

## Cornelius Springer Hamilton

(2 Jan 1821 – 21 Dec 1867)

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### *Biographical Directory of the United States Congress 1774-1989*

A Representative from Ohio; born in Gratiot, Muskingum County, Ohio, January 2, 1821; attended the common schools and Granville (Ohio) College; moved with his parents to Union County in 1839; engaged in agricultural pursuits with his father; studied law; was admitted to the bar in 1845 and commenced practice in Marysville, Ohio; land appraiser and assessor in 1845; delegate to the State constitutional convention 1850-51; editor and proprietor of the Marysville Tribune 1850-1853; member of the State senate in 1856 and 1857; appointed by President Lincoln assessor of the 8th Congressional district of Ohio in 1862 and served until 1866; elected as a Republican to the 40th Congress and served from March 4, 1867 until killed by an insane son in Marysville, Union County, Ohio, December 22, 1867; interment in Oakdale Cemetery.

*The Evening Star, December 23, 1867*

### **WASHINGTON NEWS AND GOSSIP**

#### **Terrible Tragedy**

#### **Hon. C.S. Hamilton, of Ohio, Shot Dead by His Son**

A private telegram received in this city this morning states that Hon. Cornelius S. Hamilton, Representative in Congress from the Eighth District of Ohio, was shot today by his son, whose mind was deranged. Mr. Hamilton left for his home a few days before the recess for the purpose of making arrangements to have his son conveyed to an insane asylum. No particulars of the melancholy event have been received up to the time of our going to press. Mr. Hamilton, was a native of Delaware county, Ohio, and was elected to the 40th Congress in place of James R. Hubbell. He was a member of the Committee on Invalid Pensions, and also of the Committee on Private Land Claims in the House.

*The Evening Star, December 24, 1867*

### **TELEGRAMS TO THE STAR**

#### **The Killing of Hon. C.S. Hamilton by His Insane Son**

#### **Further Particulars**

*(Special Dispatch to the Star)*

Columbus, Dec. 23 -- Cornelius S. Hamilton, the Republican member of Congress from the 8th district of Ohio, was killed by his insane son at Marysville yesterday morning. It appears that the son who committed the dreadful act had been deranged some weeks. The father left Washington to see him, and had made arrangements to bring him to the Columbus Lunatic Asylum today. While feeding the stock yesterday (Sunday) morning on his farm near Marysville, the boy stepped up behind him, and with a piece of heavy board struck him on the back of the head, killing him instantly. He then covered up the dead body with fodder, and started to kill his mother. Seizing an axe he made towards her, when a younger brother, seeing the axe in the maniac's hands, shouted to his mother to run or Thomas would kill her. She did so, and escaped. The maniac then started for the brother who gave the alarm, and struck him a dangerous blow on the shoulder. A neighbor, alarmed at the outcry, ran to the rescue of the boy, caught the axe, and succeeded, with the assistance of others who had by this time reached the scene, in preventing further mischief. The insane son is now in prison seemingly unconcerned.