

Seventy-third Congress, Hatton W. Sumners, Texas.
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Seventy-sixth Congress, Hatton W. Sumners, Texas.
Seventy-seventh Congress, Hatton W. Sumners, Texas.
Seventy-eighth Congress, Hatton W. Sumners, Texas.
Seventy-ninth Congress, Hatton W. Sumners, Texas.
Eightieth Congress, Earl C. Michener, Michigan.

In recapitulation it is seen that of the men who held the chairmanship, nine came from Pennsylvania, five came from New York, three came from Virginia, two each from Massachusetts, Tennessee, North Carolina, Alabama, Iowa, Ohio, Texas, and one each from South Carolina, Georgia, Maryland, Kentucky, Maine, Wisconsin, New Jersey, Minnesota, and Michigan. It fell to the lot of Hon. Hatton W. Sumners, of Texas, to have served the longest continuous period, having been chairman since the beginning of the Seventy-second Congress until the close of the Seventy-ninth Congress. He was appointed a member of the committee in the Sixty-fifth Congress.

The biographies of the chairmen of the committee, beginning with that of the first chairman, Charles J. Ingersoll, in the second session of the Thirteenth Congress, and including that of the present chairman, Earl C. Michener, of the Eightieth Congress, are given in the order of their succession from the year 1813 up to and including the year 1947.

CHARLES JARED INGERSOLL

Chairman, Thirteenth Congress

Son of Jared Ingersoll and brother of Joseph Reed Ingersoll; a Representative from Pennsylvania; was the first chairman of the committee; born in Philadelphia, Pa., October 3, 1782. His father, Jared Ingersoll, had graduated from Yale College in 1766, and finished his legal education at the Middle Temple, London, England, in 1774, and then went to Paris. Jared Ingersoll was a member of the Continental Congress and a delegate to the Convention that framed the Federal Constitution and was one of the signers thereof. Charles Jared received an academic training; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1802, and commenced practice in Philadelphia, Pa.; elected as a Democrat to the Thirteenth Congress (March 4, 1813-March 3, 1815); was not a candidate for renomination in 1814, having been appointed United States district attorney for Pennsylvania; United States district attorney for Pennsylvania, 1815-29; member of the State improvement convention in 1825; member of the State house of representatives in 1830; appointed secretary of the legation to Prussia March 8, 1837; unsuccessful candidate in 1837 for election to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Francis J. Harper in the Twenty-fifth Congress, unsuccessful candidate for election in 1838 to the Twenty-sixth Congress; elected to the Twenty-seventh and to the three succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1841-March 3, 1849); was not a candidate for renomination in 1848; appointed Minister to France in 1847, but was not confirmed by the Senate; appointed United States judge for the district of Connecticut April 8, 1853; died in Philadelphia, Pa., May 14, 1862; interment in the Woodland Cemetery.

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HUGH NELSON

Chairman, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, and Seventeenth (2d sess.) Congresses

Son of Thomas Nelson, Jr., a Representative from Virginia; born in Yorktown, York County, Va., September 30, 1768; completed preparatory studies; was graduated from William and Mary College, Williamsburg, Va., in 1780; served in the State senate 1786-91; member of the State house of delegates in 1793 and served as speaker; judge of the general court; Presidential elector on the Democratic ticket of Madison and Clinton in 1808; elected to the Twelfth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, and Seventeenth Congresses, and served from March 4, 1811, until his resignation on January 14, 1823, having received an appointment in the Diplomatic Service; appointed United States Minister to Spain by President James Monroe on January 15, 1823, and served until November 23, 1824; died at his home, Belvoir, Albermarle County, Va., March 18, 1836; interment in Belvoir Cemetery, Cismont, Albermarle County, Va.

JOHN SERGEANT

Chairman, Sixteenth, Seventeenth (1st sess.), and Twenty-sixth Congresses

Son of Jonathan Dickinson Sergeant, grandfather of John Sergeant Wise, and of Richard Alsop Wise; a Representative from Pennsylvania; born in Philadelphia, Pa., December 5, 1779; attended the common schools and the University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia; was graduated from Princeton College in 1795; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1799, and practiced in Philadelphia for 50 years; deputy attorney general for Philadelphia in 1800; commissioner of bankruptcy for Pennsylvania in 1801; member of the State house of representatives 1808-10; elected as a Federalist to the Fourteenth Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Jonathan Williams; reelected to the Fifteenth, Sixteenth, and Seventeenth Congresses, and served from October 10, 1815, to March 3, 1823; was not a candidate for reelection; president of the Pennsylvania Board of Canal Commissioners in 1825; envoy to the Panama Congress in 1826; elected to the Twentieth Congress (March 4, 1827-March 3, 1829); unsuccessful candidate for reelection; unsuccessful National Republican candidate for election as Vice President of the United States in 1832; president of the State constitutional convention in 1838; elected to the Twenty-fifth, Twenty-sixth, and Twenty-seventh Congresses, and served from March 4, 1837, until his resignation on September 15, 1841; declined the appointment of Minister to England in 1841; died in Philadelphia, Pa., November 23, 1852; interment in Laurel Hill Cemetery.

DANIEL WEBSTER

Chairman, Eighteenth and Nineteenth Congresses

A Representative from New Hampshire and a Representative and a Senator from Massachusetts; born in Salisbury (now Franklin), N. H., January 18, 1782; attended district schools and Phillips Exeter

Academy, Exeter, N. H., and was graduated from Dartmouth College, Hanover, N. H., in 1801; principal of an academy at Fryeburg, Maine, in 1802; studied law, was admitted to the bar in March 1805, and commenced practice in Boscawen, near Salisbury, N. H., moved to Portsmouth, N. H., in 1807 and continued the practice of law; elected as a Federalist from New Hampshire to the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Congresses (March 4, 1813-March 3, 1817); unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1816 to the Fifteenth Congress; moved to Boston, Mass., in 1816; presidential elector on the Monroe and Tompkins ticket in 1820; delegate to the State constitutional convention in 1820; elected from Massachusetts to the Eighteenth, Nineteenth, and Twentieth Congresses, and served from March 4, 1823, to May 30, 1827, when he was elected to the United States Senate for the term beginning March 4, 1827; reelected in 1833 and 1839, and served until his resignation, effective February 22, 1841; nominated by the Massachusetts Legislature for President in 1836 and received the electoral vote of the State; appointed Secretary of State by President Harrison and again by President Tyler, and served from March 5, 1841, to May 9, 1843; again elected as a Whig, to the United States Senate, and served from March 4, 1845, to July 22, 1850, when he resigned; appointed Secretary of State by President Fillmore, and served from July 22, 1850, until his death in Marshfield, Mass., October 24, 1852; interment in the Winslow Cemetery.

PHILIP PENDLETON BARBOUR

Chairman, Twentieth Congress

Brother of James Barbour and cousin of John Strode Barbour, a Representative from Virginia; born at Frascati, near Gordonsville, Orange County, Va., May 25, 1783; attended common and private schools; was graduated from William and Mary College, Williamsburg, Va., in 1799; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1800, and commenced practice in Bardstown, Ky.; returned to Virginia in 1801 and practiced law in Gordonsville, Orange County; member of the State house of delegates 1812-14; elected as a Democrat to the Thirteenth Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the death of John Dawson; reelected to the Fourteenth and to the four succeeding Congresses, and served from September 19, 1814, to March 3, 1825; was not a candidate for renomination in 1824; served as Speaker of the House of Representatives in the Seventeenth Congress; offered the professorship of law in the University of Virginia in 1825, but declined; appointed a judge of the General Court of Virginia and served for 2 years, resigning in 1827; elected to the Twentieth and Twenty-first Congresses, and served from March 4, 1827, until his resignation on October 15, 1830; president of the Virginia constitutional convention in 1829; appointed by President Jackson, June 1, 1830, judge of the United States Circuit Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, declining the chancellorship and the post of attorney general; refused nominations for a judge of the court of appeals, for Governor, and for United States Senator; appointed Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court, and served from March 15, 1836, until his death in Washington, D. C., February 25, 1841; interment in the Congressional Cemetery.

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JAMES BUCHANAN

Chairman, Twenty-first Congress

A Representative and a Senator from Pennsylvania and a President of the United States; born at Cove Gap, near Mercersburg, Franklin County, Pa., April 23, 1791; was graduated from Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa., in 1809; moved to Lancaster, Pa., the same year; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1812, and practiced in Lancaster; although a Federalist, one of the first volunteers in the War of 1812, and served under Judge Shippen in the defense of Baltimore; member of the State house of representatives in 1814 and 1815; elected to the Seventeenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth, and Twenty-first Congresses (March 4, 1821–March 3, 1831); one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1830 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against James H. Peck, judge of the United States District Court for the District of Missouri; Minister to Russia from June 1832 to August 1834; elected as a Democrat to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of William Wilkins; reelected in 1837 and 1843, and served from December 6, 1834, until he resigned on March 5, 1845, to accept a Cabinet portfolio; Secretary of State in the Cabinet of President Polk from March 6, 1845, to March 7, 1849; Minister to Great Britain 1853–56; elected President of the United States in 1856 as the candidate of the Democratic Party, and served from March 4, 1857, to March 3, 1861; retired to his home in Wheatland, near Lancaster, Pa., where he died June 1, 1868, interment in Woodward Hill Cemetery, Lancaster, Pa.

WARREN RANSOM DAVIS

Chairman: Twenty-second Congress (1st sess.)

A Representative from South Carolina; born in Columbia, S. C., May 8, 1793; pursued preparatory studies; was graduated from South Carolina College (now the University of South Carolina) at Columbia in 1810; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1814, and practiced in Pendleton, S. C.; State solicitor of the western circuit 1818–24; elected as a State Rights Democrat to the Twentieth, Twenty-first, Twenty-second, and Twenty-third Congresses, and served from March 4, 1827, until his death; had been reelected to the Twenty-fourth Congress; died in Washington, D. C., January 29, 1835; interment in Congressional Cemetery.

JOHN BELL

Chairman, Twenty-second (2d sess.) and Twenty-third (1st sess.) Congresses

A Representative and a Senator from Tennessee; born near Nashville, Tenn., February 15, 1797; was graduated from the University of Nashville in 1814; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1816, and commenced practice in Franklin, Tenn.; served in the State senate in 1817; declined to be a candidate for reelection and moved to Nashville; elected as a Democrat to the Twentieth and as a Whig to the Twenty-first and to the five succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1827–March 3, 1841); Speaker of the National House of Representatives during the second session of the Twenty-third Congress in 1834; appointed by President Harrison Secretary of War March 5, 1841,

and served until September 12, 1841, when he resigned; member of the State house of representatives in 1847; elected as a Whig to the United States Senate in 1847; reelected in 1853, and served from November 22, 1847, to March 3, 1859; unsuccessful candidate for President of the United States on the Constitutional Union ticket with Edward Everett for Vice President in 1860; interested in ironworks at Cumberland Furnace and Chattanooga, Tenn.; died at his home on the banks of the Cumberland River, near Cumberland Furnace, September 10, 1869; interment in Mount Olivet Cemetery, near Nashville, Tenn.

THOMAS FLOURNOY FOSTER

Chairman, Twenty-third Congress (2d sess.)

A Representative from Georgia; born in Greensboro, Ga., November 23, 1790; pursued preparatory studies, and was graduated from Franklin College in 1812; studied law at the Litchfield (Ga.) Law School, was admitted to the bar in 1816, and commenced practice in Greensboro; member of the State house of representatives 1822-25; elected as a Democrat to the Twenty-first, Twenty-second, and Twenty-third Congresses (March 4, 1829-March 3, 1835); unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1834 to the Twenty-fourth Congress; member of the State convention from Greene County in 1833 to reduce membership of the general assembly; moved to Columbus, Muscogee County, Ga., in 1835 and continued the practice of his profession; delegate to a convention at Tuscaloosa, Ala., in the interest of Gen. William H. Harrison's candidacy for President of the United States; elected to the Twenty-seventh Congress (March 4, 1841-March 3, 1843); died in Columbus, Ga., September 14, 1848; interment in Linwood Cemetery.

SAMUEL BEARDSLEY

Chairman, Twenty-fourth Congress (1st sess.)

A Representative from New York; born in Hoosick, Rensselaer County, N. Y., February 6, 1790; pursued academic studies; taught school; studied law in Rome, N. Y.; served as a lieutenant in the War of 1812, and took part in the defense of Sackett Harbor in 1813; was admitted to the bar in 1815, and commenced practice in Watertown; judge advocate in the State militia; returned to Rome in 1816 and continued the practice of law; prosecuting attorney in 1821; member of the State senate in 1823; moved to Utica, Oneida County, in 1823; United States attorney for the northern district of New York, 1823-30; elected as a Democrat to the Twenty-second, Twenty-third, and Twenty-fourth Congresses, and served from March 4, 1831, to March 29, 1836, when he resigned; appointed to circuit judge in 1836; attorney general of the State of New York 1836-38; was elected to the Twenty-eighth Congress, and served from March 4, 1843, to February 29, 1844, when he resigned to accept a judicial appointment; served as associate judge of the Supreme Court of New York from 1844 to 1847, and was appointed chief justice in the latter year; declined another term of service and resumed the practice of law; died in Utica, N. Y., May 6, 1860; interment in Forest Hill Cemetery.

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FRANCIS THOMAS

Chairman, Twenty-fourth (2d sess.) and Twenty-fifth Congresses

A Representative from Maryland; born in that part of Frederick County, Md., close to South Mountain, known as Merryland tract, February 3, 1799; attended St. John's College, Annapolis, Md.; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1820, and commenced practice in Frankville, Md.; member of the State house of delegates in 1822, 1827, and 1829, and served the last year as speaker; elected as a Democrat to the Twenty-second and to the four succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1831–March 3, 1841); president of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal Co. in 1839 and 1840; Governor of Maryland 1841–44; unsuccessful candidate for reelection; member of the State constitutional convention in 1850; elected as a Union Republican to the Thirty-seventh and to the three succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1861–March 3, 1869); delegate to the Loyalist Convention at Philadelphia in 1866; collector of internal revenue 1870–72; United States Minister to Peru from March 25, 1872, to July 9, 1875; retired from public and professional life and devoted his time to agricultural pursuits; killed by a locomotive while walking on the railroad tracks near Frankville, Md., January 22, 1876; interment in a vault in Rose Hill Cemetery, Cumberland, Md.

DANIEL DEWEY BARNARD

Chairman, Twenty-seventh Congress

A Representative from New York; born in Sheffield, Berkshire County, Mass., July 16, 1797; attended the common schools, and was graduated from Williams College, Williamstown, Mass., in 1818; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1821, and began practice in Rochester, N. Y.; prosecuting attorney of Monroe County in 1826; elected to the Twentieth Congress (March 4, 1827–March 3, 1829); unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1828 to the Twenty-first Congress; traveled in Europe in 1831; returned to Albany, N. Y., in 1832 and continued the practice of his profession; member of the State assembly in 1838; elected as a Whig to the Twenty-sixth, Twenty-seventh, and Twenty-eighth Congresses (March 4, 1839–March 3, 1845); was not a candidate for reelection in 1844; appointed Minister to Prussia and served from September 3, 1850, to September 21, 1853; engaged in literary pursuits; died in Albany, N. Y., April 24, 1861; interment in the Albany Rural Cemetery.

WILLIAM WILKINS

Chairman, Twenty-eighth Congress (1st sess.)

A Senator and a Representative from Pennsylvania; born in Carlisle, Pa., December 20, 1779; attended Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa.; studied law, was admitted to the bar December 28, 1801, and commenced practice in Pittsburgh, Pa.; assisted in organizing the Pittsburgh Manufacturing Co. in 1810, and was the first president of

the Bank of Pittsburgh; president of the common council, 1816-19; member of the State house of representatives in 1820; resigned December 18, 1820; president judge of the fifth judicial district of Pennsylvania, 1821-24; judge of the United States District Court for Western Pennsylvania, 1824-31; unsuccessful candidate for election in 1826 to the Twentieth Congress; elected to the Twenty-first Congress, but resigned before qualifying; elected as a Democrat and anti-Mason to the United States Senate, and served from March 4, 1831, to June 30, 1834, when he resigned; appointed United States Minister to Russia, and served from June 1834 to December 1835; received the electoral vote of Pennsylvania for Vice President in 1833; elected as a Democrat to the Twenty-eighth Congress and served from March 4, 1843, to February 14, 1844, when he resigned; appointed Secretary of War by President Tyler February 15, 1844; entered upon his duties February 20, 1844, and served until March 6, 1845; member of the State Senate, 1855-57; major general of the Pennsylvania Home Guard in 1862; died in Homewood, near Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Pa., June 23, 1865; interment in Allegheny Cemetery, Pittsburgh, Pa.; reinterment in Homewood Cemetery, Wilkinsburg, Pa.

ROMULUS MITCHELL SAUNDERS

Chairman, Twenty-eighth Congress (2d sess.)

A Representative from North Carolina; born near Milton, Caswell (then Orange) County, N. C., March 3, 1791; attended the common schools and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1809-11; studied law, was admitted to the bar in Nashville, Tenn., in 1812, and commenced practice in Milton, N. C.; member of the State house of commons in 1815, 1817, 1819, and served 2 years as speaker; trustee of the University of North Carolina, 1819-64; moved to Raleigh, N. C., in 1823; elected as a Democrat to the Seventeenth, Eighteenth, and Nineteenth Congresses (March 4, 1821-March 3, 1827); declined to be a candidate for reelection; attorney general of the State, 1828-31; judge of the superior court, 1835-40; defeated by one vote for Governor of North Carolina in 1840 on the Democratic ticket; was elected to the Twenty-seventh and Twenty-eighth Congresses (March 4, 1841-March 3, 1845); unsuccessful candidate for reelection; United States Minister to Spain, 1846-49; again a member of the State house of commons, 1850-52; judge of the Superior Court of North Carolina, 1852-56; member of the board of commissioners to revise the laws of North Carolina; died in Raleigh, N. C., April 21, 1867; interment in the Old City Cemetery.

GEORGE OSCAR RATHBUN

Chairman, Twenty-ninth Congress

A Representative from New York; born in Scipioville, near Auburn, N. Y., in 1803; attended the Auburn schools and was graduated from Hamilton College; studied law, was admitted to the bar, and commenced practice in Auburn; member of the State assembly; elected as a Democrat to the Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth Congresses (March 4, 1843-March 3, 1847); resumed the practice of his profession; died in Auburn, Cayuga County, N. Y., January 5, 1870; interment in Fort Hill Cemetery.

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JOSEPH REED INGERSOLL

Chairman, Thirtieth Congress

Son of Jared Ingersoll and brother of Charles Jared Ingersoll, a Representative from Pennsylvania; was the chairman of the committee in the Thirtieth Congress. This is the only instance wherein brothers served as chairman of this committee; born in Philadelphia, Pa., June 14, 1786; pursued a classical course, and was graduated from Princeton College in 1804; studied law, was admitted to the bar, and commenced practice in Philadelphia, Pa.; elected as a Whig to the Twenty-fourth Congress (March 4, 1835–March 3, 1837); declined to be a candidate for renomination in 1836; resumed the practice of law; elected to the Twenty-seventh Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of John Sergeant; reelected to the Twenty-eighth, Twenty-ninth, and Thirtieth Congresses, and served from October 12, 1841, to March 3, 1849; declined to accept the nomination as a candidate for reelection in 1848 to the Thirty-first Congress; appointed Minister to Great Britain by President Fillmore, and served from August 21, 1852, to August 23, 1853; retired from public life and engaged in literary pursuits; died in Philadelphia, Pa., February 20, 1868; interment in St. Peter's Protestant Episcopal Churchyard.

JAMES THOMPSON

Chairman, Thirty-first Congress

A Representative from Pennsylvania; born in Middlesex, Butler County, Pa., October 1, 1806; completed preparatory studies; learned the printer's trade; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1829 and commenced practice in Erie, Pa.; member of the State house of representatives 1832–34 and in 1855, and served as speaker in 1834; Presidential elector on the Democratic ticket of Van Buren and Johnson in 1836; delegate to the State constitutional convention in 1838; presiding judge of the sixth judicial district court 1838–44; elected as a Democrat to the Twenty-ninth, Thirtieth, and Thirty-first Congresses (March 4, 1845–March 3, 1851); was not a candidate for renomination in 1850; resumed the practice of law; associate justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania from 1857 to 1866, and served as chief justice of that court from 1866 to 1872; again engaged in the practice of law; died in Philadelphia, Pa., January 28, 1874; interment in Woodlands Cemetery.

JAMES XAVIER M'LANAHAN

Chairman, Thirty-second Congress

Grandson of Andrew Gregg, a Representative from Pennsylvania; born near Greencastle, Franklin County, Pa., in 1809; was graduated from Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa., in 1827; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1837, and commenced practice in Chambersburg, Pa.; member of the State senate, 1842–44; elected as a Democrat to the Thirty-first and Thirty-second Congresses (March 4, 1849–March 3, 1853); was not a candidate for renomination in 1852; resumed the practice of law; died in New York City December 16, 1861; interment in the First Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

FREDERICK PERRY STANTON

Chairman, Thirty-third Congress

A Representative from Tennessee; born in Alexandria, Va., December 22, 1814; pursued classical studies, and was graduated from Columbian College (now George Washington University), Washington, D. C., in 1833; taught school; studied law, was admitted to the bar, and commenced practice in Memphis, Tenn.; elected as a Democrat to the Twenty-ninth and to the four succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1845–March 3, 1855); Governor of Kansas Territory 1858–61; moved to Virginia, and subsequently settled in Florida; died in Stanton, Fla., June 4, 1894; interment in South Lake Weir Cemetery, South Lake Weir, Fla.

GEORGE ABEL SIMMONS

Chairman, Thirty-fourth Congress

A Representative from New York; born in Lyme, N. H., September 8, 1791; attended the district school; was graduated from Dartmouth College, Hanover, N. H., in 1816; moved to Lansingburg, Rensselaer County, N. Y., and was principal of the local academy; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1825, and commenced practice in Keeseville, Essex County, N. Y.; member of the State assembly 1840–42; member of the State constitutional convention in 1846; elected as a Whig to the Thirty-third and Thirty-fourth Congresses (March 4, 1853–March 3, 1857); was not a candidate for reelection in 1856; resumed the practice of his profession in Keeseville, N. Y., and died there October 27, 1857; interment in Evergreen Cemetery.

GEORGE SMITH HOUSTON

Chairman, Thirty-fifth Congress

A Representative and a Senator from Alabama; born near Franklin, Williamson County, Tenn., January 17, 1808; moved with his parents to Lauderdale County, Ala., and attended an academy there; studied law in Florence, Ala., and Harrodsburg, Ky.; was admitted to the bar in 1831 and commenced practice in Florence, Ala.; member of the State house of representatives in 1832; settled in Athens, Ala., in 1835; State's attorney for the Florence judicial district in 1836; elected as a Democrat to the Twenty-seventh, Twenty-eighth, Twenty-ninth, and Thirtieth Congresses (March 4, 1841–March 3, 1849); declined to be a candidate for renomination in 1848; elected to the Thirty-second and to four succeeding Congresses, and served from March 4, 1851, until January 21, 1861, when he withdrew; presented credentials as a Senator-elect to the United States Senate on February 9, 1866, for the term ending March 3, 1867, but was not permitted to take his seat; delegate to the Union National Convention at Philadelphia in 1866; Governor of Alabama, 1874–78; elected to the United States Senate, and served from March 4, 1879, until his death in Athens, Ala., December 31, 1879; interment in the Athens City Cemetery.

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JOHN HICKMAN

Chairman, Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh Congresses

A Representative from Pennsylvania; born in West Bradford Township, Chester County, Pa., September 11, 1810; pursued English and classical studies under private tutors; began the study of medicine, but abandoned it for the study of law; was admitted to the bar in 1833 and commenced practice in West Chester; delegate to the Democratic Convention at Baltimore in 1844; district attorney for Chester County in 1845 and 1846; elected as a Democrat to the Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth Congresses, as a Douglas Democrat to the Thirty-sixth Congress, and as a Republican to the Thirty-seventh Congress (March 4, 1855–March 3, 1863); declined to be a candidate for renomination in 1862; one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1862 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against West H. Humphreys, United States judge for the several districts of Tennessee; resumed the practice of law; member of the State house of representatives in 1869; died in West Chester, Pa., March 23, 1875; interment in the Oaklands Cemetery, West Chester, Pa.

JAMES FALCONER WILSON

Chairman, Thirty-eighth, Thirty-ninth, and Fortieth Congresses

A Representative and a Senator from Iowa; born in Newark, Licking County, Ohio, October 19, 1828; pursued an academic course, apprenticed to the harnessmaker's trade, 1841–50; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1851, and practiced in Newark, Ohio, 1851–53; moved to Fairfield, Jefferson County, Iowa, in 1853 and resumed the practice of law; member of the constitutional convention of Iowa in 1856; member of the State house of representatives in 1857 and 1859; served in the State senate, 1859–61, and was president in 1861; delegate to the Democratic National Convention at Baltimore in 1860; elected as a Democrat to the Thirty-seventh Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Samuel R. Curtis; reelected as a Republican to the Thirty-eighth, Thirty-ninth, and Fortieth Congresses, and served from December 2, 1861, to March 3, 1869; unsuccessful candidate for renomination in 1868; one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1868 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against Andrew Johnson, President of the United States; was tendered the position of Secretary of State in the Cabinet of President Grant, which he declined, and was subsequently appointed by President Grant as Government director of the Union Pacific Railroad and served 8 years; elected as a Republican to the United States Senate on January 10, 1882; reelected in 1889, and served from March 4, 1883, to March 3, 1895; unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1895; died in Fairfield, Iowa, April 22, 1895; interment in Fairfield-Evergreen Cemetery.

JOHN ARMOUR BINGHAM

Chairman, Forty-first and Forty-second Congresses

A Representative from Ohio; born in Mercer County, Pa., January 21, 1815; pursued academic studies; apprentice in a printing office for 2 years; attended Franklin College, Ohio; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1840, and commenced practice in New Philadelphia, Tuscarawas County, Ohio; district attorney for Tuscarawas County, Ohio, 1846–49; elected as a Republican to the Thirty-fourth and to the three succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1855–March 3, 1863); unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1862 to the Thirty-eighth Congress; appointed by President Lincoln judge advocate of the Union Army with the rank of major in 1864; later appointed solicitor of the Court of Claims; special judge advocate in the trial of the conspirators against the life of President Lincoln; elected to the Thirty-ninth, Fortieth, Forty-first, and Forty-second Congresses (March 4, 1865–March 3, 1873); unsuccessful candidate for renomination in 1872; one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1862 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against West H. Humphreys, United States judge for the several districts of Tennessee, and again in 1868 against Andrew Johnson, President of the United States; appointed minister to Japan and served from May 31, 1873, until July 2, 1885; died in Cadiz, Harrison County, Ohio, March 19, 1900; interment in the Cadiz Cemetery.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN BUTLER

Chairman, Forty-third Congress

Grandfather of Butler Ames; a Representative from Massachusetts; born in Deerfield, N. H., November 5, 1818; moved with his mother to Lowell, Mass., in 1828; attended high school and Exeter Academy, and was graduated from Waterville College (now Colby University), Waterville, Maine, in 1838; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1840, and commenced practice in Lowell, Mass.; member of the State house of representatives in 1853; served in the State senate in 1859; delegate to the Democratic National Conventions at Charleston and Baltimore in 1860; entered the Union Army April 17, 1861, as a brigadier general; promoted to major general, May 16, 1861, and assigned to the command of Fort Monroe and the Department of Eastern Virginia; resigned November 30, 1865; elected as a Republican to the Foreieth, Forty-first, Forty-second, and Forty-third Congresses (March 4, 1867–March 3, 1875); one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1868 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against Andrew Johnson, President of the United States; unsuccessful candidate for the Republican nomination for Governor in 1871 and 1872 and for reelection to the Forty-fourth Congress in 1874; elected to the Forty-fifth Congress (March 4, 1877–March 3, 1879); declined to be candidate for renomination; unsuccessful candidate for Governor as an Independent in 1878 and as a Democrat in 1879; elected Governor in 1882 by the combined efforts of the Greenback and Democratic Parties; unsuccessful candidate for President of the United States on the Greenback and Anti-Monopolist ticket in 1884; died while attending court in Washington, D. C., January 11, 1893; interment in Hildreth Cemetery, Lowell, Mass.

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JAMES PROCTOR KNOTT

Chairman, Forty-fourth, Forty-fifth, and Forty-sixth Congresses

A Representative from Kentucky; born in Raywick, near Lebanon, Marion County, Ky., August 29, 1830; attended the public schools; studied law; moved to Memphis, Mo., in May 1850; was admitted to the bar in 1851 and commenced practice in Memphis, Mo.; member of the Missouri House of Representatives in 1857, and resigned in August 1859; attorney general of Missouri in 1859 and 1860; returned to Kentucky and commenced the practice of law in Lebanon in 1863; elected as a Democrat to the Fortieth and Forty-first Congresses (March 4, 1867–March 3, 1871); was not a candidate for renomination in 1870; again elected to the Forty-fourth and to the three succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1875–March 3, 1883); declined to be a candidate for renomination in 1882; one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1876 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against William W. Belknap, ex-Secretary of War; Governor of Kentucky, 1883–87; delegate to the State constitutional convention in 1891; professor of civics and economics, Centre College, Danville, Ky., 1893–94, and dean of its law school 1894–1901; died in Lebanon, Ky., June 18, 1911; interment in Ryder Cemetery.

THOMAS BRACKETT REED

Chairman, Forty-seventh Congress

A Representative from Maine; born in Portland, Cumberland County, Maine, October 18, 1839; attended the public schools, and was graduated from Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine, in 1860; studied law; acting assistant paymaster, United States Navy, from April 19, 1864, to November 4, 1865; was admitted to the bar in 1865 and commenced practice in Portland, Maine; member of the State house of representatives 1868 and 1869; served in the State senate in 1870; attorney general of Maine, 1870–72; city solicitor of Portland, 1874–77; elected as a Republican to the Forty-fifth and to the 11 succeeding Congresses, and served from March 4, 1877, to September 4, 1899, when he resigned; Speaker of the House of Representatives in the Fifty-first, Fifty-fourth, and Fifty-fifth Congresses; moved to New York City and engaged in the practice of law; died in Washington, D. C., December 7, 1902; interment in Evergreen Cemetery, Portland, Maine.

JOHN RANDOLPH TUCKER

Chairman, Forty-eighth and Forty-ninth Congresses

Son of Henry St. George Tucker; a Representative from Virginia; born in Winchester, Frederick County, Va., December 24, 1823; attended a private school and Richmond Academy, and was graduated from the University of Virginia at Charlottesville in 1844; was admitted to the bar in 1845 and commenced practice in Winchester, Va.; Presidential elector on the Democratic ticket of Pierce and King in 1852 and of Buchanan and Breckinridge in 1856; attorney general of Virginia, 1857–65; professor of equity and public law at Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Va., in 1870; elected as a Democrat to the Forty-fourth and to the five succeeding Congresses (March 4,

1875–March 3, 1887); declined to be a candidate for renomination in 1886; elected professor of constitutional law at Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Va., in 1888, and served until his death; author of *Tucker on the Constitution*; president of the American Bar Association in 1894; died in Lexington, Rockbridge County, Va., February 13, 1897; interment in Mount Hebron Cemetery, Winchester, Va.

DAVID BROWNING CULBERSON

Chairman, Fiftieth, Fifty-second, Fifty-third Congresses

Father of Charles Allen Culberson; a Representative from Texas; born in Troup County, Ga., September 29, 1830; pursued preparatory studies in Brownwood College, Lagrange, Ga.; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1851, and commenced practice in Dadeville, Ala.; moved to Texas in 1856; settled in Jefferson, Marion County, in 1861 and continued the practice of law; member of the State house of representatives in 1859; during the Civil War entered the Confederate Army as a private; promoted to the rank of colonel of the Eighteenth Texas Infantry; assigned to duty in 1864 as an adjutant general of the State of Texas with the rank of colonel; again a member of the State house of representatives in 1864; elected to the State senate in 1873 and served until his resignation, having been elected to Congress; elected as a Democrat to the Forty-fourth and to the 10 succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1875–March 3, 1897); declined to be a candidate for renomination in 1896; appointed by President McKinley on June 21, 1897, as one of the commissioners to codify the laws of the United States, and served in this capacity until his death in Jefferson, Tex., May 7, 1900; interment in Oaklawn Cemetery.

EZRA BOOTH TAYLOR

Chairman, Fifty-first Congress

A Representative from Ohio; born in Nelson, Portage County, Ohio, July 9, 1823; attended the common and select schools and academies; studied law, was admitted to the bar, and commenced practice in Portage County in 1845; elected prosecuting attorney in 1854; moved to Warren, Trumbull County, Ohio, in 1861; during the Civil War enrolled as a private in Company A, One Hundred and Seventy-first Ohio Infantry, on April 27, 1864; was mustered into service on May 5, 1864, and was honorably discharged on August 20, 1864; elected judge of the Court of Common Pleas for the Ninth Judicial District of Ohio and served from March 1877 to September 5, 1880, when he resigned; elected as a Republican to the Forty-sixth Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of James A. Garfield; reelected to the Forty-seventh and to the five succeeding Congresses, and served from December 13, 1880, to March 3, 1893; declined to be a candidate for renomination in 1892; resumed the practice of his profession; died in Warren, Trumbull County, Ohio, January 29, 1912; interment in the Warren mausoleum at Oakwood Cemetery.

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DAVID BREMNER HENDERSON

Chairman, Fifty-fourth and Fifty-fifth Congresses

A Representative from Iowa; born in Old Deer, Scotland, March 14, 1840; emigrated to the United States with his parents, who settled in Winnebago County, Ill., in 1846; moved to Fayette County, Iowa, in 1849; attended the common schools and the Upper Iowa University at Fayette; during the Civil War enlisted in the Union Army, September 15, 1861, as a private in Company C, Twelfth Regiment Iowa Volunteer Infantry; was elected and commissioned first lieutenant of that company, and served with it until discharged, owing to the loss of a leg, February 26, 1863; commissioner of the board of enrollment of the third district of Iowa from May 1863, to June 1864; entered the Army as colonel of the Forty-sixth Regiment Iowa Volunteer Infantry and served until the close of the war; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1865, and commenced practice in Dubuque, Iowa; collector of internal revenue for the third district of Iowa from November 1865 to June 1869, when he resigned; assistant United States district attorney for the northern district of Iowa, 1869-71; elected as a Republican to the Forty-eighth and to the nine succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1883-March 3, 1903); declined to be a candidate for renomination in 1902; Speaker of the House in the Fifty-sixth and Fifty-seventh Congresses; died in Dubuque, Iowa, February 25, 1906; interment in Linwood Cemetery.

GEORGE WASHINGTON RAY

Chairman, Fifty-sixth and Fifty-seventh Congresses

A Representative from New York; born in Otselic, Chenango County, N. Y., February 3, 1844; attended the common schools and Norwich Academy; private in Company B, Nineteenth New York Volunteers, and brigade clerk, First Brigade, First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, during the Civil War; discharged at the close of the war; studied law, and was admitted to the bar in November 1867; chairman of the Republican county committee of Chenango County; member of the Republican State committee in 1880; elected as a Republican to the Forty-eighth Congress (March 4, 1883-March 3, 1885); member of the board of education of Norwich Academy and Union Free School; elected to the Fifty-second and to the five succeeding Congresses, and served from March 4, 1891, to September 11, 1902, when he resigned to accept the United States judgeship for the northern district of New York, in which capacity he served until his death in Norwich, Chenango County, N. Y., January 10, 1925; interment in Mount Hope Cemetery.

JOHN JAMES JENKINS

Chairman, Fifty-eighth, Fifty-ninth, and Sixtieth Congresses

A Representative from Wisconsin; born in Weymouth, England, August 24, 1843; attended the common schools; emigrated to the

United States with his parents, who settled in Baraboo, Wis., in June 1852; served in the Civil War as a member of Company A, Sixth Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, 1861–65; clerk of the circuit court of Sauk County, 1867–70; moved to Chippewa Falls, Wis., in 1870; studied law, was admitted to the bar, and practiced; city clerk and city attorney of Chippewa Falls; member of the State assembly in 1872; county judge of Chippewa County, 1872–76; appointed United States attorney for the Territory of Wyoming in March 1876, and served until 1880, when he returned to Chippewa Falls, Wis., and resumed the practice of law; elected as a Republican to the Fifty-fourth and to the six succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1895–March 3, 1909); unsuccessful candidate for renomination in 1908; appointed judge of Porto Rico by President Taft in May 1910, and served until his death in Chippewa Falls, Wis., June 8, 1911; interment in Forest Hill Cemetery.

RICHARD WAYNE PARKER

Chairman, Sixty-first Congress

Grandson of James Parker; a Representative from New Jersey; born in Morristown, Morris County, N. J., August 6, 1848; was graduated from Princeton College in 1867 and from the law school of Columbia College in 1869; was admitted to the bar of New Jersey in 1870 and commenced practice in Newark; member of the State house of assembly in 1885 and 1886; unsuccessful Republican candidate for election to the Fifty-third Congress; elected as a Republican to the Fifty-fourth and to the seven succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1895–March 3, 1911); unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1910 to the Sixty-second Congress; resumed the practice of law in Newark, N. J.; elected to the Sixty-third Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Walter I. McCoy; reelected to the Sixty-fourth and Sixty-fifth Congresses and served from December 1, 1914, to March 3, 1919; unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1918 to the Sixty-sixth Congress; delegate to the Republican National Convention at Chicago in 1916, which nominated Hughes and Fairbanks; unsuccessful candidate for reelection to the Sixty-sixth Congress; elected to the Sixty-seventh Congress (March 4, 1921–March 3, 1923); unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1922 to the Sixty-eighth Congress; died in Paris, France, November 28, 1923; interment in St. Peter's churchyard, Perth Amboy, N. J.

HENRY DE LAMAR CLAYTON

Chairman, Sixty-second and Sixty-third Congresses

Brother of Bertram Tracy Clayton; a Representative from Alabama; born near Clayton, Barbour County, Ala., February 10, 1857; attended the common schools; graduated from the literary department of the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa in 1877, and from the law department in 1878; was admitted to the bar in the latter year and commenced practice in Clayton, Ala.; Presidential elector on the Democratic ticket of Cleveland and Thurman in 1888 and of Cleveland and Stevenson in 1892; member of the State house of representatives in 1890 and 1891; United States district attorney for the middle district of Alabama, 1893–96; permanent chairman of the Democratic National

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Convention at Denver in 1908; elected as a Democrat to the Fifty-fifth and to the eight succeeding Congresses, and served from March 4, 1897, until May 25, 1914, when he resigned to accept a commission as United States judge for the middle and northern districts of Alabama; one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1905 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against Charles Swayne, judge of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida, and in 1912 against Robert W. Archbald, judge of the United States Commerce Court; chevalier of the Legion of Honor tendered by the French Government; was a resident of Montgomery, Ala., until his death December 21, 1929; interment in Fairview Cemetery, Eufaula, Ala.

EDWIN YATES WEBB

Chairman, Sixty-fourth and Sixty-fifth Congresses

A Representative from North Carolina; born in Shelby, Cleveland County, N. C., May 23, 1872; attended the Shelby Military Institute, and was graduated from Wake Forest College, North Carolina, in June 1893; studied law in the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1893 and 1894, was admitted to the bar in the latter year, and commenced practice in Shelby; entered the University of Virginia Law School at Charlottesville in 1896 and completed a postgraduate course; member of the State senate in 1901; appointed a trustee of Wake Forest College in 1896; appointed trustee of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Raleigh by the legislature in 1899 and served 2 years; chairman of his Democratic senatorial district in 1896; chairman of the Democratic county executive committee, 1898-1902; temporary chairman of the Democratic State convention in 1900; elected as a Democrat to the Fifty-eighth and to the eight succeeding Congresses, and served from March 4, 1903, to November 10, 1919, when he resigned to accept a judicial position; appointed United States district judge for the western district of North Carolina on November 5, 1919, in which capacity he is now serving; one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1912, to conduct the impeachment proceedings against Robert W. Archbald, judge of the United States Commerce Court; is a resident of Shelby, N. C.

ANDREW JOHN VOLSTEAD

Chairman, Sixty-sixth and Sixty-seventh Congresses

A Representative from Minnesota; born near Kenyon, Goodhue County, Minn., October 31, 1860; attended the public schools of the district and St. Olaf's College, Northfield, Minn.; was graduated from Decorah Institute, Decorah, Iowa, in 1881; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1883, and commenced practice in Lac qui Parle County, Minn.; moved to Grantsburg, Wis., in 1885, and in the following year to Granite Falls, Yellow Medicine County, Minn.; member of the board of education and served as president; city attorney of Granite Falls; prosecuting attorney of Yellow Medicine County, 1886-1902; mayor of Granite Falls, 1900-2; elected as a Republican to the Fifty-eighth and to the nine succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1903-March 3, 1923); unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1922 to the Sixty-eighth Congress; resumed the practice of law, and was a

resident of Granite Falls, Minn., until his death January 20, 1947; interment in City Cemetery, Granite Falls, Minn.

GEORGE SCOTT GRAHAM

Chairman, Sixty-eighth, Sixty-ninth, Seventieth, and Seventy-first Congresses

A Representative from Pennsylvania; born in Philadelphia, Pa., September 13, 1850; attended the public schools and was privately tutored; was graduated from the law departments of the University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia and Lafayette College, Easton, Pa.; was admitted to the bar in 1871 and commenced practice in Philadelphia; member of the Select Council of Philadelphia 1877-80; district attorney of Philadelphia County, 1880-99; declined to be a candidate for further election and resumed the practice of law in Philadelphia and New York City; professor of criminal law and procedure in the University of Pennsylvania, 1887-98; delegate to the Republican National Convention at Minneapolis in 1892 and at Cleveland in 1924; elected as a Republican to the Sixty-third and to the six succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1913-March 3, 1927). Reelected to the Seventieth and Seventy-first Congresses, and died in office on July 4, 1931, at his summer home, Lo Grame, Islip, N. Y.; interment in Woodlawn Cemetery, New York City.

HATTON WILLIAM SUMNERS

Chairman, Seventy-second, Seventy-third, Seventy-fourth, Seventy-fifth, Seventy-sixth, Seventy-seventh, Seventy-eighth, and Seventy-ninth Congresses

Hatton William Sumners, a Representative from Texas, served the longest period as chairman of this committee, having been elected chairman in the Seventy-second Congress and continuing in that capacity until the close of the Seventy-ninth Congress, when he voluntarily retired from Congress. He also enjoys the distinction of having served as a member of the committee for a longer period than any other member, having been elected a member of the committee in the Sixty-fifth Congress which convened on March 4, 1917. He was born near Fayetteville, Lincoln County, Tenn., May 30, 1875; moved to Dallas County, Tex., in 1893; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1897, and commenced practice in Dallas, Tex.; elected prosecuting attorney of Dallas County in 1900 and served two terms; president of the District and County Attorneys' Association of Texas in 1906 and 1907; elected as a Democrat to the Sixty-third and to the six succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1913-March 3, 1927); one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1926 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against George W. English, judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Illinois. Reelected to the Seventieth and to the nine succeeding Congresses.

EARL CORY MICHENER

Chairman, Eightieth Congress

A Representative from Michigan; born near Attica, Seneca County, Ohio, November 30, 1876; moved with his parents to Adrian, Mich., in 1889; attended the public schools of Adrian; during the Spanish-

American War served as a private in Company B, Thirty-first Regiment Michigan Volunteer Infantry, April 26, 1898–May 17, 1899; studied law in the law department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in 1902 and 1903, and was graduated from the law department of Columbian University (now George Washington University), District of Columbia, in 1903; was admitted to the bar in 1903 and commenced practice in Adrian, Mich.; assistant prosecuting attorney for Lenawee County, Mich., 1907–10; prosecuting attorney, 1911–14; elected as a Republican to the Sixty-sixth, Sixty-seventh, Sixty-eighth, Sixty-ninth, Seventieth, Seventy-first, Seventy-second, Seventy-fourth, Seventy-fifth, Seventy-sixth, Seventy-seventh, Seventy-eighth, Seventy-ninth, and Eightieth Congresses; one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1926 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against George W. English, judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Illinois.

HIGH CALIBER OF PERSONNEL OF COMMITTEE

Among the 503 persons who have been members of this committee in the 134 years of its continuous existence there is found the following:

- Three Presidents of the United States.
- Three unsuccessful candidates for the Presidency.
- One Vice President.
- Three unsuccessful candidates for the Vice Presidency.
- Seven Speakers of the House.
- Three unsuccessful candidates for Speaker.
- Fifteen Secretaries in Cabinets of Presidents.
- Three Presidents pro tempore of the Senate.
- Two Solicitor Generals.
- Twenty-two Ambassadors and Ministers.
- One Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.
- Three United States circuit-court judges.
- Thirteen United States district-court judges.
- Four United States Territorial judges.
- Two District of Columbia court judges.
- Three special assistants to the Attorney General.
- Thirty-four United States attorneys.
- Three United States marshals.
- Fifty United States Senators.
- Thirty-seven Governors of the several States.
- Twenty-five attorneys general of the several States.
- Eleven deputy State attorneys general.
- Six secretaries of state in the several States.
- Ten chief justices of State supreme courts.
- Twenty-two justices of State supreme courts.
- One hundred and thirteen common pleas and circuit court judges.
- One hundred and thirty-five district attorneys.
- Five presidents of State constitutional conventions.
- Fifty delegates to State constitutional conventions.
- Two hundred and twenty-eight members of State legislatures.
- Forty-five speakers of State legislatures.
- One hundred and eight State senators.
- Twelve presidents of State senates.