

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of **Representative** Cotton, Aylett Rains Senator _____

_____ Represented Clinton County, Iowa _____

1. Birthday and place 29 Nov 1826 Austintown, Ohio

2. Marriage (s) date place _____

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Admitted to the Clinton County Bar in 1848

B. Civic responsibilities _____

C. Profession Lawyer

4. Church membership _____

5. Sessions served 12th, 13th General Assembly 1868, 1870

6. Public Offices

A. Local Clinton County judge 1851-1853; prosecuting attorney 1854; mayor of Lyons 1855-1857

B. State Member of the Iowa State Constitutional Convention 1857; Speaker of the House 13th General Assembly 1870

C. National _____

7. Death 30 Oct 1912 San Francisco, California; buried in Woodman Cemetery, San Mateo County, California

8. Children _____

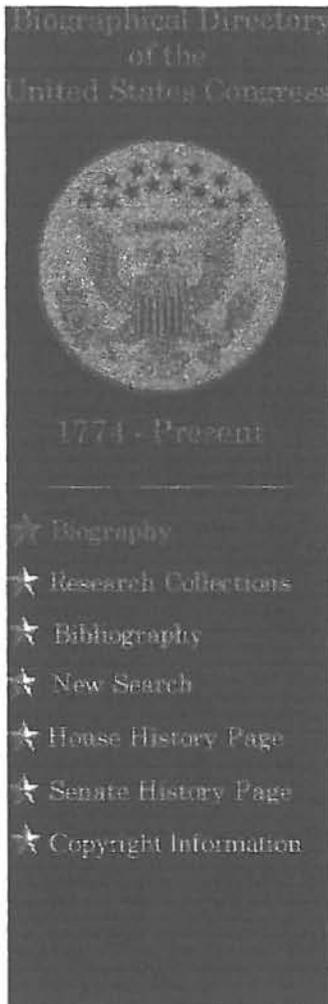
9. Names of parents _____

10. Education Educated in the local public schools in
Austin town, Ohio; attended College Hill Academy,
in Ellsworth, Ohio 1842-1843

11. Degrees Attended Allegheny College, Meadville, Pennsylvania
in 1845

12. Other applicable information Republican

- He taught school after attending the academy
- He moved to Iowa with his father settling near De Witt,
Iowa in Clinton County, Iowa in 1844
- After attending college he taught schools at Union Academy,
Haystack County, Tennessee
- In 1845-1847 he returned to Iowa where he studied law
- He went to California in 1849 and engaged in mining on the
Feather River
- He returned to Iowa in 1851 settling at Lyons in Clinton County
- He returned to California in 1853 where he practiced law in San
Francisco



COTTON, Aylett Rains, 1826-1912

COTTON, Aylett Rains, a Representative from Iowa; born in Austintown, Ohio, November 29, 1826; attended the local public schools and Cottage Hill Academy, Ellsworth, Ohio, in 1842 and 1843; taught school; moved to Iowa with his father, who settled near Dewitt, Clinton County, in 1844; attended Allegheny College, Meadville, Pa., in 1845; taught school at Union Academy, Fayette County, Tenn., 1845-1847; returned to Iowa in 1847; studied law; was admitted to the Clinton County bar in 1848 and practiced; went to California in 1849 and engaged in mining on the Feather River; returned to Iowa in 1851 and settled in Lyons; county judge of Clinton County 1851-1853; prosecuting attorney of Clinton County in 1854; mayor of Lyons 1855-1857; member of the State constitutional convention in 1857; member of the State house of representatives 1868-1870, and served as speaker during the last term; elected as a Republican to the Forty-second and Forty-third Congresses (March 4, 1871-March 3, 1875); was not a candidate for renomination in 1874; returned to California in 1883 and engaged in the practice of law in San Francisco, Calif., where he died October 30, 1912; interment in Woodlawn Cemetery, San Mateo County, Calif.