

1774-1927

SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Biographies

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AIKEN, David Wyatt (father of Wyatt Aiken and cousin of William Aiken), a Representative from South Carolina; born in Winnsboro, Fairfield County, S. C., March 17, 1828; received his early education under private tutors; attended Mount Zion Institute, Winnsboro, and was graduated from South Carolina University, at Columbia, in 1849; taught school two years; engaged in agricultural pursuits in 1852; during the Civil War served in the Confederate Army as a private; appointed adjutant of the Seventh Regiment of Volunteers and later elected colonel; relieved from service by reason of wounds received on September 17, 1862, at Antietam; member of the State house of representatives 1864-1868; delegate to the Democratic National Convention at St. Louis in 1876; elected as a Democrat to the Forty-fifth and to the four succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1877-March 3, 1887); was not a candidate for renomination in 1886, being an invalid throughout his last term; died in Cokesbury, S. C., April 6, 1887; interment in Magnolia Cemetery, Greenwood, S. C.

AIKEN, William (cousin of David Wyatt Aiken), a Representative from South Carolina; born in Charleston, S. C., August 4, 1806; attended private schools, and was graduated from the College of South Carolina (now the University of South Carolina) at Columbia in 1826; engaged in agricultural pursuits; member of the State house of representatives 1833-1842; served in the State senate 1842-1844; Governor of South Carolina 1844-1846; elected as a Democrat to the Thirty-second, Thirty-third, and Thirty-fourth Congresses (March 4, 1851-March 3, 1857); unsuccessful candidate for Speaker of the House after 133 ballots in the latter Congress; was not a candidate for renomination in 1856; presented credentials as a Member elect to the Thirty-ninth Congress February 12, 1867, but was not permitted to qualify; resumed his former pursuits near Charleston, S. C.; died at Flat Rock, Henderson County, N. C., September 7, 1887; interment in Magnolia Cemetery, Charleston, S. C.

AIKEN, Wyatt (son of David Wyatt Aiken), a Representative from South Carolina; born near Macon, Ga., December 14, 1863; reared in Cokesbury, Abbeville (now Greenwood) County, S. C.; attended the public schools of Cokesbury and Washington, D. C.; official court reporter for the second South Carolina judicial circuit, and later in the eighth circuit; served as a member of Company A, First South Carolina Regiment of Infantry, during the war with Spain, having volunteered as a private; later appointed battalion adjutant by Governor Ellerbe, and acted as regimental quartermaster during the greater portion of the service; was mustered out in Columbia, S. C., November 10, 1898; delegate to several State conventions; elected as a Democrat to the Fifty-eighth and to the six succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1903-March 3, 1917); unsuccessful candidate for renomination in 1916 and again in 1918; discontinued active pursuits and lived in retirement until his death in Abbeville, S. C., February 6, 1923; interment in Melrose Cemetery.

AINEY, William David Blakeslee, a Representative from Pennsylvania; born in New Milford, Pa., April 8, 1864; attended the public schools, the State Normal School at Mansfield, and Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pa., in 1887; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1887, and commenced practice in Montrose, Pa.; district attorney for Susquehanna County 1890-1896; organized Company G of the Pennsylvania National Guard and was chosen captain 1899-1894; elected as a Republican to the Sixty-second Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the death of George W. Kipp; reelected to the Sixty-third Congress, and served from November 7, 1911, to March 3, 1915;

was not a candidate for reelection in 1914 to the Sixty-fourth Congress; delegate to the International Parliamentary Union for International Peace held in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1912, and The Hague in 1913; secretary and president of the Japanese-American group of interparliamentarians and delegate to Tokyo, Japan, in 1914, and the same year to Stockholm, Sweden; appointed a member of the Public Service Commission of Pennsylvania May 20, 1915, and on August 20, 1915, was elected chairman; reappointed for a ten-year term as member and chairman on July 1, 1917, and again on July 1, 1927; appointed chairman of the Pennsylvania Fuel Commission in August, 1922; president of the National Association of Railroad and Utilities Commissioners in 1924; member of the American and State Bar Associations; is a resident of Montrose, Pa.

AINSLIE, George, a Delegate from the Territory of Idaho; born near Boonville, Cooper County, Mo., October 30, 1838; attended the common schools, and the St. Louis (Mo.) University in 1856 and 1857; was graduated from the Jesuit College at St. Louis; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1860, and commenced practice in Boonville, Mo.; moved to Colorado the same year, and in 1862 moved to that portion of the Territory of Washington that later became the Territory of Idaho; engaged in mining and also practiced law; member of the Territorial house of representatives in 1865 and 1866; edited the Idaho World from 1869 to 1873; elected district attorney of the second district in 1874 and 1876; elected as a Democrat to the Forty-sixth and Forty-seventh Congresses (March 4, 1879-March 3, 1883); unsuccessful candidate for reelection in 1882 to the Forty-eighth Congress; built the first electric street railway in Boise City, Idaho; settled in Oakland, Calif., and retired from active business pursuits; died in Oakland, Calif., May 19, 1913; the remains were cremated and the ashes deposited in the columbarium, Odd Fellows Cemetery, San Francisco, Calif.

AINSWORTH, Lucien Lester, a Representative from Iowa; born in New Woodstock, Madison County, N. Y., June 21, 1831; attended the public schools, and the Oneida Conference Seminary, Cazenovia, N. Y.; studied law, was admitted to the bar in Madison County, N. Y., in 1854; moved to Belvidere, Ill., and commenced practice in the same year; thence to Iowa in 1855, and continued the practice of law in West Union; member of the State senate 1860-1862; during the Civil War entered the Union Army in 1862 as captain of Company O, Sixth Regiment Iowa Volunteer Cavalry, and served three years against the Indians in the Northwest; after leaving the Army returned to West Union and resumed the practice of law; member of the State house of representatives 1871-1873; elected as an anti-Monopolist to the Forty-fourth Congress (March 4, 1875-March 3, 1877); declined to accept a renomination in 1876; resumed the practice of law in West Union, Fayette County, Iowa, and died there April 10, 1902; interment in West Union Cemetery.

AITKEN, David Demerest, a Representative from Michigan; born in Flint Township, Genesee County, Mich., September 5, 1853; attended the district schools and the local high school in Flint; taught in a district school of Genesee County in 1871 and 1872; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1878, and commenced practice in Flint; city clerk 1883-1889; city attorney 1889-1890; elected as a Republican to the Fifty-third and Fifty-fourth Congresses (March 4, 1893-March 3, 1897); was not a candidate for renomination in 1896; resumed the practice of law; also engaged in banking and subsequently became interested in the manufacture of automobiles; mayor of Flint in 1905 and 1908, and is a resident of Flint, Mich.