

OSMOND WOODWARD BUCHANAN  
September 16, 1858 - March 17, 1908  
Native of Winnsboro, South Carolina  
State Attorney General. Circuit Judge of South Carolina

Osmond Woodward Buchanan, son of the late Doctor Robert Augustus Buchanan and Rebecca Woodward Buchanan, was educated at famous Mt. Zion College. In the days when the higher institutions of learning offered no legal courses, he read law under the brilliant and well-known Colonel James H. Rion in Winnsboro. He rose rapidly in his profession after being admitted to the state bar and he took great interest in public and political affairs.

Osmond Woodward Buchanan first began his legal career in Washington, D. C. in partnership with William Barbor, who later became an outstanding counsel in New York City. In a few years time, because of his wife's extreme ill health, he returned to Winnsboro and opened an office in his native town.

In 1892-94 he was Attorney General of South Carolina and before the expiration of his last term on December 4, 1894, he was elected Circuit Judge of the courts of the state and was reelected for two terms, serving in all from 1894 until 1901.

After his retirement from the bench, he resumed the practice of law as a member of the law firm of Buchanan and Hanahan located at Winnsboro, South Carolina. He is the author of "Buchanan's Annotated Code of Civil Procedure of South Carolina," published in 1888. In politics he was a Democrat; in religion, a Presbyterian. He held membership in various Masonic orders. He was probably the youngest grandmaster of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in the state.

He was of a family of men of professions, soldiers, statesmen. The life of Judge Buchanan as described in Hemphill's book, "Men of Mark," says "The career of Judge Buchanan in the law and public service of his state has been eminently in keeping with the record of both branches of his ancestry in that respect. A man of ample learning, an attractive personality, patriotic instinct, he has always met his duties as they have been imposed on him, and by so doing he has created for himself an enduring place in the affections and respect of his fellows. At the time of his death, March 17, 1908, in Augusta, Georgia, he was the most promising young man of his generation in South Carolina."

Judge Osmond Woodward Buchanan married Sophie Ann Tillman, daughter of the late Congressman George Tillman of Edgefield County, January 2, 1889. Of seven children by this union, in 1967 there are alive two: Mrs. L. W. Diamond (Margaret) of Pensacola, Florida, and William Buchanan of Westchester, Pennsylvania, their children and grandchildren.

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This picture of Judge Osmond Woodward Buchanan is  
donated to the Museum by his daughter, Mrs. L. W.  
Diamond, of 817 North 16th Avenue, Pensacola, Florida.

