

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative _____ Senator Spees,

John Bruce - Represented Van Buren County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 16 Oct 1814 Bracken County, Kentucky

2. Marriage (s) date place

Susannah Marie J. Enderby 9 Apr 1846 Birmingham, Van Buren County, Iowa

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business _____

B. Civic responsibilities _____

C. Profession Physician

4. Church membership

Methodist Episcopal

5. Sessions served

3rd and 4th General Assemblies 1850 and 1852

6. Public Offices

A. Local

Secured the incorporation of the town of Birmingham; mayor of Birmingham

B. State _____

C. National _____

7. Death

25 Jan 1899 Birmingham, Iowa; buried Maple Hill Cemetery, Birmingham, Iowa

8. Children

Thomas L. (died 1860); Linnacott R. (died young); Maurice;
Maurice Joseph; Helen Ann; John Christian; Mary M.

9. Names of parents

Christian and Mary (Young) Spees

10. Education He had almost no educational experience, but was determined by his studious nature and determination to obtain private study.

11. Degrees Attended the Ohio Medical College in Cincinnati, Ohio 1843-1844

12. Other applicable information

This, After Republican

- He taught school for several years. Every moment available away from teaching he read medicine and under the direction of his cousin Dr. S. J. Spees and his brother J. M. Spees he continued his studies in 1839 and 1844 at the Ohio Medical College in Cincinnati
- He first visited Iowa in 1843 and made a claim near Attermead upon which he built 2 cabins.
- He then returned to continue his course in medical school in Cincinnati
- While he was away his claim was jumped and when he returned he found nothing could be done so he started back to Ohio, but coming to the small town of Birmingham, Iowa, he believed there were fair opportunities there for him.
- He opened a medical office, but at the end of the year found himself in debt. He could not pay his rent and the landlord drove him off, but he had no money to go anywhere, so he stayed. Patience, energy and ability enabled him to stay 15 years.
- After he made money he purchased land and eventually 1795 acres.

ENTERTAINERS.

FORWARD

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Monday, February 3, 1896.

From Lena M. Hamilton

Asst. Surg. Dec. 17, 1895.

There have been here a little over two weeks and are seeing something new

were calling at a native house today. They are considered in fair circumstances. We knocked on a great wooden door, looking very much like a barn door. The house is a two-story and made of gun-dried brick and brick color. After continuing to knock the door came open and back of it was a young lady dressed in a blue calico wrapper, which looked very new. She wore a blue head-dress and a blue and red woven shawl over that.

The lady in a teacher in one of the schools. She was admitted into an inner court which did not look real clean, and went up a flight of stairs into another court and were ushered into the best room. At each end of the room was a large divan (home made) covered with very pretty calico. There were three straw mats on the floor, which was of cement, and one wooden rug. They had shutters on the places for windows, but no glass nor shades of any kind. There were three windows on one side. That was the contents of the room. The walls were not plastered, and hence the brick made of mud and manure formed the sides of the room. She excused herself, and after a short time came in with a silver tray on which were four large plates. Two were filled with very fine candy, one with nuts of different kinds and another with dates. We ate as much as we thought we should, but we must still take some more. After a while the mother and two sisters came in and they all sat down on the sofa. They brought in a jar of water and the mother asked for a drink, which she took out of the jar

John Sirico Spees, M. D.,
Was born in Franklin Co., Ky., October 10, 1814, and was the only survivor in a family of seven children—six sons and one daughter—of whom he was the eldest. The parents were Christian and Mary (Young) Spees, and the family was of German and English extraction. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a native of Germany, and crossed the Atlantic and located in Pennsylvania, where he met and married a lady of German descent. Their son Christian was born in the Keystone state in 1788 and when a lad of 9 summers accompanied his parents on their emigration to Kentucky, which State was then in such wild and unsettled condition that they had to live in forts to protect themselves against the Indians. On reaching man's estate Christian Spees married Miss Young, who was born about 1795, in Pennsylvania. Her ancestors were of English birth and were among the early settlers of Virginia during colonial days. In the State where their marriage occurred Mr. and Mrs. Spees continued to make their home until their lives on earth were ended and they were called to the rest prepared for the righteous.

Mr. Spees made farming the means of maintenance for his family, but as a labor of love performed much service as a local minister in the Methodist church. He was ably seconded in his noble efforts by his wife, and the influence which they exerted for good was certainly not without its result. They died in 1852, within a day of each other, with cholera.

The early history of Dr. Spees is a record of struggles to overcome the disadvantages which surrounded him in his youth. He had almost no educational opportunities, yet he was of a studious nature and determined will and by private study he became well informed, fitting himself for the profession of teaching, which he followed several years. Every moment he could find from his school duties he devoted to reading medicine, and under the direction of his cousin Dr. S. J. Spees and his brother T. M. Spees, of Hillsboro, Ohio, he continued his studies. In 1830 and 1844 he attended a course of lectures in the Ohio medical college, of Cincinnati.

Senator Daboe proposes a national soldiers' home at Abraham Lincoln's birthplace in Kentucky. It is reported that Governor Shaw has purchased a farm in Woodbury county, paying \$52,000 for 1,800 acres. Not one State Legislature has yet voted against the treaty of expansion. The current with the people is all one way. Some startling disclosures are being made by the investigations into the use of money in the Montana senatorial fight. Gen. Whittier, who returned recently from Manila, says the trouble in the Philippines is much exaggerated and easy of settlement.

CANTONIA.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature of *Charles H. Fletcher*

Spain is worrying along without a war investigation. But it is missing lots of experiences and more or less fun. The new Mayor of Havana, though a native of the island, is a naturalized American. He is an advanced specimen of the Cuban of the future. Germany and France are making of their improved artillery when it comes to marksmanship. Uncle Sam feels well satisfied with the situation. When the President is in doubt, says the Boston Globe, he appoints a commission. And one of the ablest and most useful kind, it may be added. The Fairfield Leger opposes the two day republican state convention. It says it has been tried, heretofore, with ill success.

To Cure a Cold While You Sleep
"No Cure, No Pay. Price 25c.—
J. S. Ragsdale, sole agent.

There are "Opticians" and your eyes to be tampered with

CONSULT FREE.....

Prof. L. Marks,

Will be at his Office regularly as heretofore

GLEANINGS.

Senator Daboe proposes a national soldiers' home at Abraham Lincoln's birthplace in Kentucky.

It is reported that Governor Shaw has purchased a farm in Woodbury county, paying \$52,000 for 1,800 acres.

Not one State Legislature has yet voted against the treaty of expansion. The current with the people is all one way.

Some startling disclosures are being made by the investigations into the use of money in the Montana senatorial fight.

Gen. Whittier, who returned recently from Manila, says the trouble in the Philippines is much exaggerated and easy of settlement.

CANTONIA.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature of *Charles H. Fletcher*

Spain is worrying along without a war investigation. But it is missing lots of experiences and more or less fun.

The new Mayor of Havana, though a native of the island, is a naturalized American. He is an advanced specimen of the Cuban of the future.

Germany and France are making of their improved artillery when it comes to marksmanship. Uncle Sam feels well satisfied with the situation.

When the President is in doubt, says the Boston Globe, he appoints a commission. And one of the ablest and most useful kind, it may be added.

The Fairfield Leger opposes the two day republican state convention. It says it has been tried, heretofore, with ill success.

To Cure a Cold While You Sleep
"No Cure, No Pay. Price 25c.—
J. S. Ragsdale, sole agent.

A countably perfect personness through

All were glorious any of be ass given age it

One of Two of Three Over Stall Thoro

One of Two of Three Over Jacks

Yearly Two of Cows Thoro Yearly

Two of Three Bulls Thoro Feeds

Swine Thoro Sheep Thoro

Vehicle Corn, Oats, Wheat Rye

Deare

kinds and another with dates, ~~and~~ as much as we thought we should, but we must still take some more. After-a-while the mother and two sisters came in and they all sat down on the mats. They brought in a jar of water and the mother asked for a ~~cup~~, which she took out of the jar or "woolya" with much noise, which is very polite in this country, for it signifies that it is very good. The rest of us did not care for any water, even if we were thirsty after eating candy and nuts.

A week ago we called at a wealthy family's house. Their houses are immense affairs. The rooms are very large, with extremely high ceilings. Large chandeliers hung from the ceilings, large mirrors, beautiful upholstered furniture, Brussels carpets, rich tapestry curtains at the windows. A servant came to the door and admitted us. In a short time appeared a very young looking woman with black hair and eyes and a very clear complexion. She had on a woolen tea-gown, trimmed in velvet, had five or six gold bracelets on one arm and a beautiful bangles bracelet on the other. She had a number of rings on her fingers, ear-rings, and a very pretty head-dress to match her dress. She could not speak or understand English and I was just as ignorant of her language, so the other two ladies talked and I sat there perfectly helpless. In a short time the mother-in-law of this woman came in. She wore a black shawl on her head. They had a parrot which could speak Arabic very fluently, and, like all parrots, could say naughty words, so they told me. They brought the young woman's baby in. It was very clean and nice and had very black hair and eyes. The servant brought in a tray with very small coffee cups, filled with coffee. We sipped at that and then said salaams. Then we went to another apartment. People of the same family live together. Their rooms are very richly furnished. They also had a piano, as there is a daughter in the house. She could speak some English, so I felt a little more at home.

There are two rich families here—worth their millions. But with all that they are very silly about some things, even if they are more civilized than the majority of the natives. One man's wife died and they put all her dresses and clothing, silk and otherwise, and her shoes into the coffin with her. On the top of the coffin they placed her hats in a row, and said the coffin was covered with them. This looked ridiculous to us. Then they mourn, and beat themselves, and tear their hair, cover their clothes with mud, put indigo on their hands and beat their faces. They think all this is necessary.

Egypt has its pleasantries and pleasures, and is contented and happy. We are trying to learn some Arabic and it keeps us busy. Doctor is very busy, for he goes

several years. Every moment he could find from his school duties he devoted to reading medicine, and under the direction of his cousin Dr. S. J. Spees and his brother T. M. Spees, of Hillsboro, Ohio, he continued his studies. In 1839 and 1841 he attended a course of lectures in the Ohio medical college, of Cincinnati.

His first visit to the territory of Iowa occurred in 1843, when, with the desire to better his financial condition, he made a claim near Ottumwa, upon which he built two cabins. He then returned and took the course of lectures before mentioned. During his absence his claim was jumped and on his return finding that he could do nothing to regain possession of his property, he started once more for Ohio, but fate had other things in store for him and the west was yet to be his home. He believed that the village of Birmingham offered fair opportunities for one of his profession and in this place opened an office. But at the end of the first year he found himself \$50 in debt for his board, and because he could not pay his landlord drove him off. However, he had not the money with which to go elsewhere and it was necessary for him to remain where he was. Perseverance, energy and ability at length won him a patronage, and for fifteen years he practiced very successfully in his community. Throughout the country round about calls were made for Dr. Spees, and often he would ride as much as fifteen or twenty miles. He not only manifested an interest in his profession as the means whereby he might gain a livelihood, but his sympathy for his patients, and genial and pleasant words proved an excellent tonic in the sick room and made him many warm friends. As his financial resources increased he made judicious investments in land and was the owner of 1795 acres, much of which yielded him a golden tribute. After retiring from active practice he continued to prescribe for a few old friends who were not willing to change the well known family physician for a stranger.

Near Birmingham, the 9th of April, 1846, Dr. Spees and Miss Susanna Enderby, his now bereaved widow, were united in marriage. The lady was born in Gilden Morden Cambridge-shire, England, Dec. 17, 1824, and when 17 years of age accompanied her father to this country, locating in Hillsboro, Henry county. He died in Lee county at the age of 75 years.

The Doctor and his wife began their domestic life in a portion of the house in which he died. Seven children came to bless this union.

Dr. Spees was known throughout the greater part of Iowa, and was one of the honored and prominent pioneers. In many ways he has been identified with the upbuilding and advancement of the town, county and state. He helped to secure the incorporation of Birmingham and served as mayor of the city. He came to this place when four families constituted its population. He was the first to build away from the square and thus gave a new direction to the town.

In past years Dr. Spees gave employment to a great many men and women, and he has seen many different men who were his tenants made sufficient money while in possession of his property to enable them

The Fairfield Leger opposes the two day republican state convention. It says it has been tried, heretofore, with ill success.

To Cure a Cold While You Sleep
Take "Weeks' Break-Up A-Cold Tablets." No Cure, No Pay. Price 25c.—J. S. Ragsdale, sole agent.

Sioux City has always regarded itself as pretty lucky, but the Tribune says the zebra collars have struck it before it saw over the grippe.

It is the observation of the Omaha World-Herald that the man who dived into the Chicago river on a wager is now the center of interest.

The Chicago Inter Ocean charges the anti-expansionists with not practicing what they preach, as they spread a single idea over an acre of paper.

To Cure a Cold While You Sleep
Take "Weeks' Brake-Up-A-Cold Tablets." No Cure, No Pay. Price 25c.—J. S. Ragsdale, sole agent.

Senator Butler says he will drop his scheme of having ex-confederate veterans pensioned. He ought never to have taken it up.

But for the war the Filipinos would have had no opportunity to secure the protection of this country. They ought to rejoice over their exceptional good luck.

By a unanimous vote the Maine House has approved the ratification of the treaty. Senator Hale is making a wide breach between himself and his constituents.

The twenty-six Senators who are delaying a vote on the treaty represent nothing but the spiteful spirit of obstructives who know that they are beaten.

CASTORIA.
Bears the Signature of *Charles H. Fletcher*
The Kind You Have Always Bought

Arginaldo is not keeping the cable hot any more. In fact, Uncle Sam has exercised his sovereignty at Manila by holding up the messages intended to make trouble.

Holland, with a population of 3,000,000 peaceably and prosperously governs 30,000,000 colonists. A colonial system may not be advisable, but it is certainly not ruinous.

Secretary of the Navy Long is at work organizing a line of naval transports to the Philippines. The secretary feels that he may safely assume that the old American spirit will win.

Philadelphia is more concerned than ever about its water supply since discovering that its mortality from typhoid fever is three times as heavy comparatively as that at New York.

For La Grippe.
Thomas Whitefield & Co., 246 Wash-ash-av., corner Jackson-st., one of Chicago's oldest and most prominent druggists, recommend Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for la grippe, as it not only gives a prompt and complete relief, but also counteracts any tendency to pneumonia.
For sale by Ragsdale.

A Marquette, Wis., girl spent nearly

Wheat
Rye

Bears the Signature of

The Pa

Not on
Northern
the next
March
period
killing
North
It is an
can poll
and Mo
Legisla
as Dem
the nex
cans, t
Populis
majorit
twenty-
from th
no long
beans to
years th
eighteen
may be
branch
a mat
cance.
Senate
of the
beans w
thirds.
curred
spread
Import
There
a Demo
claims
of the
cratic
The st
proves
among
York, S
Delawa
White
and Pa
his com
gains
mississ
the De
some th
it is a
nothing
Here is
Democr
next Ser
orado,
was, one
Nevada,
from Ut
To this
shades
duced
Senate
Democr
So much
perimen
Look
is no one
other del
is b
iod. Eve
that die
years, 11

brusses and clothing, silk and otherwise, and her shoes into the coffin with her. On the top of the coffin they placed her hats in a row, and said the coffin was covered with them. This looked ridiculous to us. Then they mourn, and beat themselves, and tear their hair, cover their clothes with mud, put indigo on their hands and beat their faces. They think all this is necessary.

Egypt has its pleasantries and unpleasant things, but we are very well contented and happy. We are trying to learn some Arabic and it keeps us busy. Doctor is very busy, for he goes to the hospital and clinic every day, and they have had a number of cases of very difficult surgery. What work there is to do. People come into the hospital for treatment who seem to know nothing about cleanliness. They put them into the bath the first thing, and then insist on them keeping clean, but you have no idea what the physicians and nurses have to contend with. The hospital has a good reputation among the natives, but they have to be very careful. They want to get a new building for the one they occupy is a rented one and not very well adapted to the work. Think the Birmingham congregation, with the assistance of some of your good friends, would be blessed by helping us some.

LENA.

Dangers of the Grip.

The greatest danger from La Grippe is of its resulting in pneumonia. If reasonable care is used, however, and Chamberlain's Cough Remedy taken, all danger will be avoided. Among the tens of thousands who have used this remedy for La Grippe we have yet to learn of a single case having resulted in pneumonia which shows conclusively that this remedy is a certain preventive of that dangerous disease. It will cure a grippe in less time than any other treatment. It is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by Ragsdale.

Russell B. Hoyt, who died in Bethel, Conn., a week ago and was buried on Saturday was an instance of how a man with great mechanical genius and a wonderful brain, sometimes uses his great powers for criminal ends. Hoyt was known as the king of counterfeiters, and for a quarter of a century he made the United States service more trouble than any other single criminal. He put \$1,000,000 in bills into circulation in one grand crop, to say nothing of what he did at other times.

It takes 100 beeves a day to feed our soldiers in Cuba, and most of the cattle will come from Texas. The Mississippi Valley should keep sharp eye on the conditions of trade in Cuba

neers. In many ways he has been identified with the upbuilding and advancement of the town, county and state. He helped to secure the incorporation of Birmingham and served as mayor of the city. He came to this place when four families constituted its population. He was the first to build away from the square and thus gave a new direction to the town.

In past years Dr. Spees gave employment to a great many men, and always paid them promptly. Five different men who were his tenants made sufficient money while in possession of his property to enable them each to buy homes of their own. He acted generously with his patients, never having sued any of them for pay for his services, and cheerfully gave his services to those unable to pay.

With State history he was also connected. As the candidate of the Whig party he was elected in 1850 to the State legislature from this district. He assisted in establishing the capital at Des Moines and in publishing the first statutes of Iowa. On the dissolution of the Whig party he joined the new Republican party.

A faithful friend to many, he in turn had many friends who respected and loved him for the valuable service he had rendered in time of affliction.

For several years he has been a sufferer from a cancer on the side of his face, and that was the cause of his death, which occurred Wednesday evening January 25th 1890, at the age of 81 years, 3 months and 9 days. The funeral was held from the M. E. church Saturday at 2:30 p. m. Rev's. Wilkins and Pooten having charge of the services. The remains were interred in the Birmingham cemetery. He leaves a wife, 2 sons, 3 daughters and a host of friends to mourn the loss of an affectionate husband, a loving father and a true friend of those worthy.

An Honest Medicine for La Grip.

George W. Waitt of South Gardiner, Me., says: "I have had the worst cough, cold, chills and grip, and have taken lots of trash of no account but profit to the vendor. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is the only thing that has done any good whatever. I have used one 50-cent bottle and the chills, cold and grip have all left me. I congratulate the manufacturers of an honest medicine." For sale by Ragsdale.

There is every indication that the Morgan canal bill will have hard sledding in the house. Several members, among them Hepburn, insist that the amount of money asked for is too high, and contend that a new bill should be drawn providing for the letting to the lowest bidder, in which case the government should have exclusive control of the big ditch.

covering that its mortality from typhoid fever is three times as heavy comparatively as that at New York.

For La Grippe.

Thomas Whitefield & Co., 240 Wash-ash-av., corner Jackson-st., one of Chicago's oldest and most prominent druggists, recommend Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for la grippe, as it not only gives a prompt and complete relief, but also counteracts any tendency of la grippe to result in pneumonia. For sale by Ragsdale.

A Marinette, Wis., girl slept nearly a week, but is now wide awake and suffers no ill effects. Her case is a startling contrast with that of Philadelphia. They never awake there.

The newspapers are full of suggestions as to how to avoid the grip. A good many different kinds of grip can be avoided by refusing to shake hands with any one.

Sixteen to one is now known as the "embalmed ratio." But, as in the case of the beef referred to by General Miles, there is conclusive evidence that the job was very indifferently performed.

There is talk that the republican state convention this year will be held as early as the middle of June. The time and place will be determined by the state committee at its meeting in March.

The Best Prescription For a Cold

is a box of Weeks' Break-Up-A-Cold Tablets. It is composed of Quinine, Ipecac and Cascara, put up in chocolate coated tablets so as to make it pleasant to the taste. It will cure a cold while you sleep. Price 25c. J. J. S. Ragsdale, sole agent will refund your money if it fails to cure.

France will have no woman's department in the 1900 affair. The Washington Star suggests that some of the ladies connected with the exposition in Chicago may resent this, but explains that France has had trouble enough.

A senatorial candidate in the East accused of buying newspaper influence says the only papers worth buying are those that can not be bought. The remark shows a sound grasp of the subject.

Owing to the lack of ships, officers and men, Secretary Long will be unable, for an indefinite period, to reestablish the United States naval stations abroad, which were abandoned before the war.

The treasury estimate of the population of the United States last month was 75,320,000, and the amount of money in circulation was \$1,875,301,422. The figures speak well for the expansion of the past.

Novad-
from I-
To this
shades
duced
Senate
Democ
So mu
perlin
Look
is no c
other
Senate
iod. I
that d
years.
in full
will p
every
dollar.
on his
restore
opport
be inf
tle." I
which
Sound
possibl
will b
ago h
could
cann
Their
the co
Iowa
lighte
rowne
public
occurr
State.
braced
St. Pa
paint
missle
compa
suffic
action
case h
discri
fess U
tenden
tion!
this w
A w
little
her va
the pa
door s
itor di
Comm
that t
along
of low
Sens
Spain
Regon
day fo
treaty
In a
office
peseta
Catal
XIII.

Portrait
Biographical
Album
OF
Jefferson and Van Buren Counties, Iowa.

CONTAINING

FULL PAGE PORTRAITS

AND BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES
OF PROMINENT AND REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS
OF THE COUNTY

TOGETHER WITH PORTRAITS AND BIOGRAPHIES OF ALL THE
PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES.
AND GOVERNORS OF THE STATE

CHICAGO:
LAKE CITY PUBLISHING CO.
1890.

Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library, Des Moines, Iowa.

tahoochie River, and participated in the siege and capture of Atlanta, where he was taken sick and sent back to the hospital. He was discharged June 17, 1865, after having served three years, in which he participated in some twenty battles. He faithfully performed his duty throughout the entire service, but came out of the army with impaired health, and has never regained the strength of former years.

The first land which Mr. Anderson owned was a one hundred and twenty-acre tract given him by his father. This he began to operate in 1866, and the same year, on the 15th of March, he married Miss Margaret Jane Wharton, a native of Ohio. They have become parents of seven children: Flora, born March 1, 1867, died at the age of nineteen; Ella, born November 13, 1869; Frank, March 12, 1871; Zachariah, October 2, 1874; Lewis, June 7, 1876; Roy, November 6, 1880; and Lola, March 15, 1883.

Mr. Anderson's farm of one hundred and twenty acres he has increased to a two hundred and seven-teen-acre tract, and the greater part of the improvements which we find thereon stand as monuments of his own thrift and industry. He is a Republican in politics, and cast his first Presidential vote for Lincoln. Like a true American citizen he feels an interest in political affairs, has frequently attended the conventions of his party and labors for its success, but has never sought or desired public preferment for himself.



JOHN BRYCE SPEES, M. D., retired physician of Birmingham, was born in Bracken County, Ky., October 16, 1814, and is the only survivor in a family of seven children, six sons and one daughter, of whom he was the eldest. The parents were Christian and Mary (Young) Spees, and the family is of German and English extraction. The paternal grandfather of our subject, a native of Germany, crossed the Atlantic and located in Pennsylvania, where he met

and married a lady of German descent. Their son Christian was born in the Keystone State in 1788, and when a lad of nine summers accompanied his parents on their emigration to Kentucky, which State was then in such a wild and unsettled condition that they had to live in forts to protect themselves against the Indians. On reaching man's estate, Christian Spees married Miss Young who was born about 1795 in Pennsylvania. Her ancestors were of English birth and were among the early settlers of Virginia during Colonial days. In the State where their marriage was celebrated Mr. and Mrs. Spees continued to make their home until their lives on earth were ended and they were called to the rest prepared for the righteous. Mr. Spees made farming the means of maintenance for his family, but as a labor of love performed much service as a local minister in the Methodist Church. He was ably seconded in his noble efforts by his wife and the influence which they exerted for good was certainly not without its results. They died in 1852, within a day of each other, of cholera.

The early history of Dr. Spees is a record of struggles to overcome the disadvantages which surrounded him in his youth. He had almost no educational opportunities, yet he was of a studious nature and determined will and by private study he became well informed, fitting himself for the profession of teaching, which he followed several years. Every moment which he could find from his school duties he devoted to reading medicine and under the direction of his cousin, Dr. S. J. Spees, and his brother, Dr. T. M. Spees, of Hillsboro, Ohio, he continued his studies. In 1843 and 1844, he attended a course of lectures in the Ohio Medical College of Cincinnati. His first visit to the Territory of Iowa occurred in 1843, when with the desire to better his financial condition he made a claim near Ottumwa upon which he built two cabins. He then returned and took the course of lectures before mentioned but during his absence his claim was jumped and on his return, finding that he could do nothing to regain possession of his property, he started once more for Ohio, but fate had other things in store for him and the West was yet to be his home. He believed that the village of Birmingham offered fair opportunities

for one of his profession and at that place opened an office but at the end of the first year he found himself \$50 in debt for his board and because he could not pay, his landlord drove him off. However he had not the money with which to go elsewhere and it was necessary that he remain where he was. Perseverance, energy and ability at length won him a patronage and for fifteen years he practiced very successfully in this community. Throughout the country round about, calls were made for Dr. Spees and often he would ride as much as fifteen or twenty miles. He not only manifested an interest in his profession as the means whereby he might gain a livelihood, but his sympathy for his patients and genial and pleasant words proved an excellent tonic in the sick room and made him many warm friends. As his financial resources increased he made judicious investments in land and he is now the owner of one thousand, six hundred and forty-five acres, much of which yields to him a golden tribute. He has now practically retired from the practice of his profession but still prescribes for a few old friends who are not willing to change their well known family physician for a stranger.

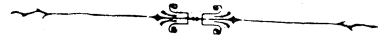
Near Birmingham, on the 9th of April, 1846, Dr. Spees and Miss Susanna Endersby were united in marriage. The lady was born in Gilden Morden, Cambridgeshire, England, December 17, 1824, and when seventeen years of age accompanied her father to this country, locating in Hillsboro, Henry County. He died in Lee County at the age of seventy-five years. The Doctor and his wife began their domestic life in a portion of the house which is still their home and seven children came to bless their union—Ceplaus, a resident farmer of Van Buren County; Thomas L. and Linnaeus R. who died in childhood; John C., a farmer of Lewis County, Mo.; Mary M., wife of David Miller, a resident of Van Buren County; Florence E., wife of William Spees who is also living in this county, as does Helen I. and her husband, George Manning.

Dr. Spees is known throughout the greater part of Iowa and is one of the honored and prominent pioneers. In many ways he has been identified with the upbuilding and advancement of town, county and State. He helped to secure the corpora-

tion for Birmingham and served as Mayor of the city. He came to this place when four families constituted its population. He was the first to build away from the square and thus give a new direction to the town.

In past years Dr. Spees has given employment to a great many men, and always paid them promptly. Five different men who were his tenants, made sufficient money while in possession of his property to enable them each to buy homes of their own. He has acted generously with his patients, never having sued any of them for pay for his services and cheerfully given his attendance to those unable to pay.

With the State history he is also connected. As a candidate of the Whig party, he was elected in 1850 to the State Senate from this district. He assisted in establishing the capital at Des Moines and in publishing the first statutes of Iowa. On the dissolution of the Whig party he joined the new Republican party, but in late years has been independent in politics. A faithful friend to many, he in turn has many friends who respect and love him for the valuable service he has rendered in time of affliction.



WILLIAM G. BLACK, of Fairfield Township, was born in Adams County, Ohio, in 1830, and is the son of Moses and Nancy (Glasgow) Black. In 1841, when a lad of some eleven summers, he accompanied his parents to Brown County, Ill., and thence came to Jefferson County, Iowa, in May, 1844. He was reared to farm life and received his education in the common schools of the neighborhood. When he had reached man's estate he was united in marriage September 11, 1856, with Miss Rachel Stever, daughter of Adam and Elizabeth Stever. She was born in Huntingdon County, Pa., on the 15th of April, 1833, and is the fifth in a family of twelve children. Her father was also a native of Huntingdon County, but her mother was born in Hunterdon

IGI Individual Record

FamilySearch™ International Genealogical Index v5.0

North America

JOHN BRICE SPEES

Male

Pedigree

Family

Event(s):**Birth:****Christening:****Death:** 25 JAN 1899**Burial:****Parents:****Father:** CHRISTON SPEES

Family

Mother: MARY CALL YOUNG**Marriages:****Spouse:** SUSANNAH MARIE J. ENDERSBY

Family

Marriage: 09 APR 1846 Birmingham, Van Buren, Iowa**Messages:**

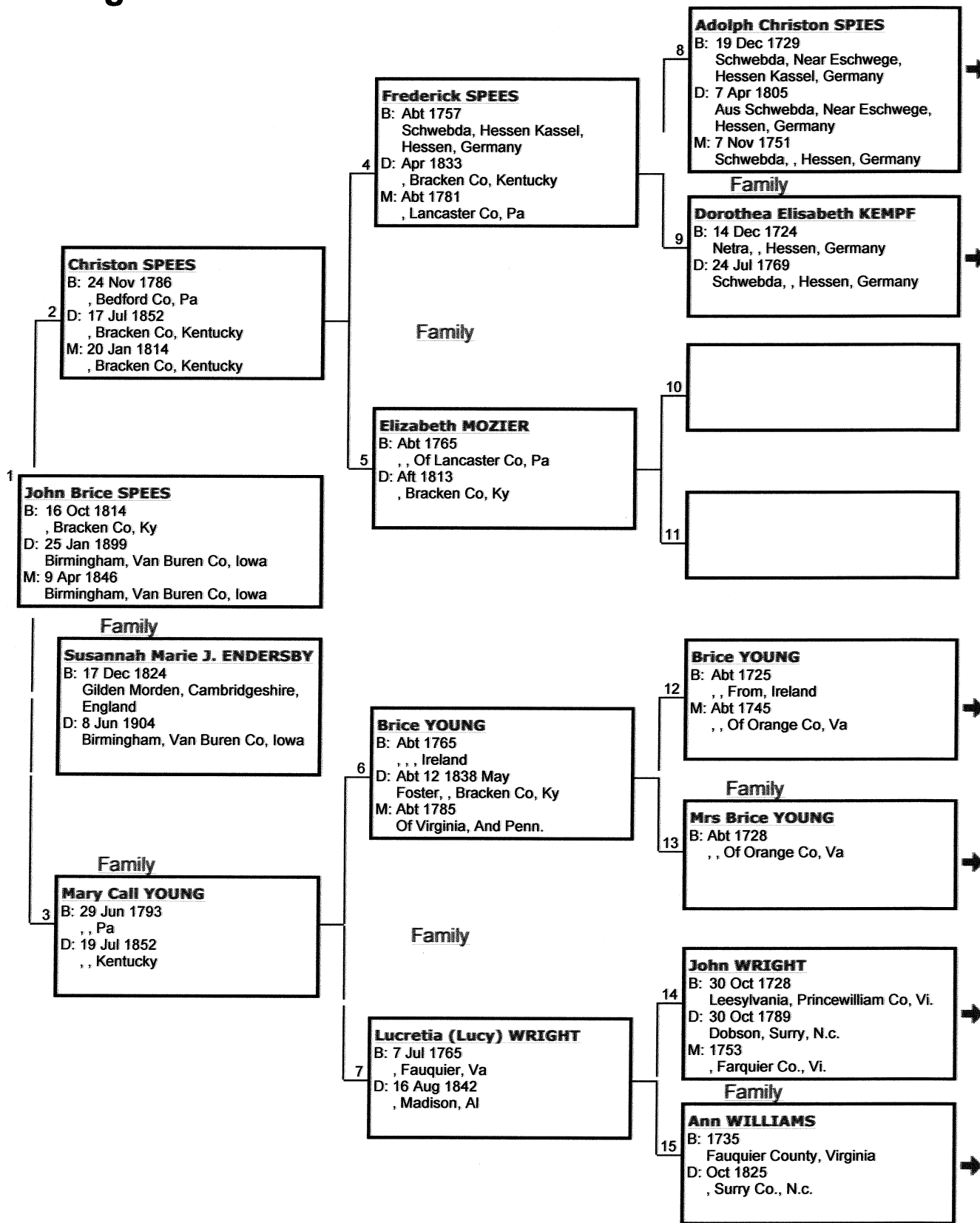
Form submitted by a member of the LDS Church. The form lists the submitter's name and address and may include source information. The address may be outdated. Details vary. To find the form, you must know the batch and sheet number.

Source Information:**Batch Number:** 5019218**Sheet:** 26**Source Call No.:** 1553731 **Type:** Film

An official Web site of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
© 2008 Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved.

Pedigree Chart

FamilySearch™ Ancestral File v4.19



An official Web site of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
 © 2008 Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved.

Family Group Record

FamilySearch™ Ancestral File v4.19

Husband's Name

John Brice SPEES (AFN:GGPC-R3)

Pedigree

Born: 16 Oct 1814 **Place:** , Bracken Co, Ky
Died: 25 Jan 1899 **Place:** Birmingham, Van Buren Co, Iowa
Buried: Jan 1899 **Place:** Birmingham, Van Buren Co, Iowa
Married: 9 Apr 1846 **Place:** Birmingham, Van Buren Co, Iowa

Father: Christon SPEES (AFN:GGPC-PQ)

Family

Mother: Mary Call YOUNG (AFN:GGPC-QW)

Wife's Name

Susannah Marie J. ENDERSBY (AFN:GGQW-KC)

Pedigree

Born: 17 Dec 1824 **Place:** Gilden Morden, Cambridgeshire, England
Died: 8 Jun 1904 **Place:** Birmingham, Van Buren Co, Iowa
Married: 9 Apr 1846 **Place:** Birmingham, Van Buren Co, Iowa

Father: B. F. ENDERSBY (AFN:GGRT-8M)

Family

Mother: Unknown (AFN:GGRT-9S)

Children

1. Sex Name

M Thomas I. SPEES (AFN:GGQW-MP)

Pedigree

Born: Abt 1851 **Place:** Birmingham, Union Township, Van Buren Co, Iowa
Died: Abt 1860 **Place:** Birmingham, Union Township, Van Buren Co, Iowa

2. Sex Name

M Linnaeus R. SPEES (AFN:GGQW-NV)

Pedigree

Born: Abt 1853 **Place:** Birmingham, Union Township, Van Buren Co, Iowa
Died: Bef 1860 **Place:** Birmingham, Union Township, Van Buren Co, Iowa
Buried: **Place:** Birmingham, Union Township, Van Buren Co, Iowa

3. Sex Name

F Florence E. SPEES (AFN:GGQW-RD)

Pedigree

Born: Abt 1863 **Place:** Birmingham, Union Township, Van Buren Co, Iowa
Died: 30 Dec 1945 **Place:** , , Iowa
Buried: Jan 1946 **Place:** Birmingham, , Van Buren Co, Iowa

4. Sex Name

M Linnaeus R. SPEES (AFN:12W8-K3L)

Pedigree

Born: 27 Jan 1854 **Place:** Birmingham, Union Township, Van Buren Co, Iowa
Died: 28 Sep 1855 **Place:** Birmingham, Union Township, Van Buren Co, Iowa
Buried: **Place:** Birmingham, Union Township, Van Buren Co, Iowa

5. Sex Name

M Flavious Joseph SPEES (AFN:GGQW-LJ)

Pedigree

Born: 26 Oct 1849 **Place:** Birmingham, Union Township, Van Buren Co, Iowa
Died: 1929 **Place:** , , Iowa Maple Hill Cemetery, Birmingham, Iowa

6. Sex Name

F Helen Iowa SPEES (AFN:GGQW-SK)

Pedigree

Born: 3 Feb 1866 **Place:** Birmingham, Union Township, Van Buren Co, Iowa
Died: 5 May 1959 **Place:** , , Iowa

7. **Sex Name**

M Thomas L. SPEES (AFN:12W8-K2D)

Pedigree

Born: 4 May 1851 **Place:** Birmingham, Union Township, Van Buren Co, Iowa
Died: 26 Aug 1853 **Place:** Birmingham, Union Township, Van Buren Co, Iowa

8. **Sex Name**

M John Christon SPEES (AFN:GGQW-P2)

Pedigree

Born: 5 May 1856 **Place:** Birmingham, Union Township, Van Buren Co, Iowa
Died: Aft 1909 **Place:** , Lewis Co, Missouri

9. **Sex Name**

F Mary M. SPEES (AFN:GGQW-Q7)

Pedigree

Born: 14 Dec 1858 **Place:** Birmingham, Union Township, Van Buren Co, Iowa
Died: **Place:** , , Iowa

An official Web site of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
© 2008 Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved.

You searched for **John B. Spees** in Iowa

Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925

Name:	John B Spees	
Census Date:	1847	
Residence State:	Iowa	
Residence County:	Van Buren	
Roll:	IA_117	
Line:	55	
Neighbors:	View others on page	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	John B Spees	

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...](#)

Contact Us: [1-800-ANCESTRY](#) | [Ancestry.com Blog](#) | [Affiliates](#) | [Advertising](#)

© 1997-2010 Ancestry.com | [Corporate Information](#) | [PRIVACY POLICY](#) | [Terms and Conditions](#)

Ancestry.com




You searched for **John B. Spees** in Iowa

1850 United States Federal Census

Name:	John B Spees	
Age:	35	
Estimated birth year:	abt 1815	
Birth Place:	Kentucky	
Gender:	Male	
Home in 1850 (City,County,State):	Birmingham, Van Buren, Iowa	
Family Number:	13	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	John B Spees	35
	Maria Spees	24
	Flavius Spees	2
	Fanny Tipton	8
	George Laforce	22

Source Citation: Year: 1850; Census Place: Birmingham, Van Buren, Iowa; Roll M432_189; Page: 396B; Image: 311.

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

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

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

Contact Us: 1-800-ANCESTRY | [Ancestry.com Blog](#) | [Affiliates](#) | [Advertising](#)

© 1997-2010 Ancestry.com | [Corporate Information](#) | [PRIVACY POLICY](#) | [Terms and Conditions](#)

Ancestry.com

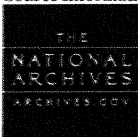


You searched for **John B. Spees** in **Iowa**

1860 United States Federal Census

Name:	John B Spees	
Age in 1860:	46	
Birth Year:	abt 1814	
Birthplace:	Kentucky	
Home in 1860:	Union, Van Buren, Iowa	
Gender:	Male	
Post Office:	Birmingham	
Value of real estate:	View image	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	John B Spees	46
	Susannah J Spees	35
	Flavins J Spees	11
	John C Spees	4
	Mary M Spees	1
	Rachel Ager	65

Source Citation: Year: 1860; Census Place: Union, Van Buren, Iowa; Roll M653_342; Page: 135; Image: 376; Family History Library Film: 803342.

Source Information:
 Ancestry.com. 1860 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.

Original data: 1860 U.S. census, population schedule. NARA microfilm publication M653, 1,438 rolls. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.

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...](#)

Contact Us: 1-800-ANCESTRY | Ancestry.com Blog | Affiliates | Advertising

© 1997-2010 Ancestry.com | Corporate Information | [PRIVACY POLICY](#) | [Terms and Conditions](#)

Ancestry.com



Return to John B Spees

Compare With People From Your Family Tree

Children (1)
Flavious J Spees B: 1848

John B Spees

B: abt 1815 in Connecticut
D:

Parents
UNKNOWN

UNKNOWN

Susanna Edersby B: abt 1825 in England

1880 United States Federal Census

Name:	John B. Spees												
Home in 1880:	Birmingham, Van Buren, Iowa												
Age:	65												
Estimated birth year:	abt 1815												
Birthplace:	Kentucky												
Relation to Head of Household:	Self (Head)												
Spouse's name:	Susanna M.												
Father's birthplace:	Pennsylvania												
Mother's birthplace:	Pennsylvania												
Neighbors:	View others on page												
Occupation:	Physician												
Marital Status:	Married												
Race:	White												
Gender:	Male												
Cannot read/write:													
Blind:	View image												
Deaf and dumb:													
Otherwise disabled:													
Idiotic or insane:													
Household Members:	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name</th> <th>Age</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>John B. Spees</td> <td>65</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Susanna M. Spees</td> <td>55</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Florence Spees</td> <td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Helen I. Spees</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flavias Spees</td> <td>31</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Name	Age	John B. Spees	65	Susanna M. Spees	55	Florence Spees	17	Helen I. Spees	14	Flavias Spees	31
Name	Age												
John B. Spees	65												
Susanna M. Spees	55												
Florence Spees	17												
Helen I. Spees	14												
Flavias Spees	31												

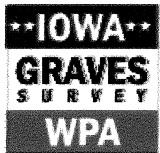
Source Citation: Year: 1880; Census Place: Birmingham, Van Buren, Iowa; Roll 367; Family History Film: 1254367; Page: 380A; Enumeration District: 26; Image: 0084.

Source Information:



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

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



WPA - Work Projects Administration 1930's Graves Registration Survey



- Search
- Post-em Notes
- WPA History
- FAQ
- Volunteers
- Contact Us

Iowa WPA Graves - Searchable Genealogy Database & Family History Resource - Locate Ancestors and Complete Your Family Tree

Ancestry.com - Genealogy

World's largest online family history resource. +4 billion records
www.ancestry.com

Free Cemetery Records

Instantly Access 400,000,000 Vital Birth, Death and Cemetery Records!
Cemetery-Records.Archives.com

Recognition Awards

Quality Awards, Trophies & Plaques. Get 10% Off With Code: PCCN1
Baudville.com

Ads by Google

SPEES, (Dr.) John B.

Born: 1814
Died: 1899
Cemetery: MAPLE HILL
Location: BIRMINGHAM
County: VAN BUREN CO. - IOWA
Record Notes:

The information contained on this website was originally recorded by Iowa WPA (Works Progress Administration) workers during late 1930's. In 2006 it was transcribed into a searchable electronic format.

- [Search for additional Iowa WPA Records](#)
- [Learn more about WPA History](#)
- [Get answers to frequently asked questions about WPA accuracy.](#)
- [Visit the Iowa Gravestone Photo Project.](#)

No "Post-em's" have been contributed for this record.

Add a Post-em Note

[How to use post-em notes...](#)

Your Name: (required)

Your Email: (required)

Notify me when others post to this record.

Related Web Page: (optional)

URL:

URL Title:

Note: (required)

You have characters remaining.

Password: (Required)

[Home](#) | [Friends of IAGenWeb](#) | [Join Our Team](#) | [Postem-Notes](#) | [WPA History](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Admin](#)

Project Coordinator - Rich Lowe
Copyright © 2010 - IAGenWeb, IowaWPAGraves.com

This website is hosted and sponsored by ClickStart
[Low Cost Web Site Design](#)



WPA - Work Projects Administration 1930's Graves Registration Survey



- Search
- Post-em Notes
- WPA History
- FAQ
- Volunteers
- Contact Us

Iowa WPA Graves - Searchable Genealogy Database & Family History Resource - Locate Ancestors and Complete Your Family Tree

Ancestry.com - Genealogy

World's largest online family history resource. +4 billion records
www.ancestry.com

Free Cemetery Records

Instantly Access 400,000,000 Vital Birth, Death and Cemetery Records!
Cemetery-Records.Archives.com

Marriage, Divorce Records

Obtain Marriage, Divorce Records On Anyone. Takes Less Than One Minute!

PublicRecordsChecks.com/Divorce.php
Ads by Google

SPEES, Susannah

Born: 1824
Died: 1904
Cemetery: MAPLE HILL
Location: BIRMINGHAM
County: VAN BUREN CO. - IOWA
Record Notes:

The information contained on this website was originally recorded by Iowa WPA (Works Progress Administration) workers during late 1930's. In 2006 it was transcribed into a searchable electronic format.

- [Search for additional Iowa WPA Records](#)
- [Learn more about WPA History](#)
- [Get answers to frequently asked questions about WPA accuracy.](#)
- [Visit the Iowa Gravestone Photo Project.](#)

No "Post-em's" have been contributed for this record.

Add a Post-em Note

[How to use post-em notes...](#)

Your Name: (required)

Your Email: (required)

Notify me when others post to this record.

Related Web Page: (optional)

URL:

URL Title:

Note: (required)

You have characters remaining.

Password: (Required)

[Home](#) | [Friends of IAGenWeb](#) | [Join Our Team](#) | [Postem-Notes](#) | [WPA History](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Admin](#)

Project Coordinator - Rich Lowe
Copyright © 2010 - IAGenWeb, IowaWPAGraves.com

This website is hosted and sponsored by ClickStart
[Low Cost Web Site Design](#)

You searched for **John B. Spees** in **Iowa**

Iowa Cemetery Records

Name:	(Dr.) John B. Spees
Death Date:	1899
Page #:	211
Birth Date:	1814
Cemetery:	Maple Hill
Town:	Birmingham
Level Info:	Van Buren, Iowa Records

Source Information:
Ancestry.com. *Iowa Cemetery Records* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2000.
Original data: Works Project Administration. *Graves Registration Project*. Washington, D.C.: n.p., n.d.

Description:
These cemetery records represent seventy-six counties and Graceland Cemetery of Sioux City, Iowa, in the United States, that were transcribed by the Works Project Administration. Records in this database generally include the page number where the record can be found in the WPA index, the name of the deceased, birth date, death date, age, cemetery name, town name, and additional comments if any. [Learn more...](#)

Contact Us: [1-800-ANCESTRY](#) | [Ancestry.com Blog](#) | [Affiliates](#) | [Advertising](#)

© 1997-2010 Ancestry.com | [Corporate Information](#) | [PRIVACY POLICY](#) | [Terms and Conditions](#)

Ancestry.com