the 3rd of August, 1851, the company's entire stock of goods and store were burned, but their business, however, suffered only a few weeks' suspension. A new store was at once

one of the second Board of Trustees of McGregor, and was elected Mayor of the city in 1859 and 1860, resigning before the expiration of the latter term. He was interested in the first brick yard, the first saw mill, and the first church. He was a member of the company, composed of the most influential citizens, forming the first McGregor High School Association; was a director of the McGregor branch of the State Bank of Iowa, established Jan. 2nd, 1860. He was one of the six men who on Feb. 19, 1857, met in a room previously arranged as a Masonic Hall, and under the dispensation of the Most Worthy Grand Master of Iowa, organized Bezer Lodge, No. 135, A. F. and A. M. He was appointed first Worshipful Master. He was also one of the first officers elected under the charter of the Clayton Chapter, No. 27, in 1861. Indeed we may well say that he was deeply and influentially interested in almost every new enterprise that was undertaken here in those early pioneer days. If the streets wanted grading, he could hold a plow to do it as well as any man on the corporation and was willing to do it.

A little later on he was an ardent advocate of the Mississippi River improvements when that first came into public attention, and he attended as a delegate the convention in that interest at St. Louis in 1868. During these years of active business, Mr. Bass had accumulated a competence, which served as the foundation for his partnership with the following men in succession, T. O. Jones, D. D. Fraser and Wm. Monierief. He gave little attention to the interior work of the different firms' dealings, but centered all of his energies upon the business of the outside business. He was a man of the strictest honesty and his view of other men was from his own high sense and integrity. At the terminus of his active business life, the bulk of his fortune, accumulated by his own exertions during the years of labor, was gone.

Without the advantage of an education, and thrown early in life upon his own resources, the successes he accomplished have been by tireless labor, indefatigable energy and the versatility to adopt himself to everything which the exigencies of self support in a new country demanded.

In politics Mr. Bass was a Democrat. He has always been a staunch friend of THE TIMES, and as old age increased its hold upon him he took with more seeming pleasure to his frequent visits to our office, and to

annum.
Receivable for all du
pany. (S)

JOHN TH
GEO. GARDNER, Sec
As we remarked last
has been decided upon
convenience of the
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in the length of its M
county residents who
the river since spring
surprise now when, t
selves "in town" near
a half from the river
is the Coulee filling in
and business places,
leys intersecting the

sides of the hills, an
three to four miles we
ing dotted with tasty
chanic shops, houses c
and small shops, or
With titles to lots un
country west of us jus
supply itself with fo
raising, we have, si
multiplied our busine
than ten and our p
larger figure than egi

We want a good
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our place a desiral
among these are chi
hall, a market house,
a city organization, a
up the hooting and y
a city library, a brass
clock, a telegraph offi
other things that w
shortly.

Personnel.—Our ye
friends, H. C. Hayt ar
have gone east to spe
der of the winter with
are worthy young me
are any marriages ab
Pokeepsle or Kinderh
them to take our bas
charge at once, and le
altar.

The Lansing Mirror
ing Allamakee county
H. D. Jones, Clowp,
signed the office of P

oad in Sni MaGill, a mail
dived for inspection.

1th J. G. Hempel, County
e and is hereby directed
ized to make the required
able valuation of Highland
o raise \$250.00 for school
poses in compliance with
07.

d; That J. G. Hempel, Coun-
be and is hereby autho-
aw warrant for Fifty Dollars
Miss Clara Lunbeck, Dis-
of Iowa Children's Home
r care and keeping of boy,
es.

l; That the sum of twenty-
s be received in full satis-
a certain judgment against
Christ Bohmer, Judgment
"Page 111, and the Clerk
strict Court is hereby au-
nd directed to acknowledge
n thereof in the records up-
ment of said sum of \$25.

d; That J. G. Hempel, Coun-
r, be and is hereby autho-
sue warrant in favor of
e lot Court for \$30.54
tish a judgment rendered
be Court the 19th day of
r, 1902, in favor of E. Endres.
se No. 835, continued for
pent the balance of the day
sideration of the Honorable
ty Auditor.

7.
That J. G. Hempel, Coun-
be and is hereby autho-
awarrant for Fifty Dollars
Miss Clara Lunbeck, Dis-
of a Children's Home
r cases and keeping of boy,
-8.

That the sum of twenty-
be received in full satis-
certain judgment against
Christ Bohmer, Judgment
Page 111, and the Clerk
Court is hereby au-
directed to acknowledge
thereof in the records up-
of said sum of \$25.

That J. G. Hempel, Coun-
be and is hereby autho-
que warrant in favor of
e District Court for \$30.54
of a judgment rendered
e Court the 19th day of
1902, in favor of E. Endres.
se No. 835, continued for

pent the balance of the day
ideration of claims on file
y Auditor.

adjourned until Thursday,
20th, 1902.

or ad pursuant to ad-

owing to the erroneous
be enumeration made by
Schulte, Sec'y of Pioneer
nt School District to the
perintendent of Schools who
ld report to County Auditor,
an erroneous apportionment
in April, 1902, by said
of school monies; Therefore
ed; That the Treasurer of
er Independent School Dis-
n to County treasury Forty-
rs, which said amount was
of money due said district
apportionment.

Matthew Fitzpatrick, Jus-
boardman township, examined
ved.

tion for Loan out of School
nined and notations made
r Auditor to complete loan
0.

adjourned until Friday, No-
1, 1902.

con- red pursuant to ad-

That Order of Board of
rs Nos. 2410 and 4471 be and
y rescinded.

Continued on Page Eight.)

Héré also he met the young lady of
his choice, Miss Ann Moore, and to
whom he was married on the 13th of
June, 1848. On the way home from
the wedding, with his wife, one of the
irons connecting the thills with the
axletree of his buggy broke, and he
stopped at a smithy by the roadside
and worked it himself. He left the
smithy at 10 o'clock, with his wife,
he did not think then a horse to
his mother's grief, in the Spring of
1850, and arriving at the Mississippi
River, crossed in a skiff to McGregor,
among the first settlers.

Here he began life as a merchant,
with a stock of general merchandise,
in partnership with Andrew T. Jones
a former acquaintance at the mines,
and the first firm, Jones & Bass, was
thus formed at McGregor the growing
river landing. Just previous to this
however in the same year, Mr. H. D.
Evans had opened a store alone. After
a little over a year's time in business,
on the 3rd of August, 1851, the com-
pany's entire stock of goods and store
were burned, but their business, how-
ever, suffered only 'a few weeks' sus-
pension. A new store was at once
erected, and their friends furnishing
them with all the goods they needed,
they went on more prosperously than
before.

On the 15th of April, 1852, with the
first boat from McGregor, Mr. Bass
left for California. He returned in
July of 1854. During the time he was
absent he was water agent in the
mines, ran drifts, managed a trading
post, bought gold dust, ran water
wheels and handled a pickaxe, which
was all lost time to him so far as
making money was concerned.

In August, after his return from
California, he went to New York and
purchased a stock of goods and started
in business again at McGregor, con-
tinuing until the Fall of 1858, when
he sold out to Merrill & Barron. He
busied himself with other pursuits till
1859, in which year he formed a part-
nership with Robert Grant under the
firm name of Bass & Grant, in the
produce and commission business,
which continued till 1861. The firm
was then dissolved, and Mr. Bass
formed a partnership with Mr. F. F.
Elmendorf, the firm being Bass &
Elmendorf, in the produce, forward-
ing and commission business.

In the Fall of 1861, Mr. Bass was
unanimously elected to represent his
county in the State Legislature as a
Union man, and served during the
regular and special terms. He was

accumulated a competence, which
served as the foundation for his
partnership with the following men
in succession, T. O. Jones, D. D.
Fraser and Wm. Moncrief. He gave
little attention to the interior work of
the different firms' dealings, but
centered all of his energies upon the
business of the outside busi-
ness. He was a man of the strictest
integrity, and his view of other men
was from his own high standard of
integrity. At the terminus of his
active business life, the bulk of his
fortune, accumulated by his own
exertions during the years of labor,
was gone.

Without the advantage of an educa-
tion, and thrown early in life upon
his own resources, the successes he
accomplished have been by tireless
labor, indefatigable energy and the
versatility to adopt himself to every-
thing which the exigencies of self
support in a new country demanded.

In politics Mr. Bass was a Demo-
crat. He has always been a staunch
friend of THE TIMES, and as old age in-
creased its hold upon him he turned
with more seeming pleasure to his
frequent visits to our office, and to say
that the visits of the old gentleman,
whose mental force so outlasted his
physical ability, will be sadly missed
is placing the loss but lightly. THE
TIMES feels the departure of a de-
voted and true friend.

During the half century that has
passed over our little city since Geo.
L. Bass, first set foot upon the steam-
boat landing in 1850, how many
changes have taken place; how many
citizens have seen the light of day,
have grown to manhood or woman-
hood, have performed their allotted
share of earth's toil and have been
laid away. Although the mortal has
been cast aside, the enterprises that it
has fostered and the institutions it
has encouraged are the things that
are present and lasting.

The funeral of the deceased took
place at the home of the brother in
West McGregor, on Sunday, Nov.
23rd at one o'clock p. m., Rev. Dutton
preaching the sermon from the text,
"Now we see through a glass darkly,
but then face to face." The inter-
ment was at Oakland cemetery, the
Masonic lodge in charge.

The work on the new Sanitarium at
Prairie du Chien is at a standstill on
account of the inability to secure
material due to the crowded condition
of the market.

raising, we have, sir
multiplied our business
than ten and our po-
larger figure than eigh

We want a good, p-
ments of a public cha-
our place a desirab-
among these are ch-
hall, a market house,
a city organization, a-
up the heating and ye
a city library, a brass-
clock, a telegraph offi-
other things that w
shortly.

Personal.—Our yo-
friends, H. C. Hayt an
have gone east to spe-
der of the winter with
are worthy young me-
are any marriageabl-
Pokeepsie or Kinderh-
them to take our bas-
charge at once, and le-
altar.

The Lansing Mirror
ing Allamakee count-

Hon. G. W. Camp,
signed the office of P-
ney. We learn that I-
has received the appo-

Hon. Geo. W. Cray
office of Drainage-Com-

Our esteemed friend
naird, Esq., present-
ing countenance to h-
of McGregor acquai-
evening of Dec. 31st,
ade. Notwithstandin-
ment in not witnessh-
band boxes and crim-
time, we were all ple-
Kentuckian by the h-
him to his business l-

Taxes.—The Herald
the tax now due from
erty in Clayton count-
the hundred dollars
how much you are a-
can tell whether it w-
up or run away.

—Naturalization.—
Clerk of the Court for
gives notice in the H-
uary 20th is set apart
purpose of naturaliz-

Candies.—McGregor
candies now. Samp-
perienced workmen.
west of us has long n-
this character and
that the gentlemen
business will supply
wants at reasonable