

JUDGE RICHARD JOHNSON (March 31, 1847-April 18, 1921)

1847: Born, Clinton, Ga., to Francis Solomon Johnson (1809-1878), planter & merchant, and Lucia Griswold (1816-1859), daughter of Samuel Griswold.

1863: Oldest brother Samuel Griswold Johnson dies of a wound received at Chancellorsville.

1864: Listed in the "1864 Census for Re-Organizing the Georgia Militia" as a sixteen-year-old student.

POSTWAR: Marries (1869) Annie E. Griswold; becomes member of the bar; is law partner for a time with Robert L. Berner (1854-1922) [Judge Johnson's fourth son, born 1885, was named Berner Robert Johnson], practicing in Macon and Clinton; is active in Georgia Democratic Party politics; farms and raises horses in Jones County.

1872-1893: Strong supporter of U. S. Congressman James Henderson Blount [of Clinton and Macon], incumbent of Georgia's Sixth District during the period.

1877-1887: Judge, County Court, Jones County [The County Courts were created in 1877, with the Georgia Senate appointing Judge Johnson as first judge.]

1888-1889: Member, Georgia House of Representatives, for Jones County

1890-1891: Member, Georgia Senate, for Jones County

1895-1896: Executive Secretary to Georgia governor William Yates Atkinson and "the governor's right-hand man" (*Macon Telegraph*, October 19, 1895).

1896-1902: Appointed first Pension Commissioner for Georgia. Serves 1896-1902.

1903-1921: Successive gubernatorial appointments to the Board of Trustees of the Georgia State Sanitarium, Milledgeville.

1907: Lawyer for Jones County in boundary dispute with Baldwin.

1913: Death of wife, Annie Griswold Johnson, July 4, 1913.

1921: Dies unexpectedly in Milledgeville, after attending meeting of the Board of Trustees. Buried in the family plot in Clinton.