

Tennessee Masonic Members

U.S. Senate & U.S. House of Representatives

Ralph L. Scott, Jr.



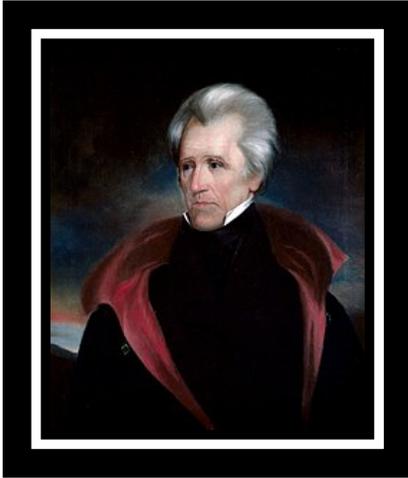
A biography of Tennessee Masons who have served our country in the United States Senate and U.S. House of Representatives.

Many have also served our State as Governor or in the State Legislature, as well as diplomats, Ambassadors and Presidential Cabinet Officers.

Grand Lodge of Tennessee

Free & Accepted Masons

**MEMBERS
OF THE
UNITED STATES
SENATE**



Andrew Jackson

1767-1845

U. S. Senator 1797-1798 & 1823-1825

U. S. House of Representatives 1796-1797

Andrew Jackson (March 15, 1767 – June 8, 1845) was an soldier and statesman who served as the seventh president of the United States from 1829 to 1837. Before being elected to the presidency, Jackson gained fame as a general in the United States Army and served in both houses of the U.S. Congress. As president, Jackson sought to advance the rights of the "common man" against a "corrupt aristocracy" and to preserve the Union.

Born in the colonial Carolinas to a Scotch-Irish family in the decade before the American Revolutionary War, Jackson became a frontier lawyer and married Rachel Donelson Robards. He served briefly in the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate, representing Tennessee. After resigning, he served as a justice on the Tennessee Supreme Court from 1798 until 1804. Jackson purchased a property later known as The Hermitage, and became a wealthy, slave-owning planter. In 1801, he was appointed colonel of the Tennessee militia and was elected its commander the following year. He led troops during the Creek War of 1813–1814, winning the Battle of Horseshoe Bend. The subsequent Treaty of Fort Jackson required the Creek surrender of vast lands in present-day Alabama and Georgia. In the concurrent war against the British, Jackson's victory in 1815 at the Battle of New Orleans made him a national hero. Jackson then led U.S. forces in the First Seminole War, which led to the annexation of Florida from Spain. Jackson briefly served as Florida's first territorial governor before returning to the Senate. He ran for president in 1824, winning a plurality of the popular and electoral vote. As no candidate won an electoral majority, the House of Representatives elected John Quincy Adams in a contingent election. In reaction to the alleged "corrupt bargain" between Adams and Henry Clay and the ambitious agenda of President Adams, Jackson's supporters founded the Democratic Party.

Jackson ran again in 1828, defeating Adams in a landslide. Jackson faced the threat of secession by South Carolina over what opponents called the "Tariff of Abominations." The crisis was defused when the tariff was amended, and Jackson threatened the use of military force if South Carolina attempted to secede. In Congress, Henry Clay led the effort to reauthorize the Second Bank of the United States. Jackson, regarding the Bank as a corrupt institution, vetoed the renewal of its charter. After a lengthy struggle, Jackson and his allies thoroughly dismantled the Bank. In 1835, Jackson became the only president to completely pay off the national debt, fulfilling a longtime goal. His presidency marked the beginning of the ascendancy of the party "spoils system" in American politics. In 1830, Jackson signed the Indian Removal Act, which forcibly relocated most members of the Native American tribes in the South to Indian Territory. The relocation process dispossessed the Indians and resulted in widespread death and disease. Jackson opposed the abolitionist movement, which grew stronger in his second term. In foreign affairs, Jackson's administration concluded a "most favored nation" treaty with Great Britain, settled claims of damages against France from the Napoleonic Wars, and recognized the Republic of Texas. In January 1835, he survived the first assassination attempt on a sitting president.

In his retirement, Jackson remained active in Democratic Party politics, supporting the presidencies of Martin Van Buren and James K. Polk. Though fearful of its effects on the slavery debate, Jackson advocated the annexation of Texas, which was accomplished shortly before his death. Jackson has been widely revered in the United States as an advocate for democracy and the common man. Many of his actions proved divisive, garnering both fervent support and strong opposition from many in the country. His reputation has suffered since the 1970s, largely due to his role in Native American removal. Surveys of historians and scholars have ranked Jackson favorably among U.S. presidents.

Jackson was initiated at Harmony Lodge No. 1 in Tennessee. He was elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee in 1822 and 1823. During the 1832 presidential election, Jackson faced opposition from the Anti-Masonic Party. He was the only U.S. president to have served as Grand

Master of a state's Grand Lodge until Harry S. Truman in 1945. An obelisk and bronze Masonic plaque decorate his tomb at the Hermitage.

Jackson's age and illness eventually overcame him. On June 8, 1845, family and friends surrounded him at his deathbed. Jackson, startled by their sobbing, said, "What is the matter with my dear children? Have I alarmed you? Oh, do not cry. Be good children and we will all meet in Heaven." He died immediately after at the age of 78 of chronic dropsy and heart failure.



Joseph Anderson

1757-1837
U. S. Senator 1797-1815

Joseph Inslee Anderson (November 5, 1757 – April 17, 1837) was a soldier, judge, and politician, who served as a United States Senator from Tennessee from 1797 to 1815, and later as the First Comptroller of the United States Treasury. He also served as one of three judges of the Southwest Territory in the 1790s, and was a delegate to the Tennessee state constitutional convention in 1796.

Anderson was born at White, Marsh, near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the son of William Anderson and Elizabeth Inslee. In 1776, following the outbreak of the American Revolutionary War, he enlisted in the 3rd New Jersey Regiment of the Continental Army, and rose to the rank of captain and paymaster in less than two years. Anderson fought at the Battle of Monmouth, and was with the army during its difficult 1777 wintering at Valley Forge. In 1781, he transferred to the 1st New Jersey Regiment, and fought with this unit at the Battle of Yorktown.

At the end of the war, Anderson was discharged with the rank of major. Having studied law prior to the war, he was admitted to the Delaware bar, and practiced law in Delaware from 1784 to 1791.

Anderson was a Freemason. He was a member of Military Lodge No. 19 of Pennsylvania, and became a member of Lodge No. 36 while in the New Jersey Brigade. After the war, he was the first Senior Warden of Princeton Lodge No. 38 in Princeton, New Jersey.

In 1791, President George Washington appointed Anderson United States judge of the newly formed Southwest Territory. He served alongside David Campbell and John McNairy. No records of any of the trials presided over by Anderson survive, with the exception of a 1794 murder trial. This trial, conducted at the Tellico Blockhouse, concerned an Indian charged with killing settler Joseph Ish.

In 1792, Anderson married Only Patience Outlaw, the daughter of Tennessee pioneer Alexander Outlaw. His wife's dowry included land along the Nolichucky River in what is now Hamblen County (but was then a part of Jefferson), where the Andersons built their home, Soldier's Rest.

In 1796, Anderson and his father-in-law represented Jefferson County at Tennessee's constitutional convention in Knoxville. Resolutions introduced by Anderson and Outlaw included a motion to sever ties with the United States if Tennessee's petition for statehood was rejected, a motion to implement *viva voce* voting instead of balloting, and a motion to establish a unicameral legislature, all of which were rejected. Anderson swore in the new state's first legislature later that year.

In 1797, Anderson was elected by the Tennessee General Assembly to fill the vacancy in the Senate created by that body's expulsion of the seat's original occupant, William Blount. That term was scheduled to expire on March 3, 1799; however, on December 12, 1798, the Tennessee General Assembly elected Anderson to the state's other (Class 1) Senate seat, which had been vacated by Andrew Jackson, and was temporarily held by Daniel Smith. Anderson was reelected to this seat in 1803, and again in 1809. In the latter election, he defeated retiring governor John Sevier by a vote of 23 to 16.

Anderson voted against a Senate proposal to have Blount arrested in 1797. He opposed the Alien and Sedition Acts, federal intervention into the issue of slavery, and the re-chartering of the national bank.

He voted in favor of the War of 1812. In the Eighth Congress (1803–1804), he served as the Senate's president pro tempore.

After retiring from the Senate, Anderson was appointed Comptroller of the U.S. Treasury by President James Madison, and served in that office from 1815 until 1836. He died in Washington on April 17, 1837, and was interred in the Congressional Cemetery.

Jenkin Whiteside

1772-1822
U. S. Senator 1809-1811

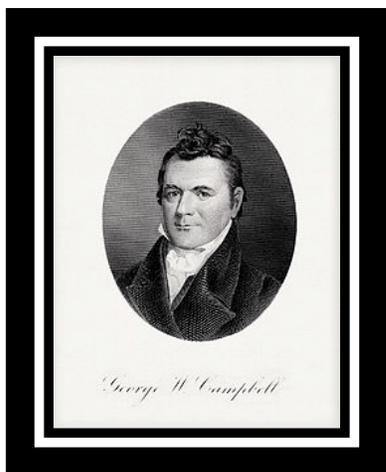
Jenkin Whiteside (1772 – September 25, 1822) was an attorney who served as a United States Senator from Tennessee.

Jenkin Whiteside was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. His father, Thomas Whiteside (1742–1823), was born in County Tyrone in Ulster and settled in the Province of Pennsylvania. Jenkin Whiteside studied the law in Pennsylvania and was admitted to the bar there. Moving to Knoxville, Tennessee, he commenced practice there, and in 1801 and 1802 served as a Knoxville commissioner.

In 1809, he was elected by the Tennessee General Assembly to replace Daniel Smith, who had resigned from the United States Senate, serving until his own resignation on October 8, 1811, when he resumed the practice of law.

He was succeeded as senator by George W. Campbell. In 1821, he died and was buried in Nashville.

He was a charter member of Tennessee Lodge 2, being present at their first meeting March 4, 1800. He was also first Senior Warden of Greeneville Lodge 3, but evidently re-affiliated with Tennessee 2, being still recorded as a member of that Lodge in their return for 1807.



George W. Campbell

1769-1848
U. S. Senator 1811-1814 & 1815-1818
U. S. House of Representatives 1803-1809

George Washington Campbell (February 9, 1769 – February 17, 1848) was an American Statesman who served as a U.S. Representative, Senator, Tennessee Supreme Court Justice, U.S. Ambassador to Russia and the 5th United States Secretary of the Treasury from February to October 1814.

Born in the village of Tongue on the north coast of Scotland, Campbell immigrated as a young boy to North Carolina in 1772 with his parents. He graduated from the College of New Jersey (which is now Princeton University) in 1794 and began studying law. He was admitted to the bar in North Carolina and began practicing in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Campbell was elected to the United States House of Representatives as the Representative from Tennessee's at-large congressional district in 1803. He served in the House from 1805–1809, in the 8th, 9th, and 10th Congresses. During the 10th Congress, he was the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. He was also one of the managers appointed in 1804 to conduct

the impeachment hearings for John Pickering, judge of the United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire, and later in the same year, the impeachment hearings against Samuel Chase, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

He left Congress in 1809 to become judge of the Tennessee Supreme Court, serving until 1811.

Campbell served as a United States Senator from Tennessee twice, once from 1811 to 1814, having been elected to fill the seat of Jenkin Whiteside, and again from 1815 to 1818. His first service was from October 8, 1811 to February 11, 1814, when he resigned to accept appointment as the United States Secretary of the Treasury. He returned to the Senate on October 10, 1815. He served as the first chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and its predecessor from December 4, 1815, until his resignation from the Senate on April 20, 1818; on this occasion to accept appointment as United States Ambassador to Russia, a position he held from 1818 to 1821. Campbell served as a member of the French Spoliation Claims Commission in 1831.

Appointed Secretary of the Treasury by James Madison, Campbell faced national financial disorder brought on by the War of 1812. Congress had failed to re-charter the First Bank of the United States after its charter expired in 1811, and appropriations for the war were unavailable, so Campbell had to convince Americans to buy government bonds. He was forced to meet lenders terms, selling government bonds at exorbitant interest rates. In September 1814 the British occupied Washington, D.C. and the credit of the government was lowered even further. He was unsuccessful in his efforts to raise money through additional bond sales and he resigned that October after only eight months in office, disillusioned and in bad health.

Campbell died in 1848 and is buried at Nashville City Cemetery in Nashville, Tennessee.

He assisted in organizing Tennessee Lodge 2 being their first Junior Warden, March 4, 1800 and later assisted in organizing Greeneville Lodge 3, being their first Master, September 5, 1801.



Colonel John Williams

1778-1837

U. S. Senator 1815-1823

John Williams (January 29, 1778 – August 10, 1837) was an American lawyer, soldier, and statesman, operating primarily out of Knoxville, Tennessee, in the first part of the 19th century. He represented Tennessee in the United States Senate from 1815 to 1823, when he lost reelection to Andrew Jackson. Williams also served as colonel of the 39th U.S. Infantry during the Creek Wars, and played a key role in Jackson's victory at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend in 1814.

Williams later distanced himself from Jackson, and aligned himself with John Quincy Adams and Henry Clay. Adams appointed him *chargé d'affaires* to the Central American Federation in 1825.

Williams was born in what is now Forsyth County, North Carolina (then part of Surry County), the third of twelve children of Joseph and Rebekah Lanier Williams. His father was of Welsh descent, and his mother was descended from French Huguenots. Two of Williams' brothers, Lewis Williams and Robert Williams, served as U.S. congressmen in the 19th century. Another brother, Thomas Lanier Williams, was a prominent Tennessee judge. Williams was also the cousin of Congressman Marmaduke Williams.

Williams studied law in Salisbury, North Carolina, in the late 1790s, and served as a captain in the 6th U.S. Infantry, from 1799 to 1800. Shortly afterward, he relocated to Knoxville, Tennessee, where he was admitted to the bar in 1803. Around 1805, he married Melinda White, daughter of Knoxville's founder, James White.

In 1807, Williams was appointed Tennessee's attorney general, and served in this capacity until the following year. In 1811, he led a mass meeting of Knox County citizens that condemned Archibald Roane for resigning from the state legislature to run for circuit court judge. In a letter published in a local newspaper, Williams blasted Roane as too selfish and too much of a drunkard to be a faithful judge.

In 1815, Williams was chosen to fill the Senate seat left vacant by the resignation of Jesse Wharton (who had been appointed to the seat a few months earlier following the resignation of George W. Campbell). In 1817, Williams was reelected to a full six-year term. Williams voted in favor of the Second Bank of the United States in 1816, opposed the Bonus Bill of 1817, and voted for the Missouri Compromise of 1820. He was also chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, and oversaw a reduction of the armed forces.

In 1819, following Jackson's invasion of Florida (then part of Spain), another dispute erupted between Williams and Jackson. Jackson accused Williams of spreading a rumor that Jackson had launched the invasion to protect personal land investments in the Pensacola area, and argued that Williams was assailing his character in private conversations in Washington. In 1821, Williams was one of just four senators to vote against the Adams–Onís Treaty, in which Spain ceded Florida to the United States.

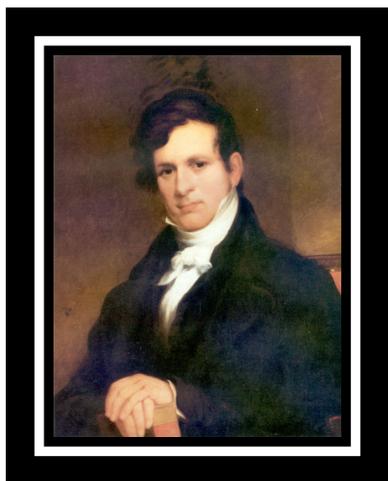
In 1823, Williams made it clear that he was going to support William H. Crawford (another enemy of Jackson) for the presidency, leading Jackson's allies in Tennessee to seek Williams' removal from the Senate. When they were unable to find a candidate with enough support to defeat Williams, Jackson agreed to become a candidate for Williams' seat. Though Williams had the support of the influential *Knoxville Register* and rising politician Davy Crockett, he lost to Jackson by a margin of 35 votes to 25 at a contentious meeting of the state legislature on October 1, 1823

After losing his U.S. Senate seat, Williams ran for Knox County's state senate seat in 1825, but lost to James Anderson by a vote of 982 to 931. President John Quincy Adams pondered appointing Williams Secretary of War, but was dissuaded by Henry Clay, who thought the appointment should go to someone from New York. Adams eventually appointed Williams chargé d'affaires to the Central American Federation, and Williams thus spent most of 1826 at this post in Guatemala.

In 1827, Williams again ran for Knox County's state senate seat. In spite of staunch opposition from Jackson's allies (including Williams' brother-in-law, Hugh Lawson White, who referred to Williams as a "mean politician who can get no man to lye upon him"), Williams won the election, 1,585 to 1,216. During his term, he introduced a bill calling for the construction of a turnpike connecting Anderson County and Kentucky, a bill providing relief for female debtors, and legislation seeking greater oversight of the Bank of Tennessee. He retired from the state senate in 1829.

Williams spent his later years practicing law and advocating railroad construction.^[1] He rejected several invitations to run for Congress, stating he had no desire to go to Washington and serve at the "bow of the emperor," in reference to then-President Jackson. Williams died on August 10, 1837, and was interred in the First Presbyterian Church Cemetery in Knoxville.

He was a member of Overton Lodge 5.



John Eaton
1790-1856
U. S. Senator 1818-1829

John Henry Eaton (June 18, 1790 – November 17, 1856) was a politician and diplomat from Tennessee who served as U.S. Senator and as Secretary of War in the administration of Andrew Jackson. He was 28 years, 4 months, and 29 days old when he entered the Senate, making him the youngest U.S. Senator in history.

Eaton was a lawyer in Tennessee who became part of a network that supported the political campaigns of Andrew Jackson. He also served in the militia as a major, and during the War of 1812 became an aide to Jackson; Eaton served with Jackson in all his wartime campaigns and battles, including the Battle of New Orleans. After serving in the Tennessee House of Representatives in 1815 and 1816, in 1818 Eaton was elected to the United States Senate, though he had not yet reached the constitutionally mandated age of 30.

Following Jackson's election to the presidency in 1828, Eaton resigned his Senate seat to join Jackson's cabinet as Secretary of War. Eaton and his wife Peggy became the focus of controversy during Jackson's first term; in the so-called Petticoat affair, Washington's society wives refused to socialize with the Eatons. The wives of the vice president, cabinet members, and members of Congress looked down on Peggy because of the circumstances of her marriage to Eaton; they had wed shortly after the death of her first husband, without waiting for the usual mourning period, giving rise to rumors that she had been unfaithful to her first husband before his death. Eaton resigned as Secretary of War as part of a strategy to resolve the controversy; he later received appointments as Governor of Florida Territory and U.S. Minister to Spain.

Upon returning to the United States in 1840, Eaton refused to endorse incumbent Martin Van Buren for reelection to the presidency, angering Jackson. In retirement, Eaton resided in Washington. He died there in 1856, and was buried at Oak Hill Cemetery.

John Eaton was born on June 18, 1790 near Scotland Neck, Halifax County, North Carolina to John and Elizabeth Eaton. The elder John Eaton was a furniture maker who served as county coroner and member of the North Carolina House of Representatives. Eaton's uncle, Major Pinketham Eaton (sometimes spelled Pinkerton), was a Continental Army officer who died in combat during the Revolutionary War. Eaton's father owned a large amount of land in middle Tennessee, and the 1790 census lists him as the owner of 12 slaves. The younger Eaton attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill from 1802 to 1804. He then studied law, attained admission to the bar, and moved to Franklin, Tennessee, where he established a law practice.

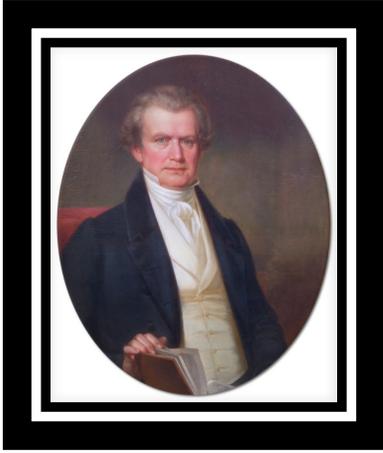
Eaton became active in the Tennessee militia, and attained the rank of major. He developed a close friendship with Andrew Jackson, and served as an aide to Jackson during the Creek War and the War of 1812. Eaton took part in all Jackson's major campaigns. He supported Jackson's controversial decision in November 1814 to attack Pensacola in Spanish Florida, claiming that Spain had put herself in a belligerent position by allowing its territory to be occupied by British soldiers. Eaton participated in the Battle of New Orleans. After the war, Jackson took command of the Southern U.S. Army District with his headquarters at his home, The Hermitage. Eaton served on his staff. Eaton later became a major proponent of Jackson's presidential candidacy.

John Reid, another Jackson aide, began a biography of Jackson in 1816, but died after writing only four chapters. Eaton finished the book, which was published as *The Life of Andrew Jackson* in 1817. This book was revised and republished in 1824 and 1828. It became a major primary reference for future Jackson biographers.

In 1813, Eaton married his first wife, Myra Lewis (1788–1815), the daughter of William Terrell Lewis, a prominent Tennessee businessman and landowner. After the death of their father, Jackson and his wife became Myra's and her sister Mary's guardians, and Eaton's marriage to Myra Lewis strengthened his relationship with Jackson.

Eaton married his second wife Peggy O'Neill Timberlake (1799–1879) in 1829, while serving in the Senate. She was the mother of three children; a son William, who died as an infant, and daughters Virginia and Margaret. Eaton had been a longtime friend of Peggy Timberlake and her husband John B. Timberlake, and John Timberlake had died only a few months before Eaton married his widow. Jackson knew and liked Peggy Eaton and encouraged Eaton to marry her, telling him "Why yes, Major. If you love the woman, and she will have you, marry her by all means." He asked Eaton to marry her as soon as possible. Eaton had no children with either wife.

He was a member of Cumberland Lodge 8.



Felix Grundy

1777-1840

U. S. Senator 1829-1838 & 1839-1840

U. S. House of Representatives 1811-1814

Felix Grundy (September 11, 1777 – December 19, 1840) was a congressman and senator from Tennessee and served as the 13th Attorney General of the United States.

Born in Berkeley County, Virginia (now Berkeley County, West Virginia), Grundy moved to Brownsville, Pennsylvania, and then Kentucky with his parents. He was educated at home and at the Bardstown Academy in Bardstown, Kentucky. He then read law,

was admitted to the Kentucky bar, and commenced practice in Springfield, Kentucky, in 1799.

In 1799, he was chosen to represent Washington County at the convention that drafted the second Kentucky Constitution. From 1800 to 1802, he represented Washington County in the Kentucky House of Representatives. He then moved to Nelson County, which he represented in the Kentucky House from 1804 to 1806. On December 10, 1806, he was commissioned an associate justice of the Kentucky Court of Appeals. He was elevated to Chief Justice of the court on April 11, 1807. Later that year, he resigned and moved to Nashville, Tennessee, where he again took up the practice of law.

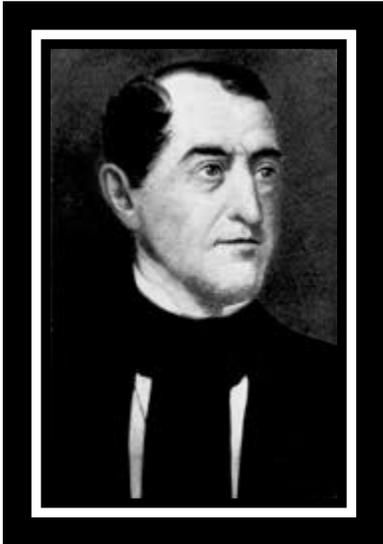
He was elected as a Democratic-Republican to the 12th and 13th Congresses and served from March 4, 1811, until his resignation in July 1814.

He then became a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives from 1819 to 1825, and in 1820 was commissioner to settle the boundary line (state line) between Tennessee and Kentucky. He was elected as a Jacksonian in 1829 to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy in the term ending March 4, 1833, caused by the resignation of John H. Eaton to join the Cabinet of President Andrew Jackson; reelected in 1832 and served from October 19, 1829, to July 4, 1838, when he resigned to accept a Cabinet position. During this time he served as chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads (21st through 24th Congresses), U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary (24th and 25th Congresses).

He entered the Cabinet when he was appointed Attorney General of the United States by President Martin Van Buren in July 1838. He resigned the post in December 1839, having been elected as a Democrat to the United States Senate on November 19, 1839, to fill the vacancy in the term commencing March 4, 1839, caused by the resignation of Ephraim Foster; the question of his eligibility to election as Senator while holding the office of Attorney General of the United States having been raised, he resigned on December 14, 1839, and was reelected to the Senate the same day, serving from December 14, 1839, until his death in Nashville, a little over a year later. During this stint in the upper house of the U.S. Congress he served as chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Revolutionary Claims in the 26th Congress.

His grave can be found at the Nashville City Cemetery in Nashville, Tennessee. After his death, four American counties were named in his honor. The four counties are located in Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and Tennessee.

He was a member of Hiram Lodge 7. He served as Deputy Grand Master pro tem at one meeting of the Grand Lodge in 1814.



Ephraim H. Foster

1794-1854

U. S. Senator 1838-1839 & 1843-1845

Ephraim Hubbard Foster (September 17, 1794 – September 6, 1854) twice served as United States Senator from Tennessee. During his political career, he was a member of the Whig Party.

Foster was born near Bardstown, Kentucky in Nelson County, the son of Robert Coleman Foster and the former Ann Hubbard. In 1797 he moved with his parents to Tennessee, where they settled in the Nashville area. He later graduated from Cumberland College (1813) and later studied law, being admitted to the bar in 1820. He also served in the Creek War and was for a time private secretary to General Andrew Jackson.

He was a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives from 1829 to 1831 and again from 1835 to 1837, serving each time as Speaker. Upon the resignation from the U.S. Senate of Felix Grundy to accept appointment as United States Attorney General, the Tennessee General Assembly elected Foster his successor. He served in the Senate for the first time from September 17, 1838 to March 3, 1839. The legislature elected him to continue in the new term, but he declined, refusing to take their instruction in how to vote while a Senator; the legislature then turned to Grundy, still Attorney General, to succeed him, which (controversially) Grundy agreed to do.

However, Grundy died in office about a year later. Alfred O. P. Nicholson agreed to serve on an interim basis; then for a period the seat was vacated entirely, but eventually the legislature agreed to elect Foster again to the seat and he agreed to serve. His second period of service in the Senate was from October 17, 1843 to March 3, 1845. During this time he chaired the Senate Committee on Claims. Later in 1845 Foster received the nomination of the Whig party for Governor of Tennessee, but was defeated in the election by Aaron V. Brown of the Democratic Party. Following this, Foster returned to his Nashville law practice until shortly before his death. He is buried in the old City Cemetery in Nashville.

His only daughter Sallie married Benjamin F. Cockrill, the son of planter Mark R. Cockrill, and they had a son, Benjamin F. Cockrill Jr.

He was a member of Nashville Lodge 37 and Cumberland Chapter 1, being exalted in that Chapter, April 14, 1823.



Alfred O. P. Nicholson

1808-1876

U. S. Senator 1840-1842 & 1859-1861

Alfred Osborn Pope Nicholson (August 31, 1808 – March 23, 1876), a Tennessee Democratic politician and lawyer, was twice a United States Senator from that state.

Nicholson was born near Franklin, Tennessee, in Williamson County. He attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, graduating in 1827. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1831, opening a law practice in Columbia, Tennessee. He edited the *Western Mercury*, a paper then published in Columbia, from 1832 to 1835. He also served in the Tennessee House of

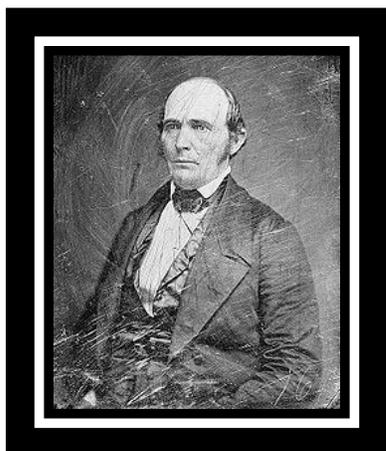
Representatives from 1833 to 1839. In 1840 he was appointed, on an interim basis, to succeed to the U.S. Senate seat vacated by the death of Senator Felix Grundy. He served in that office from December 25, 1840, to February 7, 1842. From 1843 to 1845 he served in the Tennessee State Senate, moving to Nashville during this period, and edited the *Nashville Union* from 1844 to 1846. From 1846 to 1847 he served as a director, and then as president, of the Bank of Tennessee.

In 1853 President Franklin Pierce wished to appoint him to the Cabinet, but he declined to serve. He edited the *Washington Union* from 1853 to 1856 and subsequently served as public printer to the United States House of Representatives.

In 1858 the Tennessee General Assembly again elected Nicholson to the United States Senate from Tennessee. He served from March 4, 1859, to March 3, 1861, when he withdrew from participation in the Senate in anticipation of Tennessee secession from the Union, which occurred the next month. Later in 1861, he was formally expelled from the Senate, as were all Senators from the states joining the Confederacy with the sole exception of his fellow Tennessean Andrew Johnson, a loyal Unionist. After the war, Nicholson served as Chief Justice of the Tennessee Supreme Court from 1870 until his death.

He died on March 23, 1876, in Columbia, Tennessee. He was buried in Columbia's Rose Hill Cemetery.

He was a member of Columbia Lodge 31.



Hopkins L. Turney

1797-1857

U. S. Senator 1845-1851

U. S. House of Representatives 1837-1843

Hopkins Lacy Turney (October 3, 1797 – August 1, 1857) was a Democratic U.S. Representative and United States Senator from Tennessee.

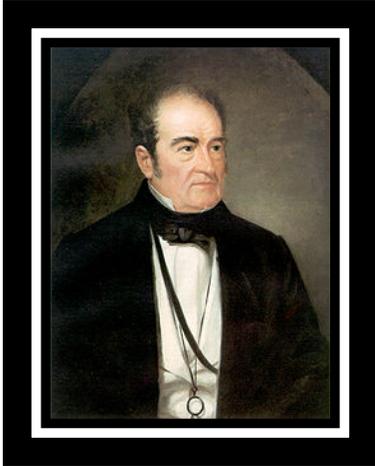
Turney was born in the Smith County settlement of Dixon Springs, Tennessee. As a youth, he was apprenticed to a tailor. He served in the Seminole War in 1818. Subsequent to this he studied law, and passed the bar examination and began a practice in Jasper, Tennessee. Later he moved to Winchester, Tennessee, continuing the practice of law. He was first elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives in 1828.

He married Teresa Francis, the daughter of Miller Francis and Hannah Henry, in 1826. She was born December 9, 1809 and died September 5, 1879. Hopkins and Teresa were the parents of nine children.

Their son Peter Turney (September 22, 1827 – October 19, 1903) was Chief Justice of the Tennessee Supreme Court from 1870 to 1893; and served as governor of the U.S. state of Tennessee from 1893 to 1897.

He was then elected to the U.S. House, serving three terms in that body from 1837 to 1843, the 25th through 27th Congresses. Subsequent to this he was elected by the Tennessee General Assembly to the U.S. Senate, returning to Washington, DC after a two-year hiatus and serving one six-year term in that body, where he was chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Retrenchment for four years and the U.S. Senate Committee on Patents and the Patent Office for two before returning to his law practice, which he engaged in until shortly before his death. He is buried in Winchester.

He was a member of Olive Branch Lodge 53.



John Bell

1796-1869

U. S. Senator 1847-1859

U. S. House of Representatives 1827-1841

John Bell (February 18, 1796 – September 10, 1869) was a politician, attorney, and planter. One of Tennessee's most prominent antebellum politicians, he served in the House of Representatives from 1827 to 1841, and in the Senate from 1847 to 1859. He was Speaker of the House for the 23rd Congress (1834–1835), and briefly served as Secretary of War during the administration of William Henry Harrison (1841). In 1860, he ran for

president as the candidate for the Constitutional Union Party, a third party that took a neutral stance on the issue of slavery.

Initially an ally of Andrew Jackson, Bell turned against Jackson in the mid-1830s and aligned himself with the Whig Party, a shift that earned him the nickname "The Great Apostate." He consistently battled Jackson's allies, namely James K. Polk, over issues such as the national bank and the election spoils system. Following the death of Hugh Lawson White in 1840, Bell became the acknowledged leader of Tennessee's Whigs.

Although a slaveholder, Bell was one of the few Southern politicians to oppose the expansion of slavery in the 1850s, and he campaigned vigorously against secession in the years leading up to the American Civil War. During his 1860 presidential campaign, he argued that secession was unnecessary since the Constitution protected slavery, an argument that resonated with voters in Border States, helping him capture the electoral votes of Tennessee, Kentucky, and Virginia. After the Battle of Fort Sumter in April 1861, Bell abandoned the Union cause and supported the Confederacy.

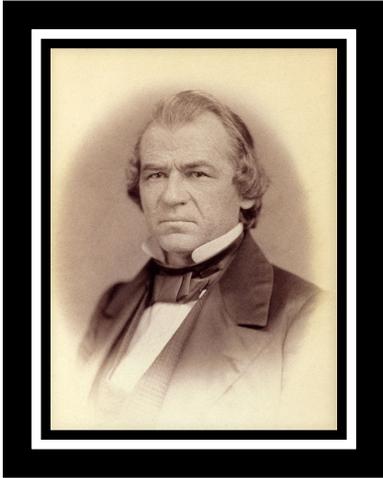
John Bell was born in Mill Creek, a hamlet near Nashville, Tennessee. He was one of nine children of the local farmer and blacksmith Samuel Bell and Margaret (Edmiston) Bell. His paternal grandfather, Robert Bell, had served in the American Revolution under Nathanael Greene, and his maternal grandfather, John Edmiston, had fought at Kings Mountain. He graduated from Cumberland College (later renamed the University of Nashville) in 1814 and studied law. He was admitted to the bar in 1816 and established a prosperous practice in Franklin.

Bell married his first wife, Sally Dickinson, in 1818. They had five children (Mary, John, David, Fanny, and Sally) before she died in 1832. Sally Dickinson was the sister of Congressman David W. Dickinson, the granddaughter of Hardy Murfree, and the aunt of author Mary Noailles Murfree. In 1835, Bell married Jane Erwin Yeatman, a prominent socialite and widow of wealthy businessman Thomas Yeatman.

Confederate Congressman Edwin Augustus Keeble (1807–1868) was a son-in-law of Bell's, being married to his daughter, Sally. Bell's great-grandson, also named Edwin A. Keeble, was a prominent Nashville-area architect, his best known design being the city's first skyscraper, the Life & Casualty Tower.

After Tennessee seceded on June 8, Bell retired from public life, though his sons and sons-in-law actively supported the Confederate cause. When the Union Army occupied Tennessee in 1862, Bell fled to Huntsville, Alabama, and later to Georgia. After the war, he moved to Stewart County, Tennessee, where he managed his family-owned ironworks. He died at his home near Dover, Tennessee in 1869, and he is buried in Mount Olivet Cemetery in Nashville.

He was a member of King Solomon Lodge 6.



Andrew Johnson

1808-1875

U. S. Senator 1857-1862 & 1875-1875

U. S. House of Representatives 1843-1853

Andrew Johnson (December 29, 1808 – July 31, 1875) was the 17th president of the United States, serving from 1865 to 1869. He assumed the presidency as he was vice president at the time of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. Johnson was a Democrat who ran with Lincoln on the National Union ticket, coming to office as the Civil War concluded. He favored quick restoration of the seceded states to the Union without protection for the former slaves. This led to conflict with the Republican-dominated Congress, culminating in his impeachment by the House of Representatives in 1868. He

was acquitted in the Senate by one vote. His main accomplishment as president was the Alaska purchase.

Johnson was born in poverty in Raleigh, North Carolina and never attended school. He was apprenticed as a tailor and worked in several frontier towns before settling in Greeneville, Tennessee. He served as alderman and mayor there before being elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives in 1835. After brief service in the Tennessee Senate, Johnson was elected to the House of Representatives in 1843, where he served five two-year terms. He became governor of Tennessee for four years, and was elected by the legislature to the Senate in 1857. In his congressional service, he sought passage of the Homestead Bill that was enacted soon after he left his Senate seat in 1862. Southern slave states seceded to form the Confederate States of America, including Tennessee, but Johnson remained firmly with the Union. He was the only sitting senator from a Confederate state who did not resign his seat upon learning of his state's secession. In 1862, Lincoln appointed him as military governor of Tennessee after most of it had been retaken. In 1864, Johnson was a logical choice as running mate for Lincoln, who wished to send a message of national unity in his re-election campaign; their ticket easily won. Johnson was sworn in as vice president in March 1865 and gave a rambling speech, after which he secluded himself to avoid public ridicule. Six weeks later, the assassination of Lincoln made him president.

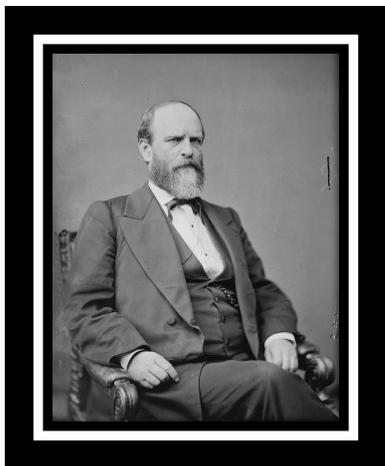
Johnson implemented his own form of Presidential Reconstruction, a series of proclamations directing the seceded states to hold conventions and elections to reform their civil governments. Southern states returned many of their old leaders and passed Black Codes to deprive the freedmen of many civil liberties, but Congressional Republicans refused to seat legislators from those states and advanced legislation to overrule the Southern actions. Johnson vetoed their bills, and Congressional Republicans overrode him, setting a pattern for the remainder of his presidency. Johnson opposed the Fourteenth Amendment that gave citizenship to former slaves. In 1866, he went on an unprecedented national tour promoting his executive policies, seeking to break Republican opposition.^[2] As the conflict grew between the branches of government, Congress passed the Tenure of Office Act restricting Johnson's ability to fire Cabinet officials. He persisted in trying to dismiss Secretary of War Edwin Stanton, but ended up being impeached by the House of Representatives and narrowly avoided conviction in the Senate. He did not win the 1868 Democratic presidential nomination and left office the following year.

Johnson returned to Tennessee after his presidency and gained some vindication when he was elected to the Senate in 1875, making him the only former president to serve in the Senate. He died five months into his term. Johnson's strong opposition to federally guaranteed rights for black Americans is widely criticized. He is regarded by many historians as one of the worst presidents in American history.

In late July 1875, convinced some of his opponents were defaming him in the Ohio gubernatorial race, he decided to travel there to give speeches. He began the trip on July 28, and broke the journey at his daughter Mary's farm near Elizabethton, where his daughter Martha was also staying. That evening he suffered a stroke, but refused medical treatment until the next day, when he did not improve and two doctors were sent for from Elizabethton. He seemed to respond to their ministrations, but suffered another stroke on the evening of July 30, and died early the following morning at the age of 66. President Grant had the "painful duty" of announcing the death of the only surviving past president. Northern newspapers, in their obituaries, tended to focus on Johnson's loyalty during the war, while

Southern ones paid tribute to his actions as president. Johnson's funeral was held on August 3 in Greeneville. He was buried with his body wrapped in an American flag and a copy of the U.S. Constitution placed under his head, according to his wishes. The burial ground was dedicated as the Andrew Johnson National Cemetery in 1906, and with his home and tailor's shop, is part of the Andrew Johnson National Historic Site.

He was made a Mason in Greeneville Lodge 119 in 1851. He was known to be a Knight Templar, but where he received the Capitular and Templar Degrees is not known.



Henry Cooper

1827-1884
U. S. Senator 1871-1877

Henry Cooper (August 22, 1827 – February 4, 1884) was a Tennessee attorney, judge, and politician who served one term in the United States Senate, 1871–1877. During his career, Cooper moved through several political affiliations, including Whig, Know Nothing, and Democrat.

Henry Cooper was born on August 22, 1827 in Columbia, Tennessee. He had three brothers, including William Frierson Cooper and Edmund Cooper, and two half-brothers, including Duncan Brown Cooper.

Cooper attended Dixon Academy in Shelbyville, Tennessee, and graduated from Jackson College in Jackson, Tennessee in 1847. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1850.

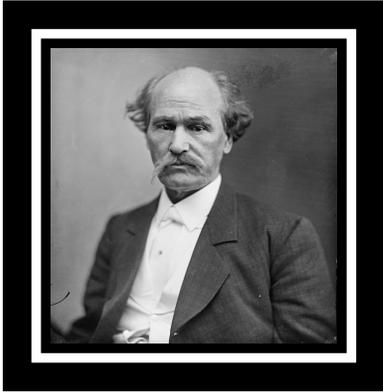
Cooper served as a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives from 1853 to 1855 and again from 1857 to 1859. He was appointed judge of the former 7th Judicial Circuit in April, 1862. In January, 1866 he resigned this position and moved to Lebanon, Tennessee where he became a professor at the Cumberland School of Law. In 1867 he moved to Nashville, where he served in the Tennessee State Senate, 1869-1870.

The Tennessee General Assembly elected him to the United States Senate for the term beginning March 4, 1871. He did not seek another term, and his Senate service ended on March 3, 1877.

By the early 1880s, he was engaged in mining operations in Tierra Blanca, Guadalupe y Calvo, Chihuahua, Mexico.

Bandits murdered Cooper there on February 4, 1884. He was buried nearby, and a cenotaph to his memory was erected at Old City Cemetery in Shelbyville, Tennessee.

He was a member of Shelbyville Lodge 122.



Isham G. Harris

1818-1897

U. S. Senator 1877-1897

U. S. House of Representatives 1849-1853

Isham Green Harris (February 10, 1818 – July 8, 1897) was a politician who served as Governor of Tennessee from 1857 to 1862, and as a U.S. Senator from 1877 until his death. He was the state's first governor from West Tennessee. A pivotal figure in the state's history, Harris was considered by his contemporaries the person most responsible for leading Tennessee out of the Union and aligning it with the Confederacy during the Civil War.

Harris rose to prominence in state politics in the late 1840s when he campaigned against the anti-slavery initiatives of northern Whigs. He was elected governor amidst rising sectional strife in the late 1850s, and following the election of Abraham Lincoln in 1860, persistently sought to sever the state's ties with the Union. His war-time efforts eventually raised over 100,000 soldiers for the Confederate cause. After the Union Army gained control of Middle and West Tennessee in 1862, Harris spent the remainder of the war on the staffs of various Confederate generals. Following the war, he spent several years in exile in Mexico and England.^[5]

After returning to Tennessee, Harris became a leader of the state's Bourbon Democrats. During his tenure in the U. S. Senate, he championed states' rights and currency expansion. As the Senate's president pro tempore in the 1890s, Harris led the charge against President Grover Cleveland's attempts to repeal the Sherman Silver Purchase Act.

Harris was born in Franklin County, Tennessee near Tullahoma. He was the ninth child of Isham Green Harris, a farmer and Methodist minister, and his wife Lucy Davidson Harris. His parents had moved from North Carolina to Middle Tennessee in 1806. He was educated at Carrick Academy in Winchester, Tennessee, until he was fourteen. He moved to Paris, Tennessee, where he joined up with his brother William, an attorney, and became a store clerk. In 1838, with funds provided by his brother, Harris established his own business in Ripley, Mississippi, an area that had only been recently opened to settlers after a treaty with the Chickasaw Indians.

While in Ripley, Harris studied law. He sold his successful business three years later for \$7,000 and returned to Paris where he continued studying law under Judge Andrew McCampbell. On May 3, 1841, he was admitted to the bar in Henry County and began a lucrative practice in Paris. He was considered one of the leading criminal attorneys in the state.

On July 6, 1843, Harris married Martha Mariah Travis (nicknamed "Crockett"), the daughter of Major Edward Travis, a War of 1812 veteran. The couple had seven sons. By 1850 the family had a 300-acre (120 ha) farm and a home in Paris. By 1860 their total property was worth \$45,000 and included twenty slaves and a plantation in Shelby County.

By 1877, the Tennessee state legislature, which was once again controlled by Democrats, elected Harris to one of the state's U.S. Senate seats. One of his earliest assignments, in the 46th Congress (1879–81), was the District of Columbia Committee. Subsequent assignments included the Committee on Epidemic Diseases in the 49th Congress through the 52nd Congress (1885–93) and the Committee on Private Land Claims in the 54th Congress (1895–97).

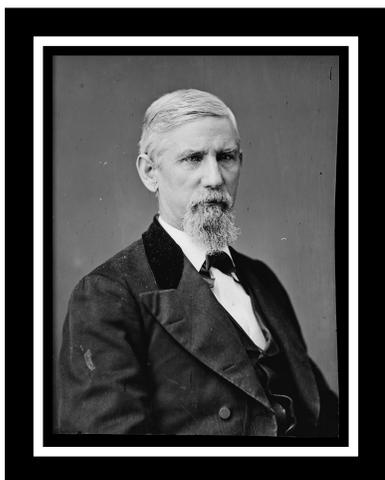
During his first term in the Senate, Harris became the leader of Tennessee's Bourbon Democrats, a wing of the Democratic Party that generally supported laissez-faire capitalism and the gold standard. As such, Harris spent his early Senate career advocating strict constructionism and limited government, states' rights, and low tariffs. In 1884, he was interviewed by President-elect Grover Cleveland for a cabinet position. In 1887, he gave an impassioned speech in favor of the repeal of the Tenure of Office Act.^[2] In 1890, Harris denounced the Lodge Bill, which would have protected voting rights for African-Americans in the South, arguing that it violated states' rights.

Though a Bourbon Democrat, Harris, representing an agrarian state, was also a "Silver Democrat", believing pro-silver policies protected farmers.^[5] He supported the Bland–Allison Act of 1878, which authorized the federal government to purchase silver to prevent deflation in crop prices. He also

supported the act's replacement, the Sherman Silver Purchase Act of 1890. In 1893, President Cleveland, concerned that the Sherman Act was depleting the U.S. gold supply, sought its repeal. When the vote came up in the Senate in October, Harris, as president pro tempore, launched a filibuster in hopes of preventing the act's repeal, but was unsuccessful. Disgruntled over the repeal of the Sherman Act, Harris campaigned for unsuccessful presidential candidate and gold standard opponent William Jennings Bryan in 1896.

Harris died in office on July 8, 1897. His funeral was held in the Senate chamber of the United States Capitol. Congressman Walter P. Brownlow, a nephew of Harris' old rival Parson Brownlow, was among those who delivered a memorial address in his honor. He is interred at Elmwood Cemetery in Memphis.

He was a member of Paris Lodge 108 at Paris, Tennessee, later moving to Memphis. He was elected Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge in 1851, but was unable to serve. He was again elected Grand Orator in 1868.



Washington C. Whitthorne

1825-1891

U. S. Senator 1886-1887

**U. S. House of Representatives 1871-1883 &
1887-1891**

Washington Curran Whitthorne (April 19, 1825 – September 21, 1891) was a attorney, Democratic politician, and an Adjutant General in the Confederate Army.

Whitthorne was born near Petersburg, Tennessee in Marshall County. One day when Whitthorne was young James K. Polk stayed at his family's home. Polk saw how bright he was and asked, "What are you going to make of this boy?" His father replied "I am going to make him the President of the United States." Polk then told them to send the boy to Columbia and he would make him a lawyer. He attended Campbell Academy in Lebanon, Tennessee and subsequently East Tennessee College (now the University of Tennessee) where he graduated in 1843. He subsequently studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1845, serving in various governmental positions, and working for James K. Polk until he entered private practice in 1848 in Columbia, Tennessee. On July 4, 1848 Whitthorne married Matilda Jane Campbell, a cousin of Polk.

He was elected to serve in the Tennessee State Senate from 1855 to 1858. Whitthorne was then elected Speaker of the Tennessee House of Representatives from 1859 to 1861.

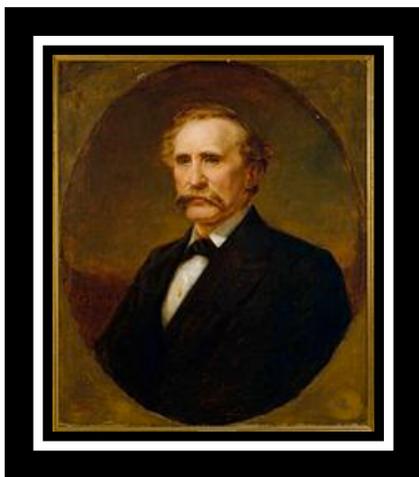
In 1861 he became Adjutant General of Tennessee for the Confederacy, and served in that post through the end of the Civil War. He also served on the staff of generals Robert Anderson, Marcus Joseph Wright, Samuel P. Carter, and William J. Hardee.

After Lee had surrendered at Appomattox, Whitthorne was held as prisoner of war at Columbia in order to be shielded from Federal prosecution. President Andrew Johnson interceded, gave him a Presidential pardon, and restored his civil rights. In 1870, Whitthorne began a campaign for the United States House of Representatives. He won the election and would eventually serve six consecutive terms during his initial service in the House of Representatives, chairing the House Committee on Naval Affairs from 1875 to 1881.

Upon the resignation of Senator Howell E. Jackson, Whitthorne was appointed to the U.S. Senate by governor of Tennessee William B. Bate and then subsequently elected to the balance of the term by the Tennessee General Assembly, serving in the Senate from April 16, 1886 to March 3, 1887. Following his Senate service he served two more subsequent consecutive terms in the United States House of Representatives, from 1887 to 1891. After serving in the House of Representatives

Whitthorne returned to Columbia and died there later in 1891, being interred at Rose Hill Cemetery. Whitthorne Middle School in Columbia, formerly Whitthorne Junior High School, is named in his honor.

He was a member of Columbia Lodge 31.



William B. Bate

1826-1905
U. S. Senator 1887-1905

William Brimage Bate (October 7, 1826 – March 9, 1905) was a soldier and politician. He served as Governor of Tennessee from 1883 to 1887, and subsequently served as a United States Senator from 1887 until his death. During the Civil War, he fought for the Confederacy, eventually rising to the rank of major general and commanding a division in the Army of Tennessee. Bate saw action in multiple engagements throughout the war, and was seriously wounded on two occasions.

Bate was born in Bledsoe's Lick (now Castalian Springs) in Sumner County, Tennessee, the son of James H. Bate and Amanda Weathered Bate. He attended a log schoolhouse known as the "Rural Academy." When he was 15, his father died, and he left home to find work. He was eventually hired as a clerk on the steamboat, *Saladin*, which traveled up and down the Cumberland, Ohio, and Mississippi rivers between Nashville and New Orleans.

While his steamboat was docked in New Orleans, word of the outbreak of the Mexican–American War arrived, and Bate enlisted in a Louisiana regiment. When this enlistment ended a few months later, he reenlisted with the rank of lieutenant in Company I of the 3rd Tennessee Volunteer Infantry. He accompanied General Joseph Lane on several raids in pursuit of Santa Anna toward the end of the war.

After the war, Bate returned to his family farm in Sumner County, and established a pro-Democratic Party newspaper, the *Tenth Legion*, in nearby Gallatin. He was elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives in 1849. In 1852, he obtained his law degree from the Cumberland School of Law (then located in Lebanon, Tennessee), and was admitted to the bar. After the state constitution was amended to allow for direct election of judicial officers in 1854, Bate was elected attorney general for the Nashville district.

Bate campaigned for Democratic gubernatorial candidate Andrew Johnson in 1855, and was an elector for Southern Democratic presidential candidate John C. Breckinridge in 1860. He was offered his district's nomination for Congress in 1859, but declined. He was a staunch supporter of secession in the years leading up to the Civil War.

Bate married Julia Peete, the daughter of Samuel Peete, a prominent lawyer and scholar of Huntsville, Alabama. She was born in Huntsville and educated in the schools of Alabama and Philadelphia. Her marriage to Hon. William B. Bate occurred in 1856. During two successive terms that her husband was Governor of Tennessee, Mrs. Bate presided with grace and dignity over the State Executive Mansion. In 1889, Bate was elected to the United States Senate, she accompanied him to Washington, where she usually resided during the sessions of Congress, participating in the social affairs incident to Senatorial life. They had 4 daughters, two of whom lived, Mrs. Thomas F. Mastin, Texas, and Mrs. O. D. Childs, Los Angeles. As Susie Bale, Mrs. Childs was for a number of seasons a much admired young lady in Washington Society. Mrs. Bate was a member of the Methodist church and of several charitable organizations.

Following the Battle of Fort Sumter in April 1861, Bate enlisted in a private company in Gallatin, and was elected as its captain. In early May, after Tennessee aligned itself with the Confederacy, Bate was elected colonel of the 2nd Tennessee Infantry. This unit was quickly dispatched to Virginia, where it

was among the forces tasked with guarding the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad. Bate was present at the Battle of Aquia Creek on May 30, 1861. At the First Battle of Bull Run (First Battle of Manassas) in July 1861, Bate was in the reserve brigade of Theophilus Holmes in the Confederate Army of the Potomac.

Bate's unit remained on the Potomac River until February 1862, when, at his request, his unit was transferred to the Western Theater. The 2nd Tennessee was placed under Albert Sidney Johnston's Army of Mississippi, which was conducting operations in the Corinth area. Bate's unit marched north with the Army of Mississippi in its attempt to check Ulysses S. Grant's advance at the Battle of Shiloh in April 1862. Bate was wounded severely in the leg during the first day's fighting, and an Army surgeon told him it would be necessary to amputate his leg to save his life. Bate drew his pistol, threatening to shoot the surgeon, and kept his leg. Although he survived, he was incapacitated for several months, and walked with a limp the rest of his life. Several of Bate's relatives were killed at Shiloh, and his horse was shot out from under him.^[2]

After spending several months recovering in Columbus, Mississippi, Bate was promoted to brigadier general on October 2, 1862. He was initially given tasks away from the frontlines in North Alabama, but when he demanded a return to action, General Braxton Bragg created an infantry brigade for him to command in the Army of Tennessee. He took part in the Tullahoma Campaign, and saw action at the Battle of Hoover's Gap in June 1863. During this period, Tennessee's Confederate leaders offered Bate the gubernatorial nomination to replace term-limited governor Isham G. Harris, but Bate declined, preferring to stay on the frontlines.

At the Battle of Chickamauga, Bate engaged in a skirmish with enemy forces that opened the fighting on the evening of September 18, 1863. In the intense fighting that took place on the following day, three of his horses were shot out from under him. During the reorganization of the Army of Tennessee after this battle, Bate was given command of John C. Breckinridge's division (Breckinridge had been promoted to Corps commander). Bate commanded this division at the Battle of Missionary Ridge in November 1863.

As a result of his service in the Chattanooga Campaign, Bate was promoted to major general on February 24, 1864. That summer, his division took part in the Atlanta Campaign, and saw action at the battles of Resaca, New Hope Church, Kennesaw Mountain, and Peachtree Creek, as well as the main Battle of Atlanta on July 22. At the Battle of Utoy Creek on August 6, Bate used a deception plan that foiled the main Union attack. He was shot in the knee in a skirmish at Willis' Grist Mill near Atlanta on August 10, and was bedridden in Barnesville, Georgia, for several weeks.

Bate rejoined his division in time to take part in General John B. Hood's invasion of Tennessee in late 1864. At the Battle of Franklin on November 30, he lost nearly 20% of his division, and his horse was again shot out from under him. He commanded General Benjamin F. Cheatham's right flank at the Battle of Nashville two weeks later.

Bate's division remained with Cheatham's Corps during the 1865 Carolinas Campaign, during which he saw action at the Battle of Bentonville in March. Bate and his men surrendered at Bennett Place near Greensboro, North Carolina. During the war, he was wounded three times and had six horses shot from beneath him.

After the war, Bate practiced law in Nashville in partnership with Colonel Frank Williams. He remained active in politics, serving on the State Democratic Committee and the National Democratic Executive Committee in the late 1860s.^[1] He was nominated for the U.S. Senate in 1875, 1877, and 1881,^[6] and was an elector for presidential candidate Samuel J. Tilden in 1876.

Throughout the 1870s and early 1880s, Tennessee's state government struggled with debt, which had accumulated over previous decades as the state issued bonds to fund internal improvements and railroad construction. The Panic of 1873 decimated the state's property tax revenue, and the state defaulted on its bond debt in 1875. By the early 1880s, the state Democratic Party had split into two factions over how to resolve the crisis: those who sought full repayment of the debt at all costs to preserve the state's credit (known as the "high tax" or "state credit" Democrats) and those who believed full payment unfeasible and sought only a partial payment (known as the "low tax" Democrats). In the gubernatorial race of 1880, each faction nominated its own candidate, causing the Democratic vote to be split, and allowing Republican Alvin Hawkins to win the election.

In the 1882 gubernatorial race, the state's Bourbon faction, led by former governor Isham Harris, rallied support for the "low tax" faction, which nominated Bate as its candidate. Bate proposed paying 50% on

bonds held by railroads (some of which were believed to have been obtained fraudulently during the Brownlow administration), and making full payment on bonds held by schools, charities, and Sarah Childress Polk, the widow of James K. Polk. The "high tax" Democrats nominated their own candidate, Joseph Fussell. On Election Day, Bate won with 120,637 votes to 93,168 for the incumbent, Hawkins, 9,660 for Greenback candidate John Beasley, and 4,814 for Fussell.

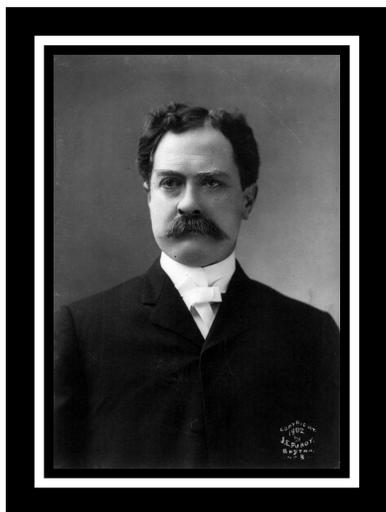
After his inauguration, Bate signed his debt plan into law, finally resolving the debt issue that had dogged the state for over a decade. There was still considerable anger over how the crisis was resolved, however, threatening Bate's reelection chances in 1884. The Republican candidate, Nashville judge Frank T. Reid, mounted a strong campaign, but Bate was able to win reelection by a vote of 132,201 to 125,246.

During his first term, Bate signed into a law an act creating the State Railroad Commission to regulate railroad rates. Farmers, who deemed railroad freight rates too high, supported this, while railroad companies opposed it. The act creating this commission was repealed in 1885, however, angering farmers, and damaging Democrats' chances of holding onto the governor's office in the 1886 election.

After Senator Howell Jackson resigned in 1886, Bate appointed Washington C. Whitthorne to fill out his term, which was set to expire in March 1887. The Tennessee General Assembly then elected Bate to fill the Senate seat. He was reelected in 1893, 1899, and 1905. During his tenure, he served as the chairman of the Committee on the Improvement of the Mississippi River and Its Tributaries in the 53rd Congress, and the chairman of the Committee on Public Health and the National Quarantine in two later sessions. He supported lower taxes, and favored funding for common schools, the United States Weather Bureau, and the Army Signal Corps.^[1] He voted for the admission of Oklahoma, Arizona, and New Mexico as states.

Shortly after being elected to his fourth term, Bate attended the inauguration of President Theodore Roosevelt on March 4, 1905, where he is believed to have caught a cold. He died of pneumonia a few days later on March 9. His body was carried back to Nashville on a specially-chartered train, and he was interred in Mount Olivet Cemetery. Members of the Frank Cheatham Bivouac, which consisted of surviving Confederate veterans, fired the final salute over his grave.

He was a member of King Solomon Lodge 94.



Edward W. Carmack

1858-1908

U. S. Senator 1901-1907

U. S. House of Representatives 1897-1901

Edward Ward Carmack (November 5, 1858 – November 9, 1908) was an attorney, newspaperman, and political figure who served as a U.S. Senator from Tennessee from 1901 to 1907.

Following his political service, and after an unsuccessful run for Governor of Tennessee, he became editor of the one-year-old *Nashville Tennessean*. He was shot to death on November 9, 1908 over a feud precipitated by Duncan Brown Cooper for his editorial comments in the paper.

Carmack was born in Sumner County, Tennessee. He attended The Webb School, then at Culleoka, Tennessee. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1878 and began practicing in Columbia, Tennessee. He served as Columbia city attorney in 1881, and was elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives in 1884.

Carmack joined the staff of the *Nashville Democrat* in 1889, later becoming editor-in-chief of the *Nashville American* when the two papers merged. He later (1892) served as editor of the *Memphis Commercial*, now *The Commercial Appeal*.

Throughout his career, Carmack was known to use his newspapers to attack rivals. During Carmack's tenure with the *Appeal*, his editorials began an interesting dialogue with another famous Tennessee journalist, Ida B. Wells. Wells, known as the "Mother of the Civil Rights Movement", was also not one to withhold her opinions and spoke out about the plight of African Americans in Post-Reconstruction era in the South. Memphis in the 1890s was a hotbed of racial tension, and lynching crimes were commonplace. Wells launched an anti-lynching campaign in her newspaper, the *Free Speech*.

The *Free Speech* received national attention in 1892 for its coverage of the so-called Curve Riot in Memphis. The Curve Riot was in fact an attack on the People's Grocery Store by a group of undercover police serving a warrant on the black-owned business. Will Barret, the store's white competitor, had convinced a local court that the People's Grocery was a nuisance. The court ordered the owners arrested. Fearing an attack, supporters of the People's Grocery armed themselves to defend the store. In the ensuing melee, three deputies were wounded. Crying "race riot," other armed whites joined the police and captured over thirty African-Americans, including three of the store's owners: Tom Moss, Calvin McDowell, and Will Stewart.

A mob later seized the three from the jail and lynched them. Wells wrote passionately of the atrocity and advised her readers to abandon Memphis and move to the western territories. Many followed her advice. Carmack demanded retaliation against "the black wench" for her denunciation of the lynching. As a result, the offices of the *Free Speech* were demolished. Fortunately, Wells was out of town when the attack occurred. She did not return to the South for another thirty years.

Carmack was elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1896, and served two terms in that body, March 4, 1897 – March 3, 1901. He was then elected to the U.S. Senate by the Tennessee General Assembly, serving one term in that body, March 4, 1901 – March 3, 1907. Carmack served on the Lodge Committee investigating war crimes in the Philippine-American War.

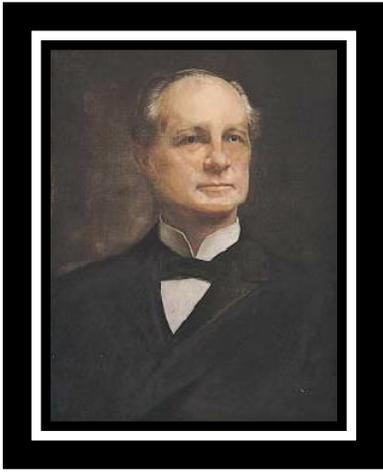
Carmack failed to secure reelection to a second Senate term, being succeeded by former governor of Tennessee Robert Love Taylor, and returned to the practice of law. He then contended for the 1908 Democratic nomination for governor, running against the incumbent, Malcolm Patterson. Carmack ran as a Prohibitionist, while Patterson had the support of the "wet" lobby. Narrowly defeated by Patterson, Carmack returned to journalism, becoming the editor of the "Nashville Tennessean," a prohibitionist daily.

On November 9, 1908, he was shot down on the streets of Nashville by his publishing and political rival Duncan Brown Cooper, over something he had written in his newspaper about the man that had prompted a feud between them.

Perhaps in large measure because of the spectacular and violent nature of his death, Carmack was memorialized by the Tennessee state legislature. They commissioned a large bronze statue of Carmack, which was erected on the grounds of the Tennessee State Capitol building. The bronze statue was designed by Nancy Cox-McCormack in 1924 (dedicated in 1927), and engraved with several quotes from Carmack on its surroundings and pedestal.

Carmack's remains were returned to Columbia, and he was buried in its Rose Hill Cemetery.

He was a member of Memphis Lodge 118.



James B. Frazier

1856-1937
U. S. Senator 1905-1911

James Beriah Frazier (October 18, 1856 – March 28, 1937) was an American politician who served as Governor of Tennessee from 1903 to 1905, and subsequently as a United States Senator from Tennessee from 1905 to 1911. As governor, he reduced the state's debt and enacted mine safety regulations. He also attempted to control whitecapping.

The controversial manner in which the state legislature elected him to the U.S. Senate (as was customary at the time) created a critical rift in the state's Democratic Party that lasted into the 1910s.

Frazier was born in Pikeville, Tennessee, the son of Thomas and Margaret (McReynolds) Frazier. In 1867, his family moved to Davidson County, where his father had been appointed to a criminal court judgeship. Frazier attended Franklin College, a seminary near Nashville, and obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Tennessee in 1878. He was admitted to the bar in 1881, and moved to Chattanooga to practice law that same year.

Described by historian Zella Armstrong as "one of the greatest orators who ever lived in the Volunteer State," Frazier quickly rose to prominence in Chattanooga political circles. In 1894, he challenged incumbent Henry Snodgrass for the Democratic Party nomination for the 3rd District seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. While Frazier had wide support, Snodgrass had more support from the delegates at the party's convention, and won the nomination. Snodgrass was defeated by the Republican candidate, Foster V. Brown, in the general election, however, due in part to bitterness from Frazier's supporters who did not give him their vote.

During the 1900 presidential race, Frazier served as the state's at-large elector for the Democratic candidate, William Jennings Bryan. He canvassed across Tennessee on behalf of Bryan, gaining invaluable statewide political exposure.

Frazier married Louise Douglas Keith in 1883. They had four children: Anne, James Jr., Thomas, and Louise. James B. Frazier Jr. became a politician, representing Tennessee's 3rd congressional district in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1949 to 1963.

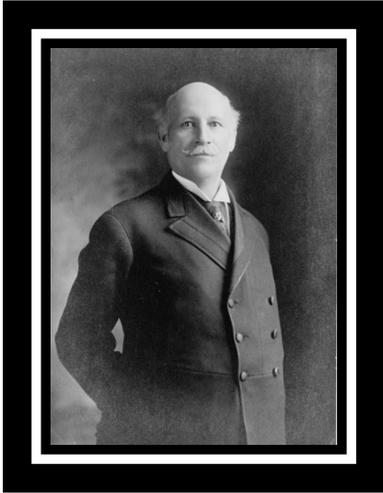
On March 9, 1905, a few weeks after the beginning of Frazier's second term as Governor, Senator William B. Bate died, prompting a scramble to fill his vacant seat. Former Governor Robert Love Taylor had for years campaigned unsuccessfully for a Senate seat, and believed he should be next in line. Frazier, however, also wanted the Senate seat, and while Taylor was still out of state on a speaking tour, the governor quickly convened the General Assembly to have himself elected to the seat. After this election, Frazier resigned from the governorship to take his seat in the Senate. The Speaker of the Tennessee Senate, John I. Cox (who had helped engineer Frazier's election), succeeded as governor.

Taylor was outraged by Frazier's actions, and suggested that Frazier, Cox, and US Senator Edward W. Carmack were conspiring to control the state Democratic Party. To appease Taylor's supporters, the party allowed Taylor to face Carmack in a primary in 1906 (the first Senate primary in state history), which Taylor won. That same year, the Democratic Party refused to nominate Cox for reelection as governor.

As a senator, Frazier championed states' rights, and opposed most protective tariffs. He supported a federal income tax amendment and funding for highway construction. He campaigned for a second term in 1911, but state Democrats, irritated by the intra-party divisions created by his first election, refused to nominate him.

After leaving the Senate, Frazier returned to Chattanooga, where he practiced law with his son, James B. Frazier Jr. (1890–1978), in the firm, Frazier and Frazier.^[3] He died on March 28, 1937, and is buried in the city's Forest Hills Cemetery.

He was a member of Chattanooga Lodge 199.



Robert Love Taylor

1850-1912

U. S. Senator 1907-1912

U. S. House of Representatives 1879-1881

Robert Love "Bob" Taylor (July 31, 1850 – March 31, 1912) was a politician, writer, and lecturer. A member of the Democratic Party, he served three terms as Governor of Tennessee, from 1887 to 1891, and again from 1897 to 1899, and subsequently served as a United States Senator from 1907 until his death. He also represented Tennessee's 1st district in the United States House of Representatives from 1879 to 1881, the last Democrat to hold the district's seat.

A charismatic speaker, Taylor is remembered for defeating his older brother, Alfred A. "Alf" Taylor, in the 1886 gubernatorial campaign known as "The War of the Roses." The campaign involved storytelling, fiddle-playing, and practical jokes, standing in contrast to the state's previous gubernatorial campaigns, which typically involved fierce rhetoric and personal attacks. Though Robert Taylor won in 1886, Alfred Taylor was elected as governor in the early 1920s.

Along with politics, Taylor was a public lecturer and magazine editor. He published several collections of his lectures and short stories in the 1890s and early 1900s, and was co-editor of the *Taylor-Trotwood Magazine*.

Taylor was born in Happy Valley, Carter County, Tennessee, the third son of Nathaniel Green Taylor, a Methodist minister, and Emmaline Haynes, an accomplished pianist. His father, a member of the Whig Party, had been defeated by Andrew Johnson in a campaign for Congress in 1849 but would win the seat in the mid-1850s. His mother's family supported the Democratic Party, and her brother, Landon Carter Haynes, was a prominent Democratic politician. Robert Taylor would adopt his mother's political leanings and become a Democrat, and his older brother, Alfred, would follow his father into the Whig (and later Republican) Party.

In the 1870s, Taylor tried several business ventures, including farming, operating a lumber mill, and managing his father's Doe River iron forge. He largely failed at all of those, however, since he was reckless with money, overpaid his employees, and preferred conversation and storytelling to working. He read law during this period with S.J. Kirkpatrick in Jonesborough.

Taylor married Sarah Baird in 1878, and they had five children. After she died in 1900, he married Alice Hill. This second marriage ended in divorce after a few years. Taylor was married for a third time to Mamie St. John in 1904. Taylor and Sarah's daughter Katherine Baird Taylor married Matthew Hillsman "Red" Taylor; their son Peter Taylor became an award-winning writer.

In 1878, Alfred Taylor ran for the Republican nomination for Tennessee's 1st congressional district seat against Augustus H. Pettibone. At the party's convention, Alfred appeared to have more delegates, but Pettibone managed to win the nomination, which led Alfred's supporters to suspect corruption. Robert Taylor was convinced to run against Pettibone on the Democratic ticket in the general election. The public got its first real taste of his speaking ability at a debate in Bristol, when Taylor thrashed Pettibone with a "bewildering kaleidoscope of oratory." With help from Alfred's disgruntled supporters, Robert edged Pettibone for the seat by 750 votes. Legislation sponsored by Taylor included a bill calling for a federal income tax.

Taylor was defeated by Pettibone in his re-election campaign in 1880 and lost to Pettibone a third time when he tried to regain the seat in 1882. He launched a pro-Democratic Party newspaper, *The Comet*, in nearby Johnson City. In 1884, Taylor was named the elector from the 1st district for Democratic presidential candidate Grover Cleveland, and campaigned across the district against the Republican elector, Samuel Hawkins. After Cleveland won the election, he appointed Taylor as federal pension agent in Knoxville.

In 1886, Republicans, hoping to exploit divisions in the Democratic Party between the pro-farmer and Bourbon factions, nominated Alfred Taylor for governor. (The office then had a two-year term.)

Democrats, realizing they needed a unifier and effective campaigner to counter Alfred, nominated Robert Taylor as their candidate, pitting the two brothers against one another. The Prohibition Party offered its nomination to the Taylors' father, Nathaniel, but he declined.

The 1886 gubernatorial campaign is remembered for the Taylor brothers' relatively light-hearted political banter and entertaining speeches. Canvassing together, they spent the first part of each campaign stop "cussing out each other's politics" and telling stories and the second part playing fiddle tunes while the crowd danced. At a stop in Madisonville, Robert suggested that both he and Alfred were roses, but he was a white rose while Alfred was a red rose. As their respective supporters subsequently wore white and red roses, the campaign became known as the "War of the Roses" (the name also referred to the 15th-century English conflict). Their campaign stops drew massive crowds, ranging from around 6,000 in smaller towns to 25,000 in Nashville. In a record turnout on Election Day, Robert Taylor defeated Alfred by 16,000 votes.

In 1896, the Democratic Party was again concerned about Republicans' chances of winning the governor's office and believed that the incumbent, Peter Turney, had won the office by using questionable tactics two years earlier. When several Democratic leaders invited Taylor to run, he reluctantly agreed and defeated Turney for the party's nomination in August 1896.^[1] After a fierce general election campaign, he edged the Republican candidate, George Tillman, with about 49% of the vote to Tillman's 47%.^[1] Republicans suggested voting irregularities had helped Taylor win, but the Democratic-dominated state legislature obstructed any attempt at an investigation.^[1]

The most notable event of Taylor's second term as governor was the Tennessee Centennial, which marked the 100th anniversary of the state's admission to the Union. The state celebrated by producing the Tennessee Centennial and International Exposition, a five-month world's fair held in Nashville's Centennial Park in 1897, with Taylor making numerous appearances.

After his final term as governor, Taylor returned to the lecture circuit, though he continuously sought one of the state's US Senate seats, then elected by the legislature. In 1907, he defeated the incumbent Senator Edward W. Carmack in a public primary, and Taylor was elected by the state legislature to the seat later that year. He served from 1907 until his death in 1912. Some of the legislation that he supported was the Sixteenth Amendment, which authorized the federal government to levy income taxes. He helped secure the amendment's passage in the Senate in 1909.

In 1910, when incumbent Democratic Governor Malcolm R. Patterson withdrew from the state's gubernatorial contest because of the turmoil in the party over Prohibition, Taylor agreed to serve as a replacement nominee. He lost in the general election to the Republican nominee, Ben W. Hooper, who had defeated Taylor's brother, Alfred, for the Republican nomination earlier that year.

On March 31, 1912, Taylor suffered a gallstone attack and died following unsuccessful surgery at Providence Hospital in Washington. A specially chartered train carried his body to Nashville, where it lay in the capitol for several days. It was then taken to Knoxville, where a funeral procession of more than 40,000 people, the largest in the city's history, attended his burial at Old Gray Cemetery.

He was a member of Dashiell Lodge 238.



John K. Shields

1858-1934

U. S. Senator 1913-1925

John Knight Shields (August 15, 1858 – September 30, 1934) was a Democratic United States Senator from Tennessee from 1913 to 1925. He also served as an associate justice on the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Shields was born at his family's estate "Clinchdale", near the early pioneer settlement of Bean's Station, Tennessee in Grainger County. His education as a youth was by private tutors, a sign of the family's affluence. He studied law and was admitted to the Tennessee bar in 1879. He practiced in the counties surrounding his home until 1893, when he was named Chancellor of the former 12th Chancery

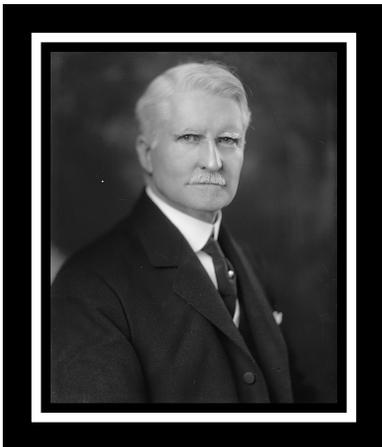
Division. The next year, he resumed private practice in nearby Morristown, in Hamblen County.

In 1902 Shields became an Associate Justice of the Tennessee Supreme Court, an office that he held until 1910 when he was named Chief Justice. He resigned that post in 1913, becoming the last Tennessean elected to the U.S. Senate by the Tennessee General Assembly prior to the 17th Amendment coming into effect. Shields was popularly reelected in 1918 but in 1924 lost the Democratic nomination to Lawrence Tyson, and returned to the private practice of law, this time in Knoxville.

While in the Senate, Shields served as the chairman of several committees. He chaired the Committee on Canadian Relations in the 63rd and 64th Congresses, the Committee on Interoceanic Canals in the 65th Congress, and the Committee on the Sale of Meat Products in the 66th Congress.

Shields died at his estate "Clinchdale" and is buried in Knoxville's Memorial Cemetery.

He was a member of Rising Star Lodge 44.



Lawrence Tyson

1861-1929

U. S. Senator 1925-1929

Lawrence Davis Tyson (July 4, 1861 – August 24, 1929) was an American general, politician and textile manufacturer, operating primarily out of Knoxville, Tennessee, during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. He commanded the 59th Brigade of the 30th Infantry Division during World War I, and served as a Democratic United States Senator from Tennessee from 1925 until his death. Tyson helped organize the Knoxville Cotton Mills in the early 20th century

and served as president of the second Appalachian Exposition in 1911.

A graduate of West Point, Tyson first saw military action during the Apache Wars in the 1880s. He moved to Knoxville in 1891 to teach military science at the University of Tennessee, and commanded the 6th Regiment, Tennessee Volunteer Infantry during the Spanish–American War. From 1902 to 1908, Tyson served in the Tennessee House of Representatives, and was Speaker of the House from 1903 to 1905. During the Meuse-Argonne Offensive of World War I, the 59th Brigade, under Tyson's leadership, became one of the first Allied brigades to break through the Hindenburg Line.

Tyson was born on the farm of his parents, Richard Lawrence Tyson and Margaret Turnage, near Greenville in Pitt County, North Carolina near the Tar River in the Tidewater region.^[2] He graduated from the Greenville Academy, and initially worked as a clerk in Salisbury.^[2] In 1878, he scored the highest in his region on a competitive entrance exam for the United States Military Academy at West Point, and was admitted the following year. Upon graduation in 1883, Tyson was commissioned as a second lieutenant, and took part in the Apache Wars against a Geronimo-led faction of Apaches in the West.

In 1886, Tyson married Bettie Humes McGhee, the daughter of wealthy Knoxville railroad baron Charles McClung McGhee (1828–1907). With his father-in-law's help, Tyson was appointed professor of military science at the University of Tennessee in 1891.

He also enrolled in the university's law school, from which he graduated in 1894. After his admission to the Tennessee Bar, he resigned his military commission. He began practicing law. At one point, he worked for the law firm of Edward Terry Sanford (1865–1930), future Supreme Court justice.

Upon the outbreak of the Spanish–American War in 1898, Tyson returned to active military duty. Appointed a colonel by President William McKinley, he organized and trained the 6th Regiment U.S. Volunteer Infantry in the summer of 1898. In October, he and his unit were shipped to Puerto Rico, where they garrisoned the Arecibo area on the northern half of the island. As the war wound down in February 1899, Tyson's unit was ordered to Savannah, Georgia, where they were mustered out a month later. Tyson entered the National Guard reserve units.

Back in Knoxville, Tyson returned to private law practice. He organized the Knoxville Cotton Mills, which would grow to become one of Knoxville's major textile companies in the early 20th century. In 1907, he chaired a conference in Nashville, which called for reform in child labor practices across the South. In December 1910, several dozen children were still working at a Knoxville Cotton Mills factory, as shown in a photograph by National Child Labor Committee photographer Lewis Hine.

Tyson's first foray into politics came in 1902, when he was elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives. In 1889, the Democrats had gained control of the state legislature and quickly passed four acts, which they described as "electoral reform," including literacy tests, grandfather clauses and poll taxes. These resulted in the disfranchisement of most of the African-American voters in the state, as well as many poor white voters. This sharply reduced competitive politics in the state, leading to Democratic dominance.

From 1903 to 1905, Tyson served as the elected Speaker of the House. Simultaneously, he served as a brigadier general and inspector general of the Tennessee National Guard, a position he held from 1902 to 1908. In 1913, he made an unsuccessful run for the U.S. Senate, seeking the Democratic nomination from the state legislature.^[4] That year, the Seventeenth Amendment to the United States Constitution was ratified, providing for popular election of US senators. It generally affected elections for US senators beginning in 1914.

Upon U.S. entry into World War I, Tyson applied to return to active military duty, and was appointed brigadier general over all Tennessee National Guard troops by Governor Tom C. Rye. This commission was subsequently federalized by President Woodrow Wilson. Tyson was assigned to the 59th Brigade, 30th Infantry Division, and helped train the brigade at Camp Sevier near Greenville, South Carolina. The 30th embarked for France in May 1918, and were among the first American troops to enter Belgium in July of that year.

In September 1918, the 30th Infantry Division was ordered to the Somme area in northern France, and positioned opposite the heavily fortified Cambrai-Saint Quentin Canal section of the Hindenburg Line. On the morning of September 29, the 30th attacked German fortifications along this section of the line. Marching in dense fog, the troops pushed across a 3-mile (4.8 km) stretch of "wire entanglements and trench defenses" before crossing the canal and securing the area. According to some reports, the 59th was the first Allied brigade to break through the Hindenburg Line.

In subsequent weeks, the 59th captured the northern French villages of Prémont, Brancourt, and Busigny, and fought its last action on October 20. In the course of the war, 1,879 of the 59th's 8,000 troops were killed or wounded. The brigade received nine Medals of Honor, the most of any single brigade in World War I. Tyson was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

In October 1918, Tyson's son, Charles McGhee Tyson (1889–1918), a Navy pilot, was lost over the North Sea while scouting for mines. After Germany's surrender, Tyson left the front to help search for

his son off the coast of Scotland.^[3] He located his son's body, and shipped it back to Knoxville for burial. Tyson left active duty for the final time in 1919.

In 1920, Tyson made an unsuccessful effort to gain the vice presidential nomination at the Democratic National Convention. In 1923, he purchased a newspaper, the *Knoxville Sentinel*. When he won the popular election to the U.S. Senate the following year, he sold the newspaper to Scripps-Howard.^[9] In 1926, Scripps-Howard merged the *Sentinel* with the *Knoxville News* to form the *Knoxville News Sentinel*.

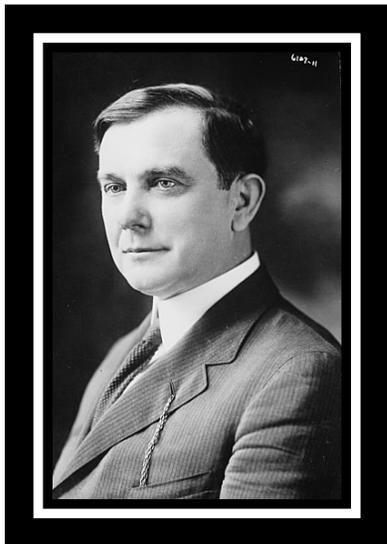
In the early 1920s, the Democratic Party had grown frustrated with Senator John Knight Shields, who had opposed President Woodrow Wilson's League of Nations, and had stalled a number of the Executive Branch's political appointments. Sensing Shields' vulnerability, Tyson ran against and defeated Shields in the Senate Democratic primary in 1924. He defeated Republican candidate, Hugh B. Lindsay, in the general election later that year. He was sworn in as a Senator on March 4, 1925.

Tyson's first major piece of legislation was the Tyson-Fitzgerald Act of 1925, which authorized federal compensation for disabled World War I officers. After President Calvin Coolidge vetoed the bill, Tyson rallied enough opposition in the Senate to override the president's veto. In 1926, Tyson sponsored legislation authorizing the creation of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

In 1927, Lawrence and Bettie Tyson donated the land for what are now Tyson Park, as well as land for an airstrip (originally in West Knoxville), to the City of Knoxville, asking in return that the city name the airstrip for their son, Charles McGhee Tyson.^[9] McGhee Tyson Airport has since been moved to Blount County.

Tyson died in 1929 at a sanitarium in Strafford, Pennsylvania. He is buried in Old Gray Cemetery in Knoxville. The obelisk marking the Tyson family plot is among the tallest monuments in the cemetery.

He was a member of Knoxville Lodge 718.



Kenneth McKellar

1869-1957

U. S. Senator 1917-1953

U. S. House of Representatives 1911-1917

Kenneth Douglas McKellar (January 29, 1869 – October 25, 1957) was an American politician from Tennessee who served as a United States Representative from 1911 until 1917 and as a United States Senator from 1917 until 1953. A Democrat, he served longer in both houses of Congress than anyone else in Tennessee history.

Only a few other congressmen in American history have served longer in both houses.

McKellar was a native of Dallas County, Alabama. He graduated from the University of Alabama in 1891 and its law school in 1892.

He moved to Memphis, Tennessee, and was admitted to the state bar the same year. McKellar joined the Democratic Party, which dominated the politics of West Tennessee, where plantations were historically and economically important. He was first elected to the House in a special election in November 1911 to succeed George W. Gordon in Tennessee's 10th congressional district, which included Memphis. He won the seat in his own right in 1912 and was reelected in 1914, serving until his election to the United States Senate.

McKellar ran for the Senate in 1916, defeating incumbent Senator Luke Lea in the Democratic primary and winning the general election against former Republican Governor Ben W. Hooper. He was reelected to the Senate in 1922 (defeating former Senator Newell Sanders), 1928 (defeating former

U.S. Assistant Attorney General James Alexander Fowler), 1934 (again defeating Ben Hooper), 1940 (against Howard Baker, Sr., father of future Senator Howard Baker), and 1946 when he defeated William B. Ladd.

McKellar twice served as President pro tempore of the United States Senate. Beginning in 1945, he was the first to hold the position under the seniority system that has prevailed since of reserving it for the majority party. When Harry Truman became president in April 1945, upon FDR's death, the vice presidency became vacant. (The mechanism for filling intra-term vacancies had not yet been created by the 25th Amendment.) McKellar became the permanent Presiding Officer of the United States Senate.

Also, as the President pro tempore of the Senate had, prior to 1886, been second in the presidential line of succession, behind only the vice president, Truman viewed McKellar as the logical wartime replacement for himself, and asked McKellar to attend all Cabinet meetings. In 1947 Truman successfully lobbied Congress to pass a new Presidential Succession Act, restoring both the Speaker of the House and the President pro tempore of the Senate to the succession ahead of Cabinet secretaries. By the time the law came into effect, McKellar was no longer in the position of President pro tempore, as the Republicans had gained the majority in the 80th Congress. Truman vetoed the Taft-Hartley Act in 1947 to restrict labor unions, which McKellar had favored. Truman selected Alben Barkley of Kentucky as his running mate in the 1948 presidential election. When Democrats regained control of the Senate following the 1948 elections, McKellar again became President pro tempore. He was second in line for the presidency (behind the Speaker of the House) from January 3, 1949 until January 20, 1949, when Alben Barkley took office as Vice President of the United States.

McKellar also served as chairman of the Civil Service Committee, Post Office and Road Committee, and, most notably, the powerful Appropriations Committee from 1945–1947, and again from 1949–1953.

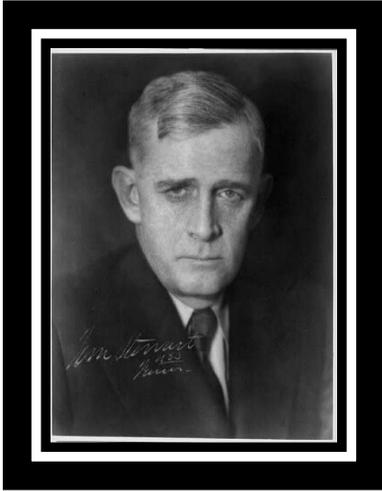
McKellar is the only Tennessee senator to have completed more than three full terms. Except for McKellar, Tennessee has generally not joined in the Southern tradition of reelecting senators for protracted periods of service. (Before the era of popular election of U.S. Senators, Senator William B. Bate was elected to a fourth term by the Tennessee General Assembly, but died five days into it. Senator Isham G. Harris also died early in his fourth term. Senator Joseph Anderson was elected by the General Assembly to three full terms after completing the term of William Blount, who was expelled from the Senate.)

In 1952 McKellar stood for a seventh term (the first Senator to do so), despite being 83. He was opposed for re-nomination by Middle Tennessee Congressman Albert Gore. McKellar's reelection slogan was "Thinking Feller? Vote McKellar", which Gore countered with "Think Some More – Vote for Gore." Gore defeated McKellar for the Democratic nomination in August in what was widely regarded as something of an upset. At this point in Tennessee history, the Democratic nomination for statewide office was still "tantamount to election." Most African Americans had been disenfranchised by discriminatory laws and practices, resulting in the Republican Party being active chiefly in East Tennessee. This had been the case since the Civil War. Gore served three full terms in the Senate.

McKellar's defeat was part of a statewide trend of change in 1952. That year incumbent governor of Tennessee Gordon Browning was defeated by Frank G. Clement. Browning, who had served a total of three terms as governor, the last two successive, had also at one point been a close ally of Crump's but had since broken ranks with him. As Clement and Gore were both considerably younger and regarded as more progressive than their predecessors, some historians cite the 1952 elections as an indication that Tennessee entered into the "New South" era of Southern politics earlier than most of the other Southern states.

McKellar died on October 25, 1957. He is interred at Elmwood Cemetery in Memphis, Tennessee.

He was a member of Leila Scott Lodge 289.



Tom Stewart

1892-1972
U. S. Senator 1938-1949

Arthur Thomas Stewart (January 11, 1892 – October 10, 1972), more commonly known as Tom Stewart, was a Democratic United States Senator from Tennessee from 1939 to 1949.

Stewart was born in Dunlap, Tennessee. He attended the former Pryor Institute, a private school, in Jasper, Tennessee and Emory College (now Emory University). He returned to Tennessee and attended Cumberland School of Law at Cumberland University in Lebanon. Upon admission to the bar in 1913, he set up practice in Birmingham, Alabama. He moved back to Jasper, Tennessee in 1915 and practiced there until 1919, then moved to Winchester, Tennessee.

In private practice in Winchester, he was elected district attorney for the former 18th Circuit for a term beginning in 1923. He served in this position until 1939. As a consequence, in 1925 Stewart was the chief prosecutor in the Scopes Trial. Stewart designed the prosecution's argument to preserve political control over the schools exclusively within the state legislature, thereby keeping the trial to the narrow, legal matters and forestalling attempts by the defense to introduce scientific testimony or to show there was not a conflict between evolution and the story of divine creation set forth in *Genesis*. Except for the willingness of William Jennings Bryan (hired by a Christian fundamentalist group to assist with the prosecution) to be cross-examined by Clarence Darrow, Stewart's positions controlled the trial and the Scopes defense had no recourse but to ask the jury to convict the defendant so the case could be appealed to the Tennessee Supreme Court (which overturned the conviction on a legal technicality but upheld the constitutionality of the Butler Act).

In 1938 Stewart entered the race for the balance of the unexpired term of the late Senator Nathan L. Bachman, who had died in office. In the August Democratic primary he defeated labor union leader George L. Berry, who had been appointed to the seat upon Bachman's death by Governor Gordon Browning, and was elected Senator on November 8. Eligible to begin serving immediately, he instead waited until the expiration of his term as district attorney on January 16, 1939 to take his Senate seat.

Stewart was somewhat typical of the Democratic Party's Southern wing of that era. He had been considered to be at least somewhat an ally of Memphis political boss E. H. Crump, but less so than Tennessee's other Senator of the time, Memphian Kenneth McKellar. Unlike some of the other Southern Senators, however, Stewart was also a staunch pro-Roosevelt New Dealer and was the only successful Senator to win a primary and purge an incumbent Senator whom Roosevelt targeted in the 1938 midterm election "purge." Stewart was reelected in 1942. In that year, shortly after the beginning of Japanese internment, he introduced a bill in the Senate to revoke citizenship from all American-born persons of Japanese ancestry. In 1948, he was challenged for re-nomination by Estes Kefauver, a progressive East Tennessean who defeated him. Edward J. Meeman, the influential editor of the *Memphis Press-Scimitar*, supported Kefauver to undermine the Crump machine, with which Meeman had long been at odds. After he defeated Stewart, Kefauver then handily prevailed over the Republican nominee, B. Carroll Reece.

Stewart returned to the private practice of law. He died in Nashville and was interred at Winchester's Memorial Park Cemetery.

He was a member of Winchester Lodge 158.



Estes Kefauver

1903-1963

U. S. Senator 1949-1963

U. S. House of Representatives 1939-1949

Carey Estes Kefauver (July 26, 1903 – August 10, 1963) a member of the Democratic Party, Kefauver served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1939 to 1949 and in the Senate from 1949 until his death in 1963.

After leading a much-publicized investigation into organized crime in the early 1950s, he twice sought his party's nomination for President of the United States. In 1956, he was selected by the Democratic National Convention to be the running mate of presidential nominee Adlai Stevenson. Still holding his U.S. Senate seat after the Stevenson–Kefauver ticket lost to the Eisenhower–Nixon ticket in

1956, Kefauver was named chair of the U.S. Senate Antitrust and Monopoly Subcommittee in 1957 and served as its chairman until his death.

Carey Estes Kefauver was born in Madisonville, Tennessee, the son of local hardware merchant Robert Cooke Kefauver and his wife Phredonia Bradford Estes. Kefauver was introduced to politics at an early age when his father served as mayor of their hometown. The elder Kefauver would later be an active and enthusiastic helper in his son's campaigns until his death in 1958 at the age of 87.

Kefauver attended the University of Tennessee and received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1924. He was a tackle and guard on his college football team. He taught mathematics and coached football at a Hot Springs, Arkansas, high school for a year before going on to Yale Law School, from which he earned an LL.B. *cum laude* in 1927.

Kefauver practiced law in Chattanooga for the next twelve years, beginning with the firm of Cooke, Swaney & Cooke, and eventually becoming a partner in Sizer, Chambliss & Kefauver.

In 1935 he married Nancy Pigott (January 21, 1911 – November 20, 1967 in Helensburgh, Scotland), whom he had met during her visit to relatives in Chattanooga. A graduate of the Glasgow School of Art with a budding career as an artist, she changed focus after her marriage and worked diligently and effectively for her husband's campaigns. The couple raised four children, one of them adopted. Mrs. Kefauver died in 1967.

Moved by his role as attorney for the *Chattanooga News*, Kefauver became interested in local politics and sought election to the Tennessee Senate in 1938. He lost but in 1939 spent two months as Finance and Taxation Commissioner under the newly elected governor Prentice Cooper. When Congressman Sam D. McReynolds of Tennessee's 3rd congressional district, which included Chattanooga, died in 1939, Kefauver was elected to succeed him in the House.

To win election to the Senate, Kefauver defeated the incumbent Tom Stewart in the 1948 Democratic primary. Kefauver was backed by the influential editor Edward J. Meeman of the *Memphis Press-Scimitar*, who had long fought the Crump machine for its corruption and stranglehold over Memphis politics. After he went on to win both the primary and the election, he adopted the cap as his trademark and wore it in every successive campaign. He received the cap from journalist Drue Smith.

Despite opposition from the Crump machine, Kefauver won the Democratic nomination, which in those days was tantamount to election in Tennessee. His victory is widely seen as the beginning of the end for the Crump machine's influence in statewide politics.

On August 8, 1963, Kefauver suffered what was reported as a 'mild' heart attack on the floor of the Senate while attempting to place an antitrust amendment into a NASA appropriations bill which would have required companies benefiting financially from the outcome of research subsidized by NASA, to reimburse NASA for the cost of the research. Two days after the attack, Kefauver died in his sleep in Bethesda Naval Hospital of a ruptured aortic aneurysm. After a wake in Washington, D.C., his body was taken to the First Baptist Church in Madisonville where thousands of mourners paid their respects.^[21] He was interred in a family cemetery beside his home.

There was some speculation that Nancy Kefauver might stand for election to her late husband's Senate seat in 1964, but she quashed such notions early on. Tennessee Governor Frank Clement appointed Herbert S. Walters to the seat instead. In November 1963, President Kennedy named Nancy Kefauver to be the first head of the new Art in Embassies Program—Kennedy's last presidential appointment. Mrs. Kefauver never considered remarrying, remarking that she "had too perfect a marriage".

He was a member of Chattanooga Lodge 199.



Albert Gore, Sr.

1907-1998

U. S. Senator 1953-1971

U. S. House of Representatives 1939-1953

Albert Arnold Gore Sr. (December 26, 1907 – December 5, 1998), known to some as Al Gore before the fame of his son, served as a U.S. Representative and a U.S. Senator for the Democratic Party from Tennessee. He was the father of Albert A. Gore Jr., the 45th Vice President of the United States (1993–2001).

Gore was born in Granville, Tennessee, the third of five children of Margie Bettie (née Denny) and Allen Arnold Gore. Gore's ancestors include Scots-Irish immigrants who first settled in Virginia in the mid-18th century and moved to Tennessee after the American Revolutionary War.

Gore studied at Middle Tennessee State Teachers College and graduated from the Nashville Y.M.C.A. Night Law School, now the Nashville School of Law. He first sought elective public office at age 23, when he ran unsuccessfully for the job of superintendent of schools in Smith County, Tennessee. A year later he was appointed to the position after the man who had defeated him died.

On April 17, 1937, Gore married lawyer Pauline LaFon (1912–2004), the daughter of Maude (née Gatlin) and Walter L. LaFon. Together, they had two children: Nancy LaFon Gore (1938–1984) and Albert Gore Jr. (born 1948), who followed in his father's political footsteps by representing Tennessee as a U.S. Representative and as a Senator, and later served as Vice President of the United States under Bill Clinton.

After serving as Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Labor from 1936 to 1937, Gore was elected as a Democrat to the 76th Congress in 1938, re-elected to the two succeeding Congresses, and served from January 3, 1939, until he resigned on December 4, 1944, to enter the U.S. Army. Gore was one of several members of Congress who joined the military incognito for short tours in order to observe training and combat and firsthand reports to the U.S. House and Senate. He completed basic training at Fort Meade, Maryland, after which he was assigned to the Allied Military Government for Occupied Territories in Germany as a prosecutor in one of the military government courts. Gore served as a private and was discharged in March 1945 so he could take the seat in the U.S. House to which he had been reelected in November 1944.

Gore was re-elected to the 79th and to the three succeeding Congresses (January 3, 1945, to January 3, 1953). In 1951, Gore proposed in Congress that "something cataclysmic" be done by U.S. forces to end the Korean War: a radiation belt (created by nuclear weapons) dividing the Korean peninsula permanently into two.

Gore was not a candidate for House re-election but was elected in 1952 to the U.S. Senate. In his 1952 election, he defeated six-term incumbent Kenneth McKellar. Gore's victory is widely regarded as a major turning point in Tennessee political history and as largely marking the end of statewide influence for E. H. Crump, the Memphis political boss. During this term, Gore was instrumental in sponsoring and enacting the legislation creating the Interstate Highway System. Gore was re-elected in 1958 and again in 1964, and served from January 3, 1953, to January 3, 1971, after he lost reelection in 1970.

Gore was one of only three Democratic senators from the former Confederate states who did not sign the 1956 Southern Manifesto opposing integration, the others being Senate Majority Leader Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas (who was not asked to sign), and Tennessee's other Senator, Estes Kefauver. South Carolina Senator J. Strom Thurmond tried to get Gore to sign the Southern Manifesto, but Gore refused. Gore voted in favor of the Civil Rights Acts of 1957, 1960, and 1968, as well as the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the confirmation of Thurgood Marshall to the U.S. Supreme Court, but voted against the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and did not vote on the 24th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

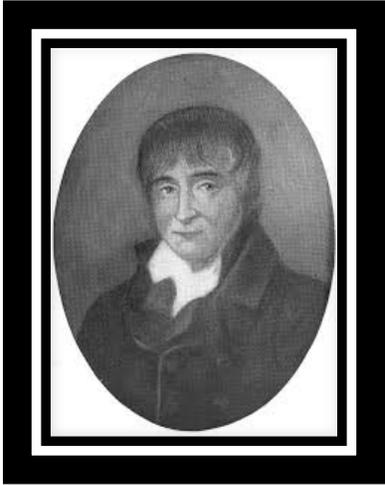
Gore easily won re-nomination in 1958 over former governor Jim Nance McCord. In those days, Democratic nomination was still tantamount to election in Tennessee since the Republican Party was largely nonexistent in most of the state. In 1964, he faced an energetic Republican challenge from Dan Kuykendall, chairman of the Shelby County (Memphis) GOP, who ran a surprisingly strong race against him. While Gore won, Kuykendall held him to only 53 percent of the vote, in spite of Johnson's massive landslide victory in that year's presidential election.

By 1970, Gore was considered to be fairly vulnerable for a three-term incumbent Senator, as a result of his liberal positions on many issues such as the Vietnam War (which he opposed) and civil rights. This was especially risky, electorally, as at the time Tennessee was moving more and more toward the Republican Party. He faced a spirited primary challenge, predominantly from former Nashville news anchor Hudley Crockett, who used his broadcasting skills to considerable advantage and generally attempted to run to Gore's right. Gore fended off this primary challenge, but he was ultimately unseated in the 1970 general election by Republican Congressman Bill Brock. Gore was one of the key targets in the Nixon/Agnew "Southern strategy." He had earned Nixon's ire the year before when he criticized the administration's "do-nothing" policy toward inflation. In a memo to senior advisor Bryce Harlow, Nixon aide Alexander Butterfield relayed the President's desire that Gore be "blistered" for his comment. Spiro T. Agnew traveled to Tennessee in 1970 to mock Gore as the "Southern regional chairman of the Eastern Liberal Establishment". Other prominent issues in this race included Gore's opposition to the Vietnam War, his vote against Everett Dirksen's amendment on prayer in public schools, and his opposition to appointing Clement Haynsworth and G. Harrold Carswell to the U.S. Supreme Court. Brock won the election by a 51% to 47% margin.

After leaving Congress, Gore Sr. resumed the practice of law and also taught law at Vanderbilt University. He continued to represent the Occidental Petroleum where he became vice president and member of the board of directors. Gore became chairman of Island Creek Coal Co., Lexington, Kentucky, an Occidental subsidiary, in 1972, and in his last years operated an antiques store in Carthage—Gore Antique Mall. He lived to see his son Albert Gore Jr. become Vice President of the United States. Gore Sr. died three weeks shy of his 91st birthday and is buried in Smith County Memorial Gardens in Carthage.

He was a member of Carthage Benevolent Lodge 14.

**MEMBERS
OF THE
UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES**



John Rhea

1753-1832

U. S. House of Representatives 1803-1815 &
1817-1823

John Rhea (1753 – May 27, 1832) was a soldier and politician of the early 19th century who represented Tennessee in the United States House of Representatives. Rhea County, Tennessee and Rheatown, a community and former city in Greene County, Tennessee is named for him.

Rhea was born in the parish of Langhorn, County Londonderry, (probably Taughoyne parish, in County Donegal) Ireland. His family immigrated to Pennsylvania when he was 16, settling in Philadelphia.

His father, Rev. Joseph Rhea, a Presbyterian minister, moved the family to Piney Creek, Maryland in 1771. They moved again in 1778 to what is now eastern Tennessee (then in North Carolina). Rhea completed his preparatory studies in 1780, and entered Princeton College.

He served in the Patriot militia that defeated a loyalist force at the Battle of Kings Mountain in October 1780.

Rhea became clerk of the Sullivan County Court in the proposed State of Franklin, and subsequently in North Carolina, from 1785 to 1790. He was a member of the North Carolina House of Commons, and served as a delegate from Sullivan County to the Fayetteville Convention that ratified the Federal Constitution in 1789. He then studied law and was admitted to bar in 1789. In 1796, he was a delegate to the constitutional convention of Tennessee and also the attorney general of Greene County. At the same time he was a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives for two years.

Rhea was elected as a Democratic-Republican to the Eighth Congress and the five succeeding Congresses, serving from March 4, 1803 until March 3, 1815. During the Tenth through the Thirteenth Congress, he was the chairman of the Committee on Post Office and Post Roads. He was a member of the Committee on Pensions and Revolutionary War Claims during the Fifteenth Congress through the Seventeenth Congress.

He was appointed United States commissioner to treat with the Choctaw Nation in 1816. Afterward, he again became a U.S. Representative, serving from March 4, 1817 until March 3, 1823 in the Fifteenth, Sixteenth, and Seventeenth Congresses. He was actively connected with higher education in Tennessee, serving as one of the founders of Blount College, which later became the University of Tennessee. He retired from active pursuits and resided on Rhea plantation near Blountville, Sullivan County, Tennessee, where he died on May 27, 1832. He was interred in Blountville Cemetery.

He is said to have received his Masonic Degrees in Lodge 3 at Philadelphia. He was a charter member of Tennessee Lodge U. D., and assisted in organizing Greeneville Lodge 3, in 1801, was its first Junior Warden, and is listed in the roster of both Lodges in their returns for 1803. In 1807, he was appointed by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee, one of the three delegates chosen to attend a convention at Washington, called to organize a Grand Lodge of America. In 1815, he assisted in organizing Whiteside Lodge 13, becoming its first Master. He served as Deputy Grand Master in 1821.

William Dickson

1770-1816

U. S. House of Representatives 1801-1807

William Dickson (May 5, 1770 – February 21, 1816) was a politician who represented Tennessee in the United States House of Representatives 1801 to 1807.

Dickson was born in Duplin County, North Carolina on May 5, 1770 and was educated at Grove Academy in Kenansville. With his parents, he moved to Nashville, Tennessee in 1795; studied medicine, then practiced as a physician. He married Polly Gray on August 19, 1802, in Nashville. They had three daughters and one son, Cornelia Ann Dickson, Indiana Dickson, Florida Dickson Baldwin and David Dickson. His second wife was Susannah Hickman. They had no children.

Dickson entered politics as a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives, serving as its speaker from 1799 to 1803.

Elected as a republican, Dickson served as a U.S. representative for Tennessee for the Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth Congresses from March 4, 1801, to March 3, 1807.^[3] He became a friend of President Andrew Jackson during that time. He was a trustee of the University of Nashville from 1806 to 1816.

Dickson died in Nashville on February 21, 1816 (age 45 years, 292 days). He is interred at a rural cemetery in Davidson County, Tennessee, near Nashville. Dickson County in Tennessee is named after him.

He was made a Mason in Greeneville Lodge 3 prior to 1803; was treasurer of the Lodge in 1807; Master in 1815 and Deputy Grand Master, 1815-1816.

Pleasant Moorman Miller

Unknown-1849

U. S. House of Representatives 1809-1811

One of the most influential figures in Tennessee politics and law during the first half of the nineteenth century; Pleasant M. Miller was born the son of a tavern owner in Lynchburg, Virginia. Miller studied law under Judge Archibald Stewart of Staunton before moving to Rogersville, Tennessee, in 1796. Following a move to Knoxville in 1800, Miller married Mary Louisa Blount, daughter of William Blount, was elected chairman of Knoxville's governing commission, and emerged as a leader of the Blount-Jackson political faction. Aided by immense oratorical skills and wit, he became known as one of the best criminal trial lawyers in Tennessee.

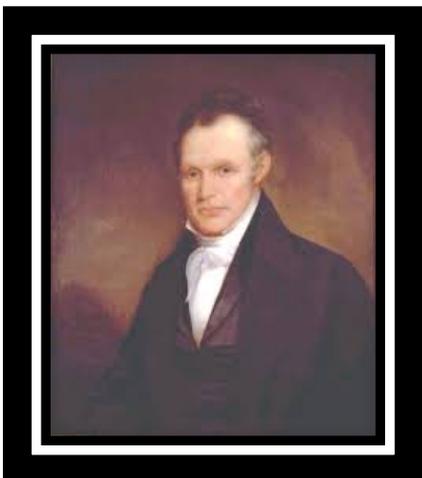
In 1808 Miller was elected from central East Tennessee to the U.S. House of Representatives, where, as an early and ardent expansionist, he became a spokesman for the Southwest and an ally of President James Madison. He achieved national prominence in 1810 with the publication of the "Miller letter." In this letter, Miller reported Madison's meeting with the Tennessee delegation in which he discussed the necessity of acquiring West Florida and control of the Mobile River. This report of Madison's views fanned the flames of expansion and helped to prepare the country for war. In 1811 he was elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives and secured the creation of the Bank of the State of Tennessee. He resigned in 1812 to serve in the first Seminole War and enlisted again in 1814 in the Creek Indian War.

Returning to the Tennessee House from 1817 to 1823, he assumed leadership of the East Tennessee delegation, defeated Felix Grundy's efforts to enact inflationary measures, emerged as a champion of squatter rights, secured passage of legislation stabilizing Tennessee banks and currency during the Depression of 1819, and sponsored major judicial reform. In 1822 he introduced the resolution nominating Andrew Jackson for the presidency.

Miller moved to the city of Jackson in 1824 in order to manage his extensive land holdings and law practice. In 1829 he broke from the Jackson camp, abandoned a campaign as Jackson's candidate against Congressman Davy Crockett, and became a tireless organizer of the Whig Party. Elected by the legislature as the first chancellor of West Tennessee in 1836, he served with great distinction until

resigning in 1837 in order to campaign for Whig candidates. In 1847 he moved to Trenton in Gibson County, where he died in 1849.

He was a member of Tennessee Lodge 2 at Knoxville.



Newton Cannon

1781-1841

U. S. House of Representatives 1814-1817 &
1819-1823

Newton Cannon (May 22, 1781 – September 16, 1841) served as Governor of Tennessee from 1835 to 1839. He also served several terms in the United States House of Representatives, from 1814 to 1817, and from 1819 to 1823. Cannon was a long-time foe of Andrew Jackson, and spent much of his political career opposing Jacksonite policies.

Born in Guilford County, North Carolina, Cannon was the son of Minos Cannon, who served as a soldier in the Continental Army. The family moved to the area that later became Williamson County, Tennessee, around 1790.

Cannon received a common school education and tried several occupations as a young man, working as a saddler, merchant and surveyor, and undertaking the study of law, before eventually becoming a planter in Williamson County.

Cannon entered political office in 1811, representing Williamson, Rutherford, Maury, Bedford, Lincoln, and Giles counties in the state senate in the 9th Tennessee General Assembly (1811–1812). He served in the Creek War of 1813 as a colonel in the Tennessee Mounted Rifles.

Cannon was married twice. In 1813, he married Leah Pryor Perkins. She died in 1816. In 1818, he married Rachel Starnes Willborn. He was the father of ten children. A daughter, Rachel Adeline Cannon Maney, was for many years an owner of the Oaklands estate in Murfreesboro. The Civil War journals of a grandson, also named Newton Cannon, were published in 1963 as *The Reminiscences of Newton Cannon: First Sergeant, 11th Tennessee Cavalry, C.S.A.*

In 1813, he was a candidate for United States House of Representatives, losing the election to Felix Grundy. He won election to the seat as a Democratic- Republican the following year, however, in a special election held after Grundy resigned. Cannon was later reelected to a full term in the House, serving from September 16, 1814, to March 3, 1817. In 1819, he accepted an assignment from President James Monroe to negotiate a treaty with the Chickasaw.^[5] He was again elected to the U.S. House for the 16th Congress and won re-election to the 17th Congress, serving from March 4, 1819, to March 3, 1823.

Cannon first sought the Tennessee governorship in 1827 in a field that initially included Sam Houston, former governor Willie Blount, Felix Grundy, and aging frontiersman John Rhea. Cannon lost the election to Houston by a vote of 44,426 to 33,410. He subsequently returned to the General Assembly as a state senator, representing Rutherford and Williamson counties in the 18th General Assembly (1829–1830), and aligned himself with Andrew Erwin, John Williams and Davy Crockett, to oppose the policies of Jackson and his allies. He was elected as a delegate to the Tennessee Constitutional Convention of 1834, at which he served as chairman of the Committee of the Whole.

Cannon again ran for governor in 1835, defeating incumbent William Carroll by a vote of 41,970 to 31,205. Carroll had been a popular governor, but he was seeking a fourth consecutive two-year term in spite of a provision of the state constitution that limited a governor to three terms.^[1] Carroll maintained that the gubernatorial term limit in the state's original constitution no longer applied because it was replaced by a new constitution in 1834. Cannon, however, argued that the 1834 constitution was a

revision rather than a replacement for the original constitution. Cannon's view apparently prevailed with the voters. Cannon's election was also aided by division among Tennessee Democrat-Republicans over the U.S. Presidential candidacy of Tennessean Hugh Lawson White in opposition to the national party's choice of Martin Van Buren.

Cannon was the first member of the Whig Party to be elected governor of Tennessee. He became the first governor to benefit from increased powers given to the office by the state constitution of 1834. As governor, in 1836 he convened the first special session of the legislature in state history.

Cannon was re-elected to a second term as governor in 1837, defeating General Robert Armstrong. In his second term as governor, both houses of the General Assembly were controlled by Whigs, and the legislature approved proposals to create a new state bank and to expand state support for internal improvements such as roads, railroads, and canals. An advocate for public education, Cannon designated some revenues from the state bank to pay for schools. Cannon was publicly criticized for his implementation of the new laws, especially in East Tennessee, where voters grew impatient over his lack of support for the Hiwassee Railroad.

In 1839, state Democrats, determined to defeat Cannon, convinced rising politician and Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives James K. Polk to run against him. The two candidates toured the state together to give a series of public debates, the first of which took place at Murfreesboro on April 11, 1839. Cannon typically delivered slower, more methodical arguments, and was outshone in the debates by the quicker and wittier Polk. In the election, Polk narrowly defeated Cannon by a vote of 54,680 to 52,114.

Cannon wanted to run against Polk in 1841, but Whig leaders instead nominated James C. Jones, thinking that Cannon would not be able to defeat Polk.

Cannon died in Nashville at the age of sixty, just two years after his last candidacy for governor. He is interred in a cemetery on the grounds of his estate in Williamson County near Allisona.

Cannon County, Tennessee, which was established during Cannon's governorship, is named in his honor.

He was a member of Hiram Lodge 7 at Franklin and of Franklin Chapter 2, and officiated as Grand Marshal at the consecration of the Grand Chapter in 1826.



Samuel Powell

1776-1841

U. S. House of Representatives 1815-1817

Samuel Powell (July 10, 1776 – August 2, 1841) was a politician who represented Tennessee in the United States House of Representatives.

Powell was born in Norristown, Pennsylvania. He attended the common schools and Philadelphia College, studied law, and was admitted to bar in Norristown prior to 1800.

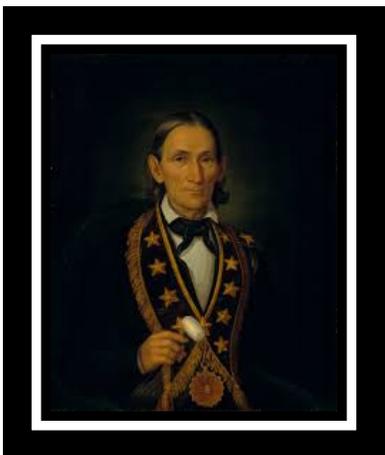
In 1800, Powell moved to Blountville, Tennessee, where he established the first law school in Tennessee at his home since he was new to the area and needed to establish a following. He married Mary Rutledge, daughter of General George Rutledge, a prominent citizen of Sullivan County. In 1805, he moved to Rogersville, Tennessee and practiced law. From 1807 to 1809, he served as a member of the superior court of law and equity. He was a judge of the first circuit court of Tennessee in 1812–1813. He was a law mentor to future attorney and state politician John Netherland.

Powell was elected as a Democratic-Republican to the Fourteenth Congress, which lasted from March 4, 1815 to March 3, 1817. He was not a candidate for re-nomination in 1816.

After departing Congress, Powell resumed the practice of law, and he was again a judge of the first circuit court of Tennessee from 1819 to 1841.

Powell died in Rogersville, Tennessee, on August 2, 1841 at age 65, and is interred at the Old Presbyterian Cemetery.

He was a member and Senior Deacon of Greeneville Lodge 3, in 1807 and was the first Master of Overton Lodge 5.



Thomas Claiborne

1780-1856

U. S. House Representatives 1817-1819

Thomas Claiborne (May 17, 1780 – January 7, 1856) was a politician and a United States Representative for the state of Tennessee.

Claiborne served as a major on the staff of Gen. Andrew Jackson in the Creek War. He studied law and was admitted to the bar and commenced practice in Nashville, Tennessee, in 1807. As a member of Tennessee House of Representatives from 1811 to 1812, he was presiding as Speaker during the latter session. He served as a United States Marshal. Elected as a Democratic-Republican to the Fifteenth Congress, Claiborne served from March 4, 1817 to March 3, 1819. He

also served as Mayor of Nashville in 1818.

Claiborne died on January 7, 1856, at the age of 75 years, 235 days. He is interred at Nashville City Cemetery, Nashville, Tennessee. Cumberland Lodge, John S. Dashiell, Grand Master, officiating, buried him.

Where he received his Masonic Degrees is not known, but he was a member of Cumberland 8 in 1813 and represented that Lodge in the Constitutional Convention at Knoxville when he was elected Grand Master at the organization of the Grand Lodge. He was probably one of the early members initiated in Cumberland Lodge shortly after its organization in 1812.

When he came to Nashville in 1807, Harmony Lodge 1 was presumed to be extinct, the Charter being arrested the following year. Had he been a Mason before coming to Nashville, he would, in all probability, have united as a Charter Member of Cumberland Lodge in 1812, therefore, it appears most likely that he was one of the early initiates of that Lodge.

He was a Charter Member of Cumberland Chapter 1 in 1818, and while his attendance was infrequent after 1815, he continued his membership in Lodge, Chapter and Grand Lodge until his death.

Samuel E. Hogg

1783-1842

U. S. House of Representatives 1817-1819

Samuel E. Hogg (April 18, 1783 – May 28, 1842) was an American politician and a member of the United States House of Representatives who represented Tennessee from 1817 to 1819.

Hogg was born in Halifax, North Carolina son of Thomas and Rebecca Edwards Hogg. His uncle, Samuel Hogg, for whom he was named, became his guardian after his father's death. He attended public schools in Caswell County and taught for a while before studying medicine in Gallatin, Tennessee around 1804.

Hogg subsequently moved to Lebanon County, Tennessee and joined the army as a surgeon. He served in the First Regiment of Tennessee Volunteer Infantry from November 21, 1812 to April 22, 1813. He was on the staff of Major General Andrew Jackson in the expedition against the Creek Indians from February 22 to May 25, 1814. He also served on the staff of Major General William Carroll from November 13, 1814 to May 13, 1815. After three years of working as a surgeon in the army, He was given a leave of absence after an encounter with death.

Hogg then came back to Tennessee where he worked as a waiter in a local diner for a few years before being elected a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives. He was elected as a Democratic-Republican to the Fifteenth Congress, which lasted from March 4, 1817 to March 3, 1819.

Hogg went back into practicing medicine in Lebanon, Tennessee until 1828. He then practiced in Nashville from 1828 to 1836, and in Natchez from 1836 to 1838. He returned and again practiced in Nashville from 1838 to 1840. He was president of the State Medical Society of Tennessee in 1840.

Hogg died in Rutherford County, Tennessee on May 28, 1842 (age 59 years, 40 days), and is interred at the Nashville City Cemetery.

He was a member of Philanthropic Lodge 12.

Francis Jones

Unknown

U. S. House of Representatives 1817-1823

Francis Jones represented Tennessee in the United States House of Representatives.

Jones was born in Tennessee and his birth date is unknown. Although he received a limited schooling, he studied law, and was admitted to bar.

Jones began his practice in Winchester, Tennessee. David Crockett tells in his autobiography about the strong feelings that brought him to volunteer. According to Crockett's book, a young local lawyer named Francis Jones made a fiery speech, then volunteered and was elected captain, and later represented the district in Congress. During the Creek War, Jones had his own company of Tennessee Volunteer Mounted Riflemen.

Jones was elected Solicitor General of the third Tennessee district in 1815.

Jones was elected as a Democratic-Republican to the Fifteenth, Sixteenth, and Seventeenth Congresses. He served from March 4, 1817 to March 3, 1823, and then resumed the practice of his profession in Winchester.

Jones died on an unknown date in Winchester, Franklin County, Tennessee. The place of his interment is unknown.

He was a member of Winchester Lodge 26.

Henry Hunter Bryan

1786-1835

U. S. House of Representatives 1819-1821

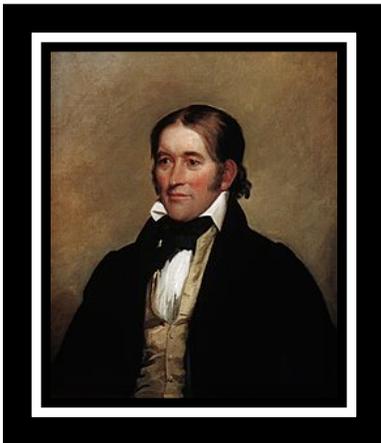
Henry Hunter Bryan (February 23, 1786 – May 7, 1835) was an American politician who represented Tennessee in the United States House of Representatives.

Bryan was born in Martin County, North Carolina and attended grammar and high school there. After he moved to Tennessee, he held several local offices. He married Elizabeth Ann Averett, daughter of Jesse Averett and Mary Grimes, in 1804.

Bryan was elected as a Democratic-Republican to the Sixteenth Congress, which lasted from March 4, 1819 to March 3, 1821. Although he had been re-elected to the Seventeenth Congress, he did not take the seat because he did not qualify.

He died in Montgomery County, Tennessee, on May 7, 1835 (age 49 years, 73 days). The location of his interment is unknown.^[4] His brother, Joseph Hunter Bryan, was also a U.S. Representative from the state of North Carolina.

He was a member of Montgomery Lodge 10.



David Crockett

1786-1836

U. S. House of Representatives 1827-1831 &
1833-1835

David Crockett (August 17, 1786 – March 6, 1836) was an American folk hero, frontiersman, soldier, and politician. He is commonly referred to in popular culture by the epithet "King of the Wild Frontier". He represented Tennessee in the U.S. House of Representatives and served in the Texas Revolution.

Crockett grew up in East Tennessee, where he gained a reputation for hunting and storytelling. He was made a colonel in the militia of Lawrence County, Tennessee and was elected to the Tennessee state legislature in 1821. In 1827, he was elected to the U.S. Congress where he vehemently opposed many of the policies of President Andrew Jackson, especially the Indian Removal Act. Crockett's opposition to Jackson's policies led to his defeat in the 1831 elections. He was re-elected in 1833, and then narrowly lost in 1835, prompting his angry departure to Texas (then the Mexican state of Tejas) shortly thereafter. In early 1836, he took part in the Texas Revolution and was "likely" executed at the Battle of the Alamo after being captured by the Mexican Army.

Crockett became famous during his lifetime for larger-than-life exploits popularized by stage plays and almanacs. After his death, he continued to be credited with acts of mythical proportion. These led in the 20th century to television and movie portrayals, and he became one of the best-known American folk heroes.

David was born August 17, 1786 to John and Rebecca Hawkins Crockett. He was named for his paternal grandfather. He was born in what is now Greene County, Tennessee (at the time part of North Carolina), close to the Nolichucky River and near the community of Limestone. John continually struggled to make ends meet, and the Crocketts moved to a tract of land on Lick Creek in 1792. John sold that tract of land in 1794 and moved the family to Cove Creek, where he built a gristmill with partner Thomas Galbraith. A flood destroyed the gristmill and the Crockett homestead. The Crocketts then moved to Mossy Creek

in Jefferson County, Tennessee, but John forfeited his property in bankruptcy in 1795. The family next moved on to property owned by a Quaker named John Canady. At Morristown in the Southwest Territory, John built a tavern on a stagecoach route.

When David was 12 years old, his father indentured him to Jacob Siler to help with the Crockett family indebtedness. He helped tend Siler's cattle as a buckaroo on a 400-mile (640 km) trip to near Natural Bridge in Virginia. He was well treated and paid for his services but, after several weeks in Virginia, he decided to return home to Tennessee. The next year, John enrolled his sons in school, but David played hooky after an altercation with a fellow student. Upon learning of this, John attempted to whip him but was outrun by his son. David then joined a cattle drive to Front Royal, Virginia for Jesse Cheek. Upon completion of that trip, he joined teamster Adam Myers on a trip to Gerrardstown, West Virginia. In between trips with Myers, he worked for farmer John Gray. After leaving Myers, he journeyed to Christiansburg, Virginia, where he apprenticed for the next four years with hatter Elijah Griffith.

In 1802, David journeyed by foot back to his father's tavern in Tennessee. His father was in debt to Abraham Wilson for \$36 (equivalent to \$643 in 2019), so David was hired out to Wilson to pay off the debt. Later, he worked off a \$40 debt to John Canady. Once the debts were paid, John Crockett told his son that he was free to leave. David returned to Canady's employment, where he stayed for four years.

Crockett fell in love with John Canady's niece Amy Summer, who was engaged to Canady's son Robert. While serving as part of the wedding party, Crockett met Margaret Elder. He persuaded her to marry him, and a marriage contract was drawn up on October 21, 1805. Margaret had also become engaged to another young man at the same time and married him instead.

He met Polly Finley and her mother Jean at a harvest festival. Although friendly towards him in the beginning, Jean Finley eventually felt Crockett was not the man for her daughter. Crockett declared his intentions to marry Polly, regardless of whether the ceremony was allowed to take place in her parents' home or had to be performed elsewhere. He arranged for a justice of the peace and took out a marriage license on August 12, 1806. On August 16, he rode to Polly's house with family and friends, determined to ride off with Polly to be married elsewhere. Polly's father pleaded with Crockett to have the wedding in the Finley home. Crockett agreed only after Jean apologized for her past treatment of him.

The newlyweds settled on land near Polly's parents, and their first child, John Wesley Crockett, who became a United States Congressman, was born July 10, 1807. Their second child, William Finley Crockett, was born November 25, 1808. In October 1811, the family relocated to Lincoln County. Their third child Margaret Finley (Polly) Crockett was born on November 25, 1812. The Crocketts then moved to Franklin County in 1813. He named the new home on Beans Creek "Kentuck". His wife died in March 1815, and Crockett asked his brother John and his sister-in-law to move in with him to help care for the children. That same year, he married the widow Elizabeth Patton, who had a daughter, Margaret Ann, and a son, George. David and Elizabeth's son, Robert Patton, was born September 16, 1816. Daughter Rebecca Elvira was born December 25, 1818. Daughter Matilda was born August 2, 1821.

All that is certain about the fate of David Crockett is that he died at the Alamo on the morning of March 6, 1836 at age 49. According to many accounts, between five and seven Texians surrendered during the battle, possibly to General Castrillón. Santa Anna had ordered the Mexicans to take no prisoners, and he was incensed that those orders had been ignored. He demanded the immediate execution of the survivors, but Castrillón and several other officers refused to do so. Staff officers who had not participated in the fighting drew their swords and killed the unarmed Texians.

His Lodge membership is unknown.

John Blair

1790-1863

U. S. House of Representatives 1823-1835

John Blair (September 13, 1790 – July 9, 1863) was a politician who represented Tennessee in the United States House of Representatives.

Blair was born in Blairs Mill near Jonesborough, Tennessee the son of John Blair, Jr., and attended Martin Academy. He graduated from Washington College in Tennessee in 1809. He studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1813, and began practicing.

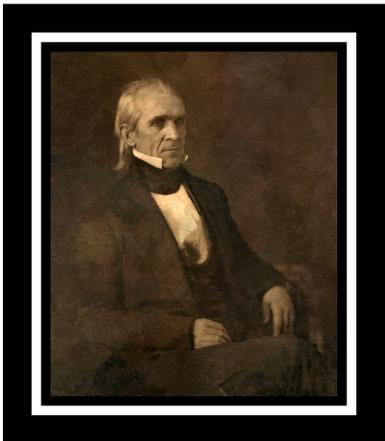
A member of the Tennessee House of Representatives between 1815 and 1817, Blair also served as a member of the Tennessee Senate between 1817 and 1821.

Blair was elected as a Jacksonian Republican to the Eighteenth Congress and re-elected as a Jacksonian to the Nineteenth through Twenty-third Congresses. He served as a U.S. Representative from March 4, 1823 to March 3, 1835. During the Twentieth Congress, he was chairman of the U.S. House Committee on Expenditures in the State Department. He was chairman of the Committee on Expenditures in the Department of State (Twentieth Congress). He was an unsuccessful candidate for re-election to the Twenty-fourth Congress in 1834.

After retiring to private life, Blair again became a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives in 1849 and 1850. He resumed the practice of law.

Blair died in Jonesboro, Tennessee on July 9, 1863 at age 72 years, 330 days. He is interred at Old Cemetery in Jonesboro.

He was a member of Rhea Lodge 47.



James K. Polk

1795-1849

U. S. House of Representatives 1825-1839

James Knox Polk (November 2, 1795 – June 15, 1849) was the 11th president of the United States, serving from 1845 to 1849. He previously was Speaker of the House of Representatives (1835–1839) and governor of Tennessee (1839–1841). A protégé of Andrew Jackson, he was a member of the Democratic Party and an advocate of Jacksonian democracy. Polk is chiefly known for extending the territory of the United States during the Mexican–American War; during his presidency, the United States expanded significantly with

the annexation of the Republic of Texas, the Oregon Territory, and the Mexican Cession following the American victory in the Mexican–American War.

After building a successful law practice in Tennessee, Polk was elected to the state legislature (1823) and then to the United States House of Representatives in 1825, becoming a strong supporter of Andrew Jackson. After serving as chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, he became Speaker in 1835, the only president to have been Speaker. Polk left Congress to run for governor of Tennessee; he won in 1839, but lost in 1841 and 1843. He was a dark horse candidate for the Democratic nomination for president in 1844; he entered his party's convention as a potential nominee for vice president, but emerged as a compromise to head the ticket when no presidential candidate could secure the necessary two-thirds majority. In the general election, Polk defeated Henry Clay of the rival Whig Party.

Historians have praised Polk for having met during his four-year term every major domestic and foreign policy goal he had set. After a negotiation fraught with risk of war, he reached a settlement with Great Britain over the disputed Oregon Country, the territory for the most part being divided along the 49th parallel. Polk achieved a sweeping victory in the Mexican–American War, which resulted in the cession by Mexico of nearly all the American Southwest. He secured a substantial reduction of tariff rates with the Walker tariff of 1846. The same year, he achieved his other major goal, re-establishment of the Independent Treasury system. Historian Thomas A. Bailey says that during the Mexican war, "Polk was an energetic and indefatigable war leader, and he emerged, partly through rare good luck, with uninterrupted success. He kept the sole direction of the war in his own hands, from grand strategy to the procurement of mules." True to his campaign pledge to serve only one term, Polk left office in 1849 and returned to Tennessee where he died three months after leaving the White House.

Though he is relatively obscure today, scholars have ranked Polk favorably for his ability to promote and achieve the major items on his presidential agenda. However, he has also been criticized for leading the country into an unnecessary war against Mexico and for exacerbating sectional divides. A slaveholder for most of his adult life, he owned a plantation in Mississippi and bought slaves while president. A major legacy of Polk's presidency is territorial expansion, as the United States reached the Pacific coast and became poised to be a world power. However, sectional divisions in the U.S. were exacerbated by the territorial expansion and the Civil War is considered a direct consequence of Polk's policy.

James Knox Polk was born on November 2, 1795, in a log cabin in Pineville, North Carolina. He was the first of 10 children born into a family of farmers. His mother Jane named him after her father, James Knox. His father Samuel Polk was a farmer, slaveholder, and surveyor of Scots-Irish descent. The Polks had immigrated to America in the late 1600s, settling initially on the Eastern Shore of Maryland but later moving to south-central Pennsylvania and then to the Carolina hill country.

The Knox and Polk families were Presbyterian. While Polk's mother remained a devout Presbyterian, his father, whose own father Ezekiel Polk was a deist, rejected dogmatic Presbyterianism. He refused to declare his belief in Christianity at his son's baptism, and the minister refused to baptize young James. Nevertheless, James' mother "stamped her rigid orthodoxy on James, instilling lifelong Calvinistic traits of self-discipline, hard work, piety, individualism, and a belief in the imperfection of human nature", according to James A. Rawley's *American National Biography* article.

In 1803, Ezekiel Polk led four of his adult children and their families to the Duck River area in what is now Maury County, Tennessee; Samuel Polk and his family followed in 1806. The Polk clan dominated politics in Maury County and in the new town of Columbia. Samuel became a county judge, and the guests at his home included Andrew Jackson, who had already served as a judge and in Congress. James learned from the political talk around the dinner table; both Samuel and Ezekiel were strong supporters of President Thomas Jefferson and opponents of the Federalist Party.

Polk suffered from frail health as a child, a particular disadvantage in a frontier society. His father took him to see prominent Philadelphia physician Dr. Philip Syng Physick for urinary stones. The journey was broken off by James's severe pain, and Dr. Ephraim McDowell of Danville, Kentucky, operated to remove them. No anesthetic was available except brandy. The operation was successful, but it might have left James impotent or sterile, as he had no children. He recovered quickly, and became more robust. His father offered to bring him into one of his businesses, but he wanted an education and enrolled at a Presbyterian academy in 1813. He became a member of the Zion Church near his home in 1813, and enrolled in the Zion Church Academy. He then entered Bradley Academy in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, where he proved a promising student.

In January 1816, Polk was admitted into the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as a second-semester sophomore. The Polk family had connections with the university, then a small school of about 80 students; Samuel was its land agent in Tennessee and his cousin William Polk was a trustee. Polk's roommate was William Dunn Moseley, who became the first Governor of Florida. Polk joined the Dialectic Society where he took part in debates, became its president, and learned the art of oratory.^[13] In one address, he warned that some American leaders were flirting with monarchical ideals, singling out Alexander Hamilton, a foe of Jefferson. Polk graduated with honors in May 1818.

After graduation, Polk returned to Nashville, Tennessee to study law under renowned trial attorney Felix Grundy, who became his first mentor. On September 20, 1819, he was elected clerk of the Tennessee State Senate, which then sat in Murfreesboro and to which Grundy had been elected. He was re-elected clerk in 1821 without opposition, and continued to serve until 1822. In June 1820, he was admitted to the Tennessee bar, and his first case was to defend his father against a public fighting charge; he secured his release for a one-dollar fine. He opened an office in Maury County and was successful as a lawyer, due

largely to the many cases arising from the Panic of 1819, a severe depression. His law practice subsidized his political career.

Polk's time in the White House took its toll on his health. Full of enthusiasm and vigor when he entered office, Polk left the presidency exhausted by his years of public service. He left Washington on March 6 for a pre-arranged triumphal tour of the South, to end in Nashville. Polk had two years previously arranged to buy a house there, afterwards dubbed Polk Place that had once belonged to his mentor, Felix Grundy.

James and Sarah Polk progressed down the Atlantic coast, and then westward through the Deep South. He was enthusiastically received and banqueted. By the time the Polks reached Alabama, he was suffering from a bad cold, and soon became concerned by reports of cholera—a passenger on Polk's riverboat died of it, and it was rumored to be common in New Orleans, but it was too late to change plans. Worried about his health, he would have departed the city quickly, but was overwhelmed by Louisiana hospitality. Several passengers on the riverboat up the Mississippi died of the disease, and Polk felt so ill that he went ashore for four days, staying in a hotel. A doctor assured him he did not have cholera, and Polk made the final leg, arriving in Nashville on April 2 to a huge reception.

After a visit to James's mother in Columbia, the Polks settled into Polk Place. The exhausted former president seemed to gain new life, but in early June, he fell ill again, by most accounts of cholera. Attended by several doctors, he lingered for several days, and chose to be baptized into the Methodist Church, which he had long admired, though his mother arrived from Columbia with her Presbyterian clergyman, and his wife was also a devout Presbyterian. On the afternoon of Friday, June 15, Polk died at his Polk Place home in Nashville, Tennessee at the age of 53. According to traditional accounts, his last words before he died were "I love you, Sarah, for all eternity, I love you", spoken to Sarah Polk. Borneman noted that whether or not they were spoken, there was nothing in Polk's life, which would make the sentiment false.

Polk's funeral was held at the McKendree Methodist Church in Nashville. Following his death, Sarah Polk lived at Polk Place for 42 years and died on August 14, 1891. Their house, Polk Place, was demolished in 1901, a decade after Sarah's death.

Polk was made a Mason in Columbia Lodge 31 on September 4, 1820, was Junior Warden in 1821 and was active until his public duties called him to other fields.

James Coffield Mitchell

1786-1843

U. S. House of Representatives 1825-1829

James Coffield Mitchell (March 1786 – August 7, 1843) represented Tennessee in the United States House of Representatives.

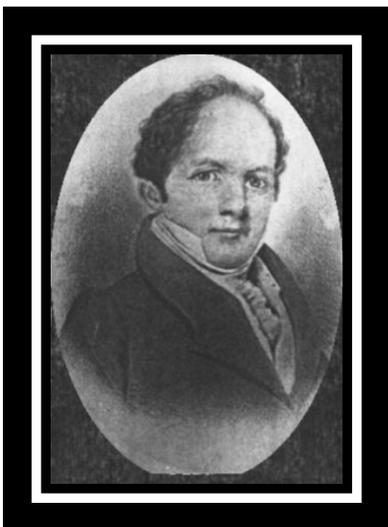
Mitchell was born in Staunton, Virginia, in March 1786 and attended the common schools. He studied law, was admitted to the bar, and practiced law. He moved to Tennessee and settled in Rhea County. From 1813 to 1817, he was the Solicitor General for the second district of Tennessee. He moved to Athens, Tennessee, in 1817.

Mitchell was elected as a Jacksonian to the Nineteenth and Twentieth Congresses. He served from March 4, 1825, to March 4, 1829. During the Twentieth Congress, he was chairman of the U.S. House Committee on Military Pensions. He was an unsuccessful candidate for re-election. He was judge of the eleventh circuit from 1830 to 1836.

Mitchell then moved to Hinds County, Mississippi, and settled near Jackson around 1837. He was an unsuccessful candidate on the Whig ticket for Governor of Mississippi and for the Mississippi House of Representatives. He engaged in agricultural pursuits as well.

Mitchell died near Jackson, Mississippi, on August 7, 1843 (age about 57 years). The location of his interment is unknown. He was the author of *Mitchell's Justice*.

He was a member of Washington Luminary Lodge 42.



John Hartwell Marable

1786-1844

U. S. House of Representatives 1825-1829

John Hartwell Marable (November 18, 1786 – April 11, 1844) was an American politician who represented Tennessee in the United States House of Representatives.

Marable was born near Lawrenceville, Virginia, on November 18, 1786. He pursued an academic course and studied in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. According to compiled records, he attended the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine in 1805 and 1806. He married Ann Jones "Nancy" Watson on July 17, 1808 in Davidson County, Tennessee.

Marable practiced medicine and moved to Yellow Creek, Tennessee, where he continued to engage in the practice, and served as Postmaster, Yellow Creek, Montgomery County, Tennessee. He was a member of the Tennessee Senate in 1817 and 1818. He elected alderman for the city of Clarksville, Tennessee in 1819, and was a Charter Member of the Medical Association in Tennessee.

Marable was elected as a Jacksonian Republican to the Nineteenth and Twentieth Congresses, serving from March 4, 1825 to March 3, 1829.^[3] He was an unsuccessful candidate for re-election to the Twenty-first Congress, and resumed his practice.

Marable died in Montgomery County, Tennessee on April 11, 1844 (age 57 years, 145 days). He is interred at Marable Cemetery near Clarksville, Tennessee.

He was a member of Montgomery Lodge 10.

William Claiborne Dunlap

1798-1872

U. S. House Representatives 1833-1837

William Claiborne Dunlap (February 25, 1798 – November 16, 1872) was an American politician who represented Tennessee's United States House of Representatives, Tennessee thirteenth district in the United States House of Representatives.

Dunlap was born in Knoxville, Tennessee on February 25, 1798. His twin brother was Hugh White Dunlap. He attended the Ebenezer Academy and Maryville College in Maryville, Tennessee, from 1813 to 1817. He studied law, was admitted to the bar, and commenced his law practice in Knoxville in 1819. He was one of a large family of Hugh Dunlap and Susanna Gilliam, the sons all lawyers.

After serving in the Indian campaign in 1818 and 1819, Dunlap moved to Bolivar, Tennessee in 1828. He also held a commission in the United States Volunteers in 1830.

Dunlap was elected as a Jacksonian to the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Congresses. He served from March 4, 1833 to March 3, 1837. He was an unsuccessful candidate for re-election in 1836 to the Twenty-fifth Congress.

Dunlap was a judge of the Eleventh Circuit Court of Tennessee from 1840 to 1849, when he resigned and resumed practicing law. He served as a member of the Tennessee Senate elected in 1851, 1853, and 1857. He served in the Tennessee House of Representatives from 1857 to 1859.

After he helped create Sequatchie County, TN, the county seat, Coop's Creek was re-named Dunlap in his honor. Dunlap Street near the medical center in Memphis, TN is also named for him.

Dunlap died near Memphis, Tennessee on November 16, 1872 (age 74 years, 265 days). He is interred in Elmwood Cemetery in Memphis, Tennessee.

He was a member of Union Lodge 38.



George W. Jones

1806-1884

U. S. House of Representatives 1843-1859

George Washington Jones (March 15, 1806 – November 14, 1884) represented Tennessee's fifth district in the United States House of Representatives. He served in the Confederate States Congress during the American Civil War.

Jones was born in King and Queen County, Virginia, on March 15, 1806. He moved to Tennessee with his parents, who settled in Fayetteville. He received a common school and academical education, also apprenticed to the saddler's trade.

Jones was a justice of the peace from 1832 to 1835. He was a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives from 1835 to 1839. He served in the Tennessee Senate from 1839 to 1841. He was Clerk of Lincoln County Court from 1840 to 1843.

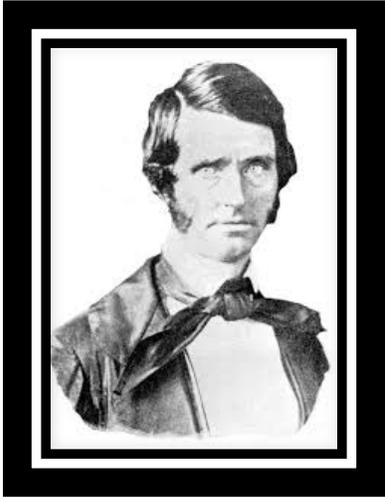
Elected as a Democrat to the Twenty-eighth and to the seven succeeding Congresses, Jones served in the U.S. House of Representatives from March 4, 1843 to March 3, 1853 for the fifth district and from March 4, 1853 to March 4, 1859 for the sixth district. During the Thirty-first Congress and the Thirty-second Congresses he was chairman of the U.S. House Committee on Rules, and during the Thirty-fifth Congress he was chairman of the U.S. House Committee on Roads and Canals. Jones represented the U.S. Congress at the swearing in of the terminally ill, newly elected Vice-President William Rufus deVane King in Matanzas, Cuba.

With war impending, Jones was a delegate to the Peace Convention of 1861 held in Washington, D.C., in an effort to devise means to prevent the conflict, but he did not attend. He was elected from Tennessee as a member of the Confederate House of Representatives in the First Confederate Congress and served from February 18, 1862, to February 18, 1864. He was not a candidate for re-election. Friend and former political ally President Andrew Johnson pardoned Jones for his Civil War activities in June 1865.

Jones was a delegate to the State constitutional convention in 1870. Jones strongly opposed the Poll Tax provision of the 1870 Tennessee Constitution.

Jones died in Fayetteville, Tennessee, on November 14, 1884 (age 78 years, 244 days). He is interred at Rose Hill Cemetery.

He was a member of Andrew Jackson Lodge 68.



John Wesley Crockett

1807-1852

U. S. House of Representatives 1837-1841

John Wesley Crockett (July 10, 1807 – November 24, 1852), represented Tennessee's Twelfth Congressional District in the United States House of Representatives. It was the same district his father, David Crockett, had represented earlier.

Crockett was born in East Tennessee on July 10, 1807 to David (Davy) Crockett (August 17, 1786 – March 6, 1836) and his first wife, Mary (Polly) Finley (1788–1815). He had one brother named William Finley Crockett and one sister named Margaret Finley (Polly) Crockett. He was educated in the public school system, studied law, and then was admitted to the bar. He began his law practice in Paris, Tennessee. He

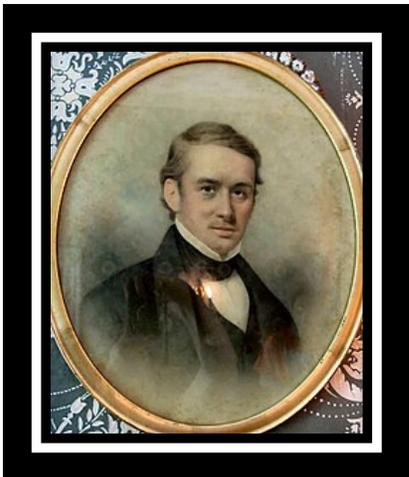
married Martha Hamilton and they had fourteen children.

Crockett held numerous local and state offices before being elected as a Whig to the Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth Congresses; he succeeded Adam Huntsman, the man who had defeated his father in the 1835 election. He served from March 4, 1837 to March 3, 1841. Crockett was next elected by the Tennessee General Assembly to be the attorney general for the ninth district of Tennessee, and served from 1841 to 1843.

In 1843, Crockett moved to New Orleans and became a commission merchant. He was also a newspaper editor, publishing the *National* from May 22, 1848 and establishing the *Crescent* around 1847.

After moving to Memphis, Tennessee, Crockett died there the same year on November 24, 1852 at the age of 45 years, 137 days. He is interred at Old City Cemetery in Paris, Tennessee.

He was a member of Trenton Lodge 86.



Christopher Harris Williams

1798-1857

U. S. House of Representatives 1837-1843 &
1849-1853

Christopher Harris "Kit" Williams^[1] (December 18, 1798 – November 27, 1857) was a politician who represented Tennessee's United States House of Representatives, thirteenth and eleventh districts.

Williams was born near Hillsborough, North Carolina on December 18, 1798. He pursued an academic course and attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He studied law, was admitted to the bar about 1820, and practiced law.^[2] He married Jane Allison on December 9, 1819.

Williams was elected as a Whig to the Twenty-fifth, Twenty-sixth, and Twenty-seventh Congresses by Tennessee's thirteenth district. He served from March 4, 1837 to March 3, 1843. He was an unsuccessful candidate for re-election in 1842 to the Twenty-eighth Congress.

After the number of districts held by Tennessee had been reduced, Williams was elected by Tennessee's eleventh district to the Thirty-first and Thirty-second Congresses. He served from March 4, 1849 to March

3, 1853. He was not a candidate for re-nomination in 1852. He resumed the practice of law in Lexington, Tennessee.

Williams died in Lexington on November 27, 1857. He is interred at Lexington Cemetery.

Williams' son and namesake (born 1830) was a Colonel in the Confederate army in the American Civil War who was killed at the Battle of Shiloh in 1862. His grandson was John Sharp Williams, who also served in the American House and Senate.

He was a member of Constantine Lodge 64.



William Bowen Campbell

1807-1867

U. S. House of Representatives 1837-1843 &
1866-1867

William Bowen Campbell (February 1, 1807 – August 19, 1867) was a politician and soldier. He served as Governor of Tennessee from 1851 to 1853, and was the state's last Whig governor. He also served four terms in the United States House of Representatives, from 1837 to 1843, and from 1866 to 1867.

During the Mexican–American War, Campbell commanded the First Regiment Tennessee Volunteers, known as the "Bloody First" for its high casualty rate. At the outbreak of the American Civil War, Campbell opposed secession, and briefly served as a general in the Union Army.

Campbell was born on Mansker's Creek in Sumner County, Tennessee, to David and Catherine Bowen Campbell. He studied law at Abingdon, Virginia, with his father's cousin, Virginia Governor David Campbell, and attended lectures at Winchester Law School. He returned to Tennessee in 1829 in order to establish a law practice at Carthage, in Smith County. He was admitted to the bar in 1830. In 1831, he was appointed attorney general for a state circuit, and moved to Sparta, Tennessee.

William Bowen Campbell was a great-grandson of two early Scots-Irish Virginia pioneers, "Black" David Campbell (b. 1710) and "White" David Campbell (b. 1706). His paternal grandfather, a son of "Black David" known as Captain David Campbell (1753–1832), was an early Knox County pioneer who built Campbell's Station, which has evolved into modern Farragut, Tennessee. Captain David Campbell was married to Margaret Campbell, a daughter of "White David." Her brothers (i.e., William B. Campbell's great-uncles) included Colonel Arthur Campbell (1743–1811) and Judge David Campbell (1750–1812), and her nephews included Governor David Campbell (1779–1859) and Colonel John B. Campbell (1777–1814). She was a cousin of General William Campbell of Kings Mountain fame.

Campbell's mother, Catherine Bowen, was a granddaughter of General William Russell (1735–1793), who had helped draft the Declaration of Independence. The house built in 1787 by Campbell's maternal grandfather, Captain William Bowen (1742–1804), still stands in modern Goodlettsville, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as the Bowen-Campbell House. A house built by Campbell's uncle, John Henry Bowen (1770–1822), still stands in Gallatin, and is listed on the National Register as the Trousdale Place. After his uncle's death, the house was, ironically, purchased by William Trousdale, Campbell's future gubernatorial opponent.

Campbell married Frances Owen in 1835. They had seven children: Mary, Margaret, Fanny, William, Joseph, John Owen, and Lemuel.

Campbell died on August 19, 1867 at his family home of Camp Bell.^[9] He is interred at Cedar Grove Cemetery in Lebanon, Tennessee. He was a member of Lebanon Lodge 98.

Milton Brown

1804-1883

U. S. House of Representatives 1843-1847

Milton Brown (February 28, 1804 – May 15, 1883) was a U.S. Representative from Tennessee.

Brown was born in Lebanon, Ohio. After growing up, He moved to Nashville, Tennessee. He Married Sarah F. Jackson on January 21, 1835, and they had seven children, four boys and three girls.

Brown studied law and was admitted to the Tennessee bar and began his practice in Paris, Tennessee, but later, he moved south to Jackson, Tennessee.

In 1835 Brown became a judge of the chancery court of west Tennessee and held this position until he was elected as a Whig to the Twenty-seventh Congress, representing the twelfth district. He served in that Capacity from March 4, 1841 to March 3, 1843.^[2] Reelected to the two succeeding Congresses representing the eleventh district, he served from March 4, 1843 to March 4, 1847.

Brown was one of the founders of two Universities: Southwestern University, which became Union University), and of Lambuth College, both in Jackson, Tennessee. He also served as president of the Mississippi Central & Tennessee Railroad Co. from 1854 to 1856, and as president of the Mobile & Ohio Railroad Co. from 1856 to 1871.

Brown died in Jackson, Tennessee on May 15, 1883 (age 79 years, 76 days). He is interred in Riverside Cemetery in Jackson.

He was a member of Rolla Lodge 465.

James Houston Thomas

1808-1876

U. S. House of Representatives 1847-1851 & 1859-1861

James Houston Thomas (September 22, 1808 – August 4, 1876) was a member of the United States House of Representatives for Tennessee's 6th congressional district.

Thomas was born in Iredell County, North Carolina on September 22, 1808. He attended the rural schools and graduated from Jackson College, Columbia, Tennessee in 1830. He studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1831, and commenced practice in Columbia, Tennessee. He married Margaret Meeds Stevens.

From 1836 to 1842, Thomas served as Tennessee's attorney general.

Thomas was elected as a Democrat to the Thirtieth and Thirty-first Congresses. Though he was not a successful candidate for re-election in 1850 to the Thirty-second Congress, he was later elected to the Thirty-sixth Congress. He served from March 4, 1847 to March 3, 1851 and from March 4, 1859 to March 3, 1861. He resumed the practice of law in Columbia, Tennessee. He was a Delegate from Tennessee to the Confederate Provisional Congress from 1861 to 1862.

Thomas died in Fayetteville, Tennessee in Lincoln County on August 4, 1876 (age 67 years, 317 days). He is interred at St. John's Cemetery in Ashwood in Maury County, Tennessee.

He was a member of Columbia Lodge 31.



Emerson Etheridge

1819-1902

U. S. House of Representatives 1853-1857 &
1859-1861

Henry Emerson Etheridge (September 28, 1819 – October 21, 1902) was a member of the United States House of Representatives for Tennessee's 9th congressional district from 1853 to 1857, and again from 1859 to 1861. He also served one term in the Tennessee House of Representatives (1845–1847) and one term in the Tennessee Senate (1869–1871). After Tennessee seceded in 1861, he was elected Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, serving until 1863.

One of the most powerful and eloquent speakers of his day, Etheridge was one of the few Southern congressmen to oppose the expansion of slavery and denounce Southern secession on the eve of the Civil War. Though a Southern Unionist, he criticized Abraham Lincoln over the Emancipation Proclamation. In the years following the war, Etheridge was a bitter critic of Governor William G. Brownlow, and ran against Brownlow for governor in a violent campaign in 1867.

After leaving the state senate in 1871, Etheridge remained active in state Republican Party politics. He was offered (but rejected) the party's nomination for governor in 1878, and ran unsuccessfully for Congress in 1884. He worked as the Surveyor of Customs at Memphis in the early 1890s.

Etheridge was born in Currituck County, North Carolina, the son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Harvey) Etheridge. In the early 1830s, he moved with his parents to Weakley County, Tennessee, where they settled on a 1,000-acre (400 ha) farm near the community of Sharon. Though initially a teacher, he studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1840. He married Fannie N. Bell and they had three children: a son (Bell Etheridge), a daughter (Emma Etheridge Moran), and a third child who died in infancy in 1854.

Etheridge moved to Memphis in 1871 after his term in the state senate had ended. He endorsed Horace Greeley for president in 1872, but declined to campaign for him as an elector. In 1874, Etheridge ran for the state senate as a member of the People's Reform Party, or "Dark Lanterns." In October of that year, he delivered a bizarre and rambling speech at the Greenlaw Opera House in Memphis in which, according to one Memphis newspaper, he "abused everybody and everything. He abused the Democracy, Conservatism, Radicalism, funders, the press, the leaders of both parties," and "hurled his invectives and abuse at the world generally." He was easily defeated in the election by the Democratic candidate, Peyton J. Smith.

Etheridge had rejoined the Republican Party by 1876, when he endorsed Rutherford B. Hayes for president. He ran on the Republican ticket for state senator, but was defeated by the Democratic candidate, William A. Milliken. In August 1878, the state Republican Party nominated Etheridge as its candidate for governor. His nomination was controversial, as one delegate recalled his attacks on the Republican Party in the late 1860s, and others pointed out that Etheridge's calls for repudiating the state debt ran counter to the party's platform. Etheridge subsequently declined the nomination. His replacement, Chattanooga mayor Eli Wight, was badly defeated in the general election.

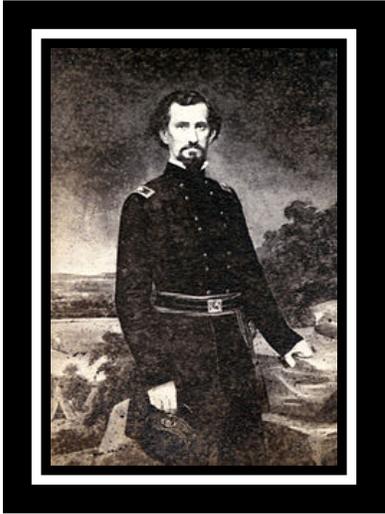
Etheridge became active in the Prohibition movement in the early 1880s, and helped organize the state's Prohibition ticket in 1882. In 1884, he ran for the 9th district congressional seat on the Republican ticket, but was defeated by the Democratic candidate, Presley T. Glass, 13,481 votes to 11,019.

In 1888, Etheridge served alongside Hugh B. Lindsay as an at-large elector for the Republican presidential candidate, Benjamin Harrison. In February 1891, Harrison appointed Etheridge Surveyor of Customs at Memphis.^[42] He remained in this position until he resigned in March 1894.

By the early 1900s, Etheridge's health and intellect had declined. He died in Dresden on October 21, 1902 (age 83 years, 23 days). He is interred at Mount Vernon Cemetery near Sharon.

The city of Etheridge in Lawrence County, Tennessee, is believed to have been named for Etheridge.

He was a member of Dresden Lodge 90.



Felix Zollicoffer

1812-1862

U. S. House of Representatives 1853-1859

Felix Kirk Zollicoffer (May 19, 1812 – January 19, 1862) was a newspaperman, three-term United States Congressman from Tennessee, officer in the United States Army, and a Confederate brigadier general during the American Civil War. He led the first Confederate invasion of eastern Kentucky and was killed in action at the Battle of Mill Springs. Zollicoffer was the first Confederate general to die in the Western Theater.

Felix Zollicoffer was born on a plantation in Bigbyville in Maury County, Tennessee, a son of John Jacob and Martha (Kirk) Zollicoffer. He was descended from emigrants from Switzerland who had settled in North

Carolina in 1710. His grandfather, George Zollicoffer, had served as a captain in the Revolutionary War, and had been granted a tract of land in Tennessee as payment for his military service.

Zollicoffer attended the local schools and studied for a year at Jackson College in Columbia, Tennessee. He left at the age of sixteen, became an apprentice printer, and was engaged in newspaper work in Paris, Tennessee, from 1828 to 1830. When the newspaper closed, he moved to Knoxville in 1831 and worked for two years as a journeyman printer at the *Knoxville Register*. Three years later, he became editor and part owner of the *Columbia Observer*. Zollicoffer was elected State Printer of Tennessee in 1835.

On September 24, 1835, he married Louisa Pocahontas Gordon, with whom he had fourteen children, of whom only six survived infancy. Gordon was the daughter of Captain John Gordon who had fought alongside Andrew Jackson at Horseshoe Bend and Pensacola. She was a direct descendant of Pocahontas through her mother, Dolly. Louisa Zollicoffer died in 1857.

Zollicoffer also edited the *Mercury* for a time in Huntsville, Alabama. He volunteered for the army in 1836 and served as a second lieutenant in the Tennessee militia in the Second Seminole War in Florida. He then returned to Tennessee and became owner and editor of the *Columbia Observer* and the *Southern Agriculturist* and in 1843 the editor of the *Republican Banner*, the state organ of the Whig Party.

This brought Zollicoffer into political circles, and he was Comptroller of the State Treasury from 1845 to 1849, as well as Adjutant General for the state. He was a member of the State Senate from 1849 until 1852, and was a delegate to the Whig National Convention in 1852, supporting General Winfield Scott. Zollicoffer was himself elected as a Whig to the Thirty-third United States Congress and was reelected as a candidate of the American Party to the Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth Congresses (March 4, 1853 – March 3, 1859). During his first campaign, he fought a duel with the editor of the rival *Nashville Union* newspaper. He declined to be a candidate for re-nomination in 1858 and retired to private life. He supported fellow Tennessee moderate John Bell (CU) for president in the election of 1860.

Following the secession of the Deep South in 1861, Zollicoffer served on the peace convention in Washington, D.C. in an attempt to prevent the approaching civil war. A strong supporter of states' rights, Zollicoffer nevertheless opposed Tennessee's secession from the Union.

Tennessee voters rejected the call for a secession convention in February 1861. Tennessee Governor Isham Harris soon began to maneuver the state into a position where secession would be inevitable. On May 6, 1861, the Tennessee legislature, urged on by Harris, adopted a "Declaration of Independence and Ordinance." The people were to vote on the ratification of this measure on June 8. A separate vote on the same date would determine if Tennessee should join the Confederacy if the voters approved the measure asserting independence of the State. On May 9, a joint committee of the legislature issued an explanation sponsored by Harris of the military alliance Tennessee had entered into with the Confederacy on May 7. During the period between April and July, Harris organized a state army, the Provisional Army of Tennessee.

Upon the announcement of the formation of the Provisional Army of Tennessee, Zollicoffer offered his service to the state army. Despite only having brief combat experience, he was appointed as a brigadier general in the Provisional Army of Tennessee on May 9, 1861, by Governor Isham Harris.

On July 9, 1861, Zollicoffer was commissioned a brigadier general in the Confederate States Army. Although the Confederate States Army began to absorb the Provisional Army of Tennessee on July 31, 1861, Zollicoffer's troops were not mustered into Confederate service until the end of October. For almost four months, Zollicoffer was in the strange position of being a Confederate Army general in charge of state troops.

Harris initially tried to sway eastern Tennessee's pro-Union population with a lenient policy and the stationing of only fifteen companies of troops in the region. On July 26, 1861, Harris, who was still in charge of the Tennessee state force, ordered Zollicoffer and 4,000 raw recruits to Knoxville to be in position to suppress resistance to secession in East Tennessee, appointing him to command the District of East Tennessee. Harris was re-elected governor on August 8, 1861 and on August 18, he ordered Zollicoffer to arrest and, if necessary, banish leaders of pro-Union factions from the State, changing his policy from leniency to force.

In an effort to prevent a Union Army incursion into East Tennessee, Zollicoffer took the initiative and occupied Cumberland Gap on September 14, 1861. Zollicoffer then was responsible for guarding the 128 miles of Confederate line between Cumberland Gap and Tompkinsville, Kentucky. For 71 miles, this line crossed the Cumberland Mountains. On September 15, 1861, General Albert Sidney Johnston assumed command of Confederate forces in the Western Theater between the Appalachian Mountains and the Mississippi River. He retained Zollicoffer as district commander in east Tennessee.

On September 17, 1861, Zollicoffer sent a force through the Cumberland Gap along the Wilderness Road to drive the Union Army from Barbourville, Kentucky, relieve pressure on the recently established Confederate line at Bowling Green, Kentucky and thwart an expected drive by Union Brigadier General George H. Thomas into eastern Tennessee and the Cumberland Gap by forcing him to retain his force in Kentucky. On September 19, 800 of Zollicoffer's men under Colonel Joel Battle ambushed the Union force of about 150 home guards while they were foraging and pushed them out of Barbourville at the minor Battle of Barbourville. Another detachment of Zollicoffer's force under Colonel James Rains dispersed an encampment of Union recruits at Laurel Bridge, Kentucky on September 26, 1861 while the Goose Creek Salt Works were attacked by a second Confederate unit under Colonel D. H. Cummings who carried off 200 barrels of salt. Zollicoffer's force was essentially on a raid and soon withdrew.

In mid-October 1861, a large part of Zollicoffer's force-marched 40 miles (64 km) from Cumberland Gap to London, Kentucky. At the Battle of Wildcat Mountain on October 21, Zollicoffer's force was stymied by a prepared Union force fighting on rugged terrain and he soon retreated into rural eastern Tennessee, which remained rife with Union sentiment.

In November 1861, Zollicoffer changed strategy and advanced westward, then back into southeastern Kentucky to strengthen Confederate control in the area just south of Somerset. He hoped this would put him in a position to be reinforced by Confederate forces from Bowling Green and to drive Thomas's force from the area. Before he moved west, Zollicoffer left forces to guard the Cumberland Gap and three other approaches to east Tennessee.

Zollicoffer moved west and established an encampment at Mill Springs, Kentucky (near present-day Nancy, Kentucky) on the south bank of the Cumberland River. By December 6, he moved his force to the north bank of the river where he thought he could better support the supply of his men, build fortifications and keep watch on Thomas's force. This was a risky tactic because Zollicoffer's men were poorly equipped, ill trained and ill disciplined. They were not properly prepared to meet the growing Union threat and Zollicoffer's expectation that he would solve this problem by receiving supplies and reinforcements at Beech Grove, opposite Mill Springs, was too optimistic. Many of the men in Confederate service in Tennessee who could have reinforced Zollicoffer's force remained unarmed. Zollicoffer's own reserve force at Knoxville was mostly unarmed.

Under the circumstances in December 1861, without needed supplies or reserves, Zollicoffer was in no position to move against the Union force. On December 20, 1861, Zollicoffer did not respond to a movement by a force under Brigadier General Albin F. Schoepf who was attempting to provoke Zollicoffer to commit his force to an engagement in the open. Colonel William H. Carroll did not leave Knoxville with his brigade to join Zollicoffer until January 16, 1862. Ultimately, he could bring only a single regiment to Mill Springs, having been ordered to send the rest of his men to Bowling Green.

Unaware of the situation in east Tennessee and of Zollicoffer's plan, on December 8, 1861, Confederate President Jefferson Davis appointed Major General George B. Crittenden to command the district of East Tennessee in order to lead a force into Kentucky. Crittenden assumed command of the district only to find that the ten regiments of soldiers he expected to find there did not exist. Crittenden retained

Zollicoffer as commander of the 1st Brigade in his army. On December 15, Zollicoffer sent word to Crittenden that Thomas had ten regiments under his command. While lingering at Knoxville for two more weeks, Crittenden sent word to Zollicoffer to move back to the south side of the Cumberland River. Zollicoffer now had only two rafts to cross the swollen river, which was nearly at flood stage. So he stayed at Beech Grove on the north side of the river.

On January 1, 1862, Thomas moved from his camp at Lebanon, Kentucky to join with Schoepf's troops from Somerset. On January 2, Crittenden arrived at Mill Springs and decided the Confederates should attack Thomas before he could join with Schoepf. The Confederate force of about 6,500 men might have withstood an attack within their fortifications but Thomas's larger force would have the advantage in an open field. Because of the incessant rain and resulting mud, Thomas needed 18 days to move his force and equipment from Lebanon to Logan's Crossroads.

On January 18, 1862, Crittenden ordered an advance at midnight while the two Union forces under Thomas and Schoepf were separated by the rain-swollen Fishing Creek. Zollicoffer commanded the first brigade toward Logan's Crossroads while Carroll commanded the following brigade.

After marching 8 miles (13 km) in a driving rain, Zollicoffer's skirmishers attacked the Union pickets 1 mile (1.6 km) south of the intersection of the Mill Springs and Columbia-Somerset roads. The Battle of Mill Springs, sometimes called the Battle of Fishing Creek or the Battle of Logan's Crossroads, a three-hour fight in driving rain, fog and the smoke of battle over thickly wooded ground, followed. The untrained Confederates were totally confused in this situation and their organization was lost. Adding to the confusion, some of the Confederates were wearing blue uniforms. The 15th Mississippi Infantry Regiment mistook the Union 4th Kentucky Infantry Regiment for blue-clad Confederates. In the confusion, the near-sighted Zollicoffer, wearing a white raincoat, rode into the lines of the 4th Kentucky and began to discuss the problem with the Union colonel, Speed S. Fry. A Confederate aide then rode out of the fog firing at the Union force. Union soldiers returned fire, killing Zollicoffer who had begun to ride away as the incident unfolded. Historian Larry J. Daniel follows some other accounts that claim that Fry recognized and shot Zollicoffer. He further stated that Fry, not Zollicoffer, had ridden into the enemy lines and had begun the conversation, only turning upon Zollicoffer when the Confederate aide rode up. Historian Stuart W. Sanders discusses the encounter at the greatest length and also quotes a subsequent account by Colonel Fry. He states that both officers rode out from their lines and that Fry initially thought Zollicoffer was a Union officer. Fry claimed to have shot Zollicoffer. Other accounts state that Fry also called to a few of his men to fire, although Fry later denied this.

Many of the old Confederate flintlock weapons would not fire in the wet conditions and Zollicoffer's death caused his demoralized men to start a retreat. Thomas sent six regiments against the weak Confederate flank causing the Confederate line to collapse and retreat to Beech Grove. Crittenden removed the remaining force across the Cumberland River overnight on a small steamboat and a few barges. He left his artillery, mules, equipment and most of his food supply on the north bank. The Union had gained a significant victory and boost in morale while the Confederates had lost a brave, if unskilled, general along with about 500 men and the small army's equipment and supplies.

The Federals treated Zollicoffer's body with respect. He was embalmed by a Union surgeon and was eventually returned to Tennessee and interred in the Old City Cemetery in Nashville.

He was a member of Cumberland Lodge 8.



William Brickly Stokes

1814-1897

U. S. House of Representatives 1859-1861 &
1866-1871

William Brickly Stokes (September 9, 1814 – March 14, 1897) was a member of the United States House of Representatives from Tennessee. He also served as colonel of the 5th Regiment Tennessee Volunteer Cavalry during the American Civil War.

He was born on September 9, 1814 in Chatham County, North Carolina. He attended the common schools, moved with his family to Temperance Hall, Tennessee, and engaged in agricultural pursuits.

He was a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives from 1849 to 1852. He served in the Tennessee Senate in 1855 and 1856.

He was elected as a member of the Opposition Party to the Thirty-sixth Congress by Tennessee's 4th congressional district, serving from March 4, 1859 to March 4, 1861. He entered the Union Army on May 15, 1862 as a major of the Tennessee Volunteers. He served as colonel of the 5th Regiment Tennessee Volunteer Cavalry until he resigned on March 10, 1865. He briefly served in temporary brigade command in the Army of the Ohio between June 17, 1863 and August 6, 1863. On December 24, 1866, President Andrew Johnson nominated Stokes for the award of the honorary grade of brevet brigadier general to rank from March 13, 1865. The U.S. Senate confirmed the award on February 21, 1867. He studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1867, and commenced practice in Alexandria, Tennessee in DeKalb County, Tennessee.

Upon the readmission of Tennessee to representation, he was elected as an Unconditional Unionist to the Thirty-ninth Congress by Tennessee's 3rd congressional district. He was re-elected as a Republican to the Fortieth and Forty-first Congresses. He served in the U.S. House of Representatives from July 24, 1866 to March 4, 1871. He was an unsuccessful candidate for re-election in 1870 to the Forty-second Congress. He also was the supervisor of internal revenue for Tennessee. He resumed the practice of law and died in Alexandria, Tennessee on March 14, 1897. He was interred in East View Cemetery at Alexandria.

He was a member of Alexandria Lodge 175.

John Trimble

1812-1884

U. S. House of Representatives 1867-1869

John Trimble (February 7, 1812 – February 23, 1884) was an American politician and a member of the United States House of Representatives for Tennessee's 5th congressional district from 1867 to 1869.

Trimble was born in Roane County, Tennessee son of James and Leticia B. Trimble; Trimble pursued classical studies under a private tutor and at the University of Nashville. He studied law and was admitted to the bar.

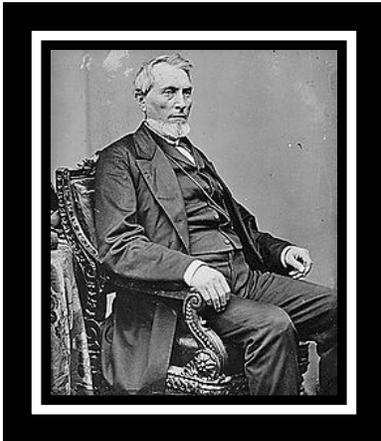
After beginning his practice in Nashville, Tennessee, he became Tennessee Attorney General in 1836, and served until 1842. He served as member of the Tennessee House of Representatives in 1843 and 1844, and in the Tennessee Senate in 1845 and 1846, and in 1859 and 1861. A Southern Unionist, he

resigned when the state seceded.^[2] He served as a United States Attorney from April 1862 until August 1864, when he resigned. He again served in the state senate from 1865 to 1867.

Elected as a Republican to the Fortieth Congress, he served from March 4, 1867 to March 3, 1869.^[1]

Trimble died in Nashville, Tennessee, on February 23, 1884 (age about 72 years). The location at which he is interred is Mount Olivet Cemetery.

He was a member of Tennessee Lodge 2.



Robert P. Caldwell

1821-1885

U. S. House of Representatives 1871-1873

Robert Porter Caldwell (December 16, 1821 – March 12, 1885) was an American politician and a member of the United States House of Representatives for the 7th congressional district of Tennessee.

Caldwell was born in Adair County, Kentucky on December 16, 1821. He moved with his parents to Henry County, Tennessee and a few years later moved to Obion County. He attended the public schools of Troy and Lebanon, studied law at Troy.

Caldwell married Harriett James Wilkins who was born October 11, 1829 in Maury County, Tennessee, and died August 8, 1865. They were married on March 15, 1851 in Trenton. They had 5 children.

Admitted to the bar, Caldwell commenced practice in Trenton in 1845. He served in the Tennessee House of Representatives in 1847 and 1848. He was a member of the Tennessee Senate in 1855 and 1856. He was elected attorney general for the sixteenth judicial circuit of Tennessee in 1858.

During the Civil War, Caldwell was a major in the Twelfth Regiment, Tennessee Infantry, of the Confederate Army.

Caldwell was elected as a Democrat to the Forty-second Congress, but was not a successful candidate for re-election to the Forty-third Congress. He served from March 4, 1871 to March 3, 1873. He resumed the practice of law in Trenton, Tennessee.

Caldwell died in Trenton on March 12, 1885 (age 63 years, 86 days). He is interred at Oakland Cemetery, Trenton, Tennessee.

He was a member of Trenton Lodge 86.



James D. Richardson

1843-1914

U. S. House of Representatives 1885-1905

James Daniel Richardson (March 10, 1843 – July 24, 1914) represented Tennessee's 5th district in the United States House of Representatives from 1885 through 1905.

James Daniel Richardson was born in Rutherford County, Tennessee, son of John Watkins and Augusta M. Starnes Richardson. He attended the country schools and Franklin College, near Nashville. He married Alabama Phippen on January 18, 1865, and they had five children, Annie Augusta, Ida Lee, James Daniel, Allie Sue, and John Watkins. Before graduating from college, Richardson enlisted in the Confederate States Army during the American Civil War, and served nearly four years. The first year he was a private and the remaining three years as a first lieutenant and the adjutant of the 45th Tennessee Infantry Regiment.

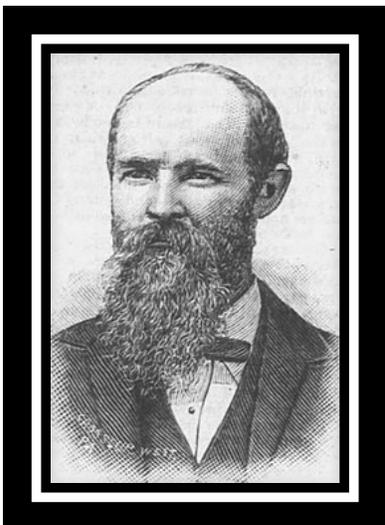
Richardson studied law; was admitted to the bar and commenced practice January 1, 1867, in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. He was elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives, serving from 1871 to 1873, and then to the Tennessee Senate, serving from 1873 to 1875. He was a delegate to the Democratic National Conventions in 1876, 1896, and 1900, and presided as permanent chairman at the 1900 convention.

Elected as a Democrat to the Forty-ninth and to the nine succeeding Congresses, Richardson served from March 4, 1885 to March 3, 1905. He was among the earliest U.S. House Minority Leaders, holding that position from 1899 to 1903, during the 56th and 57th United States Congresses.

Pursuant to an act of Congress on August 20, 1894, Richardson was charged with compiling the "Messages and Papers of the Presidents," a multi-volume work including every single important document from the federal Government, from the early days of President Washington through the second administration of Grover Cleveland, plus some papers from the administration of William McKinley.

Richardson died on July 24, 1914 (age 71 years, 136 days) in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. He is interred at Evergreen Cemetery.

James Richardson was raised in Mt. Moriah Lodge 18, in Murfreesboro, on October 12, 1867. He was elected the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee in 1873. He also became the eleventh Sovereign Grand Commander of the Scottish Rite's Supreme Council. He held this office from 1900 until his death until 1914.



John R. Neal

1836-1889

U. S. House of Representatives 1885-1889

John Randolph Neal (November 26, 1836 – March 16, 1889) was an American politician and a member of the United States House of Representatives for Tennessee's 3rd congressional district.

Neal was born near Clinton, Tennessee in Anderson County son of John O'Brien and Permelia Young Neal. He attended the common schools and Hiwassee College in Monroe County, Tennessee. He graduated from Emory and Henry College in Emory, Virginia in 1858. He taught school at Post Oak Springs and studied law; was admitted to

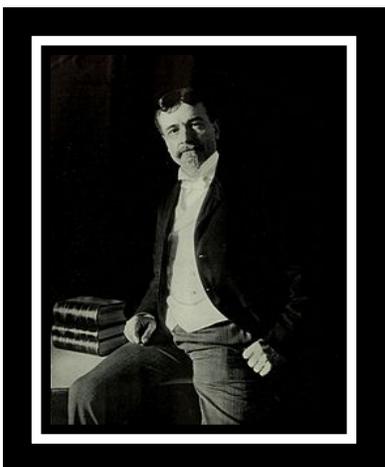
the bar in 1859, and commenced practice in Athens, Tennessee. At the beginning of the war, he married to Mary E. C. Brown, daughter of Franklin Brown. They had three children; Dr. John R. Neal, Jr., Professor of Law at the University of Tennessee, and Scopes Trial attorney; Commander George F. Neal, U. S. N. and D. S. O. from King George V for distinguished service during World War I for sinking a German submarine, and Navy Cross from Congress for loyal service; and Amanda Neal Wheelock.

During the Civil War, Neal enlisted in the Confederate Army and was elected captain of a Cavalry troop, which afterward became a part of the 16th Battalion, Tennessee Cavalry. He was subsequently promoted to lieutenant colonel of the battalion. He taught school for several years, settled at Rhea Springs, Tennessee, and continued the practice of law. He was a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives in 1874. He served in the Tennessee Senate in 1878 and 1879, and served as its presiding officer in 1879.

Neal was elected as a Democrat to the Forty-ninth and Fiftieth Congresses. He served from March 4, 1885 to March 3, 1889,^[4] but declined to be a candidate for re-nomination in 1888 on account of ill health.

Neal died at Rhea Springs, Tennessee, in Rhea County on March 16, 1889 (age 52 years, 120 days). He is interred at the W.F. Brown family cemetery in Post Oak Springs, Roane County, Tennessee.

He was a member of Rhea Springs Lodge 310.



Henry Clay Evans

1843-1912

U. S. House of Representatives 1889-1891

Henry Clay Evans (June 18, 1843 – December 12, 1921) was a politician and businessman who represented Tennessee's 3rd district in the United States House of Representatives from 1889 to 1891, and was twice a candidate for Governor of Tennessee (1894 and 1906). He also served as U.S. Commissioner of Pensions from 1897 to 1902, and as U.S. consul to London from 1902 to 1905.

A supporter of progressive causes such as the Lodge Bill, Evans frequently found himself at odds with the Southern Democrat-controlled state legislature. His district was gerrymandered to ensure his defeat in the 1890 congressional elections, and the state legislature tossed thousands of votes in the 1894 gubernatorial election to allow his opponent, Peter Turney, to win. He also consistently quarreled with fellow Tennessee Republicans, initially Congressman Leonidas C. Houk, and later the faction led by Congressman Walter P. Brownlow. Brownlow helped thwart Evans's bid for the vice presidential nomination at the 1896 Republican National Convention.

Evans was also active in local politics in his adopted hometown of Chattanooga, where he championed education. He served two terms as Mayor of Chattanooga (1882–1883), and in his later years served as the city's Commissioner of Education.

Born in Juniata County, Pennsylvania, Evans moved to Wisconsin in 1844, with his parents, Jesse and Anna Single Evans, who settled in Platteville, Grant County. He attended the common schools, a business school in Madison, and graduated from a business school at Chicago in 1861.

During the Civil War, Evans enlisted on May 6, 1864, as a corporal in Company A, 41st Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry and served until he was discharged as a quartermaster sergeant on September 24, 1864. For a year, he was an agent with the quartermaster department in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He then spent some time in Texas and New York. He married Adelaide Durand in Westfield, New York, in 1869 and they had three children.

In 1870 Evans returned to Chattanooga and engaged in the manufacture of freight cars. Elected mayor in 1881, he served two terms. He organized the public-school system of Chattanooga and served as first

school commissioner. From 1884 to 1885 he worked as cashier of Chattanooga's First National Bank. Evans became president of the Chattanooga Car and Foundry Company and remained principal owner until 1917.

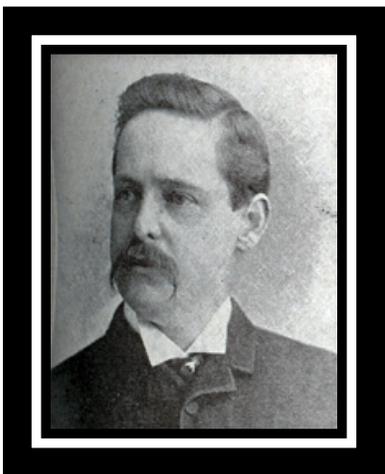
Elected as a Republican to the Fifty-first Congress, Evans served from March 4, 1889 to March 3, 1891. He was not a successful candidate for reelection in 1890 to the Fifty-second Congress and was First Assistant Postmaster General from 1891 to 1893.

Evans was elected Governor of Tennessee in 1894 on the face of the returns, but a recount rejected certain votes and declared his Democratic opponent, Peter Turney, elected. He was appointed Commissioner of Pensions April 1, 1897, and served until May 13, 1902, when he resigned to enter the diplomatic service.

Appointed United States consul general to London, England, on May 9, 1902, Evans resigned from that position in 1905. He was chosen commissioner of health and education of Chattanooga in 1911.

Evans died from heart disease in Chattanooga, Tennessee, on December 12, 1921 (age 78 years, 177 days). He is interred at Forest Hills Cemetery, St. Elmo, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

He was a member of Temple Lodge 430.



Joseph E. Washington

1851-1915

U. S. House of Representatives 1887-1897

Joseph Edwin Washington (November 10, 1851 – August 28, 1915) was a member of the United States House of Representatives for the 6th Congressional district of Tennessee.

Washington was born on November 10, 1851 on his family tobacco plantation, Wessyngton, near Cedar Hill, Tennessee in Robertson County. His father, George Augustine Washington, was a planter and major slaveholder, a director of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad and the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad,^[2] and a member

of the Tennessee General Assembly from 1873 to 1875.

Washington received his early instruction at home and graduated from Georgetown College in Washington, D.C. on June 26, 1873. He studied law with the first law class organized at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee in 1874. He was admitted to the bar, but never practiced. He took over management of Wessyngton Plantation and entered politics.

From 1877 to 1879 Washington was a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives. In 1886 he was elected as a Democrat to the Fiftieth United States Congress, and was re-elected to the four succeeding Congresses. He served from March 4, 1887 to March 3, 1897, but he was not a candidate for re-nomination in 1896. He was the chairman of the United States House Committee on Territories during the Fifty-second Congress.

Appointed road commissioner, Washington had charge of the road construction work of Robertson County. He was a member of the Board of Trustees of Vanderbilt University and a director of the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis and Nashville & Decatur Railroads. He resumed agricultural pursuits, managing the family's tobacco plantation, Wessyngton, in Robertson County, Tennessee.

Washington married Mary Bolling Kemp and they had four children, George, Anne, Joseph, and Elizabeth.

Washington died on August 28, 1915, (aged 63) on the family estate. He is interred at the family burying ground on his estate.

He was a member of Thomas McCulloch Lodge 302.



Henry C. Snodgrass

1848-1931

U. S. House of Representatives 1891-1895

Henry Clay Snodgrass (March 26, 1848 – April 22, 1931) was a member of the United States House of Representatives for the 3rd congressional district of Tennessee.

Snodgrass was born on March 29, 1848 near Sparta, Tennessee in White County. He attended Sparta Academy, studied law at Cumberland University in Lebanon, Tennessee, and was admitted to the bar in 1870. He commenced practice in Sparta, Tennessee and engaged in agricultural pursuits.

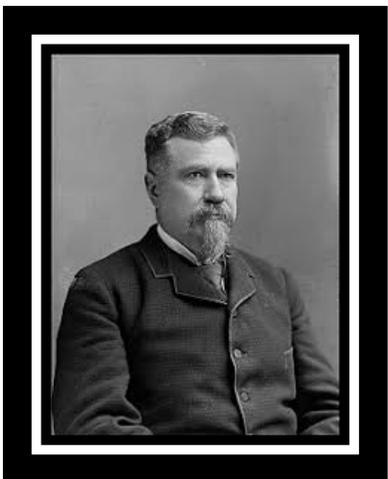
During the Civil War, Snodgrass served as a private in the Confederate Army. From 1878 to 1884, he was the attorney general of the fifth judicial circuit.

Snodgrass was elected as a Democrat to the 52nd and 53rd Congresses. He served from March 4, 1891 to March 3, 1895, but he was not a successful candidate for re-election to the 54th Congress. He was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1896. He resumed the practice of his profession in Sparta, Tennessee in White County.

Snodgrass moved to Gould, Oklahoma and engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Snodgrass died on April 22, 1931 (age 83 years, 24 days) in Altus, Oklahoma. He is interred at Altus Cemetery. He was the uncle of fellow Tennessee congressman Charles Edward Snodgrass.

He was a member of Sparta Lodge 99.



Josiah Patterson

1837-1904

U. S. House of Representatives 1891-1897

Josiah Patterson (April 14, 1837 – February 10, 1904) was a Confederate soldier, political figure, and a member of the United States House of Representatives for the 10th District of Tennessee.

Patterson was born in Morgan County, Alabama. He attended local schools and the Somerville Academy in Somerville, Alabama. He then studied law, and in 1859 was admitted to the bar. He began his practice in Morgan County. He married Josephine Rice on December 22, 1859 in Morgan County, Alabama. They had three children,

Malcolm Rice, Mary Louisa, and Ann Eliza.

In September 1861, early in the American Civil War, Patterson enlisted in the Confederate Army. The following year, he was commissioned a first lieutenant in the 1st Alabama Cavalry Regiment. Patterson was promoted through the ranks until he became a colonel and was assigned command of the 5th Alabama Cavalry Regiment. He served in Gen. Philip Dale Roddey's brigade for the remainder of the war, mostly in North Alabama. Surrendering with his regiment at the war's end in May 1865, Patterson returned home and resumed his law practice.

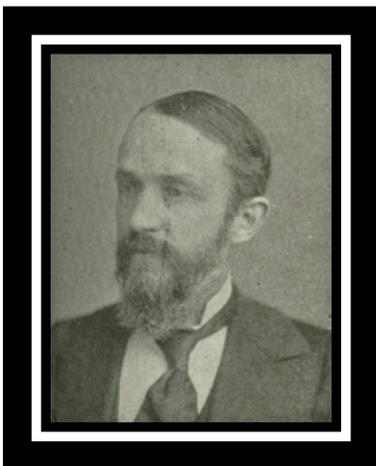
In January 1867, Patterson relocated to Florence, Alabama, and five years later moved to Memphis, Tennessee. He served in the Tennessee House of Representatives from 1883 to 1885.

Patterson was elected as a Democrat to the Fifty-second, Fifty-third, and Fifty-fourth Congresses. He served from March 4, 1891 to March 3, 1897. Patterson was an unsuccessful candidate for re-election to the Fifty-fifth Congress as a Gold Democrat. He continued his law practice in Memphis until he died.

On February 10, 1904 (age 66 years, 302 days) Patterson died in Memphis. He is interred at Forest Hill Cemetery.

Patterson's son, Malcolm Rice Patterson (June 7, 1861 – March 8, 1935), served as governor of Tennessee from 1907 to 1911. His granddaughter, Virginia Foster Durr (August 6, 1903 – February 24, 1999), was a friend of Rosa Parks and active in the Civil Rights Movement.

He was a member of Memphis Lodge 118.



Foster V. Brown

1852-1937

U. S. House of Representatives 1895-1897

Foster Vincent Brown (December 24, 1852 – March 26, 1937) was a U.S. Representative from Tennessee, father of Joseph Edgar Brown.

Born near Sparta, Tennessee, Brown was the son of Joseph and Martha Thankful Mitchell Brown, and attended the common schools. He was graduated from Burritt College in Spencer, Tennessee, in 1871 and from the law department of Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tennessee, in 1873. He was admitted to the bar and commenced practice in Jasper, Tennessee, in 1874.

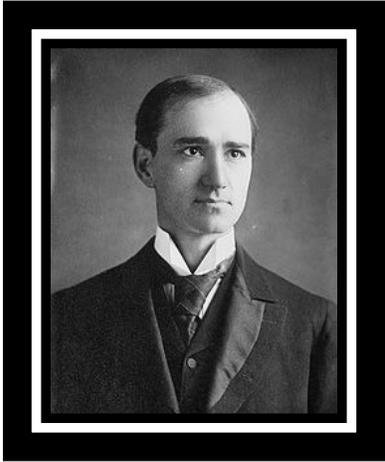
Brown served as delegate to the Republican National Conventions in 1884, 1896, 1900, and 1916, and as attorney general of the fourth judicial district from 1886 to 1894. He moved to Chattanooga in May 1890 and continued the practice of law.

Elected as a Republican to the Fifty-fourth Congress representing Tennessee's 3rd congressional district Brown served from March 4, 1895 to March 3, 1897. He declined to be a candidate for re-nomination in 1896.

After leaving Congress Brown resumed the practice of law until he was appointed attorney general of Puerto Rico on May 10, 1910. He served in that position until April 20, 1912, when he resigned. He then resumed the practice of law in Chattanooga until his death.

Brown died on March 26, 1937, (age 84 years, 92 days) in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He is interred at Forest Hills Cemetery.

He was a member of Chattanooga Lodge 199.



Finis J. Garrett

1875-1956

U. S. House of Representatives 1905-1929

Finis James Garrett (August 26, 1875 – May 25, 1956) was a United States Representative from Tennessee and a Chief Judge of the United States Court of Customs and Patent Appeals.

Born on August 26, 1875, near Ore Springs, Weakley County, Tennessee, Garrett attended the common schools and Clinton College in Kentucky. He received an Artium Baccalaureus degree in 1897 from Bethel College (now Bethel University) in McKenzie, Tennessee and read law in 1899. He entered private practice

in Dresden, Tennessee from 1900 to 1905, during which time he was also a newspaper editor, teacher and a Master in Chancery for the Tennessee Chancery Court in Weakley County.

Garrett was elected from the 9th congressional district of Tennessee as a Democrat to the United States House of Representatives of the 59th United States Congress and to the eleven succeeding Congresses, serving from March 4, 1905, until March 3, 1929. He was Chairman of the United States House Committee on Insular Affairs in the 65th United States Congress. He was minority leader in the 68th through 70th United States Congresses. He was not a candidate for re-nomination to the 71st United States Congress in 1928, but was an unsuccessful candidate for the Democratic nomination for United States Senator. He was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1924. Garrett was the last Democratic House Minority Leader not to serve at any point as Speaker until Dick Gephardt from 1995 to 2003.

Garrett received a recess appointment to the United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee on November 22, 1920, but declined the appointment. He was nominated to the same seat on December 10, 1920, but the United States Senate never acted on his nomination, which expired with the end of Woodrow Wilson's Presidency.

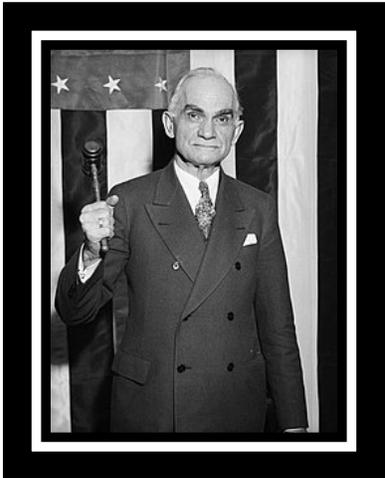
Garrett was nominated by President Calvin Coolidge on February 14, 1929, to an Associate Judge seat on the United States Court of Customs Appeals (Associate Judge of the United States Court of Customs and Patent Appeals from March 2, 1929) vacated by Associate Judge James F. Smith. He was confirmed by the United States Senate on February 18, 1929, and received his commission on February 18, 1929. His service terminated on December 1, 1937, due to his elevation to Presiding Judge of the same court.

Garrett was nominated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on November 16, 1937, to the Presiding Judge seat on the United States Court of Customs and Patent Appeals vacated by Presiding Judge William J. Graham. He was confirmed by the Senate on November 30, 1937, and received his commission on December 1, 1937. Garrett was reassigned by operation of law on September 1, 1948, to the new Chief Judge seat authorized by 62 Stat. 899. His service terminated on September 15, 1955, due to his retirement.

Garrett was the son of Noah J. Garrett and Virginia (Baughman) Garrett.^[4] He married Elizabeth Harris Burns on November 27, 1901.

Garrett died on May 25, 1956, in Washington, D.C. He was interred in Sunset Cemetery in Dresden, Tennessee.

He was a member of Dresden Lodge 90.



Jo Byrns

1869-1936

U. S. House of Representatives 1909-1936

Joseph Wellington "Jo" Byrns Sr. (July 20, 1869 – June 4, 1936) served as a 14-term Democratic Congressman from Tennessee, and as the 41st Speaker of the United States House of Representatives.

Byrns was born in Cedar Hill, Robertson County, Tennessee, son of James Henry Byrns and Mary Emily Jackson. He was named for a maternal uncle, Joseph William Green Jackson, who died in the American Civil War. His great-grandfather, James Byrns, Esq., figures in the legend of The Bell Witch, and is mentioned in the Authenticated History of The Bell Witch by Martin Van Buren Ingram. A

graduate of public schools, he displayed a strong early interest in politics and was elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives in 1894 and reelected in 1896 and 1898. In 1900 he was elected to the Tennessee State Senate.

In 1902, he ran for district attorney of Davidson County, Tennessee, but was defeated — his only unsuccessful political race in 18 efforts. In 1908, Byrns received the Democratic nomination for U.S. Representative and was elected in November of that year to a term beginning March 4, 1909. He served in the House for the rest of his life.

Byrns was widely respected and his influence grew as his seniority did. He was chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee from 1928 to 1935. In 1931 he was appointed chairman of the powerful House Appropriations Committee and in 1933 became House Majority Leader. In 1935 he became Speaker of the House.

Byrns was Speaker when he died in Washington, D.C., and had been planning to run for reelection. His funeral, attended by President Roosevelt and other dignitaries, was held in the United States Capitol. He was interred at Mount Olivet Cemetery in Nashville. His son Jo Byrns Jr. later served a single term in the House but never achieved the popularity of Jo Sr.

Byrns was also an active Civitan.

Jo Byrns High School, in his hometown, Cedar Hill, Tennessee, is named in his honor. The local elementary school is also called "Jo Byrns Elementary School".

He was a member of Phoenix Lodge 131.



J. Will Taylor

1880-1939

U. S. House of Representatives 1919-1939

James Willis "J. Will" Taylor (August 28, 1880 – November 14, 1939) was a U.S. Representative from Tennessee.

Born near Lead Mine Bend in Union County, Tennessee, Taylor was the son of James W. and Sarah Elizabeth (Rogers) Taylor. He attended the public schools, Holbrook Normal College, Fountain City, Tennessee, and the American Temperance University, Harriman, Tennessee.

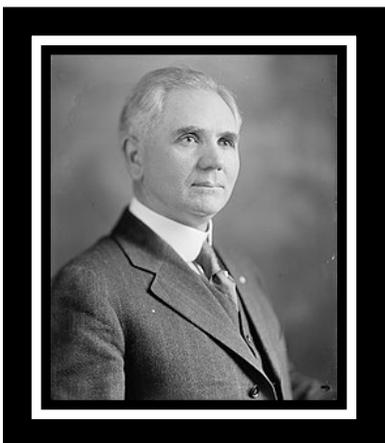
Taylor taught at school for several years, and was graduated from Cumberland School of Law at Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tennessee, in 1902. He was admitted to the bar the same year.

Having moved to LaFollette, Tennessee, Taylor commenced the practice of law. He served as postmaster at LaFollette from 1904 to 1909. He was also mayor from 1910 to 1913, and in 1918 and 1919. He was Insurance commissioner for the State of Tennessee in 1913 and 1914 and chairman of the Republican State executive committee in 1917 and 1918.

Taylor was elected as a Republican to the Sixty-sixth and to the ten succeeding Congresses and served from March 4, 1919, until his death. He served as chairman of the Committee on Expenditures in the Department of State (Sixty-eighth and Sixty-ninth Congresses). He served as member of the Republican National Executive Committee 1929-1939.

Taylor died in LaFollette, Tennessee, November 14, 1939 (age 59 years, 78 days). He is interred at Woodlawn Cemetery.

He was a member of LaFollette Lodge 623.



Ewin L. Davis

1876-1949

U. S. House of Representatives 1919-1933

Ewin Lamar Davis (February 5, 1876 – October 23, 1949) was a member of the United States House of Representatives for the 5th congressional district of Tennessee.

Davis was born in Bedford County, Tennessee, son of McLin H. and Christina Lee (Shoffner) Davis; and brother of Norman Hezekiah Davis. He attended public schools, including The Webb School in Bell Buckle, Tennessee and Woolwine School in Tullahoma, Tennessee.

From 1895 to 1897 he was a student at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. He married Carolyn Windsor on December 28, 1898, and they had five children, Windsor, Margaret, Ewin, Latham, and Carolyn. He graduated from Columbian (now The George Washington University Law School) in Washington, D.C. in 1899. He was admitted to the bar the same year and commenced practice in Tullahoma, Tennessee.

Davis was a delegate to all state Democratic conventions from 1900 to 1910. From 1910 through 1918, he was a judge of the Seventh Judicial Circuit of Tennessee. He also acted as Chairman of the district exemption board for the middle district of Tennessee in 1917 and 1918.

From 1903 to 1940, Davis was the director of the Traders National Bank of Tullahoma, and was a trustee of the Tennessee College for Women from 1906 to 1939. He was also a member of the Federal Trade Commission from May 23, 1923 until his death, serving as Chairman in 1935, 1940, and 1945.

Davis was elected as a Democrat to the Sixty-sixth Congress and to the six succeeding Congresses, serving from March 4, 1919 until March 3, 1933. During the Seventy-second Congress he was the chairman of the United States House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. He was an unsuccessful candidate for re-nomination in 1932. In 1936, he was a member of the American National Committee of the Third World Power Conference.

Davis died in Washington, D.C. on October 23, 1949 (age 73 years, 260 days) and is interred in Oakwood Cemetery in Tullahoma, Tennessee.

He was a member of Tullahoma Lodge 262.



B. Carroll Reece

1889-1961

U. S. House of Representatives 1921-1931, 1933-1947 & 1951-1961

Brazilla Carroll Reece (December 22, 1889 – March 19, 1961) served in the United States House of Representatives for all but six years from 1921 to 1961.

Reece was born on a farm near Butler, Tennessee as one of thirteen children of John Isaac and Sarah Maples Reece. He was named for Brazilla Carroll McBride, an ancestor who served in the War of 1812, but never used his first name. His brother, Raleigh Valentine Reece,

was a reporter for the *Nashville Tennessean* and the teacher who replaced John Thomas Scopes at Rhea County High School in Dayton, Tennessee following the infamous "Monkey Trial."

Reece attended Watauga Academy in Butler, Tennessee and Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tennessee. At Carson-Newman he played basketball and football. After graduating from Carson-Newman in 1914 as class valedictorian, he worked as a high school principal for one year, and then enrolled in New York University, where he earned a master's degree in economics and finance in 1916. He also studied at the University of London.

He was an assistant secretary and instructor at New York University in 1916 and 1917.

In April 1917 Reece enlisted for World War I and attended officer training in Plattsburgh, New York. During the war he served initially with the 166th Infantry Regiment, a unit of the 42nd Infantry Division. He later transferred to 102nd Infantry Regiment, 26th Infantry Division. He commanded a company, then commanded the regiment's 3rd Battalion, and attained the rank of Captain. He was discharged in 1919, and was decorated with the Distinguished Service Cross, Distinguished Service Medal, Purple Heart, and French Croix de Guerre with Palm.

He was director of the School of Business Administration of New York University in 1919 and 1920, and also studied law there.

He then passed the bar exam and opened a successful law practice in Johnson City, where he was also a banker and publisher.

Reece was married to Louise Goff, daughter of United States Senator Guy Despard Goff of West Virginia.

In 1920, Reece won the Republican nomination for Tennessee's 1st Congressional District, based in the Tri-Cities region in the northeastern part of the state. The region had voted not to secede at the state convention in 1861. This region was heavily Republican—in fact, Republicans had represented this district for all but four years since 1859, and was one of the few regions in the former Confederacy where Republicans won on a regular basis. He won handily in November and was reelected four more times before being defeated for re-nomination in 1930 by Oscar Lovette. However, he defeated Lovette in 1932 and returned to Congress, serving until 1947, when he stepped down to devote his full energies to serving as chairman of the Republican National Committee, a position he had held since 1946. A member of the conservative "Old Guard" faction of the Republican Party, Reece was a strong supporter of Ohio Senator Robert A. Taft, the leader of the GOP's conservative wing. In 1948 and 1952 Reece was a leading supporter of Taft's candidacy for the Republican presidential nomination; however, Taft lost the nomination both times to moderate Republicans from New York.

Reece served as a delegate to the Republican National Conventions in 1928, 1932, 1936, 1940, 1944, and 1948. He was a member of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution in 1945 and 1946.

Reece was the Republican nominee for an open Senate seat in 1948, but lost to Democratic Congressman Estes Kefauver, who had unseated incumbent Democrat Tom Stewart in the party primary. Kefauver carried the support of the influential editor Edward J. Meeman of the now-defunct *Memphis Press-Scimitar*, who had fought for years to topple the Edward "Boss" Crump political machine in Memphis. Crump supported Stewart.

In 1950, Reece ran against the man who succeeded him in the House, Dayton Phillips, and defeated him in the Republican primary. This all but assured him of a return to Congress in the heavily Republican

district. He was reelected five more times. When the Republicans gained control of the House after the 1952 elections, Reece served as chairman of the Special Committee on Tax Exempt Foundations, losing this post after the Democrats regained control in 1955. During his time in Congress, he was a social and fiscal conservative who supported isolationism and civil rights legislation, being one of the few Southern Congressmen who declined to sign the 1956 anti-desegregation Southern Manifesto and voted in favor of the Civil Rights Acts of 1957 and 1960. He was a rarity in politics at the time—a truly senior Republican congressman from a former Confederate state.

During the Cold War, Reece's statement that "The citizens of Danzig are German as they always had been" caused a reply from Jędrzej Giertych, a leading Polish emigrant in London and writer, publicist, and publisher of National Democratic background. Danzig was separated from Germany and had been established as the Free City of Danzig in accordance with the Treaty of Versailles following World War I. It was annexed by Nazi Germany in 1939 and subsequently grouped with Poland in the Potsdam Agreement.

Reece led the House Special Committee to Investigate Tax-Exempt Foundations and Comparable Organizations which investigated the use of funds by tax-exempt non-profit organizations, and in particular foundations, to determine if they were using their funds to support communism in educational institutions. Reece selected attorney Norman Dodd to lead the investigation, which lasted eighteen months. Reece would later declare that "The evidence that has been gathered by the staff pointed to one simple underlying situation, namely that the major foundations, by subsidizing collectivistic-minded educators, had financed a socialist trend in American government."

In the wake of the fall of Senator Joseph McCarthy, activities such as these were accused of demonstrating what later became known as 'McCarthyism', and failed to attract much attention. When they did attract attention, it was often negative, with a recurring criticism that such investigations were chilling free thought.

Reece died of lung cancer on March 19, 1961 in Bethesda, Maryland, just two months after being sworn in for his 18th term. He served in the House longer than anyone else in Tennessee history (though Jimmy Quillen, who eventually succeeded him as the 1st District's congressman, holds the record for the longest unbroken tenure in the House for a Tennessee congressman), and only Kenneth McKellar served in both houses longer. Reece's wife, Louise, was elected to serve the remainder of his unexpired term in Congress. Both are buried at Monte Vista Memorial Park in Johnson City, Tennessee.

He was a member Roane Creek Lodge 679.



Herron C. Pearson

1890-1953

U. S. House of Representatives 1935-1943

Herron Carney Pearson (July 31, 1890 – April 24, 1953) was a U.S. Representative from Tennessee.

Born in Taylor, Texas, Pearson was son of John Lafayette and Annie (Herron) Pearson. He moved to Jackson, Tennessee, in 1891, attended the public and high schools, and graduated from Union University, Jackson, Tennessee, in 1910 and from Cumberland School of Law at Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tennessee, in 1912. He was admitted to the bar the same year and commenced practice in Jackson, Tennessee.

Pearson served as municipal judge of the city of Jackson, Tennessee, in 1915, and as City attorney of Jackson, Tennessee from 1920 to 1923. He married Evelyn Percy on June 23, 1915.

Elected as a Democrat to the Seventy-fourth and to the three succeeding Congresses Pearson served from January 3, 1935 to January 3, 1943. Not a candidate for re-nomination in 1942, he resumed the practice of law.

Pearson died in Jackson, Madison County, Tennessee, on April 24, 1953 (age 62 years, 267 days). He is interred at Hollywood Cemetery, Jackson, Tennessee.

He was a member of Jackson Lodge 45.



Samuel D. McReynolds

1872-1939

U. S. House of Representatives 1923-1939

Samuel Davis McReynolds (April 16, 1872 – July 11, 1939) was a member of the United States House of Representatives for the 3rd congressional district of Tennessee.

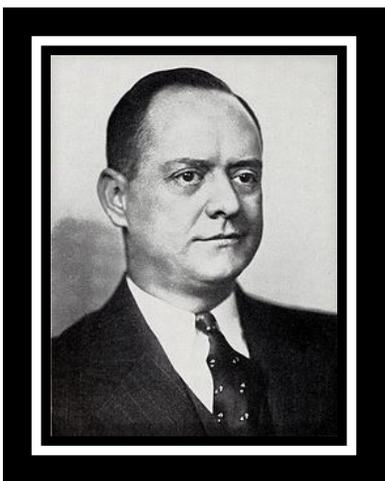
Born on a farm near Pikeville, Tennessee in Bledsoe County on April 16, 1872, McReynolds attended the rural schools, People's College at Pikeville, Tennessee, and Cumberland University at Lebanon, Tennessee. He studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1893, and commenced practice at Pikeville. He married Jennie Hutchins on December 21, 1905. After her death on April 16, 1908, he married Mary Davenport on March 9, 1910, and they had one daughter, Margaret Henrietta.

In 1894 and 1896, McReynolds served as assistant district attorney of the sixth judicial circuit court of Tennessee. He moved to Chattanooga in 1896 and continued the practice of law. He was appointed judge of the criminal court for the sixth circuit of Tennessee on April 16, 1903. It was there that he heard the case *State of Tennessee versus Ed Johnson*, the case that later became *United States v. Shipp*. He was subsequently elected and twice re-elected to the same office. He served until February 1, 1923, when he resigned, having been elected to Congress.

McReynolds was elected as a Democrat to the Sixty-eighth and to the eight succeeding Congresses. During the Seventy-second through Seventy-sixth Congresses, he was the chairman of the United States House Committee on Foreign Affairs. He served from March 4, 1923 until his death. In 1933, he was a delegate to the International Monetary and Economic Conference at London, England.

McReynolds died in Washington, D.C. on July 11, 1939. He was interred in Forest Hill Cemetery in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

He was a member of Chattanooga Lodge 199.



Jere Cooper

1893-1957

U. S. House of Representatives 1929-1957

Jere Cooper (July 20, 1893 – December 18, 1957) was a Democratic United States Representative from Tennessee.

Cooper was born on a farm near Dyersburg, Dyer County, Tennessee, son of Joseph W. and Viola May (Cooper) Cooper. He attended public schools and then was graduated from the Cumberland School of Law in Lebanon, Tennessee, in 1914. He was admitted to the bar in

1915 and commenced practice in Dyersburg, Tennessee. He married Mary Rankley in December 1930; the couple had one son, Leon Jere Cooper, who died as a child.

Upon the U.S. entry into World War I in 1917, Cooper enlisted in the Second Tennessee Infantry, National Guard, and was commissioned a First Lieutenant. Later he was transferred, with his company, to Co K, 119th Infantry, Thirtieth Division, and served in France and Belgium. On July 9, 1918, he was promoted to Captain and served as regimental adjutant until discharged from the Army on April 2, 1919. After the war he resumed the practice of law in Dyersburg.

Cooper was a member of the city council and city attorney from 1920 to 1928, and was elected Department Commander of the American Legion of Tennessee in 1921.

Elected as a Democrat to the 71st, and to the fourteen succeeding, Congresses Cooper served from March 4, 1929, until his death. He served as chairman of the U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means (84th and 85th Congresses), and on the Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation (Eighty-fifth Congress).

He was a signatory to the 1956 Southern Manifesto that opposed the desegregation of public schools ordered by the Supreme Court in *Brown v. Board of Education*.

Cooper died in Bethesda, Maryland, on December 18, 1957 (age 64 years, 151 days). He is interred at Fairview Cemetery, Dyersburg, Tennessee.

He was a member of Hess Lodge 93.

John Ridely Mitchell 1877-1962

U. S. House of Representatives 1931-1939

John Ridley Mitchell (September 26, 1877 – February 26, 1962) was a U.S. Representative from Tennessee.

Born in Livingston, Tennessee, Mitchell was the son of Isiah Winburn and Sophrona Winton Mitchell. He was graduated from Peabody College of Teachers, Nashville, Tennessee, in 1896. He served as Private secretary to Representative C.E. Snodgrass from 1899 to 1903, and graduated from Cumberland School of Law at Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tennessee, in 1904. He was admitted to the bar the same year and commenced practice in Crossville, Tennessee.

A member of the State Democratic executive committee from 1910 to 1914, Mitchell also served as assistant attorney general of the fifth circuit of Tennessee from 1908 to 1918. He became attorney general of the same circuit from 1918 to 1925. He served as judge of the fifth circuit from 1925 until 1931, when he moved to Cookeville, Tennessee.

Mitchell was elected as a Democrat to the Seventy-second and to the three succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1931 – January 3, 1939). He was not a candidate for re-nomination in 1938, but was unsuccessful for the Democratic nomination for United States Senator and resumed the practice of law. In 1942, Mitchell was a candidate for the Democratic nomination for governor of Tennessee. Mitchell faced incumbent Prentice Cooper and ran a surprisingly strong campaign. He was an attorney in the office of Alien Property Custodian from January 1943 to September 1945. He served as special assistant to Attorney General in the Antitrust Division, at the United States Department of Justice, Washington, D.C., from 1945 to 1951.

Mitchell died in Crossville, Cumberland County, Tennessee, on February 26, 1962 (age 84 years, 153 days). He is interred at Green Acres Memorial Gardens, Crossville, Tennessee.

He was a member of Crossville Lodge 483.



John Jennings

1880-1956

U. S. House of Representatives 1939-1951

John Jennings Jr. (June 6, 1880 – February 27, 1956) was a U. S. Representative from Tennessee from 1939 to 1951.

Jennings was born in Jacksboro on June 6, 1880. He attended public schools and American Temperance University in Harriman before graduating from U.S. Grant University in Athens, Tennessee, in 1906. He studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1903, and entered the practice of law in Jellico in his native Campbell County, Tennessee.

In Campbell County, Jennings served as county superintendent of public instruction in 1903 and 1904, and county attorney from 1911-1918. In 1918 he became special assistant to the Attorney General of the United States and judge of the second chancery division of Tennessee. He resigned the judgeship on July 1, 1923, and moved to Knoxville, Tennessee, where he continued the practice of law. He was a delegate to the Republican National Conventions in 1912, 1936, and 1944.

In 1939, Jennings was elected to Congress as a Republican, filling the vacancy caused by the death of J. Will Taylor. He took office on December 30, 1939. He won a full term in 1940, and was re-elected four more times. In 1950, Howard Baker Sr. defeated him in his bid for re-nomination, so he ended his Congressional service on January 3, 1951.^[3] After leaving Congress, he resumed the practice of law.

Jennings died in Knoxville on February 27, 1956 and is interred at Highland Memorial Cemetery.

He was a member of Jellico Lodge 527.



Wirt Courtney

1889-1961

U. S. House of Representatives 1939-1949

William Wirt Courtney (September 7, 1889 – April 6, 1961) was an American politician and a U.S. Representative from Tennessee.

Born in Franklin, Tennessee, Courtney was the son of Wirt Courtney and Anne (Neely) Courtney. He graduated from Battle Ground Academy, Franklin, Tennessee, in 1907. He attended Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, and the Faculté de Droit of the Sorbonne, Paris, France. He studied law, and was admitted to the

bar in 1911. He commenced practice in Franklin, Tennessee.

After serving as City Judge from 1915 to 1917, Courtney enlisted in the United States Army as a private in the One Hundred and Seventeenth Infantry, Thirtieth Division, in September 1917, and was honorably discharged as a first lieutenant in June 1919. He resumed the practice of law in Franklin, Tennessee. He married Currey L. Taylor on December 31, 1919, and they had four children.

Courtney served as adjutant general of Tennessee in 1932, and as a member of the Tennessee National Guard in 1933 with rank of brigadier general. From 1933 to 1939, he served as circuit judge and chancellor of the Seventeenth judicial circuit of Tennessee.

Elected as a Democrat to the Seventy-sixth Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Clarence W. Turner, Courtney was reelected to the Seventy-seventh and to the three succeeding Congresses. He served from May 11, 1939, to January 3, 1949. A confidential 1943 analysis of the House Foreign Affairs Committee by Isaiah Berlin for the British Foreign Office described Eaton as "Typical of the southern

Democratic vote of complete support for the Administration's foreign policies." He was an unsuccessful candidate for re-nomination in 1948, and resumed the practice of law.

Courtney died in Franklin, Tennessee, on April 6, 1961, (age 71 years, 211 days). He is interred at Mount Hope Cemetery.

He was a member of Hiram Lodge 7.



Clifford Davis

1897-1970

U. S. House of Representatives 1940-1965

Clifford Davis (November 18, 1897 – June 8, 1970) was a Democratic U.S. Representative from Tennessee from 1940 to 1965.

Davis was born in Hazlehurst, Mississippi, moving to Memphis with his parents at age 14. There he completed the high school curriculum of the public schools, and in 1917 he completed law school at the University of Mississippi. In 1918 he was admitted to the Tennessee bar.

In 1923, Davis became a city judge in Memphis, serving in this post until 1927. From 1928 until 1940, Davis served as vice mayor and Commissioner of Public Safety. He became a close associate of Memphis political "boss" E. H. Crump. Davis was a member of the Ku Klux Klan, and with the direction of Crump he administered a police force that was 70% KKK. The result was relatively unquestioned violence against black residents of Memphis.

In 1940, the seat for the 10th Congressional District, which included Memphis, came open after three-term incumbent Clift Chandler was elected mayor of Memphis. Crump arranged for his colleague Davis to receive the Democratic nomination for the post. In those days, the Democratic nomination was tantamount to election in most of Tennessee (except for heavily Republican East Tennessee). Davis won the special election and took office on February 15, 1940. Davis was elected to a full term in November of that year and was reelected eleven times. His district was renumbered as the 9th District after Tennessee lost a district in the 1950 Census.

Crump died in 1954, but many of his supporters remained in office for years afterwards. In fact, Davis was re-elected five times after Crump's death. During this time, Davis served as chairman of the House Special Committee on Campaign Expenditures, a group which was charged with attempting to find a legal way to control the influence of money on politics and looked into the beginning of what became, many years later, became the system of campaign finance reform that started to be implemented after the Watergate scandal.

Davis was one of five Representatives shot on March 1, 1954, in the U.S. Capitol shooting incident when four Puerto Rican nationalists opened fire from the visitors' balcony into the chamber of the United States House of Representatives. Davis was shot in the leg, but was not seriously wounded.

He was a signatory to the 1956 Southern Manifesto that opposed the desegregation of public schools ordered by the Supreme Court in *Brown v. Board of Education*.

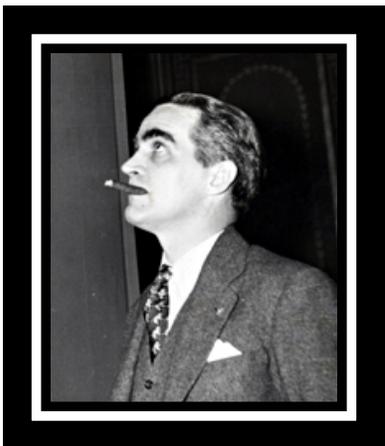
The Memphis area became much friendlier to Republicans in the 1960s, in part due to a massive crossover of white voters from the Democrats. As evidence of this growing influence, Davis barely held onto his seat in 1962, defeating his Republican challenger, former city councilman Ed Davis, by only 1,200 votes. This was particularly shocking considering that he had been unopposed for reelection two years earlier.

In 1964, Davis lost the August Democratic primary to Shelby County legislator George W. Grider, a retired naval officer and fellow attorney. Unlike Davis, Grider had no past ties to the Crump machine.

Davis did not return to Memphis full-time, but maintained a residence in Washington, D.C. where he resumed the practice of law until his death. He is buried at Forest Hill Cemetery in Memphis.

The Clifford Davis Federal Building in Memphis was named after him. As of May 2, 2007, the "Clifford Davis Federal Building" is designated the "Clifford Davis and Odell Horton Federal Building."

He was a member of Stonewall Lodge 723.



Joseph W. Byrns, Jr.

1903-1973

U. S. House of Representatives 1939-1941

Joseph Wellington Byrns Jr. (August 15, 1903 – March 8, 1973) was an attorney and one-term Member of Congress from Tennessee.

Byrns was born in Davidson County, Tennessee, the son of former House Speaker Joseph W. Byrns and Julia Woodard. He completed his schooling at the Emerson Institute in Washington, D.C. in 1923 while his father was serving in Congress. In 1928, he graduated from the Vanderbilt University Law School and was admitted to the bar the same year. Byrns was first married to Cornelia Park in 1929, but the

marriage ended in divorce. It is said that Cornelia liked being Mrs. Joseph W. Byrns Jr., and for the rest of her life refused to acknowledge the divorce. Byrns later enjoyed a happy marriage to Mrs. Lillie (Warmack) Adams of Goodlettsville, Tennessee.

From 1930 to 1938, Byrns was a member of the reserve component of the former Army Air Corps, where he became a captain.

In 1938, Byrns won the Democratic nomination for his father's old House seat and was elected to that office in November of that year. He served that one term, from January 3, 1939 to January 3, 1941 and won the Democratic nomination for a second one in 1940. His vote for an amendment that would have postponed the operation of the Selective Service Act by 60 days helped to inspire opposition from an independent candidate named Percy Priest, who was a member of the editorial staff of the *Nashville Tennessean*. Priest defeated Byrns by a 50%-43% margin (24,565 votes to 20,933 votes, with 3,459 votes going to the Republican nominee). After his defeat, he resumed the practice of law.

Byrns served on active duty in the United States Army during World War II, from June 23, 1942 until August 17, 1945, almost all of this time in the European Theater of Operations.

Although Byrns achieved some stature during his life, he was always overshadowed by the successes and popularity of his father. Afterwards, he retired to Florida.

Byrns died in Daytona Beach, Florida on March 8, 1973 (age 69 years, 205 days), and is interred at Mount Olivet Cemetery in Nashville along with his parents and second wife.

He was a member of Phoenix Lodge 131.



Percy Priest

1900-1956

U. S. House of Representatives 1941-1956

James Percy Priest (April 1, 1900 – October 12, 1956) was a teacher, journalist, and politician who represented Tennessee in the United States House of Representatives from 1941 until his death.

Priest was born in Maury County, Tennessee. He attended Central High School in Columbia, and afterward continued his education at State Teachers' College in Murfreesboro (now Middle Tennessee State University), and the former Peabody College in Nashville. He taught school in Culleoka, in his native Maury County, from 1920 until 1926,

when he joined the editorial staff of the *Nashville Tennessean*.

In 1940, Priest was encouraged to run for the United States House of Representatives as an independent in Tennessee's 5th congressional district, which was, then as now, based in Nashville. He won in an upset, defeating the incumbent, one-term Democratic Congressman Jo Byrns, Jr. Upon swearing-in, he immediately joined the Democratic caucus, and was reelected seven times. The district was renumbered the 6th District in 1943 and became the 5th once again in 1953. He served as the House majority whip between 1949 and 1953. Priest was one of three Democrats in the Tennessee House delegation who did not sign the 1956 Southern Manifesto, the others being Joe Evins and Ross Bass.

At the time of his death, Priest was serving as the chairman of the House Commerce Committee and had already secured the Democratic nomination for a ninth term, which had essentially assured him of reelection since no Republican has been elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Nashville since Reconstruction.

In early October 1956, Priest entered a Nashville hospital for an operation on an ulcer and was reported in satisfactory condition. However, complications developed and he died in the early morning hours of October 12.

Priest was interred at Woodlawn Cemetery in Nashville. J. Percy Priest Dam, a United States Army Corps of Engineers hydroelectric and flood control structure just east of Nashville on the Stones River (and easily visible from Interstate 40) is named in his honor, as is Percy Priest Lake (created by the dam) and an elementary school in Forest Hills, a suburb of Nashville.

In August 2010, it was announced that Priest's papers, along with the research files of Rebecca Stubbs, author of the biography *J. Percy Priest and His Amazing Race*, had been donated to the Tennessee State Library and Archives.

He was a member of Benton Lodge 111.



Howard Baker, Sr.

1902-1964

U. S. House of Representatives 1951-1964

Howard Henry Baker Sr. (January 12, 1902 – January 7, 1964) was a politician and a United States Representative from Tennessee.

Baker was born in Somerset, Kentucky, in 1902, to James F. Baker, an attorney and newspaper publisher in Huntsville, Tennessee, and Kentucky native Helen Keen Baker. The family moved to

Huntsville, Tennessee, in 1909, and Baker spent most of his childhood in Scott County. The family moved to Knoxville in 1918, the same year that Baker entered the university there. He graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1922^[1] and its law school in 1924; he was admitted to the Tennessee bar in 1923. Baker is an alumnus of the Epsilon Eta chapter of Sigma Nu Fraternity. After law school, Baker married Dora Ladd and returned to Huntsville to become a partner in his father's practice. Their son, Howard Baker Jr., was born in Huntsville in 1925. Dora died when Howard Jr. was a child. On September 15, 1935, he married Edith Irene Bailey.

For a period, Baker served as publisher of a weekly newspaper in Huntsville, Tennessee, the county seat of Scott County. In 1928, he was elected to a term in the Tennessee House of Representatives, and served on the Scott County Board of Education from 1931 to 1932. In 1934, he became district attorney general of the former 19th Judicial Circuit, serving until 1938 in that capacity.

In 1938, Baker made an unsuccessful bid for governor of Tennessee, losing in the general election to Democrat Prentice Cooper. In 1940, he ran unsuccessfully for the United States Senate, losing to Democrat Kenneth McKellar. He was a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1940, 1948, 1952, and 1956. He was vice president and general counsel to the former Oneida and Western Railroad in 1945, and was also on the board of directors of the First National Bank of Oneida.

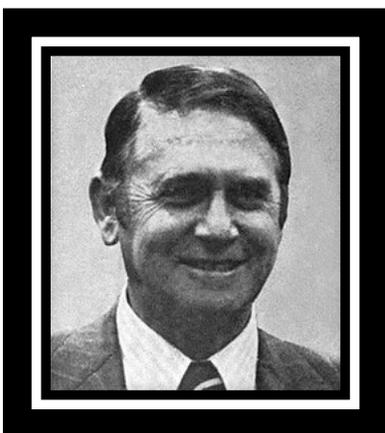
Baker was elected to the 82nd and to the six succeeding Congresses and served from January 3, 1951, until his death from a heart attack in Knoxville, Tennessee on January 7, 1964. He was succeeded in office by his widow Irene, who completed his final term as a caretaker and sought no further election.

Baker was one of the few Southern Congressmen not to sign the 1956 Southern Manifesto that opposed the desegregation of public schools ordered by the Supreme Court in *Brown v. Board of Education*, and voted in favor of the Civil Rights Act of 1960 and the 24th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, but did not vote on Civil Rights Act of 1957.

Baker died, following a heart attack, at Fort Sanders Presbyterian Hospital, Knoxville, Knox County, Tennessee, January 7, 1964, five days before his 62nd birthday. He is interred at Sherwood Memorial Gardens, Alcoa, Tennessee. Tennessee Route 63 is named Congressman Howard H. Baker Highway in his honor.

Baker is probably best remembered as the father of Howard H. Baker Jr., a three-term U.S. senator from Tennessee and United States Senate Majority Leader who later served as White House Chief of Staff under Ronald Reagan and was the former United States Ambassador to Japan.

He was a member of Oneida Lodge 695.



John J. Duncan, Sr.

1919-1988

U. S. House of Representatives 1965-1988

John James Duncan Sr. (March 24, 1919 – June 21, 1988) was an attorney and Republican politician who represented Tennessee's 2nd Congressional District in the U. S. House of Representatives from 1965 until his death in 1988.^[1] He also served as Mayor of Knoxville, Tennessee, from 1959 to 1964, and as assistant attorney general of Knox County, from 1948 until 1956. He is the father of Congressman John Duncan Jr., who formerly represented the 2nd District and Tennessee State Senator Becky Duncan Massey, who

currently represents the 6th District.

Duncan was born in Huntsville, Tennessee, the sixth of ten children of Cassie (Lee) and Flem Baird Duncan. After completing grade school in the Huntsville area, he won a \$25 scholarship from Sears-Roebuck. He enrolled in the University of Tennessee in 1939, and graduated with a Bachelor of Science two years later. Following the outbreak of World War II he joined the United States Army, serving

from 1942 to 1945. After the war, Duncan enrolled in Cumberland University's law school, from which he graduated in 1948.

Following his graduation, Duncan returned to Knoxville, where he had accepted a position as assistant attorney general of Knox County. In late 1952, Duncan became embroiled in a local controversy when, as commander of the American Legion's East Tennessee Division, he drafted a resolution condemning UT's film society for a planned showing of several films starring Charlie Chaplin, who had been accused of being a communist sympathizer. Reacting to the resolution, UT president Cloide Brehm cancelled the event. The school's newspaper, the *Orange and White*, nevertheless blasted Duncan's accusations as "nonsense."

In 1959, Duncan was elected mayor of Knoxville in an election held to replace Mayor Jack Dance, who had died while in office. One of his first initiatives was to complete the overhaul of Market Square, which involved the demolition of the old Market House and its replacement by the Market Square Mall. In spite of opposition from historical interests, who wanted to preserve the Market House, Duncan pushed forward with the transition, and by mid-1960 the Market House had been removed.

Another contentious issue erupted in the summer of 1960, when several black students from Knoxville College initiated a series of sit-ins to protest segregation at downtown-area lunch counters. With the backing of the Chamber of Commerce, Duncan formed a Good Will Committee, which encouraged downtown businesses to integrate their lunch counters. By July 1960, most downtown businesses had done away with their policies of segregation. Duncan's early intervention in the crisis is often cited as one of the reasons Knoxville avoided the widespread integration-related violence that plagued other Southern cities during this period.

Like his predecessors, Duncan struggled to alleviate the city's unemployment problem, which had been brought on by the closure of several textile mills and the shift of the city's major retail centers to West Knoxville. Numerous companies expressed interest in relocating to Knoxville, but could not do so due to a lack of suitable industrial sites. Duncan proposed a bond issue to fund the preparation of a large industrial site, but met immediate opposition from the city's conservative elements, which rejected government subsidies for business, and the bond proposal was defeated in a referendum.

In 1964, roughly 10 months into his second term as mayor, Duncan won a hard-fought Republican primary election in the Knoxville-based Second Congressional District. The district's seven-term incumbent, Howard Baker Sr., had died that January, and his wife Irene held the seat for the rest of his term as a caretaker. Duncan was heavily favored due to his popularity as mayor of Knoxville and the heavy Republican tilt of the district. The 2nd had been one of the few areas of Tennessee where most residents supported the Union over the Confederacy. Its residents identified with the GOP soon after the return of peace, and have continued to support the Republicans through good times and bad ever since. As a result, the 2nd's seat has been in the hands of the GOP or its predecessors without interruption since 1857. He defeated Democrat Willard Yarborough by just under 10 percentage points—the closest race in the district since Baker's first run in 1950. Duncan voted against the Voting Rights Act of 1965 but in favor of the Civil Rights Act of 1968.

Duncan never faced another close contest, and was reelected 11 times, including two unopposed runs in 1972 and 1982. He often won re-election by some of the largest majorities of any congressman. He was a member of the House Ways and Means Committee for much of his congressional career. A staunch conservative, he supported U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War, and advocated tougher policies against antiwar demonstrators. He was one of the first congressmen to endorse Richard Nixon for president in 1967.

In the late 1970s, Duncan engaged in a protracted legislative struggle with environmentalists over the Tennessee Valley Authority's construction of Tellico Dam, on the Little Tennessee River, in Duncan's district.^[14] The dam's completion had been halted over concerns for the endangered snail darter, which lived in the river. After numerous failed attempts to amend the Endangered Species Act to allow the dam's completion, Duncan managed to insert a rider into the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act in July 1979, on a day when most House members were absent. The dam's opponents cried foul, but the bill nevertheless passed the Senate and was signed into law, allowing TVA to finally close the dam's gates.

Duncan served in the House until his death from cancer in 1988. Duncan married Lois Swisher of Iowa City, Iowa in 1942. They had four children, including John J. "Jimmy" Duncan Jr., who won his father's former congressional seat in the special election that followed his father's death. He was a member of Charles H. Kinney Lodge 433.



John J. Duncan, Jr.

1947 -

U. S. House of Representatives 1988-2019

John James Duncan Jr. (born July 21, 1947) served as the U.S. Representative for Tennessee's 2nd congressional district from 1988 to 2019. A lawyer, former judge, and former long serving member of the Army National Guard, he is a member of the Republican Party.

Duncan was born in Lebanon, Tennessee. His "paternal grandparents were small-acreage farmers in Scott County, which in 1861 left Tennessee, refusing to follow the Volunteer State into the Confederacy, and declared itself 'the Free and Independent state of Scott.'" Duncan's parents were Lois (Swisher) and John Duncan Sr., who "hitchhiked into Knoxville with five dollars in his pocket," and after

an education at the University of Tennessee was elected mayor of Knoxville and then congressman." The elder Duncan was also a co-owner of the Knoxville Smokies of the "Sally League," for which his son "was a batboy, a ball shagger, scoreboard operator, and, as a freshman at the University of Tennessee, the Smokies' public-address announcer." Duncan also worked as a grocery bagger and salesman at Sears while working his way through school. Duncan supported Barry Goldwater's 1964 presidential campaign, and sent the first paycheck he earned as a bagboy at the local A&P to the Goldwater campaign.

Duncan graduated from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville in 1969 with a Bachelor of Journalism degree and subsequently received a Juris Doctor degree from George Washington University Law School in Washington, D.C. in 1973 and was admitted to the bar that same year. He also served in the Army National Guard from 1970 to 1987. He was an attorney in private practice until he became a state court judge in Knox County, Tennessee, where he served from 1981 to 1988.

John Sr., who had represented the Knoxville-based 2nd District since 1965, died in June 1988. Jimmy Duncan won the Republican nomination to succeed him. He ran in and won two elections on November 8, 1988—a special election for the balance of his father's 12th term, and a regular election for a full two-year term. He was re-elected every two years from then until his retirement from a district that had been held continuously by Republicans (or their antecedents) since 1859, and by a Duncan since his father was first elected in 1964. He never faced a serious or well-funded challenge for reelection, and was reelected without major-party opposition in four consecutive elections (1994 through 2000).

Duncan voted against authorizing the 2003 War in Iraq based on opposition to what he believed to be an unnecessary foreign involvement. He also opposed and voted against a June 2006 House declaration in support of the war. He was one of the most conservative Republicans to do so. Duncan later remarked that the Iraq War vote had been:

"A tough one for me. I have a very conservative Republican district. My Uncle Joe is one of the most respected judges in Tennessee: when I get in a really serious bind I go to him for advice. I had breakfast with him and my two closest friends and all three told me that I had to vote for the war. It's the only time in my life that I've ever gone against my Uncle Joe's advice. When I pushed that button to vote against the war back in 2002, I thought I might be ending my political career."

Duncan was among only six Republicans to vote against funding for the Iraq War on May 24, 2007. Duncan voted, along with three other Republicans, to withdraw U.S. troops from Iraq by April 2008 on July 12, 2007.

On March 10, 2010, Duncan again joined three other Republicans in voting for the removal of troops from Afghanistan. Duncan and Ron Paul were the only members of Congress to vote for the removal of troops from Afghanistan and against all recent bailout and stimulus bills.

He has criticized neo-conservatism and supports a non-interventionist foreign policy.

Duncan was a member of the Liberty Caucus, a group of libertarian-minded congressional Republicans. Other members included Walter B. Jones of North Carolina, Roscoe Bartlett of Maryland, Scott Garrett of New Jersey, and Jeff Flake of Arizona. A former neighbor of his district, Zach Wamp of the 3rd district, also belonged to the group during his tenure in the House.

Duncan voted against the Wall Street bailout. In a column he explained his vote stating he "thought it would be better in the long run not to adopt the socialist approach." The American Conservative Union gave Duncan a 96% score for his voting record in 2013, higher than any other federal Representative in Congress from Tennessee.

The Family Research Council has rated Duncan as a 92% or above since 2002^[4] and the NRA has rated him in equally positive terms. In 2012, Duncan received the number one spot in the 435-member House in the National Taxpayers Union's (NTU) annual ranking of Congress, earning him the "Taxpayer Hero" award.

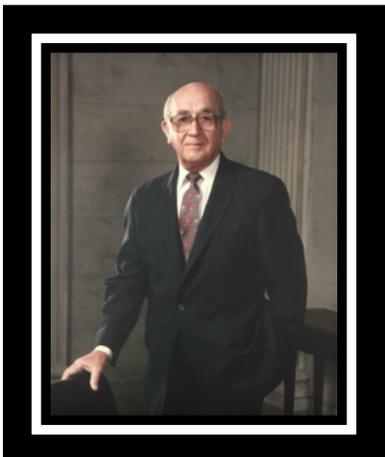
Duncan is a frequent contributor to *Chronicles* and *The American Conservative*, both magazines associated with the paleoconservative movement. He has also contributed to numerous trade publications and Capitol Hill newspapers. Duncan has also voiced public support for returning the gold standard.

On April 2016, Duncan endorsed Donald Trump for the Republican presidential nomination.

Duncan and his wife Lynn have four children and eight grandchildren.

He is also the brother of Tennessee State Senator Becky Duncan Massey. After retiring from Congress, Duncan currently resides in Grainger County, Tennessee.

He is a member of Charles H. McKinney Lodge 433.



Ed Jones

1912-1999

U. S. House of Representatives 1969-1989

Ed Jones (April 20, 1912 – December 11, 1999) was a U.S. Representative from the state of Tennessee from 1969–89. He was also the Tennessee Commissioner of Agriculture from 1949–53. He was inducted into the Tennessee Agricultural Hall of Fame in 2011.

Ed Jones was a native of Yorkville, Tennessee, the eldest of three boys born to Will "Gabe" Jones and Sibbie Hortense Pipkin. He graduated from the University of Tennessee Junior College (now the University of Tennessee at Martin) in 1932 and attended the University of Tennessee, majoring in agriculture. His father was a

laborer who worked odd jobs for local farmers. He instilled a strong work ethic in Jones from an early age, requiring him to work after school and on Saturdays.

When Jones' father was unable to pay his medical bills, he began doing odd jobs for Dr. Finis Ewing Wyatt, the local country doctor. Jones would marry Dr. Wyatt's daughter, Llewellyn, in 1938, and they had two daughters: Mary Llewellyn Jones (died 1977), and Dr. Jennifer Jones Kinnard, a retired nephrologist. Ed and Llew Jones inherited the farm after the death of Llew's parents and renamed it "Oak Haven Farm."

On May 22, 1980, Congresswoman Marilyn Lloyd of Tennessee welcomed Jones into the "grandparents club" with an address on the House floor shortly after the birth of his only grandchild, Meghan Elisabeth Kinnard. Known professionally as Meg Kinnard, she's a political and legal affairs reporter for The Associated Press.

Jones was a dairy farmer and remained so throughout his lifetime - even during his 20 years in Congress. In the late 1990s, Jones developed dementia after open-heart surgery, and died on December 11, 1999 in Dyer, Tennessee.

In 1934, Jones took a job as a dairy inspector for the state of Tennessee. He remained as inspector until 1941 when he began working as a supervisor for the Tennessee Dairy Products Association. In 1944, he became an agricultural agent for the Illinois Central Railroad, a job he held until 1969, except for four years when he was Commissioner of Agriculture. This public role was pivotal in helping to make him a public figure in West Tennessee.

He was appointed Commissioner of Agriculture of Tennessee in 1949 by Governor Gordon Browning. He is the youngest person to serve as Commissioner. His education, public role, and business experience provided a foundation for helping to guide farm policy for Tennessee during a time of rapid technological change and the social changes as many people left the rural farms. His challenges included the transition of Tennessee agriculture from small family farms to commercial business operations. He created an Assistant Commissioner position to oversee the administrative operations so that he could focus on strategic issues involving animal health vaccination and inspections, artificial insemination for breeding dairy cattle, establishment of a surplus food distribution program for schools, food safety inspections, and agricultural disaster response.

In 1961 President John F. Kennedy appointed him chairman of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service state committee for Tennessee. He held that position until his election to Congress in 1969.

In March 1969, Jones won the Democratic nomination for a special election to replace Robert "Fats" Everett, Congressman from the 8th District in Northwest Tennessee, who had died in office. The election was unusual in that it was contested not only by the Republicans but also by the American Independent Party of George Wallace, who did well in Northwest Tennessee in the previous year's presidential election. The other two candidates almost split the vote evenly in the March 25 contest; Jones won with a substantial plurality and was sworn in as soon as the results were certified. However, he was never again to face an election nearly this close.

Jones was re-elected to a full term with less opposition in 1970. In 1972 his district was merged with the Jackson-based 7th District of fellow Democrat Ray Blanton. The resulting district was, if anything, even more Democratic than his previous district. While it retained Blanton's district number, geographically it was more Jones' district (it became the 8th once again after Tennessee regained a ninth district in the 1980 census). To avoid a primary election, Blanton ran, unsuccessfully, for the United States Senate against Republican Howard Baker. Jones retained his seat easily even as Richard Nixon won 90 of Tennessee's 95 counties, including most of his district. He was reelected completely unopposed in 1974.

In 1976, Martin businessman and state representative Larry Bates, an associate of high-profile East Tennessee banker Jake Butcher, ran against Jones in the Democratic primary. This was the first (and as it turned out, only) serious challenge of any sort Jones faced. No other party put up a candidate, meaning that victory in the primary was tantamount to election. Bates had a very conservative record as a state representative, even by Tennessee Democratic standards of the time. He ran well to the right of the moderate Jones and spent a large amount of money by the standards of rural West Tennessee at the time. However, he made no real inroads in Jones' support and was heavily defeated.

After this, Jones coasted to five more terms (including a completely unopposed run in 1984), choosing not to run for a 10th full term (11th overall) in 1988. The Jackson Sun reported on February 14, 1988: "Jones says he's retiring simply because the time has come. He wants to spend more time with his wife, Llew, and with his granddaughter, Meghan."

Jones co-sponsored over 100 bills that successfully entered into law during his tenure in Congress. Jones was the primary author of five bills that passed into law, all of them on agriculture. Among those bills were the Egg Research and Consumer Information Act of 1974, which led to the creation of the American Egg Board.

He served as a member of various agriculture-related boards and committees. Jones continued to operate his farm near Yorkville until shortly before his death on December 11, 1999. He was one of the few members of Congress in the late 20th century who was an active farmer instead of merely listing it as an occupation. In 2011, he was inducted as the 13th member of the Tennessee Agricultural Hall of Fame in recognition of his service to Tennessee.

His congressional papers (1969-1988) are housed in the special collections of the Paul Meek Library at UT Martin. They include 121 linear feet of paper files organized in five series, Correspondence, Legislation, Projects, Committees, and Public Relations. The collection includes over 250 audiotapes for two periods, (1969-72) and (1987-88).

He was a member of Yorkville Lodge 115.



John S. Tanner

1944 -

U. S. House of Representatives 1989-2011

John Sumners Tanner (born September 22, 1944) served as the U.S. Representative for Tennessee's 8th congressional district, serving from 1989 until 2011. He is a member of the Democratic Party. Since his retirement, Tanner has served as the Vice Chairman of Prime Policy Group.

Tanner was born in Halls, Tennessee, the son of Edith Adell (Sumners) and Emerson Beck "Buzz" Tanner. He grew up in Union City, Tennessee. Following graduation from the University of

Tennessee, he served in the United States Navy from 1968 to 1972. He was elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives as a Democrat in 1976, replacing Larry Bates, who mounted an unsuccessful primary challenge against U.S. Congressman Ed Jones.

When Jones retired in 1988, Tanner won the Democratic nomination for the seat and handily defeated Republican nominee Ed Bryant, who went on to represent the neighboring 7th District from 1995 to 2003. Tanner was reelected in 1990 with no major-party opposition, a feat he repeated in 1992. In 1998, he was completely unopposed. He handily defeated Republican opponents in 1994 (the only time besides his initial election that he faced a serious or well-funded challenger), 1996, 2000, 2002, 2004 and 2006. In 2004 and 2008, he faced James L. Hart, an avowed eugenicist. On both occasions, Hart was disavowed by the state Republican Party.

Tanner announced on December 1, 2009 that he would not seek re-election in 2010 and would retire after 11 terms in Congress. State Senator Roy Herron gave up his gubernatorial bid and ran for Tanner's congressional seat. However, he only tallied 39.8 percent of the vote against Republican farmer Stephen Fincher. Indeed, no Democrat running in the district has cracked the 40 percent mark since Tanner left office.

As a Congressman, Tanner has sponsored a bill to repeal the inheritance tax (which was vetoed by President Clinton) and he is in favor of a balanced budget. It is reported that Tanner could have been appointed to the United States Senate by governor of Tennessee Ned McWherter in 1992 to replace Al Gore but he declined the offer, and Harlan Mathews was appointed as a caretaker instead. Tanner was a founder of the Blue Dog Democrats and has denied rumors that he might switch parties, and has an earned reputation as a moderate. Tanner gained notoriety during the Clinton–Lewinsky scandal when it was revealed in the Starr Report that President Clinton was receiving fellatio from Monica Lewinsky while on the phone with Tanner on November 15, 1995 between 9:31pm and 9:35pm.

Tanner is strongly in favor of balancing the budget and paying down the national debt. He has been a strong opponent of the fiscal policies of President George W. Bush, voting against many of the tax cuts passed during his terms; yet, he was one of 43 Democrats to vote to repeal the estate tax in 2006. Tanner was one of the few Democrats in the House to vote in favor of CAFTA and has long distanced himself from the majority of his party on issues such as bankruptcy law and lawsuit reform. He voted for the Federal Marriage Amendment, the ban on "partial-birth" abortions, limiting death penalty appeals, and has voted against most gun control measures. On other issues he is more liberal: he often votes with his party on separation of church and states issues, and has consistently voted against the Flag Desecration Amendment. Tanner voted with the majority of his party to expand stem cell research and against renewing the controversial portions of the Patriot Act. He also supports affirmative action and public education. Tanner was firmly opposed to Bush's attempt to reform Social Security.

Tanner received much of his knowledge of politics as a youth from his father E.B. "Buzz" Tanner who was successful in the financial and insurance business. He became a member of a highly political and influential law firm out of law school in his hometown community and soon ran for office as a state legislator in the House of Representatives. He was also a relative of then House Speaker Ned McWherter, who later was elected governor twice and was an extremely powerful political force in the state, having friends on both sides of the political aisle.

In 2004, Congressman Tanner made a brief but unintended cameo appearance alongside Michael Moore in *Fahrenheit 9/11*, where Moore was trying to get Congressmen to have their children enlist in the Military to go to Iraq.

He recently drafted a bill that would require special bipartisan commissions rather than state legislatures to redraw congressional districts when necessary due to U.S. Census count changes. It is generally believed that this bill is a response to Republican-inspired mid-decade redistricting in Texas and recent similar efforts in Colorado and Georgia.

After both his district and state chose the former first lady, Congressman Tanner endorsed Senator Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign in April 2008.

He currently works for Nashville law firm Miller & Martin and the Prime Policy Group, a lobbying firm. He became chairman of the International Conservation Caucus Foundation, a non-profit group that advocates U.S. leadership in conservation programs globally, in fall of 2011.

Tanner is a member of the ReFormers Caucus of Issue One. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget.

He is a member of Western Sun Lodge 88.