


law in Yale College, and served in that capacity with great fidelity and acceptance for ten years when he resigned the office.

He was of a retiring disposition, averse to the public struggles and displays by which men generally achieve reputation, but on those occasions when his powers were called into action, he evinced signal vigor and ability. As a judge his reputation was of the highest, and his qualities of mind and disposition, while they peculiarly fitted him for the bench, also caused him to enjoy its duties far more than the active rivalries of the bar.

In his private and social life Judge Osborne was a model. A man of deep-seated affections, he loved the quiet happiness of the domestic circle beyond all other enjoyments, and in his religious character he manifested the same profound but unobtrusive earnestness and devotion. He was married, September 26, 1826, to Miss Elizabeth Huntington Dimon, of Fairfield, who died August 19, 1851. His own death occurred September 2, 1869.



JOSIAH M. CARTER.

Born in New Canaan, Conn., June 19, 1813. He was graduated at Yale College in 1836, studied law with Hon. Thomas Osborne at Fairfield, and was admitted to the Fairfield county bar in August, 1839. He commenced the practice of law in the city of New York in 1841; six years later he removed to Norwalk in this State, and formed a law partnership with Hon. Thomas B. Butler, with whom he continued until the elevation of the latter to the bench in 1855. He was a member of the General Assembly of the State in the years 1856, 1861 and 1862, and the last year was speaker of the House. He was a candidate of the Whig party for the office of lieutenant-governor in 1856. He was appointed state attorney for Fairfield county in 1862 and held the office until his death.

On two occasions he declined to be a candidate for a judgeship in the Superior Court, when it was urged upon him by his political friends then in power. He was not a brilliant man, and had no great power as a public speaker, nor had he any special tact in the management of causes; but he was careful in the preparation of his cases, both upon the law and the facts, and pertinacious in pursuing and insisting upon those points which he believed to be sound. He was a well read lawyer, of a good legal mind, well disciplined by his education and professional pur-

suits, and at the time of his death stood among the most respected and trusted of his profession.

As a man he was without reproach. He was perfectly honest, truthful and moral, of unquestioned integrity, and incapable of duplicity.

He died March 21, 1868.

WILLIAM WOLCOTT ELLSWORTH.

Born at Windsor, Conn., November 10, 1791, the third son of Oliver Ellsworth, second chief justice of the United States. He received his early education at Windsor, and was graduated at Yale College in 1810. He pursued his legal studies at Litchfield Law School, and continued them in Hartford in the office of his brother-in-law, Chief Justice Williams. He was admitted to the bar in 1813, in 1817 he entered into practice with Judge Williams, and while the latter was in Congress, conducted alone the extensive business of the firm. In 1827 he was sent to Congress by the Whigs, and there continued for five years, when he resigned at the close of the first term of the Twenty third Congress, to pursue the practice of his profession. During the whole time of his career in Congress he was on the Judiciary Committee, and in that capacity took an active part in preparing measures to carry into effect Jackson's proclamation against the nullification of South Carolina. He was one of the congressional committee to investigate the affairs of the United States Bank at Philadelphia, and to him more than anyone else is due the just extension of the law of copyright. His ablest speeches in the House were upon the judiciary, the tariff, the pension laws, and the removal of the Cherokee Indians.

He returned to his home in 1830, and soon regained his lucrative practice, but in 1838 he was persuaded, much against his own wishes, to accept the nomination of governor, and was elected by a large majority. He was continued in this office four years, during which time he was twice offered an election to the Senate of the United States, but refused steadily to be a candidate. He continued at the bar until 1847, when he was elected a judge of the Superior Court and Supreme Court of Errors. He remained on the bench until his office expired by limitation of law upon reaching the age of seventy.

He was a Puritan of the best stock. Long ago Rufus Choate spoke of him, in a speech before a legislative committee of Massachusetts, as a man of hereditary capacity, purity, learning and love of the law, and he added, "If the land of the Shermans, and Griswolds, and Daggetts,