

Thaddeus Laddins Betts

(4 Feb 1789 - 7 Apr 1840)

Biographical Directory of the United States Congress 1774-1989

A Senator from Connecticut; born in Norwalk, Ct., February 4, 1789; completed preparatory studies; was graduated from Yale College, New Haven, Ct., in 1807; studied law; was admitted to the bar in 1810 and commenced practice in Norwalk; member of the State house of representatives in 1815 and 1830; served in the State senate in 1831; elected Lieutenant Governor of Connecticut in 1832 and 1836; elected as a Whig to the U.S. Senate and served from March 4, 1839 until his death in Washington, D.C., April 7, 1840; interment in Union Cemetery, Norwalk, Ct.

The National Intelligencer, April 8, 1840

We mentioned in our last the illness of the two Senators from Connecticut. The first thing we heard yesterday was that one of them, the Hon. Thaddeus Betts, was no more.

The other Senator, Hon. Perry Smith, who has been ill, has sufficiently recovered to be able to attend, in part at least, to his duties in the Senate, and yesterday announced in that body the decease of his colleague.

When the annunciation of the death of Mr. Betts was made by a message from the Senate to the House of Representatives, Mr. Osborne, one of the Representatives from Connecticut, rose and delivered a brief but very appropriate eulogy on the character of his departed friend.

No business, of course, was done in either House yesterday, nor will there, we presume be any done today, in consequence of the Funeral of Mr. Betts, which is to take place from the Capitol at half past 12 o'clock.

The National Intelligencer, Thursday, April 9, 1840

The Funeral of the Hon. Thaddeus Betts, late a Senator of the United States from the State of Connecticut, took place yesterday from the Capitol, under the direction of a Committee of Arrangements consisting of Senators Davis, Crittenden, Henderson, Linn, and Pierce. The Pall bearers were Senators Clay, of Kentucky, Clayton, Dixon, Lumpkin, Preston, and Roane.

The Senator and Representatives from Connecticut attended as Mourners, followed by the two Houses, attended by their officers, and by the President of the United States, Heads of Departments, etc.--the Chaplains to Congress officiating on the occasion.