

Ingersoll, Charles Jared, (1782–1862)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 13th Congress.



Library of Congress

INGERSOLL, Charles Jared, (son of Jared Ingersoll and brother of Joseph Reed Ingersoll), a Representative from Pennsylvania; born in Philadelphia, Pa., October 3, 1782; received an academic training; studied law; was admitted to the bar in 1802 and commenced practice in Philadelphia, Pa.; elected as a Republican to the Thirteenth Congress (March 4, 1813–March 3, 1815); chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Thirteenth Congress); was not a candidate for renomination in 1814, having been appointed United States district attorney for Pennsylvania, and served in that office, 1815–1829; member of the State improvement convention in 1825; member of the State house of representatives in 1830; member of the State constitutional convention in 1837; 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 as a Democrat to the Twenty-seventh and to the three succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1841–March 3, 1849); chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs (Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth Congresses); was not a candidate for renomination in 1848; appointed Minister to France in 1847 but was not confirmed by the Senate; died on May 14, 1862, in Philadelphia, Pa.; interment in the Woodlands Cemetery.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Ingersoll, Charles Jared. *Recollections, Historical, Political, Biographical, and Social, of Charles J. Ingersoll*. Philadelphia: Lippincott & Co., 1861; Meigs, William Montgomery. *The Life of Charles Jared Ingersoll*. 1897. Reprint, New York: DaCapo Press, 1970.

Nelson, Hugh, (1768–1836)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 14th, 15th, and 17th Congress (2nd Session).



Engraving of Hugh Nelson by Saint-Memin

*Special Collections, University of Virginia Library
Charlottesville, Virginia*

NELSON, Hugh, (son of Thomas Nelson, Jr.), a Representative from Virginia; born in Yorktown, York County, Va., September 30, 1768; completed preparatory studies; was graduated from the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va., in 1780; served in the State senate 1786–1791; member of the State house of delegates 1805–1809, 1828–1829; judge of the general court; elected as a Republican to the Twelfth and to the five succeeding Congresses and served from March 4, 1811, until his resignation on January 14, 1823, having received an appointment in the diplomatic service; chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Fourteenth, Fifteenth, and Seventeenth Congresses); appointed by President James Monroe United States Minister to Spain on January 15, 1823, and served until November 23, 1824; died at his home, “Belvoir,” Albemarle County, Va., March 18, 1836; interment in Belvoir Cemetery, Cismont, Albemarle County, Va.

Sergeant, John, (1779–1852)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 16th, 17th (1st Session), and 26th Congresses.

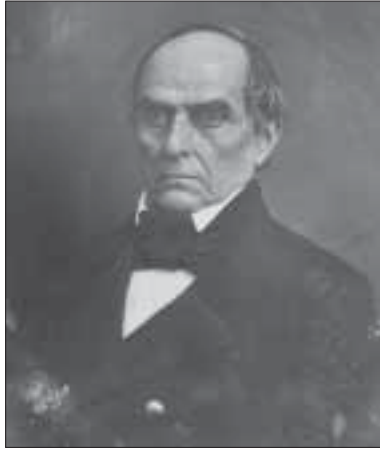


Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery

SERGEANT, John, (son of Jonathan Dickinson Sergeant, grandfather of John Sergeant Wise and Richard Alsop Wise, and great-grandfather of John Crain Kunkel), 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 fifty years; deputy attorney general for Philadelphia in 1800; commissioner of bankruptcy for Pennsylvania in 1801; member of the State house of representatives 1808–1810; 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; chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Sixteenth and Seventeenth Congresses); 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 as a Whig to the Twenty-fifth, Twenty-sixth, and Twenty-seventh Congresses and served from March 4, 1837, until his resignation on September 15, 1841; chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Twenty-sixth Congress); died in Philadelphia, Pa., November 23, 1852; interment in Laurel Hill Cemetery.

Webster, Daniel, (1782–1852)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 18th and 19th Congresses.



Senate Years of Service: 1827–41; 1845–1850

Senate Historical Office, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Senate

WEBSTER, Daniel, a Representative from New Hampshire and a Representative and a Senator from Massachusetts; born in Salisbury, N.H., January 18, 1782; attended district schools and Phillips Exeter Academy, Exeter, N.H.; graduated from Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., in 1801; principal of an academy at Fryeburg, Maine, in 1802; studied law; admitted to the bar in 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); was not a candidate for reelection in 1816 to the Fifteenth Congress; moved to Boston, Mass., in 1816; achieved national fame as counsel representing Dartmouth College before the United States Supreme Court in the Dartmouth College case 1816–1819; delegate to the Massachusetts 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; chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Eighteenth and Nineteenth Congresses); elected as Adams (later Anti-Jacksonian) on June 8, 1827, to the United States Senate for the term beginning March 4, 1827; reelected as a Whig in 1833 and 1839 and served until his resignation, effective February 22, 1841; chairman, Committee on Finance (Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Congresses); unsuccessful Whig candidate for president in 1836; appointed Secretary of State by President William Henry Harrison and again by President John Tyler and served from 1841 to 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 Millard Fillmore and served from July 22, 1850, until his death in Marshfield, Mass., October 24, 1852; interment in the Winslow Cemetery.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Dictionary of American Biography; Remini, Robert. *Daniel Webster: The Man and His Time*. New York: W.W. Norton, 1997; Baxter, Maurice. *One and Inseparable: Daniel Webster and the Union*. Cambridge, Mass.: Belknap Press of Harvard University, 1984; Webster, Daniel. *The Papers of Daniel Webster*. Edited by Charles Wiltse, Harold D. Moser, et al. 15 vols. Hanover, N.H.: University Press of New England, 1974–1989.

Barbour, Philip Pendleton, (1783–1841)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 20th Congress.



Painting by Kate Flourney Edwards, 1911, Collection of the U.S. House of Representatives

BARBOUR, Philip Pendleton, (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 the College of William and Mary, 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 1812–1814; elected as a Republican to the Thirteenth Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the death of John Dawson; reelected as a Republican to the Fourteenth through the Seventeenth Congresses, reelected as a Crawford Republican to the Eighteenth Congress and served from September 19, 1814, to March 3, 1825; Speaker of the House of Representatives (Seventeenth Congress); was not a candidate for renomination in 1824; 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 two years, resigning in 1827; elected as a Jacksonian to the Twentieth and Twenty-first Congresses and served from March 4, 1827, until his resignation on October 15, 1830; chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Twentieth Congress); 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 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 Congressional Cemetery.

Buchanan, James, (1791–1868)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 21st Congress.



Senate Years of Service: 1834–1845

Library of Congress

BUCHANAN, James, a Representative and a Senator from Pennsylvania and 15th President of the United States; born at Cove Gap, near Mercersburg, Franklin County, Pa., April 23, 1791; moved to Mercersburg, Pa., with his parents in 1799; was privately tutored and then attended the village academy; graduated from Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa., in 1809; moved to Lancaster, Pa., the same year; studied law; admitted to the bar in 1812 and practiced in Lancaster; was one of the first volunteers in the War of 1812 and served in the defense of Baltimore; member, State house of representatives 1814–1815; elected to the Seventeenth and to the four succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1821–March 3, 1831); chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Twenty-first Congress); was not a candidate for renomination in 1830; 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 1832–1834; elected as a Democrat (Jacksonian) 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; chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations (Twenty-fourth through Twenty-sixth Congresses); Secretary of State in the Cabinet of President James Polk 1845–1849; Minister to Great Britain 1853–1856; elected as a Democrat as President of the United States in 1856 and served from March 4, 1857, to March 3, 1861; retired to his home "Wheatland," near Lancaster, Pa., where he died June 1, 1868; interment in Woodward Hill Cemetery, Lancaster, Pa.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

American National Biography; Dictionary of American Biography; Buchanan, James. The Works of James Buchanan. Edited by John B. Moore. 12 vols. Philadelphia: Lippincott Company, 1908–1911; Baker, Jean H. James Buchanan. New York: Times Books, 2004.

Davis, Warren Ransom, (1793–1835)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 22nd Congress (1st Session).



Main Street Columbia, South Carolina

Library of Congress

DAVIS, Warren Ransom, 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 1818–1824; elected as a Jacksonian to the Twentieth and Twenty-first Congresses; reelected as a Nullifier to the Twenty-second through Twenty-fourth Congresses and served from March 4, 1827, until his death in Washington, D.C., on January 29, 1835, before the opening of the Twenty-fourth Congress; chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Twenty-second Congress); interment in the Congressional Cemetery.

Bell, John, (1797–1869)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 22nd (2nd Session), and 23rd (1st Session) Congresses.



Senate Years of Service: 1847–1855; 1855–1857; 1857–1859

*Painting by Willie Betty Newman, 1911,
Collection of the U.S. House of Representatives*

BELL, John, a Representative and a Senator from Tennessee; born near Nashville, Tenn., February 15, 1797; graduated from the University of Nashville in 1814; studied law; admitted to the bar in 1816 and commenced practice in Franklin, Tenn.; member, State senate 1817; declined to be a candidate for reelection and moved to Nashville; elected to the Twentieth, and to the six succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1827–March 3, 1841); Speaker of the House of Representatives (Twenty-third Congress); chairman, Committee on Indian Affairs (Twenty-first through Twenty-sixth Congresses, except for Twenty-third), Committee on Judiciary (Twenty-second and Twenty-third Congresses); appointed by President William Henry Harrison as Secretary of War March 5, 1841, and served until September 12, 1841, when he resigned; member, 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 in 1860 for President of the United States on the Constitutional Union ticket; investor in ironworks at Cumberland Furnace in 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.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Dictionary of American Biography; Parks, Joseph H. *John Bell Of Tennessee*. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1950.

Foster, Thomas Flournoy, (1790–1848)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 23rd Congress (2nd Session).



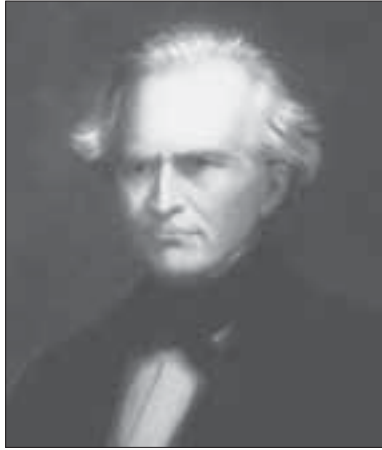
Peach Blossoms

Library of Congress

FOSTER, Thomas Flournoy, 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 1822–1825; elected as a Jacksonian candidate to the Twenty-first, Twenty-second, and Twenty-third Congresses (March 4, 1829–March 3, 1835); chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Twenty-third Congress); 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 as a Whig to the Twenty-seventh Congress (March 4, 1841–March 3, 1843); died in Columbus, Ga., September 14, 1848; interment in Linwood Cemetery.

Beardsley, Samuel, (1790–1860)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 24th Congress (1st Session).



Portrait of Samuel Beardsley

*The Historical Society of the Courts of the State of New York
Website Library Collection, New York, New York*

BEARDSLEY, Samuel, 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 Sackets 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 1823–1830; elected as a Jacksonian to the Twenty-second, Twenty-third, and Twenty-fourth Congresses and served from March 4, 1831, to March 29, 1836, when he resigned; chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Twenty-fourth Congress); appointed circuit judge in 1836; attorney general of the State of New York 1836–1838; elected as a Democrat 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 New York Supreme Court 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.

Thomas, Francis, (1799–1876)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 24th (2nd Session), and 25th Congresses.

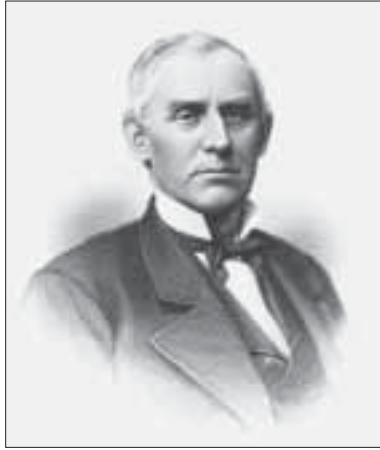


Library of Congress

THOMAS, Francis, 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 Maryland state house of delegates in 1822, 1827, and 1829, and served the last year as speaker; elected as a Jacksonian to the Twenty-second through Twenty-fourth Congresses and as a Democrat to the Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth Congresses (March 4, 1831–March 3, 1841); chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Congresses), Committee on Naval Affairs (Twenty-sixth Congress); president of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal Co. in 1839 and 1840; Governor of Maryland 1841–1844; was an unsuccessful candidate for reelection as Governor in 1844; member of the Maryland State Constitutional convention in 1850; elected as a Unionist to the Thirty-seventh Congress, as an Unconditional Unionist to the Thirty-eighth and Thirty-ninth Congresses, and as a Republican to the Fortieth Congress (March 4, 1861–March 3, 1869); served as a delegate to the Loyalist Convention at Philadelphia in 1866; collector of internal revenue 1870–1872; 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; was 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.

Barnard, Daniel Dewey, (1797–1861)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 27th Congress.



Library of Congress

BARNARD, Daniel Dewey, 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 as an Adams 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; moved to Albany, N.Y., in 1832 and continued the practice of law; 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); chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Twenty-seventh Congress); was not a candidate for reelection in 1844; appointed Minister to Prussia and served from September 3, 1850, to September 21, 1853; retired from active business pursuits in 1853 and engaged in literary pursuits; died in Albany, N.Y., April 24, 1861; interment in Albany Rural Cemetery.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Penney, Sherry. *Patrician in Politics: Daniel Dewey Barnard of New York*. Port Washington, N.Y.: Kennikat Press, 1974.

Wilkins, William, (1779–1865)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 28th Congress (1st Session).



Library of Congress

WILKINS, William, a Senator and a Representative from Pennsylvania; born in Carlisle, Pa., December 20, 1779; attended Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa.; studied law; admitted to the bar in 1801 and commenced practice in Pittsburgh, Pa.; assisted in organizing the Pittsburgh Manufacturing Co. in 1810; first president of the Bank of Pittsburgh; president of the common council 1816–1819; member, State house of representatives 1820; appointed judge of the fifth judicial district of Pennsylvania 1821–1824; judge of the United States District Court for western Pennsylvania 1824–1831; unsuccessful candidate for election in 1826 to the Twentieth Congress; elected as a Democrat to the Twenty-first Congress, but resigned before qualifying; elected as a Jacksonian to the United States Senate and served from March 4, 1831, to June 30, 1834, when he resigned; chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Twenty-second Congress), Committee on Foreign Relations (Twenty-third Congress); appointed United States Minister to Russia 1834–1835; unsuccessful candidate for election to the Twenty-seventh Congress in 1840; elected as a Democrat to the Twenty-eighth Congress and served from March 4, 1843, to February 14, 1844, when he resigned; chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Twenty-eighth Congress); appointed Secretary of War by President John Tyler 1844–1845; member, State senate 1855–1857; major general of the Pennsylvania Home Guards in 1862; died in 'Homewood,' near Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Pa., June 23, 1865; interment in Homewood Cemetery, Wilksburg, Pa., a town named for him.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Dictionary of American Biography; Slick, Sewell E. "William Wilkins: Pittsburgher Extraordinary." *Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine* 22 (December 1939): 217–36.

Saunders, Romulus Mitchell, (1791–1867)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 28th Congress (2nd Session).



*Collections of Caswell County Historical Society
Caswell, North Carolina*

SAUNDERS, Romulus Mitchell, 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, 1809–1811; 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, and 1819, and served two years as speaker; trustee of the University of North Carolina 1819–1864; moved to Raleigh, N.C., in 1823; elected as a Republican to the Seventeenth Congress; reelected to the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Congresses (March 4, 1821–March 3, 1827); declined to be a candidate for reelection; attorney general of the State 1828–1831; judge of the superior court 1835–1840; unsuccessful candidate for Governor of North Carolina in 1840; elected as a Democrat to the Twenty-seventh and Twenty-eighth Congresses (March 4, 1841–March 3, 1845); chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Twenty-eighth Congress); unsuccessful candidate for reelection; unsuccessful candidate for the United States Senate in 1842 and 1852; Minister to Spain 1846–1849; again a member of the State house of commons 1850–1852; judge of the superior court of North Carolina 1852–1856; member of the board of commissioners to revise the laws of North Carolina; died in Raleigh, N.C., April 21, 1867; interment in Old City Cemetery.

Rathbun, George Oscar, (1803–1870)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 29th Congress.



Collection of the Cayuga County Supreme Court Library, Auburn, New York

RATHBUN, George Oscar, 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); chairman, Committee on Revolutionary Pensions (Twenty-eighth Congress), Committee on the Judiciary (Twenty-ninth Congress); resumed the practice of his profession; died in Auburn, Cayuga County, N.Y., January 5, 1870; interment in Fort Hill Cemetery.

Ingersoll, Joseph Reed, (1786–1868)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 30th Congress.



Chestnut Street below 11th,
south side, Philadelphia

Library of Congress

INGERSOLL, Joseph Reed, (son of Jared Ingersoll and brother of Charles Jared Ingersoll), a Representative from Pennsylvania; 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 an Anti-Jacksonian candidate 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 as a Whig to the Twenty-seventh Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of John Sergeant; reelected as a Whig to the Twenty-eighth, Twenty-ninth, and Thirtieth Congresses and served from October 12, 1841, to March 3, 1849; chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Thirtieth Congress); 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; died in Philadelphia, Pa., February 20, 1868; interment in St. Peter's Protestant Episcopal Churchyard.

Thompson, James, (1806–1874)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 31st Congress.



*Collection of the Nantucket Historical Society
Nantucket, Maine*

THOMPSON, James, 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 1832–1834 and in 1855 and served as speaker in 1834; delegate to the State constitutional convention in 1838; presiding judge of sixth judicial district court 1838–1844; elected as a Democrat to the Twenty-ninth, Thirtieth, and Thirty-first Congresses (March 4, 1845–March 3, 1851); chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Thirty-second Congress); was not a candidate for renomination in 1850; resumed the practice of his profession; 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.

McLanahan, James Xavier, (1809–1861)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 32nd Congress.



Buildings at Dickinson College

Library of Congress

McLANAHAN, James Xavier, (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 1842–1844; elected as a Democrat to the Thirty-first and Thirty-second Congresses (March 4, 1849–March 3, 1853); chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Thirty-second Congress); was not a candidate for renomination in 1852; resumed the practice of law; died in New York City December 16, 1861; interment in First Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

Stanton, Frederick Perry, (1814–1894)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 33rd Congress.



*Collection of the Kansas State Archives
Topeka, Kansas*

STANTON, Frederick Perry, 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); chairman, Committee on Naval Affairs (Thirty-first and Thirty-second Congresses), Committee on the Judiciary (Thirty-third Congress); Governor of Kansas Territory 1858–1861; 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.

Simmons, George Abel, (1791–1857)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 34th Congress.



Dartmouth College,
Hanover, New Hampshire

Library of Congress

SIMMONS, George Abel, 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 1840–1842; 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); chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Thirty-fourth Congress); was not a candidate for reelection in 1856; resumed the practice of his profession in Keeseville, N.Y., where he died October 27, 1857; interment in Evergreen Cemetery.

Houston, George Smith, (1811–1879)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 35th Congress.



Senate Years of Service: 1879–1879

Library of Congress

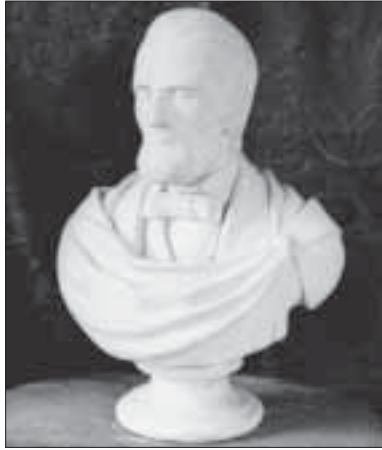
HOUSTON, George Smith, a Representative and a Senator from Alabama; born near Franklin, Williamson County, Tenn., January 17, 1811; moved with his parents to Lauderdale County, Ala., and attended an academy there; studied law in Florence, Ala., and Harrodsburg, Ky.; admitted to the bar in 1831; commenced practice in Florence, Ala.; member, State house of representatives 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 and to the three succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1841–March 3, 1849); declined to be a candidate for renomination in 1848; elected to the Thirty-second and to the four succeeding Congresses and served from March 4, 1851, until January 21, 1861, when he withdrew; chairman, Committee on Ways and Means (Thirty-second and Thirty-third Congresses), Committee on the Judiciary (Thirty-fifth Congress); 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; Governor of Alabama 1874–1878; elected to the United States Senate and served from March 4, 1879, until his death in Athens, Ala., December 31, 1879; interment in Athens City Cemetery.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

American National Biography; Dictionary of American Biography; Draughon, Ralph. "George Smith Houston and Southern Unity, 1846–1849." *Alabama Review* 19 (July 1966): 187-207; U.S. Congress. *Memorial Addresses*. 46th Cong., 2nd sess., 1879–1880. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1880.

Hickman, John, (1810–1875)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 36th and 37th Congresses.



*Collection of the Chester County Historical Society
West Chester, Pennsylvania*

HICKMAN, John, 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 an Anti-Lecompton Democrat to the Thirty-sixth Congress, and as a Republican to the Thirty-seventh Congress (March 4, 1855–March 3, 1863); chairman, Committee on Revolutionary Pensions (Thirty-fifth Congress), Committee on the Judiciary (Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh Congresses); 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 Oaklands Cemetery, near West Chester, Pa.

Wilson, James Falconer, (1828–1895)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 38th, 39th, and 40th Congresses.



Senate Years of Service: 1883–1895

Library of Congress

WILSON, James Falconer, 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; studied law; admitted to the bar in 1851 and practiced in Newark, Ohio, 1851–1853; moved to Fairfield, Jefferson County, Iowa, in 1853 and resumed the practice of law; member of the constitutional convention of Iowa in 1857; member, State house of representatives 1857, 1859; member, State senate 1859–1861, and was its president in 1861; elected as a Republican to the Thirty-seventh Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Samuel R. Curtis; reelected to the Thirty-eighth, Thirty-ninth, and Fortieth Congresses and served from October 8, 1861, to March 3, 1869; was not a candidate for renomination in 1868; chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Thirty-eighth through Fortieth Congresses); one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1868 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against President Andrew Johnson; was tendered the position of Secretary of State in the Cabinet of President Ulysses Grant but declined; subsequently appointed by President Grant as government director of the Union Pacific Railroad and served eight years; unsuccessful candidate for the Republican nomination for United States Senator in 1872; elected as a Republican to the United States Senate in 1882; reelected in 1888 and served from March 4, 1883, to March 3, 1895; was not a candidate for reelection in 1894; chairman, Committee on Mines and Mining (Forty-eighth Congress), Committee on Expenditures of Public Money (Forty-eighth Congress), Committee on Revision of the Laws of the United States (Forty-ninth through Fifty-second Congresses), Committee on Education and Labor (Fifty-second Congress); died in Fairfield, Iowa, April 22, 1895; interment in Fairfield-Evergreen Cemetery.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

American National Biography; Dictionary of American Biography; Schlup, Leonard. "Republican Loyalist: James F. Wilson and Party Politics, 1855–1895." *The Annals of Iowa* 52 (Spring 1993): 123-149.

Bingham , John Armor, (1815–1900)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 41st and 42nd Congresses.



Library of Congress

BINGHAM, John Armor, a Representative from Ohio; born in Mercer, Mercer County, Pa., January 21, 1815; pursued academic studies; apprentice in a printing office for two 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, 1846–1849; elected as an Opposition Party candidate to the Thirty-fourth Congress and as a Republican to the Thirty-fifth and Thirty-sixth Congresses (March 4, 1855–March 3, 1863); unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1862 to the Thirty-eighth Congress; appointed by President Lincoln as 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 and to the three succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1865–March 3, 1873); chairman, Committee on Claims (Fortieth Congress), Committee on the Judiciary (Forty-first and Forty-second Congresses); 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 in 1868 in the proceedings against Andrew Johnson; 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 Cadiz Cemetery.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Beauregard, Erving E. *Bingham of the Hills: Politician and Diplomat Extraordinary*. New York: Peter Lang, 1989.

Butler, Benjamin Franklin, (1818–1893)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 43rd Congress.



Library of Congress

BUTLER, Benjamin Franklin, (grandfather of Butler Ames and father-in-law of Adelbert 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 College), 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 Fortieth and to the three succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1867–March 3, 1875); chairman, Committee on Revision of the Laws (Forty-second Congress), Committee on the Judiciary (Forty-third Congress); 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 a 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.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Butler, Benjamin F. *Autobiography and Personal Reminiscences*. Boston: A. M. Thayer, 1892; Nash, Howard P. Stormy Petrel: *The Life and Times of Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, 1818–1893*. 1969. Reprint, Rutherford, N.J.: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 1975; Trefousse, Hans L. *Ben Butler: The South Called Him Beast!* 1957. Reprint, New York: Octagon Books, 1974.

Knott, James Proctor, (1830–1911)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 44th, 45th and 46th Congresses.



Library of Congress

KNOTT, James Proctor, a Representative from Kentucky; born in Raywick, near Lebanon, Marion County, Ky., on 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); chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Forty-fourth through Forty-sixth Congresses); 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 1883–1887; delegate to the State constitutional convention in 1891; professor of civics and economics, Centre College, Danville, Ky., 1892–1894, and dean of its law school 1894–1901; died in Lebanon, Ky., June 18, 1911; interment in Ryder Cemetery.

Reed, Thomas Brackett, (1839–1902)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 47th Congress.



*Painting by John Singer Sargent, 1891,
Collection of the U. S. House of Representatives*

REED, Thomas Brackett, a Representative from Maine; born in Portland, Cumberland County, Maine, October 18, 1839; attended the public schools; 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 in 1868 and 1869; served in the State senate in 1870; attorney general of Maine 1870–1872; city solicitor of Portland 1874–1877; elected as a Republican to the Forty-fifth and to the eleven succeeding Congresses and served from March 4, 1877, to September 4, 1899, when he resigned; chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Forty-seventh Congress), Committee on Rules (Fifty-first, Fifty-fourth, and Fifty-fifth Congresses); Speaker of the House of Representatives (Fifty-first, Fifty-fourth, and Fifty-fifth Congresses); moved to New York City and engaged in the practice of his profession; died in Washington, D.C., on December 7, 1902; interment in Evergreen Cemetery, Portland, Maine.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Offenberg, Richard Stanley. "The Political Career of Thomas Brackett Reed." Ph.D. diss., New York University, 1963; Robinson, William A. *Thomas B. Reed: Parliamentarian*. New York: Dodd, Mead, 1930; Tuchman, Barbara. "End of a Dream." In *The Proud Tower*, pp. 134-94. New York: Bantam Books, 1966.

Tucker, John Randolph, (1823–1897)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 48th and 49th Congresses.



Library of Congress

TUCKER, John Randolph, (son of Henry St. George Tucker [1780–1848] and father of Henry St. George Tucker [1853–1932]), a Representative from Virginia; born in Winchester, Frederick County, Va., on 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.; attorney general of Virginia 1857–1865; 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); chairman, Committee on Ways and Means (Forty-sixth Congress), Committee on the Judiciary (Forty-eighth and Forty-ninth Congresses); declined to be a candidate for renomination in 1886; elected professor of constitutional law at Washington and Lee University in 1888, and served until his death; president of the American Bar Association in 1894; died in Lexington, Va., February 13, 1897; interment in Mount Hebron Cemetery, Winchester, Va.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Davis, J.W. "John Randolph Tucker: The Man and His Work." In *John Randolph Tucker Lectures*. Lexington, Va.: Washington and Lee University, 1952, 11-36.

Culberson, David Browning, (1830–1900)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 50th, 52nd and 53rd Congresses.



*Collection of the Harold B. Simpson Historical Center
Hillsboro, Texas*

CULBERSON, David Browning, (father of Charles Allen Culberson), a Representative from Texas; born in Troup County, Ga., September 29, 1830; pursued preparatory studies in Brownwood College, La Grange, 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 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 ten succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1875–March 3, 1897); chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Fiftieth, Fifty-second, and Fifty-third Congresses); 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.

Taylor, Ezra Booth, (1823–1912)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 51st Congress.



Library of Congress

TAYLOR, Ezra Booth, 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; 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 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; chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Fifty-first Congress); 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.

Henderson, David Bremner, (1840–1906)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 54th and 55th Congresses.



*Painting by Freeman Thorp, 1903,
Collection of the U.S. House of Representatives*

HENDERSON, David Bremner, a Representative from Iowa; born in Old Deer, Scotland, March 14, 1840; immigrated 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; 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 1869–1871; elected as a Republican to the Forty-eighth and to the nine succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1883–March 3, 1903); chairman, Committee on Militia (Fifty-first Congress), Committee on the Judiciary (Fifty-fourth and Fifty-fifth Congresses), Committee on Rules (Fifty-sixth and Fifty-seventh Congresses); Speaker of the House of Representatives (Fifty-sixth and Fifty-seventh Congresses); declined to be a candidate for renomination in 1902; died in Dubuque, Iowa, February 25, 1906; interment in Linwood Cemetery.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Hoing, Willard L. "David B. Henderson: Speaker of the House." *Iowa Journal of History* 55 (January 1957): 1-34.

Ray, George Washington, (1844–1925)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 56th and 57th Congresses.



*Collection of the Chenango County Historical Society New York
Norwich, New York*

RAY, George Washington, 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, Ninetieth 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; chairman, Committee on Levees and Improvements of the Mississippi River (Fifty-fourth Congress), Committee on Invalid Pensions (Fifty-fifth Congress), Committee on the Judiciary (Fifty-sixth and Fifty-seventh Congresses); resigned from Congress 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.

Jenkins, John James, (1843–1911)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 58th, 59th, and 60th Congresses.



*Collection of the Wisconsin Historical Society
Madison, Wisconsin*

JENKINS, John James, a Representative from Wisconsin; born in Weymouth, England, August 24, 1843; attended the common schools; immigrated 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, 1861–1865; clerk of the circuit court of Sauk County 1867–1870; 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 1872–1876; 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); chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Fifty-eighth through Sixtieth Congresses); unsuccessful candidate for renomination in 1908; appointed judge of Puerto Rico by President Taft in May 1910 and served until his death in Chippewa Falls, Wis., June 8, 1911; interment in Forest Hill Cemetery.

Parker, Richard Wayne, (1848–1923)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 61st Congress.



Library of Congress

PARKER, Richard Wayne, (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); chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Sixty-first Congress); 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 in 1916; 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, on November 28, 1923; interment in St. Peter's Churchyard, Perth Amboy, N.J.

Clayton, Henry De Lamar, (1857–1929)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 62nd and 63rd Congresses.



Library of Congress

CLAYTON, Henry De Lamar, (brother of Bertram Tracy Clayton), a Representative from Alabama; born near Clayton, Barbour County, Ala., February 10, 1857; attended the common schools; was graduated from the literary department of the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa in 1877 and from its law department in 1878; was admitted to the bar in the latter year and commenced practice in Clayton, Ala.; moved to Eufaula, Ala., in 1880 and continued the practice of law; member of the State house of representatives in 1890 and 1891; United States district attorney for the middle district of Alabama 1893–1896; permanent chairman of the Democratic National Convention 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 and moved to Montgomery, Ala., to accept a commission as United States judge for the middle and northern district of Alabama, in which capacity he served until his death; chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Sixty-second and Sixty-third Congresses); sponsor of the Clayton anti-trust act of 1914; 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; appointed to the U.S. Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Joseph F. Johnston, but his appointment was challenged and withdrawn; died in Montgomery, Ala., December 21, 1929; interment in Fairview Cemetery, Eufaula, Ala.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Rodabaugh, Karl. "Congressman Henry D. Clayton and the Dothan Post Office Fight: Patronage and Politics in the Progressive Era." *Alabama Review* 33 (April 1980): 125-49; Rodabaugh, Karl. "Congressman Henry D. Clayton, Patriarch in Politics: A Southern Congressman During the Progressive Era." *Alabama Review* 31 (April 1978): 110-20.

Webb, Edwin Yates, (1872–1955)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 64th and 65th Congresses.

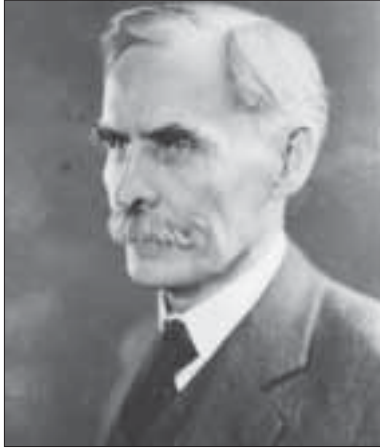


Library of Congress

WEBB, Edwin Yates, 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 (N.C.) College in June 1893; studied law at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1893 and 1894; was admitted to the bar in 1894 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 1898; appointed trustee of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Raleigh by the legislature in 1899 and served two years; chairman of the 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; chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Sixty-third through Sixty-fifth Congresses); one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1912 to conduct impeachment proceedings against Robert W. Archbald, judge of the United States Commerce Court; appointed United States district judge for the western district of North Carolina November 5, 1919, and served until his retirement March 1, 1948; died while visiting in Wilmington, N.C., February 7, 1955; interment in Sunset Cemetery, Shelby, N.C.

Volstead, Andrew John, (1860–1947)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 66th and 67th Congresses.



Library of Congress

VOLSTEAD, Andrew John, 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 1900–1902; elected as a Republican to the Fifty-eighth and to the nine succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1903–March 3, 1923); chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Sixty-sixth and Sixty-seventh Congresses); introduced the National Prohibition Act, passed in October 1919; unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1922 to the Sixty-eighth Congress; resumed the practice of law, and resided in Granite Falls, Minn., until his death there January 20, 1947; interment in City Cemetery.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Guth, James L. "Farmer Monopolies, Cooperatives, and the Intent of Congress: Origins of the Capper-Volstead Act." *Agricultural History* 56 (January 1982): 67-82.

Graham, George Scott, (1850–1931)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 68th, 69th, 70th and 71st Congresses.



Collection of the U.S. House of Representatives

GRAHAM, George Scott, a Representative from Pennsylvania; born in Philadelphia, Pa., September 13, 1850; attended the public schools, and was privately tutored; was graduated from the law department of the University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia in 1870; was admitted to the bar in 1871 and commenced practice in Philadelphia; member of the select council of Philadelphia 1877–1880; unsuccessful candidate for district attorney of Philadelphia County in 1877; district attorney of Philadelphia County 1880–1899; 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 1887–1898; delegate to the Republican National Conventions in 1892 and 1924; elected as a Republican to the Sixty-third and to the nine succeeding Congresses and served from March 4, 1913, until his death at his summer home in Islip, N.Y., July 4, 1931; chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Sixty-eighth through Seventy-first Congresses); interment in Woodlawn Cemetery, New York City.

Sumners, Hatton William, (1875–1962)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, and 79th Congresses.



Library of Congress

SUMNERS, Hatton William, a Representative from Texas; born near Fayetteville, Lincoln County, Tenn., May 30, 1875; moved to Garland, 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 attorney's association of Texas in 1906 and 1907; elected as a Democrat to the Sixty-third and to the sixteen succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1913–January 3, 1947); 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; one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1933 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against Harold Louderback, judge of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California; one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1936 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against Halsted L. Ritter, judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida; chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Seventy-second through Seventy-ninth Congresses); was not a candidate for renomination in 1946; retired from public activities; was a resident of Dallas, Tex., until his death there April 19, 1962; interment in Knights of Pythias Cemetery, Garland, Tex.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Champagne, Anthony. "Hatton Sumners and the 1937 Court-Packing Plan." *East Texas Historical Journal* 26 (Spring 1988): 46-49.

Michener, Earl Cory, (1876–1957)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 80th Congress.



*Collection of the Adrian Public Library
Adrian, Michigan*

MICHENER, Earl Cory, 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, from April 26, 1898, to May 17, 1899; studied law at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in 1901 and 1902 and was graduated from the law department of Columbian University (now George Washington University) Washington, D.C., in 1903; was admitted to the bar the same year and commenced practice in Adrian, Mich.; assistant prosecuting attorney for Lenawee County, Mich., 1907–1910; prosecuting attorney 1911–1914; elected as a Republican to the Sixty-sixth and to the six succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1919–March 3, 1933); 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; unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1932 to the Seventy-third Congress; elected to the Seventy-fourth and to the seven succeeding Congresses (January 3, 1935–January 3, 1951); chairman, Committee on Judiciary (Eightieth Congress); was not a candidate for renomination in 1950; maintained law offices in Adrian, Mich., until his death there July 4, 1957; interment in Oakwood Cemetery.

Reed, Chauncey William, (1890–1956)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 83rd Congress.



*Collection of the West Chicago City Museum
West Chicago, Illinois*

REED, Chauncey William, a Representative from Illinois; born in West Chicago, Du Page County, Ill., June 2, 1890; attended the public schools and Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.; city treasurer of West Chicago, Ill., in 1913 and 1914; was graduated from the Webster College of Law, Chicago, Ill., in 1915; was admitted to the bar the same year and commenced practice in Naperville, Ill.; during the First World War served as a sergeant of Infantry, Eighty-sixth Division; resumed practice of law at Naperville, Ill.; served as State's attorney of Du Page County 1920–1935; chairman of Du Page County Republican central committee 1926–1934; elected as a Republican to the Seventy-fourth and to the ten succeeding Congresses, and served from January 3, 1935, until his death in Bethesda, Md., February 9, 1956; chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Eighty-third Congress); interment in Glen Oak Cemetery, West Chicago, Ill.

Celler, Emanuel, (1888–1981)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 81st, 82nd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, and 92nd Congresses.



Collection of the U.S. House of Representatives

CELLER, Emanuel, a Representative from New York; born in Brooklyn, N.Y., May 6, 1888; attended the public schools; was graduated from Columbia College, New York City, in 1910, and from Columbia University Law School, New York City, in 1912; was admitted to the bar in 1912 and commenced practice in New York City; Government appeal agent on the draft board during the First World War; delegate to the Democratic State conventions from 1922 until 1932; delegate and member of Platform Committee of Democratic National Conventions from 1942 through 1964; elected as a Democrat to the Sixty-eighth and to the twenty-four succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1923–January 3, 1973); chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Eighty-first, Eighty-second, and Eighty-fourth through Ninety-second Congresses), Special Committee on Seating of Adam Clayton Powell (Ninetieth Congress); unsuccessful candidate for renomination in 1972 to the Ninety-third Congress; member of the Commission on Revision of the Federal Appellate Court System, 1973–1975; resumed the practice of law; resided in Brooklyn, N.Y. where he died January 15, 1981; interment in Mount Neboh Cemetery, Cypress Hills, N.Y.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Celler, Emanuel. *You Never Leave Brooklyn: The Autobiography of Emanuel Celler*. New York: John Day Co., 1953.

Rodino, Peter Wallace, Jr., (1909–2005)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th and 100th Congresses.



Collection of the U.S. House of Representatives

RODINO, Peter Wallace, Jr., a Representative from New Jersey; born in Newark, Essex County, N.J., June 7, 1909; attended the McKinley Grammar School and Barringer High School; graduated from the University of Newark and from the New Jersey Law School in 1937; was admitted to the bar in 1938; lawyer, private practice; teacher, public speaking and citizenship classes, Y.M.C.A. and Federation of Clubs, Newark, N.J., 1930–1932; managing editor of the *Jersey Review* in 1934 and 1935; United States Army, 1941–1946; served with the First Armored Division in North Africa and Italy and on military missions with the Italian Army; awarded Bronze Star for military operations, War Cross, and Knight of Order of Crown from Italy; unsuccessful candidate in 1946 to the Eightieth Congress; elected as a Democrat to the Eighty-first and to the nineteen succeeding Congresses (January 3, 1949–January 3, 1989); one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1986 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against Harry E. Claiborne, judge of the United States District Court for Nevada; one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1988 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against Alcee Lamar Hastings, judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida; chairman, Committee on the Judiciary (Ninety-third through One Hundredth Congresses); was not a candidate for renomination in 1988 to the One Hundred First Congress; professor, Seton Hall University Law School, Newark, N.J., 1989 to 2005; died on May 7, 2005, in West Orange, N.J.; interment in Gate of Heaven Cemetery, East Hanover, Morris County, N.J.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Fields, Howard. *High Crimes and Misdemeanors: The Dramatic Story of the Rodino Committee*. New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 1978.

Brooks, Jack Bascom, (1922–)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 101st, 102nd and 103rd Congresses.



Collection of the U.S. House of Representatives

BROOKS, Jack Bascom, a Representative from Texas; born in Crowley, Acadia Parish, La., December 18, 1922; moved with his family to Beaumont, Tex., in 1927; attended public schools and Lamar Junior College, Beaumont, Tex., 1939–1941; B. J., University of Texas at Austin, 1943; enlisted as a private in the United States Marine Corps November 7, 1942, serving overseas twenty-three and one-half months on Guadalcanal, Guam, Okinawa, and in North China, and discharged as a first lieutenant April 23, 1946; colonel in the United States Marine Corps Reserve, 1946–1972; member of State house of representatives 1946–1950; graduated from the law school of the University of Texas in 1949; was admitted to the bar the same year and commenced the practice of law in Beaumont, Tex.; owns and operates a farm; elected as a Democrat to the Eighty-third and to the twenty succeeding Congresses (January 3, 1953–January 3, 1995); one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1988 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against Alcee Lamar Hastings, judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida; one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1989 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against Walter L. Nixon, judge of the United States District Court for the District Court of Mississippi; unsuccessful candidate for reelection to the One Hundred Fourth Congress; chairman, Joint Committee on Congressional Operations (Ninety-second and Ninety-fourth Congresses), Committee on Government Operations (Ninety-fourth through One Hundredth Congresses), Committee on the Judiciary (One Hundred First through One Hundred Third Congresses).

Hyde, Henry John, (1924–)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 104th, 105th and 106th Congresses.



Collection of the U.S. House of Representatives

HYDE, Henry John, a Representative from Illinois; born in Chicago, Cook County, Ill., April 18, 1924; B.S., Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., 1947; J.D., Loyola University Law School, Chicago, Ill., 1949; lawyer; private practice; United States Navy, 1944–1946; United States Naval Reserve, 1946–1968; member of the Illinois state house of representatives, 1967–1974, majority leader, 1971–1972; delegate, Illinois state Republican conventions, 1958–1974; elected as a Republican to the Ninety-fourth and to the fifteen succeeding Congresses (January 3, 1975–present); one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1986 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against Harry E. Claiborne, judge of the United States District Court for Nevada; one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1998 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against President William J. Clinton; chair, Committee on the Judiciary (One Hundred Fourth through One Hundred Sixth Congresses); chair, Committee on International Relations (One Hundred Seventh through One Hundred Ninth Congresses).

Sensenbrenner, Frank James, Jr., (1943–)

Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, 107th, 108th, and 109th Congresses.



Collection of the U.S. House of Representatives

SENSENBRENNER, Frank James, Jr., a Representative from Wisconsin; born in Chicago, Cook County, Ill., June 14, 1943; graduated from Milwaukee Country Day School, 1961; A.B., Stanford University, Stanford, Calif., 1965; J.D., University of Wisconsin Law School, Madison, Wis., 1968; staff assistant to United States Representative J. Arthur Younger of California, 1965; lawyer, private practice; member of the Wisconsin state assembly, 1969–1975; member of the Wisconsin state senate, 1975–1979, assistant minority leader, 1977–1979; delegate, Wisconsin state Republican conventions, 1965–2003; elected as a Republican to the Ninety-sixth and to the fourteen succeeding Congresses (January 3, 1979–present); one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1989 to conduct the impeachment proceedings against Walter L. Nixon, judge of the United States District Court for the District of Mississippi; one of the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in 1998 to conduct the impeachment proceedings of President William Jefferson Clinton; chair, Committee on Science (One Hundred Fifth and One Hundred Sixth Congresses); chair, Committee on the Judiciary (One Hundred Seventh through One Hundred Ninth Congresses).

Photos of the Chairmen



Governor Dolph Briscoe, Retired House Minority Leader Sam Rayburn, and Congressman Jack Brooks with their catch in the mid 1970s.

Courtesy of the Center for American History, University of Texas, Dolph Briscoe Papers



House-Senate Conference on the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984 on September 11, 1984. Pictured left to right are Judiciary Committee conferees Chairman Peter W. Rodino, Jr., Ranking Minority Member Hamilton Fish, Reps. Daniel E. Lungren, and Carlos J. Moorhead.

Courtesy of the Office of the Historian, U.S. House of Representatives



Committee on the Judiciary Organization meeting on January 5, 1995. Chairman Henry J. Hyde and Ranking Minority Member John Conyers, Jr.

Courtesy of the Office of the Historian, U.S. House of Representatives

Press Conference on July 26, 2005. Chairman F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr., at the podium, John Walsh, America's Most Wanted, and Robbie Calloway, Boys and Girls Clubs of America to address the Child Safety Act.

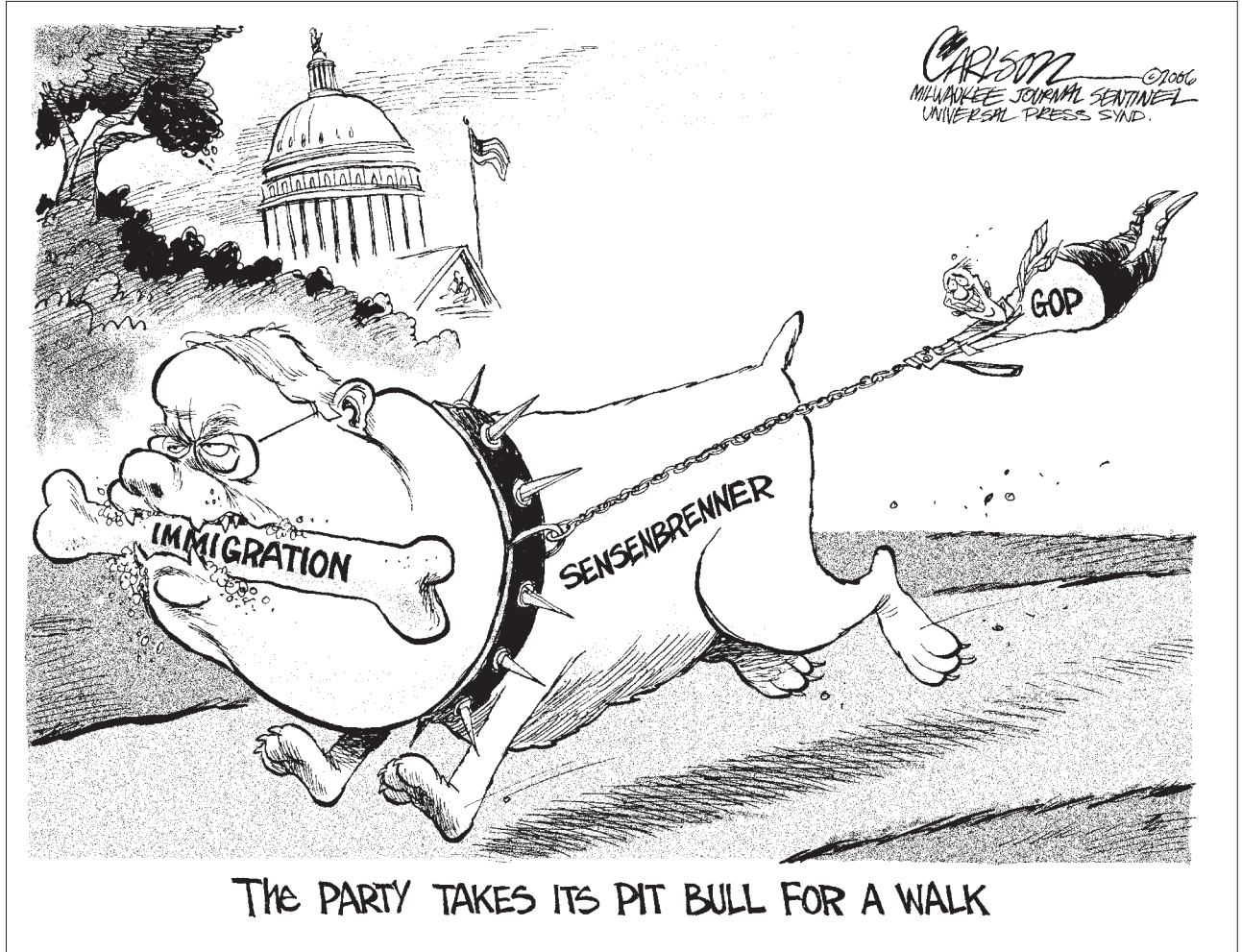
Courtesy of the Committee on the Judiciary, U.S. House of Representatives



Full Judiciary Committee markup on the Voting Rights Act on May 10, 2006.

Pictured from left to right top row Philip G. Kiko, General Counsel, Committee on the Judiciary, Chairman F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr., Ranking Minority Member John Conyers, Jr.; bottom row Rep. Mark Green.

Courtesy of the Photography Office, U.S. House of Representatives



Stuart Carlson, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.
2006, Universal Press Synd.