

Biographies of West Virginia statehood leaders were prepared by Marshall University Humanities Program graduate students enrolled in Dr. Billy Joe Peyton's Fall 2010 "Historical Studies" class at Marshall's South Charleston campus.

By Carolyn S. Quinlan

CHAPMAN JOHNSON STUART was born on January 8, 1820 in Bath County, Virginia. He was the Prosecuting Attorney in Doddridge County from 1852 through 1861. He was against secession and was a member of the Secession Convention. However, he was against the creation of a new state that would cut apart Virginia. As chairman of the "Proper Boundary Committee," he was influential in the present day layout of West Virginia. He was an active member on other matters at the Convention.

He was a Lieutenant Colonel in charge of organizing the Fourteenth Virginia Volunteer Infantry during the time West Virginia Statehood was being debated by Congress. He served as Fourth Circuit Judge from 1863 until January 1, 1873. He was a delegate in the West Virginia Legislature from 1875-1879.

His first marriage was to Elizabeth Lytle, together they had one daughter, Anna R., who married Dr. M. C. Daugherty of Grafton, West Virginia. His second wife was Mary Ann Stuart of Highland County, Virginia and together they had five children, two sons and three daughters. The sons were Winfield Scott, a lawyer in Doddridge County and Douglas. The daughters were, Agnes, married to George W. Farr; Elizabeth; and Theresa.

On April 20, 1888 he died in and was buried at West Union, West Virginia.

Ambler, Charles H., Frances Haney Atwood and William B. Mathews, eds. *Debates and Proceedings of the First Constitutional Convention of West Virginia, (1861-1863)*.
Huntington: Gentry Brothers. 96-97.