Enhancing Existing Content By Transforming Books to Databases

Wendy C. Robertson
The University of Iowa Libraries
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Issues to Consider
What is the desired functionality for the online version?
What are the features of the print?
How true to the original should we be?
How can we communicate most effectively with our programmer and web design team?
University of Iowa Press Digital Editions

Iowa Poetry Prize
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http://digital.lib.uiowa.edu/uipress/
Adams, Dudley Warren  
(November 30, 1834—February 13, 1897)
—fruit grower and Grange leader—was born in Winchendon, Massachusetts. His family moved to a small farm when he was four. Educated at home and in the district school, he became a teacher in his native state, where his family had been eminent for nearly two centuries. At age 21, Adams became an early settler of Waukon, Allamakee County, Iowa, where he was a surveyor and held the elective office of County Assessor for a decade.

In 1854 Adams became president of Allamakee County’s new horticultural society. Two years later he started Iron Clad Nursery, where he soon had about 4,000 trees that produced a variety of apples. As secretary of the State Horticultural Society of Iowa and a participant in its exhibits, he showed 100 apple varieties in 1871 and 172 in 1873. He won the society’s sweepstakes prize both years.

In 1869 Adams helped to organize the Waukon Grange, a unit of the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry, which had been established in 1867. After Granges had been organized in Washington, D.C., and then in New York State, the Order came to the Midwest. There it flourished until the mid 1870s. Adams was elected the first Master of the Iowa State Grange in 1871, became lecturer of the National Grange in 1872, and early in 1873 began almost three years of service as National Grange Master.

Adams’s importance in Grange history included his fervent insistence that the Order should engage in political action. In reply to conservatives who wanted the Order to stay clear of politics, Adams asserted that it was “the duty of Patrons of Husbandry to take such action in politics as shall ensure the prosperity of agriculture.” Grange political action focused on regulation of railroad rates. Efforts to secure federal regulation, including a bill that Adams helped to write, failed, but in the early 1870s Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, and Wisconsin all passed regulatory laws.

The Order, however, generally failed to take effective political action. Adams thought that it failed to do so because too many Grange members were “speculators, demagogues, small politicians,” and other “beach” rather than farmers. Under his leadership, the National Grange tightened its membership requirements, demanding that members not only be “engaged in agricultural pursuits” but that they not have interests “in conflict with our purposes.” The number of Grange members plummeted soon after standards were tightened.

Adams ended his Grange service in early 1875, moved to Florida in December, and there planted orange and other fruit trees. He helped to found Florida’s State Horticultural Society, and served as its president for the rest of his life.


Donald Marti

Adams, Ephraim  
(February 1818—November 30, 1893)
—one of the 11 original members of the Congregationalist “Iowa Band” of missionaries who came to Iowa in 1843 at the request of Home Missionary agent Asa Turner, a key figure in the establishment of Iowa College (later Grinnell College), and an anti-slavery and temperance advocate—was born in New Ipswich, New Hampshire. According to fellow Congregationalist pastor George F. Magoun, Adams was born “on a rocky farm” and “converted at the age of 12.” He went to Appleton Academy and Phillips Andover Academy to prepare for college, but was one
Welcome to the online version of *The Biographical Dictionary of Iowa*, edited by David Hudson, Marvin Bergman, and Loren Horton. Written by an impressive team of more than 150 scholars and writers, *The Biographical Dictionary of Iowa* was created to spotlight prominent Iowans throughout the history of the region.

Iowa has been blessed with citizens of strong character who have made invaluable contributions to the state and to the nation. In the 1930s alone, such towering figures as John L. Lewis, Henry A. Wallace, and Herbert Hoover hugely influenced the nation’s affairs. Iowa’s Native Americans, early explorers, inventors, farmers, scholars, baseball players, musicians, artists, writers, politicians, scientists, conservationists, preachers, educators, and activists continue to enrich our lives and inspire our imaginations.

*The Biographical Dictionary of Iowa* includes each subject’s name, birth and death dates, place of birth, education, and career and contributions. Many of the names will be instantly recognizable to most Iowans; others are largely forgotten but deserve to be remembered. Beyond the distinctive lives and times captured in the individual biographies, readers of the dictionary will gain an appreciation for how the character of the state has been shaped by the character of the individuals who have inhabited it.

This online edition of *The Biographical Dictionary of Iowa* is a collaborative project created by the [University of Iowa Press](http://digital.lib.uiowa.edu/uipress) and [The University of Iowa Libraries](http://digital.lib.uiowa.edu/uipress). The print version of the *Biographical Dictionary of Iowa* was published for the State Historical Society of Iowa by the University of Iowa Press. It is available for purchase on the UT Press site.

Search for "jazz"
Beiderbecke, Leon Bismarck "Bix"
(March 10, 1903–August 7, 1931)

—the celebrated jazz pianist and cornetist—was born in Davenport, Iowa, the third of three children of Bismarck Herman Beiderbecke and M. Agatha (Hilton) Beiderbecke. "Bix" was a family nickname that served to Americanize the Old World Bismarck.

During a tragically short life that ended in New York City, Bix Beiderbecke made hundreds of recordings that marked him as an original jazz improviser on the piano and the cornet. At the same time, however, his uppermiddle-class German American upbringing seems to have ill-prepared him for the roughand-tumble life of a jazz musician. Admired mostly by fellow jazz musicians and midwestern college and university students during the 1920s, Beiderbecke became, through his alcoholism and premature death, the first popular icon of the freedom, possibilities, and dangers of the jazz life. The best of his many recordings occupy a secure position among the most influential jazz recordings of the 1920s. His music expressed a young man's desire to synthesize two modernist trends in the music of his time: the innovative harmonic ideas of European composers Igor Stravinsky and Claude Debussy and the "hot" rhythmical improvisations of the Original Dixieland Jazz Band (ODJB). He absorbed elements of these very different worlds by listening closely to records, radio, and the live music on Mississippi riverboats and in Davenport's dance halls and vaudeville theaters.

As a youngster, Beiderbecke had also listened to his mother playing parlor piano and quickly demonstrated a remarkable ability to play by ear what he had heard. He also learned his piano lessons by ear, however, and never did learn to read musical scores, a serious failing that undermined his subsequent career as a professional musician. He nevertheless progressed quickly on piano, playing harmonically and rhythmically adventurous renditions of the popular songs of the day and eventually working on his own compositions: "In a Mist." "In the Dark,"
Biographical Dictionary of Iowa: MacDonald, Thomas Harris

Gertrude Elzora Durden Rush biography via University of Iowa

^ The Biographical Dictionary of Iowa (The University of Iowa Libraries) [4]


Asa Turner and The Iowa Band at the U of Iowa Library online

Bierring, Walter Lawrence
(July 15, 1868–June 24, 1961)
—medical educator, public health advocate, and Iowa's foremost bacteriologist in the 20th century—was born in Davenport, Iowa, home to Washington Peck, dean of the State University of Iowa Medical Department (UIMD), where Bierring chose to pursue his medical education. Upon completing his M.D. at Iowa in 1892, Bierring traveled to Europe for postgraduate work in bacteriology. Between 1892 and 1894, he studied at Heidelberg, the University of Vienna, and the Pasteur Institute, where he learned the most advanced techniques and the germ theory.

The UIMD hired Bierring in 1894 as the first chair of its pathology and bacteriology department. In 1895 he developed an antitoxin serum, the first such serum developed west of New York City. After testing it on himself, Bierring used it to treat successfully more than 300 cases of diphtheria over the next five years. He continued to press for improved understanding of bacteriology in Iowa. He also lobbied for the creation of a state-funded laboratory, fully equipped to study, identify, and treat bacteria-caused diseases. His efforts were rewarded in 1904 with the establishment of the Bacteriological Laboratory in Iowa City, known today as the University Hygienic Laboratory.
The Vascular Plants of Iowa

An Annotated Checklist and Natural History

Lawrence J. Eilers and Dean M. Roosa
PTERIDOPHYTES

ADIANTACEAE

**Adiantum L.** Maidenhair ferns

*Adiantum pedatum* L.  
Com: Northern maidenhair fern  
Hab: Moist woods; mesic rocky slopes  
A&D: Rare nw; freq nc; common elsewhere  
Org: Native

**Cheilanthes Sw.** Lip ferns

*Cheilanthes feltii* (Gmelin) Prantl  
Com: Slender lip fern  
Hab: Exposed, dry, limestone cliffs  
A&D: Infreq me  
Org: Native

**Cryptogramma R. Br.** Rockbrake ferns

*Cryptogramma sanctiflora* (Hook.) Endl.  
Com: Slender rockbrake fern  
Hab: Moist, cool ledges; rocky slopes  
A&D: Rare nc; infreq me  
Org: Native

**Ptelea** Link Cliff-brake ferns

*Ptelea atrata* var. *rubra* (L.) E. F. Galloway  
Com: Purple cliff-brake  
Hab: Damp, sandstone outcrops  
A&D: Rare ne & se; AL & VA  
Org: Native

*Ptelea atrata* var. *nigra* (R. Br.) T. S.  
Com: Smooth cliff-brake  
Hab: Crevices; dry rock cliffs  
A&D: Rare e & common ne  
Org: Native

ASPLENIACEAE

**Asplenium L.** Spleenwort ferns

*Asplenium platyneuron* (L.) Oakes ex D. C. Eaton  
Com: Ebony spleenwort  
Hab: Moist, rocky or sandy slopes  
A&D: Infreq se; rare ne, ec & sc  
Org: Native

*Asplenium rhizophyllum* L.  
Syn: *Camptosorus rhizophyllus* (L.) Link  
Com: Walking fern  
Hab: Humus-covered rocks in moist, wooded valleys  
A&D: Common e; absent nw; rare elsewhere  
Org: Native

**Athyrium Roth** Lady ferns, spleenwort ferns

*Athyrium filix-femina* (L.) Roth var. *augustum* (W. L. Moore)  
Syn: *A. augustum* (Willd.) Presl  
Com: Northorn lady fern  
Hab: Moist woods; forest margins; mesic prairie  
A&D: Rare nw; freq to common elsewhere  
Org: Native

*Asplenium pycnocarpon* (Spreng.) H. Windm.  
Syn: *Diplazium pycnocarpon* (Spreng.) Brown  
Com: Narrow-leaved spleenwort  
Hab: Moist woods  
A&D: Rare e  
Org: Native

*Asplenium trichomanes* (Michx.) Desv.  
Syn: *A. acrostichoides* (Sw.) Diels  
Syn: *Diplopterygium acrostichoides* (Sw.) M. Kato (nied.)  
Com: SIlvery spleenwort  
Hab: Moist, wooded slopes  
A&D: Infreq to freq e  
Org: Native
Welcome to the online version of The Vascular Plants of Iowa: An Annotated Checklist and Natural History, by Lawrence J. Eilers and Dean M. Roosa, featuring an extended essay on the natural history of the vascular plants of Iowa, a discussion of their origins, a description of the state's natural regions, and a painstakingly annotated checklist of Iowa vascular plants. The data, which apply to over 150 years, took more than 15 years to collect.

All known vascular plants that grow and persist in Iowa without cultivation are included in the checklist. These are native plants, primarily, but a large number of introduced species have become established throughout the state. Also included are Iowa's major crop plants and some of its common garden plants. The lengthy checklist provides an accurate and up-to-date listing of species names and common names, synonyms, distribution, habitat, abundance, and origin; county names are given for very rare species, and the most complete information has been provided for all rare plants and troublesome species.

The wealth of information in this well-organized, practical volume—which describes more than two thousand species from Adiantum pedatum, the northern maidenhair fern of moist woods and rocky slopes, to Zannichellia palustris, the horned pondweed of shallow marshes and coldwater streams—makes it possible to identify Iowa plants correctly.

http://digital.lib.uiowa.edu/uipress/vpi/
The Vascular Plants of Iowa
An Annotated Checklist and Natural History
University of Iowa Press Digital Editions

Home > Group > Pteridophytes > Adiantaceae > Adiantum L. >

Group Name:
Pteridophytes
Family Name:
Adiantaceae
Genus:
Adiantum L. L.
Genus Common Name:
Maidenhair ferns
Species:
Adiantum pedatum L.
Species Common Name:
Northern maidenhair fern
Habitat:
Moist woods; mesic rocky slopes
Abundance and Distribution:
Rare northwest; frequent north central; common elsewhere
Origin:
Native

Iowa and Its Flora:
More information about plants of Oak-Hickory Forest Region
Link to this record:
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Electronic Resources & Libraries
28 February 2011

Home > Group
4 Groups found
- Angiosperms: Dicotyledons
- Angiosperms: Monocotyledons
- Gymnosperms
- Pteridophytes

Home > Group > Pteridophytes
12 Families found for Group > Pteridophytes
- Adiantaceae
- Aspleniaceae
- Azollaceae
- Dennstaedtiaceae
- Equisetaceae
- Isoetaceae
- Lycopodiaceae
- Marsileaceae
- Ophioglossaceae
- Osmundaceae
- Polypodiaceae
- Selaginellaceae

Home > Group > Pteridophytes > adiantaceae
4 Genera found for this family > adiantaceae
- Adiantum L.
- Cheilanthes Sw.
- Cryptogramma R. Br.
- Pellaea Link

Home > Group > Pteridophytes > Adiantaceae > Adiantum L.
1 Species found for this Genus > Adiantum L.
- Adiantum pedatum L.
northern maidenhair

False heather
False medic
False pennyroyal
Fameflower
Fameflower, Prairie
Fern, Boot's wood
Fern, Bracken
Fern, Broad beech
Fern, Bulblet bladder
Fern, Christmas
Fern, Cinnamon
Fern, Common polypody
Fern, Creeping fragile
Fern, Crested wood
Fern, Dissected grape
Fern, Fragile
Fern, Fragile
Fern, Glandular wood
Fern, Goldie's wood
Fern, Hybrid wood
Fern, Interrupted
Fern, Leathery grape
Fern, Limestone oak
Fern, Little grape
Fern, Long beech
Fern, Marginal shield
Fern, Marsh
Fern, Mosquito
Fern, Northern fragile
Fern, Northern lady
Fern, Northern maidenhair
References


Golden alexanders
Zizia aurea (L.) W. Koch.

Stems: perennial; 1 ½' to 3' tall; branched above; often several stems from the same root crown; smooth.

Leaves: basal and alternate; twice divided into threes; blade 3' to 5' long, end leaflet 1' by 1 ½'; basal leaves with long (8') leaf stalks; stem leaves sessile; margins five-toothed; smooth above and below.

Inflorescence: compound umbels on flower stalks from the stem tip and upper leaf axils; center flower in each secondary umbel sessile; flowers clustered but becoming more separated in fruit.

Flowers: petals yellow, 1 ½' long, set on a tiny ovary; sepals tiny; flowering from mid-May to mid-June.

Fruits: pairs of one-seeded fruits, 1 ½' long, flattened on one side, light brown; prominent oil tubes in the fruit wall; fruiting begins in early June; fruits mature and begin to drop in mid-August.

Habitat: common on moist to mesic prairies, in open woods and woodland openings, also on roadsides and in other open places.

Heart-leaved meadow rue
Zizia aurea (Gray) Fern.

Zizia aurea is similar to Z. apera except the lowest leaves are undivided and heart-shaped. The leaf blades are 2' by 1 ½', and the leaf stalk is about 6' long. The inflorescence, flowers, and fruits are similar. Flowering is from mid-May to mid-June. Fruiting begins in early June. Z. apera is infrequent on moist prairies.
Desired functionality yet to be determined.
Iowa native Henry A. Wallace (1886-1965), the 33rd vice president of the United States, occupies a unique niche within American history, at the crossroads of some of the 20th century's most important moments: the economic and agricultural consequences of the Great Depression, the role of the vice president during World War II, and the subsequent development of alternative political party structures as the nation and the world recovered from the conflict and new power dynamics were formed. This digital collection of the Henry A. Wallace Papers features images, a collection index, and 67,000 pages of correspondence, memoranda, and other documents.
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The following are examples of the types of searches we envision:

- I want to find all letters TO J Edgar Hoover
- I want to find all letters written between Henry Wallace and Nicholas Roerich
- I want to find anything written by Wallace on April 12, 1945 (when FDR died)
- I want to find everything written in January or February 1945 when Wallace was proposed as Sec of Commerce
- While browsing the authors, I find a name I didn’t expect and then want to find everything to/from Ralph I Coryell
- I want to find all the letters to/from anyone with the last name Kiernan
- I want to find all the letters to/from Mordecai [last name forgotten by me]
This is the functionality we think it should have (in priority order)

- Search by sender and/or recipient and/or date.

- The reference URL should be used as a link with text like "Access this item," rather than have the URL display to the user. The et al. value, display date, and reel number are just for display. They do not need to be searchable. The record ID should show so that if people report OCR problems in the future, this might make it easier to fix.

- You should be able to specify a name as sender or recipient. You should also be able to search for a name as either sender or recipient. You should also be able to search for a name as sender and another name as recipient. You should be able to search by last name or first name only or from a combination of first and last name.

- You should be able to search for a single date or a range of dates. The dates should be able to be combined with the name searching. Some dates have only a year and month or only a year. You should be able to search for items by year, year-month or year-month-day.

- There are 41,546 names – it would be great if they could also be displayed as a whole listing for browsing. The browse list should then link to all letters with that name (except for Henry A Wallace who has 67059 records). Note that several other names have quite a few records: Mary A Huss (10828); Harold H Young (9106); Mildred M Eaton (2057); Franklin D Roosevelt (904); Donald R Murphy (531); Milo Perkins (485); Cordell Hull (405). All the other have less than 400 records.

- Since you will need to use a microfilm reader for much of this -- we should make sure it works well with a mobile device.

- The results should be sortable, either as a choice when doing the search or by clicking on a column. The latter would necessitate a columnar display. Overall we think this is better, but it might be wide (with ref URL and record ID).

- We should have an easy way to save results (since in many cases you will need to trot over to a microfilm reader to read the thing). If it is in columns then we think it should be easy to cut/paste into excel. But it would be slick if there was a save results as csv type option and a mail results to yourself option.
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Tips for Communication with Application Developers
Provide structured data with clear relationships.
List desired functionality, in priority order.
Create basic mockups of ALL search and results screens.
Celebrate your successful project!
wendy-robertson@uiowa.edu

http://ir.uiowa.edu/lib_pubs/69/