

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 Angela Mink

SAMUEL PRICE, of Greenbrier County (now in West Virginia), was born in Fauquier County in 1805. His family moved to western Virginia and settled in what became Nicholas County, where Price grew up. He was a lawyer, and became commonwealth's attorney of Nicholas County in 1833. He married Jane Stuart in 1837.

He represented Nicholas and Fayette counties in the House of Delegates from 1834 to 1836. In 1838 Price moved to Greenbrier County and settled in Lewisburg. He was again a member of the House of Delegates as representative of Greenbrier County, from 1847 until 1852. He was also a member of the Virginia Constitutional Convention of 1850-1851.

He represented Greenbrier County in the State Convention and was a member of the Committee on Federal Relations. Price voted against secession on April 4 and again on April 17, but he subsequently signed the ordinance of secession. In 1864 he succeeded ROBERT L. MONTAGUE as lieutenant governor of Virginia, and he held that office until the end of the war.

Price returned to Greenbrier County after the war and resumed the practice of law in Lewisburg. He was a member of the West Virginia Constitutional Convention of 1872 and served as president. In 1876 he was appointed to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Senator ALLEN T. CAPERTON, and he served from August of that year until early in 1877. He died at Lewisburg on February 25, 1884.

SOURCES: *BDAC*, p. 1482; *PMWV*, pp. 316-319; *Ency. Va. Biog.*, III, 291.