

CORNELIUS COLE of California

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Cornelius Cole, a Republican from California who had served on the committee for 4 years, became chairman on March 10, 1871, holding the position until his retirement from the Senate 2 years later.

Born at Lodi, NY, in 1822, Cole attended Hobart College, and graduated from Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT, in 1847. After studying and practicing law in Cayuga County, he went to California in 1849. There he worked a year in the gold mines, practiced law in San Francisco, and later moved to Sacramento and Santa Cruz. During the Civil War, he rose to the rank of captain in the Union Army. He was elected as a Union Republican to Congress in 1863 and to the Senate as a Republican 4 years later, serving from 1867 to 1873, when he retired and returned to California to practice law. He died in Hollywood in 1924.

For further reading: Cole, Cornelius. Senator Cornelius Cole and the Beginning of Hollywood. Los Angeles, 1980.