

Augustus Emmet Maxwell, an eminent jurist and statesman of Florida, was born at Liberton, Ga., Sept. 21, 1820. He was a son of Simon and Elizabeth (Fortson) Maxwell, also natives of Georgia, who removed to Alabama when he was two years old. He was educated in Alabama and in the University of Virginia; was admitted to the bar of Greene county, Ala., in 1843 and practiced law at Eutaw until 1845, when he removed to Tallahassee, Fla. In 1847 he was elected to the Florida legislature, and in 1849 to the state senate. He was also secretary of state and attorney-general of Florida; and in 1853 became a member of the United States congress, serving with distinction until 1857. On the secession of his state, and the organization of the Confederate congress, he was elected Confederate States senator, in which capacity he served from 1862 to 1865. In 1866 he was appointed judge of the supreme court, but owing to the complications of the reconstruction period he resigned his office. In 1877 he was appointed judge of the First judicial circuit of Florida, an office he resigned in 1885, and in 1887 he was appointed chief justice of the supreme court, serving on the bench until 1891. In 1885 he was a delegate to the constitutional convention of the state. For a half century Judge Maxwell was identified with the history of public affairs in Florida. He was married to Miss Sarah Roane Brockenbrough, at the University of Virginia, in 1843. She died in Florida in 1847, and he was again married in 1853 to Miss Julia H. Anderson of Pensacola, Fla., who died in 1886. Judge Maxwell had three children by his first wife: Lucy B., who married Everard Meade, of Va., now residing near Mt. Vernon, Va.; Elizabeth V., who married Dr. Frank C. Wilson, of Alabama, and died at Chipley, Fla., in 1893; and Simeon, a farmer in Mississippi. By his second wife he had five children, of whom three are living; Walker A., residing in Marianna, Fla.; Evelyn C., a judge of the supreme court of Florida, and residing at Tallahassee; and John E., of Pensacola. Judge Maxwell was a member of Christ's Episcopal church of Pensacola.

## Obituary for Augustus Emmet Maxwell



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