

Biographies of western delegates who attended the 1861 Virginia Secession Convention were transcribed by undergraduate students enrolled in Dr. Billy Joe Peyton's Fall 2010 "Introduction to Public History" class at West Virginia State University.

By Rob Hawkins

CHESTER DORMAN HUBBARD, of Ohio County (now in West Virginia), was born on November 25, 1814, in Hamden, Connecticut, and was the son of Dana Hubbard and Asenath Dorman Hubbard. His family moved to Wheeling (now in West Virginia) in 1819, and Hubbard grew up there. He was educated at Wesleyan University, Connecticut, and then took over his father's brick and lumber business in Wheeling. He married Sarah Pallister in 1842 and had five children by her. He was a member of the Wheeling town council, and was also a member of the House of Delegates during the session of 1852-1853. Hubbard was interested in banking and in manufacturing and was president of the Bank of Wheeling and the proprietor of a successful iron foundry.

He represented Ohio County in the Convention and was elected as a Unionist. He voted against secession on April 4 and again on April 17. Because of his participation in the Wheeling Convention, he was expelled from the Virginia Convention in June, 1861. Hubbard served as a colonel in the Union forces until 1863, when he was elected to the West Virginia Senate. He was active after the war in politics and business. He was a member of the federal House of Representatives from West Virginia from 1865 to 1869. He was also secretary of the Wheeling Iron and Nail Company, organized in 1871, and president of the Pittsburg, Wheeling and Kentucky Railroad, organized in 1874. He died in Wheeling on August 23, 1891.

Sources: BDAC, p. 1086; PMWV, pp. 258-259; Gibson L. Cranmer (ed.), *History of the Upper Ohio Valley* (Madison, Wis., 1890), I, 330 (portrait); Thomas C. Miller and Hu Maxwell, *West Virginia and Its People* (N. Y., 1913), III, 1244-1245.

