

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 Chad Story

SPICER PATRICK, of Kanawha County (now in West Virginia), was born on January 28, 1791, in Oneida County, New York, and was the son of Jacob Patrick and Sarah Spicer Patrick. He was educated at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York, and about 1816 began to practice medicine in Charleston, Kanawha County. In 1822 he married Lavinia Bream.

Dr. Patrick was a justice of the peace in Kanawha County from 1839 until 1851. He was also a member of the Virginia House of Delegates and served six terms between 1845 and 1854.

He was one of Kanawha County's two delegates to the State Convention and voted against secession on April 4 and on April 17. He was a member of the West Virginia House of Delegates during its first session (1863-1864) and was chosen as speaker. He was a member of the West Virginia Senate from 1870-1871. He died on October 20, 1884, near Charleston.

Sources: PMVW, p. 370; William S. Laidley, History of Charleston and Kanawha County, West Virginia, (Chicago 1911), p., 289, RGA, p.415.