

**DEATH OF EX-GOVERNOR PRATT.** —**Ex-Governor** Thomas G. Pratt, formerly United States Senator from Maryland during a period of eight years, died at his residence, on St. Paul street, in this city, yesterday afternoon about one o'clock, after a severe illness and much suffering from disease of the heart. Governor Pratt was in the sixty-sixth year of his age. During his political life, as the recognized leader of the old whig party in the State, he received the highest honors within the gift of the people of Maryland, and in return rendered the most signal service, at a time of great depression, by the inauguration of a financial policy which re-established the State credit.

Governor Pratt was a native of Washington, D. C.; he was educated at Georgetown College, and studied law and commenced its practice at Upper Marlboro', the county seat of Prince George's; he was several times elected to the House of Delegates of Maryland, and in September, 1836, was chosen a member of the State electoral college to elect a Senate under the old State constitution. Afterwards, when the State Senate was elected by the people, by a change in the constitution at the sessions of 1836 and 1837, giving to each county a Senator, Mr. Pratt was elected State Senator from Prince George's, to serve for six years.

In 1844, after an exciting contest between himself and Mr. James Carroll, Mr. Pratt was elected Governor of this State for the term of three years. At the session of the Legislature of 1849, Mr. Reverdy Johnson having been appointed a member of General Taylor's cabinet and having resigned his seat in the Senate of the United States, Governor Pratt was elected United States Senator as well for the succeeding as for Mr. Johnson's unexpired term. When he entered upon the duties of Governor, in January, 1845, the credit of the State was entirely prostrated and its faith in a most critical condition, and its bonds selling in the market as low as thirty-seven dollars. Governor Pratt prepared and suggested to the Legislature a system of taxation in aid of the revenue for the payment of the State debt which was adopted, and confidence in its faith and honor, at home and abroad, was immediately restored. The accruing interest on the State debt was promptly and punctually paid at the several times specified for its payment, the bonds of the State rapidly appreciated, and at the end of his gubernatorial term they were at par, or nearly so.

In the Senate of the United States ex-Governor Pratt proved himself a ready debater and was an influential member. All the time referred to he sided politically with the old whig party. He was an intimate personal and warm political friend of Henry Clay, but after the election of Mr. Buchanan, in 1856, and in the subsequent political changes that took place in the country, Mr. Pratt, became identified intimately with the democratic conservative party. After his gubernatorial term he continued to reside in Annapolis until the last four or five years, when he removed to this city and took up his residence, resuming the practice of the law. Gov. Pratt leaves a widow and several children.