

BLANCHE K. BRUCE**(1841-1898)**

Born a slave in Prince Edward County, Va., March 1, 1841; tutored by his master's son. At the outbreak of the war he went to Missouri where he taught school in Hannibal. He later attended Oberlin College and at the close of the war he moved to Mississippi, became the Sheriff of Bolivar County. He was a planter and a member of the Mississippi Levee Board.



Elected to the United States Senate in February, 1875, he served from March 4 of that year to March 3, 1881. Was delegated to several Republican National Conventions; appointed Register of the United States Treasury by President Garfield in May, 1881.

He was recorder of deeds of the District of Columbia from 1891 to 1893. In 1897 he was again appointed Register of the Treasury.

He died in Washington, March 17 1898.

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ALONZO JACOB RANSIER**(1834-1882)**

Born in Charleston, S. C., January 3, 1834; received a limited education; employed as a shipping clerk in 1850.



Member of a convention of the Friends of Equal Rights at Charleston in 1865 and was deputized to present a memorial to the Congress of the United States.

Elected a member of the State Constitutional Convention in 1868 and 1869; elected Presidential elector from his State for Ulysses S. Grant

for President and Schuyler Colfax for Vice President.

He was elected lieutenant-governor of South Carolina in 1870; president of the Southern States' convention of colored men at Columbia in 1871.

In 1872 he was elected as a Republican to the Forty-third Congress, and served from March 4, 1873, to March 3, 1875.

After his retirement from Congress, he served as United States Internal Revenue collector for the Second District of South Carolina, 1875 to 1876, after which he resigned. Died in Charleston August 17, 1882.

ROBERT BROWN ELLIOTT**(1842-1884)**

Born in Boston, Mass., August 11, 1842; attended High Hollow Academy, London, England, in 1853, and was



graduated from Eton College, England, in 1859. Studied law, was admitted to the bar and practiced in Columbia, S. C. He served as a Republican in the State House of Representatives from July 6, 1868, to October 23, 1870; assistant adjutant general of South Carolina, 1869-1871; elected as a

Republican to the Forty-second and Forty-third Congresses and served from March 4, 1871 until his resignation November 1, 1874.

Again elected a member of the State House of Representatives, 1847-1876, served as speaker; unsuccessful candidate for election as attorney-general of South Carolina in 1876.

Appointed U. S. special agent of the treasury of Charleston, S. C. in 1881 and later at New Orleans. Resigned to open his law office and practiced until his death in New Orleans August 9, 1884.

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JAMES EDWARD O'HARA**(1844-1905)**

Born in New York City February 26, 1844, pursued a course of academic training; studied



law in North Carolina and at Howard University and was admitted to the North Carolina bar in 1871. Engrossing clerk in the State Constitutional Convention of North Carolina in 1869; chairman of the board of commissioners for Halifax County, 1872-1879. Elected a member of the State Constitutional

Convention in 1875; was nominated as a Republican for the Forty-sixth Congress, but was unsuccessful.

Elected as Republican to the Forty-eighth and Forty-ninth Congresses and served from March 4, 1883 to March 3, 1887; unsuccessful candidate for re-election in 1886. Resumed the practice of law in New Bern, N. C., and died there September 11, 1905.

He was one of the few colored men who served in the first Democratic administration under President Grover Cleveland.