

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Identifications for some principal individuals mentioned in these portions of the Journal are grouped by the following categories: Family (Meigs and Rodgers); Key Government Officials; Key Members of Congress; Supervisors, Foremen, and Workers, for the Capitol extension; Contractors and Suppliers for the Capitol extension; and Artists and Sculptors.

More detailed background for these and other individuals who have been identified beyond the information Meigs provided will be found in footnotes on pages that appear in bold type in the index.

Family

Meigs Family

Charles Delucena Meigs (1792–1869); m. Mary Montgomery

Montgomery Cunningham Meigs (1816–1892)

Charles D. Meigs, Jr. (1817–1895)

Dr. John F. Meigs (1818–1882); m. Ann Ingersoll
(d. 1856)

Henry Meigs

Emily S. Meigs (1824–1905); m. Jonathan Williams Biddle
(d. 1856)

Samuel Emlen Meigs (1828–1917)

William Meigs

Franklin B. Meigs (1829–1881)

Mary Meigs

Montgomery C. Meigs (1816–1892); m. Louisa Rodgers (1817–1879)

John Rodgers Meigs (1842–1864)

Montgomery Meigs (1847–1931)

Mary M. Meigs (1843–1930)

Louisa R. Meigs (“Loulie”) (1854–1925?)

Charles D. Meigs (1845–1853)

Vincent T. Meigs (1851–1853)

Cousins

Return J. Meigs, Jr. (1764–1825)

Charles A. Meigs

Rodgers Family

John Rodgers (1773–1838); m. Minerva Denison (1784–1877)

Louisa Rodgers Meigs (1817–1879) m. Montgomery C. Meigs (1816–1892)

Robert S. Rodgers (1809–1892); m. Sarah Perry (1818–?)

John Rodgers (1812–1882); m. Ann E. Hodge (1823–?)

Jerusha C. Rodgers (1819–1883)

Henry Rodgers (“Hal”) (1822–1854); m. Katherine S. Trowbridge (1829–?)

Ann Minerva Rodgers (“Nannie”) (1824–1916); m. John Navarre Macomb (1811–1889)

Augustus C. Macomb (1854–1932)

Minerva H.R. Macomb (1856–1898)

Montgomery M. Macomb (1852–1924)

Augustus F. Rodgers (1829–1908); m. Serena L. Croghan (?–1926)

Cousins

C. Raymond P. Rodgers (1819–1892)

Henrietta E. Henley; m. J. Bayard H. Smith (1810–1889)

Key Government Officials for Capitol Extension

Millard Fillmore (1800–1874), president of the United States, 1850–1853 (Selected the plan for the Capitol extension.)

Franklin Pierce (1804–1869), president of the United States, 1853–1857 (Approved the changed plans for the House and Senate chambers.)

James Buchanan (1791–1868), president of the United States, 1857–1861

Jefferson Davis (1808–1889), secretary of war, 1853–1857; senator (Democrat, Mississippi), 1847–1851 and 1857–1861. (As secretary of war was in charge of construction of the Capitol; approved designs for statue of *Freedom* and the bronze doors for the Capitol.)

John B. Floyd (1806–1863), secretary of war, 1857–1860

Alexander Dallas Bache (1806–1867), superintendent of U.S. Coastal Survey, 1843–1867 (Consultant on marble, ventilation, and acoustics.)

Joseph Henry (1797–1878), secretary of the Smithsonian Institution (Consultant on marble, ventilation, and acoustics.)

Benjamin Brown French (1800–1870), commissioner of public buildings, 1853–1855, 1861–1867; clerk of the House of Representatives, 1845–1847

John B. Blake, commissioner of public buildings, 1855–1861

Joseph G. Totten (1788–1864), chief engineer for the army, 1838–1864

William R. Drinkard, Secretary Floyd’s chief clerk at the War Department; acting secretary in Floyd’s absence in 1859

James Eveleth, a clerk in the Engineer Bureau of the War Department

Key Members of Congress

Edward Ball (1811–1872) (Republican, Ohio), chairman of House Ways and Means Committee, 1855–1857

James A. Bayard, Jr. (1799–1880) (Democrat, Delaware), chairman of Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, 1853–1857

Linn Boyd (1800–1859) (Democrat, Kentucky), Speaker of the House, 1851–1855

Jesse D. Bright (1812–1875) (Democrat, Indiana), Senate president pro tempore, 1854–1856

Edward Everett (1794–1865) (Whig, Massachusetts), Senate, 1853–1854 (Adviser on sculptors for the Capitol extension.)

Samuel Houston (1793–1863) (Democrat/American party, Texas), Senate, 1846–1859 (Headed special committee looking into contracting on the Capitol extension before Meigs took over.)

Robert M.T. Hunter (1809–1887) (Democrat, Virginia), Senate, 1847–1861, chairman of Senate Finance Committee, 1849–1861 (Supportive of Meigs.)

Humphrey Marshall (1812–1872) (Whig/American party, Kentucky), House of Representatives, 1849–1852 and 1855–1859 (Author of provision forbidding payment for paintings in the Capitol extension)

James M. Mason (1798–1871) (Democrat, Virginia), Senate, 1847–1861, Senate president pro tempore, 1857

James L. Orr (1822–1873) (Democrat, South Carolina), Speaker of the House, 1857–1859

James A. Pearce (1805–1862) (Whig/Opposition/Democrat, Maryland), Senate, 1843–1862, chairman of Committee on the Library, 1845–1862, with jurisdiction over considering works of art for the Capitol (Very supportive of Meigs.)

William H. Seward (1801–1872) (Whig/Republican, New York), Senate, 1849–1861

Richard H. Stanton (1812–1891) (Democrat, Kentucky), House of Representatives, 1849–1855 (Opposed military supervision of civilian projects like the Capitol.)

Supervisors, Foremen, and Workers for Capitol Extension

Thomas U. Walter (1804–1887), architect of the Capitol extension and new dome, 1851–1865

Montgomery C. Meigs, superintendent of Capitol extension and new dome, 1853–1859, 1861

William B. Franklin (1823–1903), Meigs' replacement as superintendent of construction for Capitol extension, 1859–1861
Samuel Strong, general superintendent for the Capitol extension, 1851–1852
Robert Briggs, Jr., assistant to Meigs, 1855–1859
Francis J. Brooks, foreman of laborers for Capitol extension
Frederick Casali (d. 1857), an artist working in bronze, head of the Capitol bronze foundry, 1855–1857
Samuel Champion, supervisor of machine and blacksmith shops
Thomas K. Copeland, assistant overseer in blacksmith shop
Zephaniah W. Denham, Meigs' chief clerk for Capitol extension
William Denmead, foreman of machinists at Capitol
Charles W.C. Dunnington, captain of the Capitol police
William J. Fitzpatrick, clerk for Capitol extension
Flaherty, supervisor of plasterers for House wing
John C. Harkness, the sworn measurer for the Capitol extension
Zephaniah Jones, foreman of masonry for Senate wing
Joseph Lassalle, head of the Capitol bronze foundry after Casali's death
Thomas C. Magruder, paymaster for the Capitol extension and the aqueduct
Mr. Maples, supervisor in the pilaster capital carving shop
Alexander B. McFarlan, foreman of masonry for House wing
William A. Mulloy, a police officer and watchman at the Capitol
Franklin Ober, a draftsman
Alfred L. Rives, assistant to Meigs for the aqueduct, who also assisted with the Capitol extension
August G. Schoenborn (1827–1902), a German architect who was Thomas Walter's head draftsman
Henry Schoenborn, August's brother, a draftsman for the Capitol extension, starting in 1853
Philip Schrag, a draftsman
Benjamin Severson, foreman for the roof of the House wing
Pringle Slight (1790–1860), master carpenter at the Capitol, 1825–1860
Robert Slight, son of Pringle Slight, a rigger
Ottmar Sonnemann, assistant engineer for the Capitol extension
William R. Tait, blacksmith
Charles G. Talcott, assistant engineer for the aqueduct until 1856, when he was transferred to the Capitol extension
Ernest Thomas, chief of the ornamental plasterers at the Capitol extension
Charles F. Thomas, an engineer who served as chief machinist for the dome
Richard H. Weightman, clerk for Capitol extension and dome

Clement L. West, draftsman for Capitol extension, 1851–1853
Frank Wolfe, Meigs' assistant clerk who knew shorthand, 1855–1856
John Wood, photographer who documented progress of construction on the wings and dome
Charles Zollicoffer, a draftsman for the Capitol extension beginning in 1855

Contractors and Suppliers for the Capitol Extension

Joseph Reid Anderson (1813–1892) owned the Tredegar Iron Works.
Anderson, Morris and Co. provided the beams for the dome.
Archer, Warner, Miskey and Co. of Philadelphia was a bronze foundry that cast the railings for the members' private staircases in House and Senate wings.
John Baird was one of the partners in Rice, Baird and Heebner, marble suppliers.
Edmond Baudin sculpted the bronze railings for Archer, Warner, Miskey and Co.
Bembe and Kimbel of New York, furniture manufacturers, made half of the chairs for the House chamber.
S. Byington and Co. of Washington provided bricks for the Capitol extension.
Campbell and Coyle, a hardware company, provided lumber and other materials.
Clagett and Dodson of Washington provided carpet for the House and Senate chambers.
John F. Connolly owned the Baltimore County marble quarry that supplied monolithic marble columns for the porticoes of the House and Senate wings.
Cooper and Hewitt of New York supplied wrought iron for the Capitol.
Cornelius and Baker of Philadelphia made metal column capitals and lighting fixtures for the Capitol extension.
Crocker Brothers and Co. of Taunton, Massachusetts, provided copper for the roof of the Capitol extension.
Samuel L. Crocker (1804–1883), a House member, 1853–1855, was with Crocker Brothers and Co.
DeCourcy and Noell of New York were importers of plate glass.
James Dodson was with Clagett and Dodson, the carpet company.
Doe Hazelton Co. of Boston, was a furniture manufacturer that made the desks for the House chamber.
Jonas P. Ellis was with William M. Ellis and Brother.
William M. Ellis and Brother of Washington was an ironworks and manufacturer of steam engines and other machinery.

Matthew G. Emory of Patapsco Granite Quarry was a granite contractor.

Charles Fowler was a partner in Janes, Fowler, Kirtland and Co., a New York foundry that provided the iron for the dome.

Gage, Warner and Whitney of Nashua, New Hampshire, was a machine tool manufacturer.

Grinder and Willack of Washington were brick vendors.

Hammitt Desk Manufacturing Co. of Philadelphia provided 131 oak armchairs for the House chamber.

John T. Hammitt was with Hammitt Desk Manufacturing Co.

Hayward, Bartlett and Co. of Baltimore was an iron foundry that provided cast iron for the ceiling in the Hall of Columns and other parts of the Capitol extension.

Charles Heebner was a partner in Rice, Baird and Heebner, marble suppliers.

Janes, Beebe and Co. of New York was the predecessor of Janes, Fowler, Kirtland and Co. that provided the iron for the dome.

Lambell and Co. of Washington was a brick vendor.

Logan, Vail and Co. of New York manufactured steam engines.

Marshall, Lefferts and Brother of New York made dies to corrugate copper for the roof.

Miller and Coates; Miller, Coates and Youle of New York were American agents for Minton, Hollings and Co.

Minton, Hollings and Co. of Stoke-Upon-Trent, England, manufactured the colorful encaustic floor tiles used in the Capitol extension.

Nason and Dodge of New York manufactured heating and plumbing equipment.

Joseph Nason of Nason and Dodge worked with Meigs to design the heating and ventilating system for the new wings.

Patent Lime Co. of New York supplied lime for the Capitol extension.

Phoenix Iron Co. of Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, provided beams for the dome.

Poole and Hunt foundry of Baltimore cast the thirty-six columns for the dome.

Provost, Winter and Co. of Philadelphia had the contract to carve and install marble for the Capitol extension.

Alexander Provost was with Provost, Winter and Co.

Rice, Baird and Heebner of Philadelphia had the contract to supply marble for the Capitol extension.

John Rice was a partner in Rice, Baird and Heebner.

John A. Roebling (1806–1869) was an inventor and manufacturer of wire rope.

Shriver and Brothers of Cumberland, Maryland, manufactured power drills and lathes.

J. Sloan owned the Tennessee Marble Quarry.

Struthers, Grebel and Baird was a Philadelphia marble company.

Mr. Symington was with Provost, Winter and Co. and owned a marble quarry in Vermont.

Tennessee Marble Quarry near Knoxville supplied marble for the Capitol interior.

J.W. Thompson and Brothers of Washington was a plumbing and gas fitting company.

Thurston, Gardner and Co. of Providence, Rhode Island, manufactured steam engines.

Tredegar Iron Works, Richmond, Virginia, furnished iron for the Capitol extension.

Wallers and Bancroft of Philadelphia manufactured drill presses and other heavy machines.

William B. Walter of Philadelphia was a glass manufacturer.

Cornelius Wendell was a brick vendor.

Williams, Stevens, Williams and Co. of New York were merchants of glass and paintings.

William H. Winder of Philadelphia provided graphite paint for the dome.

William H. Winter was with Provost, Winter and Co.

M.C. Woodward was a cement vendor.

William Wurdeman was a mathematical instrument maker.

Artists and Sculptors

(Those mentioned by Meigs as working on the Capitol extension, seeking to work there, or having previously produced works for the Capitol.)

Peter Baumgras (1827–1904) was a German artist who worked on the Capitol.

Henry Kirke Brown (1814–1886) was an American sculptor. Four statues by him are in the Statuary Hall collection: George Clinton, Nathanael Greene, Philip Kearney, and Richard Stockton. He also executed a bust of Henry Clay, which is owned by the Senate.

Constantino Brumidi (1805–1880) was an Italian artist who immigrated to the United States in 1852. After painting a sample fresco in 1855 as described by Meigs, he continued to decorate the Capitol until his death twenty-five years later. He designed and painted committee rooms, the first floor hallways in the Senate wing now known as the Brumidi Corridors, *The Apotheosis of Washington* in the canopy of the Rotunda dome, and began the frieze in the Rotunda.

Guido Butti was an Italian sculptor who worked on both the Capitol extension and the Post Office.

Emmerich A. Carstens (1823–1902) oversaw much of the decorative painting in the Capitol, where he worked, 1856–1859 and 1861–1898.

John G. Chapman (1808–1889) was an American painter whose *Baptism of Pocahontas* was placed in the Capitol Rotunda on November 30, 1840.

Thomas Crawford (1813/1814–1857) was the American sculptor responsible for the statue of *Freedom*, the pediment sculpture on the Senate wing of the Capitol, the design of the bronze doors for the Senate and House wings, and the figures over the Senate wing door. He had studied in Rome and continued to work there.

Henry Dexter (1806–1876) of Boston was a sculptor of portrait busts.

Antoine Etex (1808–1888) was a French painter, sculptor, and architect.

Tommaso Gagliardi (1820–1895) was a sculptor who had worked for Thomas Crawford in Italy and after immigrating to the United States in 1855 worked on carving Crawford's statuary for the Capitol. He also created a bust of Crawford that is now in the Capitol.

Alexander Galt (1827–1863) was a sculptor from Virginia who had studied in Italy. He created the bust of Chief Justice John Rutledge that is in the old Supreme Court chamber, as well as the statue of Thomas Jefferson in the rotunda at the University of Virginia.

George P.A. Healy (1813–1894) was an American portrait painter. When Healy was working on his noted painting *Webster Replying to Hayne*, painted from 1848–1851, he was allowed to use the Senate chamber for doing the individual portraits included in the large painting.

Chauncy B. Ives (1810–1894) was an American sculptor who worked in Rome.

James Leslie (d. 1860) was an English artist who helped decorate the Capitol.

Emanuel G. Leutze (1816–1868) was an American painter who had a studio in Germany until 1859, then studios in New York and Washington, D.C. He is best known for his 1862 painting *Westward the Course of Empire Takes Its Way* in the Capitol and the 1851 *Washington Crossing the Delaware* at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

- Larkin G. Mead (1835–1910) had been trained in the studio of American sculptor Henry Kirke Brown. His later statue of Ethan Allen was placed in National Statuary Hall in 1876.
- Johannes A. Oertel (1823–1909), a German-born painter who worked on the Capitol, designed the seals for the stained glass in the House chamber skylight.
- Erastus Dow Palmer (1817–1904) of Albany was a sculptor whose 1874 statue of Robert R. Livingston is part of the National Statuary Hall collection in the Capitol. In April 1857 he submitted a proposed design for the House pediment, which failed to be accepted by President Buchanan and Secretary of War Floyd.
- Leon D. Pomerade (c. 1807–1892) was a French painter who worked in New Orleans and St. Louis. He wrote and visited Meigs offering to work at the Capitol, but apparently never did so.
- William Henry Powell (1823–1874) was an American artist who painted *Discovery of the Mississippi by DeSoto A.D. 1541* for the Capitol Rotunda. His 1873 painting *The Battle of Lake Erie* hangs in the Senate wing of the Capitol.
- Hiram Powers (1805–1875) was an American sculptor whose bust of John Marshall and statues of Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson are in the Capitol.
- William H. Rinehart (1825–1874), an American sculptor who worked in Italy, ultimately completed the bronze doors for the Capitol that had been begun by Thomas Crawford. He also did the Indian and pioneer figures for a clock for the House chamber.
- Randolph Rogers (1825–1892) was an American sculptor who designed the bronze Columbus doors of the Capitol.
- Henry Dmochowski Saunders (1810–1863), a sculptor, was born in Vilna in what is now Lithuania. For political reasons, he fled to France, where he studied before moving on to London and the United States. In 1857, he produced two busts of Polish-American Revolutionary War patriots for the Capitol (Thaddeus Kosciuszko and K.K. (Casimir) Pulaski).
- Carl Rohl Smith (?-1900), a German-born sculptor, worked in Washington and designed the monument to General William Tecumseh Sherman in front of the Treasury Building.
- Dr. Horatio Stone (1808–1875) was a physician who became a sculptor in Washington. Three of his sculptures are in the Capitol: Alexander Hamilton, Edward Dickinson Baker, and John Hancock. Stone served with Meigs on the vestry of St. John's Church.
- Horace Vernet (1789–1863) was a French painter.

Francis Vincenti (dates unknown), an Italian modeler and sculptor, worked on the Capitol extension, 1853–1858. Two busts by him of Chippewa Indians are in the Capitol, Be sheekee (or Buffalo) and Aysh-ke-bah-ke-ko-zhay (or Flat Mouth).

James Walker (1819–1889) painted *The Battle of Chapultepec*, which is on loan from the U.S. Senate Commission on Art to the History Museums Division of the U.S. Marine Corps and on display in the United States Marine Corps Museum.

Robert Walter Weir (1803–1889) was an American painter who had been Meigs' art instructor at West Point. *The Embarkation of the Pilgrims at Delft Haven, Holland*, which he painted in 1843, is in the Capitol Rotunda.