

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Regue, Charles Senator _____

Represented Jefferson County, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 1816 Hobster, Massachusetts

2. Marriage (s) date place

Martha Eleanor Smith ca 1843 Richmond, Virginia

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business He was admitted to the bar in 1840

B. Civic responsibilities Mason; I.O.O.F.;

C. Profession Lawyer; teacher

4. Church membership Methodist Episcopal

5. Sessions served 3rd General Assembly 1850

6. Public Offices

A. Local Jefferson County probate judge; director of Fairfield public schools
perpetuating attorney of Jefferson County

B. State President of Iowa Railroad Company

C. National _____

7. Death 5 May 1877 Fairfield, Iowa; buried Evergreen Cemetery, Fairfield, Iowa

8. Children Lyman; Mary Cary Ambler (Mrs. Thomas Higginth);
Susan Ellen (Mrs. Isaac Bryson)

9. Names of parents Lyman Regue

Negus, Charles

10. Education He attended Melbourn, Massachusetts Academy

11. Degrees Attended Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut
in 1837, graduating in 1838

12. Other applicable information Democrat

- He taught school in the winters and did other useful jobs
in order to earn money to graduate college
- After leaving college he began to study law and in 1839 he went to
Petersburg, Virginia
- In fall 1840 he started west and in the spring of 1841 he located
at Fairfield, Iowa in Jefferson County. There he remained practicing
law
- Wife, Martha Eleanor, born 1815, died 28 Oct 1895, buried in
Evergreen Cemetery, Fairfield, Iowa
- He was left without parents while an infant and was reared in the family of
his grandparents until age 9 when his grand parents died. He then went to
live with his step-father



Governor
Charles Meyus

ee, lately of Brattleboro,
 a musical instructor.—
 e is an elegant and ac-
 teacher of both vocal and
 d music—having spent
 s the Boston Conser-
 usic, and brings with her
 recommendations as to
 roficiency, both as a per-
 teacher. Private lessons
 al culture. Terms, etc.,
 of Mr. P. H. Howlett, at

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 a fact that most of the
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 arried off, and in some
 ose bushes have been
 ted on graves, evidently
 m the public flower beds.
 satisfactory explanation
 J. Jordan, superintendent
 ad it may be necessary
 ersons who were caught
 last Saturday afternoon.
 lad and pleased to have
 it the grounds, yet we
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 our work or the loss of
 ty) without making an
 some one.
 of the Superintendent.
 GEO. STEVER, Sec'y.

xtract from a new poem
 the rounds of the press,
 g beautiful lines, merely
 that they point a moral
 en who contemplate mat-

h. last half dollar
 ck Tie and a Collar,
 odemus Waller)
 SON'S Grand Bazaar
 d him to Perlee,

S. COCKLEY, V.

NEGUS.—In Fairfield, Iowa, May 5th, 1877,
 Hon. Charles Negus, in the 61st year of his
 age.

Mr. Negus was born in Massachusetts, and
 as man and boy built and kept in good condi-
 tion a reputation for honesty and integrity.—
 His boyhood was passed amid rugged scenes,
 and at the age of 11 he chose a guardian and
 left the roof of a step-father. At the age of
 17 he joined the Methodist Church. His
 leisure moments were employed in instruction
 and he became a hard student. By the aid of
 a female cousin he was enabled to become a
 student in the Wesleyan University, at Mid-
 dletown, Conn., in 1834. By teaching school
 in the winter, and other useful labor, he
 graduated from the University in 1838. After
 leaving college he turned his attention to the
 study of the law, and in 1839 went to Peters-
 burg, Va. In the fall of 1840 he turned his
 face to the West, and in the spring of 1841
 located in Fairfield. Here he has remained,
 practicing in the profession of the law for
 which he labored so arduously. In 1844 he
 was married to Miss M. E. Smith, who now
 survives him, and with three children mourn
 the loss of a faithful husband and father. To
 the interests of his clients he gave his undi-
 vided attention, and by his assiduity he be-
 come a successful attorney. In his relations
 to the general welfare he was public spirited,
 and always among the foremost in advocating
 measures for the benefit of his fellow-citizens.
 The cause of education was especially dear to
 him, and as citizen and school officer he
 labored diligently and successfully. Judge
 Negus held various public trusts, and as judge,
 representative, or other public officer, he per-
 formed his duties in the best light that was
 given him, fearlessly and conscientiously.—
 While often brought in opposition to him,
 those with whom he differed always respected
 and esteemed him as a worthy citizen and an
 honest man.

His remains were followed to the grave on
 Sunday last by a large concourse of citizens,
 accompanied by the Masons, Odd Fellows and
 members of the Bar. His race is run. The
 strong man has yielded his strength to the
 inexorable monster, Death, and his relatives,
 friends and acquaintances mourn his loss.—
 "Peace to his ashes."

A meeting of the Bar of Jefferson county
 was held on Saturday evening, May 5, 1877, to
 Hon. Charles Negus.
 The following members of the Bar were

Knitted or Machine sewed,—not o
 style, but solid, and will wear s
 Another lot of the

"FLOWER CI"

brand of Ladies' Fine Shoes, front
 lace, just received. They are unive
 mired, fit perfectly, wear satisfactor
 rip, and are sold at very low prices.

Every Pair Warranted

Every one is earnestly invited to
 see the goods above referred to, an
 other goods also, for my selection
 and Shoes is one of

The Best In the State

And I am determined that my price
 so low as to make it an object

All Cash-Buy

TO CALL AND SEE ME

**A. S. YEARI
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—FOR—



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DAVID B. WILSON

men who contemplate mat-
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 LSON'S Grand Bazaar;
 or if his bride she'd be,
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 e'il go and see the Bar.

Clara Bugbee is desirous
 a juvenile class in vocal
 she has already a number
 out will take a few more.
 will meet at the Episcopal
 Wednesday of next week,
 for organization. Terms

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 dge, No. 4, I. O. O. F., I
 om the Oskaloosa Protec-
 tion six hundred and
 ollars, being the amount
 husband was entitled to
 association, and for their
 s I am much obliged.

MARGARET P. WELLS.
 1877.

Side Drug Store,
 u can get the best Drugs,
 , Paints, Stationery, &c.
 warranted, and sold at the
 ces. Call and see.
W. H. JONES & BRO.

FIELD MARKETS.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, May 9, 1877.

Spring Wheat.....	1.25 @ 1.50
all Wheat.....	1.40 @ 1.75
ngarian Seed.....	30 @ 40
e.....	55 @ 60
rn.....	45 @ 50
rley.....	25 @ 35
ts.....	25 @ 30
nothy Seed.....	1.25
ver Seed.....	6.00 @ 6.50
CK—Hogs.....	2.50 @ 3.00
ws and Heifers.....	2.50 @ 3.00
ck Steers.....	2.50 @ 3.00

strong man has yielded his strength to the
 inexorable monster, Death, and his relatives,
 friends and acquaintances mourn his loss.—
 "Peace to his ashes."

A meeting of the Bar of Jefferson county
 was held on Saturday evening, May 5, 1877, to
 take appropriate action upon the death of
 Hon. Charles Negus.

The following members of the Bar were
 present: Geo. Acheson, C. W. Slagle, J. P.
 Wilson, D. P. Stubbs, W. B. Culbertson, J. J.
 Cummings, M. A. McCoid, David Heron, J. R.
 McCrackin, W. A. Frush, Chas. D. Leggett,
 R. H. Knight, J. D. Mount, and Geo. H. Case.

George Acheson, Esq., the oldest surviving
 member, was called to the chair, and Chas. D.
 Leggett was appointed secretary.

On motion, the chairman appointed a com-
 mittee, consisting of C. W. Slagle, W. B. Cul-
 bertson, M. A. McCoid, David Heron and D.
 P. Stubbs, to draft resolutions.

The committee withdrew from the meeting
 and after some time reported the following

MINUTE

WHEREAS, Hon. Chas. Negus, a member of
 the Bar of Fairfield, Iowa, after a successful
 practice of his profession for a period exceed-
 ing one-third of a century, has been stricken
 down by the hand of death, we, his associates
 in the profession, who, have long and inti-
 mately known him, do hereby place on record
 this minute to his memory:

The deceased was the oldest practicing at-
 torney at our Bar, and as such was entitled to
 and feel our esteem and reverence. As a
 lawyer he was courteous and honorable, ever
 indefatigable in the preparation of his cases,
 and in his efforts to secure the legal rights of
 his clients. As a citizen he was public spirited,
 and interested himself in each and every
 project for the benefit of our city and county.
 As a member of the Iowa Legislature, Probate
 Judge of this county, President of the Iowa
 Railroad Company, Director of our Public
 Schools, and in many other prominent and
 public positions he faithfully discharged his
 duties, and has left his mark upon the times
 in which he lived, and upon the State of his
 adoption.

We have unfeigned sorrow in the death of
 our Brother, by which our ranks are broken
 for the first time in many years, and we accept
 our personal and professional loss only with
 great sadness. Our hearts go out in tender-
 est sympathy to the widow and children of
 our deceased brother in their bereavement,
 and we tender to them our sincere condolence.

Remarks were made by the chairman, by the
 members of the committee, and by others
 present, indorsing the minute and expressing
 their high opinion of our late brother—of his
 abilities, his faithfulness and energy, his high
 standard of professional conduct, his public
 which have enriched our county and beauti-
 fied our city and of the beauty and integrity

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DAVID B. WILS

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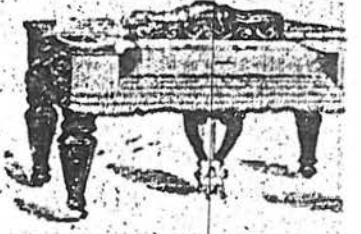
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PROF. POTT

**WISHES to state to the publi
 has commodious rooms, a
 Music Rooms, for**

LESSONS AND PRACTICE F

and with 14 years successful expe

Quillen, Secretary of Jefferson Lodge, No. 4, I. O. O. F., I from the Oskaloosa Protection Association six hundred and dollars, being the amount my husband was entitled to Association, and for their assistance I am much obliged.

MARGARET P. WELLS.

1877.

Side Drug Store,

you can get the best Drugs, Oils, Paints, Stationery, &c. warranted, and sold at the lowest prices. Call and see.

W. H. JONES & BRO.

FIELD MARKETS.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, May 9, 1877.

Spring Wheat	1.25 @ 1.50
all Wheat	1.40 @ 1.75
Hungarian Seed	30 @ 40
rye	55 @ 60
corn	15 @ 50
barley	25 @ 35
oats	25 @ 30
limb Seed	1.25
lover Seed	6.00 @ 6.50
OK—Hogs, \$ 100 lbs	4.00 @ 4.25
ows and Holfers	2.50 @ 3.00
stock Steers	2.50 @ 3.00
hipping Cattle	3.00 @ 4.00
horses	75.00 @ 100.00
sheep, per head	2.00 @ 3.00
ONS—Fall Wheat Flour	5.00 @ 5.50
pring Wheat Flour	4.00 @ 4.50
raham Flour	4.00
apples	50
corn Meal, \$ bu	75
hops and Bran \$ cwt	85 @ 1.00
potatoes	1.20 @ 1.40
eggs, \$ doz	8
butter \$ lb	12 1/2 @ 15
lard	11 @ 12 1/2
tallow	5
salt \$ bbl	2.00 @ 2.15
lams	12 1/2 @ 14
hides	11 @ 13
shoulders	9 @ 10
green, \$ lb	5
dry Flint	8
dry Salt	7
half Skins	7
sheep Pelts	15 @ 40
red and grubby hides one-third off	
fine unwashed	18 @ 20
medium	20 @ 23
coarse and light	20 @ 22
sub washed	23 @ 27
Curry, 2 to 5 cents off.	

practice of his profession for a period exceeding one-third of a century, has been stricken down by the hand of death, and his associates in the profession, who have long and intimately known him, do hereby place on record this minute to his memory:

The deceased was the oldest practicing attorney at our Bar, and as such was entitled to and had our esteem and reverence. As a lawyer he was courteous and honorable, ever indefatigable in the preparation of his cases, and in his efforts to secure the best interests of his clients. As a citizen he was public spirited, and interested himself in each and every project for the benefit of our city and county. As a member of the Iowa Legislature, Probate Judge of this county, President of the Iowa Railroad Company, Director of our Public Schools, and in many other prominent and public positions he faithfully discharged his duties, and has left his mark upon the times in which he lived, and upon the State of his adoption.

We have unfeigned sorrow in the death of our Brother, by which our ranks are broken for the first time in many years, and we accept our personal and professional loss only with great sadness. Our hearts go out in tenderest sympathy to the widow and children of our deceased brother in their bereavement, and we tender to them our sincere condolence.

Remarks were made by the chairman, by the members of the committee, and by others present, indorsing the *minute* and expressing their high opinion of our late brother—of his abilities, his faithfulness and energy, his high standard of professional conduct, his public spirit and leadership in all the enterprises which have enriched our country and beautified our city, and of the beauty and integrity of his character, and testifying to the shock caused by the death of one who was a friend to each of us, the oldest of all, the first to be called away.

The minute was adopted by the vote of all present.

Upon motion, it was

Resolved, That a copy of the *minute*, authenticated by the chairman and secretary, be presented to the widow and family of our deceased brother.

Resolved, That a copy of the minute be presented to the District Court and to the Circuit Court of this county, to be spread upon their records.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the papers of the city.

It was further

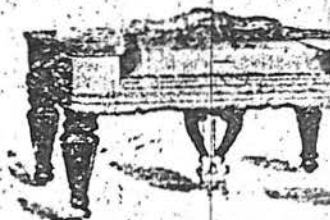
Resolved, That we meet at one o'clock tomorrow afternoon and attend the funeral of our deceased brother in a body, as the Bar.

Adjourned.

GEO. ACHESON, Ch'n.

Attest:
CHAS. D. LEGGETT, Sec'y.

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PROF. POT

WISHES to state to the pub.
has commodious rooms,
Music Rooms, for

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and with 14 years successful ex-
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thorough course under Prof. A
of Boston, (the noted composer
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Best Talent of F

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man, Miss Mary Cunningham,
Coy, W. T. Hagne, of Liberty
and Grier Foote, of Salina.

Thanking you for past patron
you to call. Use of Piano or Org
reasonable. I have

Good Competent

constantly in my employ. A tl
n Piano and Organ, including
and Harmony. Also, instruct
Rooms, North Side of
Workman's Block. Please call

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Recollections and Sketches of Notable Lawyers and Public Men of Early Iowa

Belonging to the First and Second
Generations, with Anecdotes and
Incidents Illustrative of the Times

By

EDWARD H. STILES

For many years a member of the Iowa Bar; member of its House of Representatives, 1863-1864; member of its Senate, 1865-1866; Reporter of its Supreme Court, 1867-1875; author of Complete Digest of its Decisions from the earliest Territorial period to the 56th Iowa Reports.

"In old age alone we are masters of a treasure of which we cannot be deprived, the only treasure we can call our own. The pleasures of memory and the retrospect of the varied images which in an active life have floated before the mind, compensate, and more than compensate, for the alternate pleasures and cares of active life."—SIR ARCHIBALD ALLISON.

"Personal anecdotes, when characteristic, greatly enliven the pages of a biography."—SAMUEL SMILES.

~~34709 a~~
DES MOINES
THE HOMESTEAD PUBLISHING CO.
1916

James W. Woods (Old Timber), more than thirty years ago, gave me this description of him:

In person, Olney was rather below the medium, with nothing striking in his appearance, but he had a quick and active mind, and was lively and animated in conversation, though rather reserved and serious in his ordinary bearing. He was perfectly self-possessed, with a large amount of brain power, a fair advocate, and, for his years a well-read lawyer. On the bench he was a model judge, courteous and amiable, and, for so great a student, popular with the masses. He was elected Judge of the Fairfield District and held that position until he went to Oregon. But few of his decisions were reversed.

Charles Negus and Thomas H. Gray.

Charles Negus was not only one of the early lawyers of Iowa, but also one of its earliest and most valuable contributors in the preservation of historical data. Among other articles furnished by him and printed in the *Annals* are, "The Southern Boundary of Iowa," "Early History of Iowa," and "Early Times in Iowa." These articles are all written with the greatest minutiae, and replete with personal mention and great variety of detail.

In appearance, Mr. Negus was commanding and impressive; tall and broadly built; his head was large; his brow expansive, his expression serious. He looked like Webster, and had a "front like Jove." The first time I saw him was at a large outdoor political meeting on one of the adjacent hills to Ottumwa. It was in 1858 or 1860. Judge H. B. Hendershott presided, and introduced as the first speaker Colonel George Gillaspay, and after him Charles Negus. His appearance impressed me as I have attempted to describe, but his effort was disappointing. He was well educated, had fine literary ability, wrote entertainingly and well, but was not on any occasion either brilliant or felicitous in speech. His thoughts seemed to flow so copiously that they were unable to find adequate expression. He always reminded me, though not closely of course, of what Dr. Johnson said of Oliver Goldsmith "he wrote like an angel and talked like 'poor poll.'" But while he was not what would be termed a fluent and lively speaker, he was nevertheless an interesting, and always a forceful one. Judge J. C. Hall, of Burlington, was not easy of speech, and was sometimes awkward in expression, but he always managed to land his intelligent blows in an effective manner, and so it was with Charles Negus. For very many years he was one of the most distinguished lawyers of Southern Iowa. He had always been a profound student, and he was perfectly familiar with the great principals and precedents that underlie and constitute our jurisprudence. His learning was deep, and in no sense superficial.

From autobiographical narrations that he has given us through the *Annals* of Iowa, concerning his early life, and from other sources relating to his later years, the following summary is gathered. He was a native of Massachusetts. He was left without parents while an infant, and was reared in the families of his grand-

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parents until he was nine years of age, when his grandparents died. His paternal grandfather was Silas Negus, a physician of repute, whose eldest son became a noted physician in Webster, Massachusetts. Lyman Negus, father of Charles, died while young. After the death of his grandparents, Charles went to live with his stepfather. He became a hard student and attended the Wilberham, Massachusetts Academy something over two years, then taught school and subsequently entered and graduated from Wesleyan University at Middletown, Connecticut. After this, he taught in the High School at New London, Connecticut, and at the end of this service entered upon his legal studies, and in 1840 was admitted to the bar. Not long thereafter, he started westward and settled in Fairfield in the spring of 1841. In speaking of himself after this period, he relates this amusing incident:

The Sunday evening after I came to Fairfield, I took a walk, and about a mile from town I came to a cabin, the home of R. Taylor. Taylor was the first squatter on this piece of land, had built a comfortable house, and there was a large pile of logs laying by his door for a stable. It was a pleasant spring evening, and either by design or accident, Taylor, with his whole family, had left their domicile and seated themselves on a long log. The family consisted of himself, wife and fourteen children. On the log was first Taylor, then his wife, the largest child next, and tapering off with a regular grade, the last being a youngster just able to toddle about. In this little group were three pair of twins, and the oldest child was only about fourteen years of age.

In 1850 he was elected to the Legislature from Jefferson County. He also served as Prosecuting Attorney for the County. He was a man highly esteemed. He was the soul of honor, and despised everything mean. His contributions to the early history of the State are invaluable, and will cause his name to be closely linked to it throughout the future.

On the occasion of his death in 1877, a general meeting of the Jefferson County Bar was held, at which the most sincere and heartfelt expressions of respect and reverence were made. Resolutions commemorative of his memory were presented, and ordered to be made a part of the record of the Supreme Court of the State, and the Court adjourned out of respect for his memory. The presentation of these resolutions was accompanied by some remarks of Daniel P. Stubbs, from which I have thought it due to the memory of Mr. Negus and as giving a further insight to his character, to give the following excerpts:

At the time of Mr. Negus' death he was the oldest practicing member of the Fairfield bar. As a lawyer, he was able, high-minded and true. As a citizen, he was public-spirited in every project beneficial to his people. As a member of the Iowa Legislature, as Judge of the Probate Court of Jefferson County, as President of the Iowa Railroad Company, as director of our public schools, and in numerous other public positions, he left his mark upon the times in which he lived, and upon the State of his adoption. He will long be remembered by a grateful community. His monuments stand before us in edifices of learning, great thoroughfares, churches, and charitable institutions, that received vital encouragement from his enterprise and liberality. At the time of his advent to this territory the red man's wigwam occupied the valley of the Des Moines, and in fact, most of the Territory. He took a deep interest in these denizens of the forest. No man in the State was more conversant with their history and noticed with more watchfulness their

declining vicissitudes than he, and the State is greatly indebted to him for the information he industriously collected and preserved, concerning them. He devoted much of his later years in researches for the Indian names that have been given to different counties, places and streams in our State. He was fond of repeating these lines:

"There rings no hunter's shout,
But their names are on your waters,
You may not wash them out."

He prepared a history of the origin of these names, given to various localities, and thereby preserved that which might have been forgotten.

Thomas Gray was one of the brightest lawyers and one of the most beloved of his time. I have talked with many who knew him well, and they all united in this tribute. He was the first law student in Jefferson County; he rose rapidly, and was cut down in the midst of a youth that gave promise of future eminence. Where he was born and whence he came I have been unable to learn. He came to Fairfield with William Huston, a merchant, for whom Gray worked a while as clerk. He subsequently became a law student in the law office of Samuel Shuffleton, with whom he entered into partnership after he was admitted to the bar in 1841, under the firm name of Shuffleton & Gray. Mr. Negus said of him, that

he was possessed of easy and agreeable manners, well calculated to suit himself to whatever company he might chance to meet, and generally beloved and respected by all who knew him. He professed to be an infidel in religious doctrine, and to believe that death was an eternal sleep, and that when a man closed his earthly career, that was the end of him.

On the third of December, 1883, I had a conversation with Judge Hendershott, the substance of which I entered in my memorandum book at the time:

Thomas Gray was a man of extraordinary talents but a person could detect from his phraseology and pronunciation that his early education had been neglected, but he was a strong, cogent reasoner and a remarkable lawyer for his age. The following incident will indicate what I have said respecting his early education, as well as throw some light upon Judge Mason. He was engaged in the trial of a case at Ottumwa before Judge Mason, and while arguing a question before the Judge, used several times the expression "subordination" of perjury for "subornation" of perjury. Mason became so nervous at the repetition of the blunder that he hitched about on his seat, and finally, unable to stand it any longer, corrected Gray. I was present.

Gray had a large amount of business which constantly grew and required intense work and late hours. His constitution was delicate, the strain was greater than it could bear, and he was brought to a bed of sickness which resulted in his death. Charles Negus, who was with him much during his sickness and at the time of his death, gives this description:

Gray was young; he had bright prospects; life was dear to him; he hated to die. But he had the fortitude of a philosopher of age; he met his fate with firmness; he died with composure, and showed to the last that he believed in the doctrine that he had professed—that death was an eternal sleep. The extensive acquaintance and popularity of Gray brought many from a distance to attend his funeral, and drew together the largest collection of real mourners that had ever been assembled in the town; and probably it has been the lot of but few persons, in the early settlement of Iowa, to be followed to the grave by as many real



You searched for **Charles Negus** in **Iowa**

1860 United States Federal Census

Name: Charles Negus

Age in 1860: 44

Birth Year: abt 1816

Birthplace: Massachusetts

Home in 1860: Fairfield, Jefferson, Iowa


Gender: Male

Post Office: Fairfield

Value of real estate: [View image](#)

Household Members:	Name	Age
	Charles Negus	44
	Martha Negus	44
	Smith Negus	14
	Mary Negus	12
	Ella Negus	10
	Anna Gibbon	14

Source Citation: Year: 1860; Census Place: Fairfield, Jefferson, Iowa; Roll: M653_328; Page: 391; Image: 384; Family History Library Film: 803328.

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...](#)

Hi,  helenjwh1 [Sign Out](#) [Message](#)[Home](#)[Family Trees](#)[Search](#)[Collaborate](#)[Learning Center](#)[DNA](#)[Publish](#)[Shop](#)

The Leland Family of Virginia, et. al.

Entries: 47250 **Updated:** 2010-07-12 16:17:12 UTC (Mon) **Contact:** [Rick](#)

Home Page: [The Leland Family of Virginia, et.al.](#)

2/14/2010; Many corrections & additions but undoubtably many errors, please notify me. I have added over 2000 maternal and paternal Dabney lines, then it got really confusing, and Dabney researchers out the

[Index](#) | [Descendancy](#) | [Register](#) | [Download GEDCOM](#) | [Public Profile](#)

ID: I31818

Title: Judge

Name: **Charles NEGUS**

Sex: M

Change Date: 15 MAY 2005

Marriage 1 [Martha Eleanor SMITH](#) b: 18 FEB 1810 in Richmond, Henrico Co., VA

Children

[Lyman Smith NEGUS](#) b: 21 OCT 1846

 [Mary C. Ambler NEGUS](#) b: 22 NOV 1848

[Ella Susan NEGUS](#) b: 10 JAN 1851

[Index](#) | [Descendancy](#) | [Register](#) | [Download GEDCOM](#) | [Public Profile](#)

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Birth: 1816
Massachusetts, USA
Death: May 4, 1877
Fairfield
Jefferson County
Iowa, USA

Portrait and Biographical Album of Jefferson and Van Buren Counties, Iowa, Printed 1890 by Lake City Publishing Co., Chicago, Pages 611-613

Hon. Charles NEGUS, deceased, the pioneer lawyer of Fairfield, Iowa, who at his death was the oldest member of the Jefferson County bar, was born in Webster, Mass., in 1816. He lost his father in childhood, passed his early years in hardships, and at the age of fourteen chose a guardian for himself, and passed from under the care of a step-father. When seventeen years of age he joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he was an active member the greater part of his life. He was ambitious to acquire a good education, and was an industrious student, making good use of his leisure hours. Through the kindly assistance of a female relative, in 1834 he became a student in the Wesleyan University of Middleton, Conn., and while pursuing his studies in college, he sustained himself by teaching and other employments as opportunity afforded. In 1838 he was graduated, and with the desire to enter upon a legal profession, turned his attention to the study of law. During the year 1839, he went to Petersburg and Richland, Va., and was engaged in teaching in that State until the autumn of 1840, when he bade good-by to his old home, and started for the far West. After several months spent in traveling and prospecting, he finally located, in the spring of 1841, in Fairfield, Iowa, where he entered upon the practice of his profession. Three years later he returned to Richmond, Va., and was joined in wedlock with Miss Martha Eleanor SMITH, who comes of an old Virginian family, and is a native of Richmond, that State.

Immediately after their marriage, Judge NEGUS returned with his bride to Fairfield, where he continued to make his home until his death, which occurred on the 4th of May, 1877, leaving his wife and three children to mourn the loss of a devoted husband and father. The eldest child, Lyman Smith, is an only son. He studied law with his father, was admitted to the bar, and for several years was his father's law partner. He is now a resident of Red Oak, Iowa. The eldest daughter, Mary Cary Ambler, is the wife of Thomas GRIFFITH, of Red Oak; Susan Ella, the youngest, wedded Isaac DRYSON, and is living with her husband in Los Angeles, Cal. Mrs. NEGUS removed to



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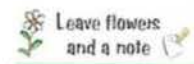
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stricken down by the hand of death; We, his associates in the profession, who have long and intimately known him, do hereby place on record, this minute to his memory.

The deceased was the oldest practicing attorney at our bar, and as such was entitled to, and had our esteem and reverence.

As a lawyer, he was courteous and honorable; ever indefatigable in the preparation of his cases, and in his efforts to secure the legal rights of his clients.

As a citizen, he was public spirited and interested himself in each and every project for the benefit of our city and county.

As a member of the Iowa Legislature, Probate Judge of this county, President of the Iowa Railway Company, Director of our public schools, and in many other prominent public positions, he faithfully discharged his duties, and has left his mark upon the times in which he lived and upon the State of his adoption.

We have unfeigned sorrow in the death of our brother, by which our ranks are broken for the first time in many years, and we accept our personal and professional loss only with great sadness. Our hearts go out in tenderest sympathy to the widow and children of our deceased brother in their bereavement, and we tender them our sincere condolence."

Remarks were made by the chairman and others present, expressing their high opinion of their late brother, of his ability, his faithfulness and energy, his high standard of professional conduct, his public spirit and leadership in all the enterprises which have enriched our county and beautified our city; and of the beauty and integrity of his character, and testifying to the shock caused by the death of one who was friend to each of us, the oldest of all, the first to be called away. The minute was adopted by the vote of all present.

George Acheson, Chairman.
Charles D. Leggett, Secretary.

Judge NEGUS took a warm interest in all that pertained to the history of his adopted State, gathered much interesting data on that subject, and wrote industriously and ably in that cause. Many interesting sketches pertaining to pioneer times in Iowa, from his pen, were published in the Annals of Iowa, a historical periodical issued by authority of the State Historical Society. For several years just prior to his death, he devoted much labor to the preparation of a history of Iowa, which he contemplated publishing, but death came before his work was completed. Judge NEGUS was a man of marked individuality, brave, self reliant, dignified in manner, yet genial and courteous to all; never covetous or given to selfish desire of personal gain, but earnest in a broad spirit of devotion for the public welfare, and best enjoyed that which benefited his fellow-men through the prosperity of the commonwealth wherein he lived.

Family links:
Children:

Lyman Smith Negus (1847 - 1910)*

Spouse:

Martha Elinor *Smith* Negus (1815 - 1895)

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[Evergreen Cemetery](#)

Fairfield

Jefferson County

Iowa, USA

Plot: Old.P.284

Created by: [Richard K Thompson](#)

Record added: Oct 24, 2010

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Photo by Richard K Thompson, October 24, 2010.

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