

## Robert Rantoul, Jr.

(13 Aug 1805 – 7 Aug 1852)

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

A Senator and a Representative from Massachusetts; born in Beverly, Mass., August 13, 1805; attended the common schools, and Phillips Andover Academy, Andover, Mass.; was graduated from Harvard University in 1826; studied law; was admitted to the bar in 1829 and commenced practice in Salem; moved to South Reading in 1830 and continued the practice of law; moved to Gloucester in 1832; member of the State house of representatives in 1834-1838; member of the commission to revise the laws of Massachusetts; member of the board of education in 1837; moved to Boston in 1839; served as United States district attorney for Massachusetts from 1845 to 1849, when he resigned; elected as a Democrat to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Daniel Webster and served from February 1, to March 3, 1851; elected as a Democrat to the 32nd Congress and served from March 4, 1851, until his death in Washington, D.C., on August 7, 1852; interment in Central Cemetery, Beverly, Mass.

### *The National Intelligencer, Monday, August 9, 1852*

#### **Death of The Hon. Robert Rantoul, Jr.**

We are sincerely sorry to have to announce to our readers the death of the Hon. Robert Rantoul, one of the Representatives from the State of Massachusetts.

Mr. Rantoul was in his seat in the House on Tuesday last, the 3d instant. At that time he appeared to be in usual health, with the exception of what he considered to be a small bile upon his forehead. On Wednesday morning the little sore was surrounded by erysipelas inflammation, in consequence of which he was prevailed upon to remain in his room and procure medical advice. Thursday the disease seemed to be entirely arrested, and on Friday morning he felt very much better, and spoke confidently of returning in a day or two to his duties in the House. On Friday evening he became much worse; the erysipelas spread over the entire face, and his brain was evidently affected. On Saturday evening the left side became paralytic, after which he sank rapidly, and expired at about half-past 10 o'clock p.m.

Mr. Rantoul was forty-seven years of age.

At the desire of Mrs. Rantoul, (who, having notice of his illness, arrived in Washington on Saturday morning,) the remains of the deceased were taken to Beverly, (Mass.) Mr. Rantoul's late residence, on the 4 o'clock railroad train of yesterday, the Speaker of the House having designated Mr. Duncan and Mr. Goodrich, of Massachusetts, Mr. Cleveland, of Connecticut, and Mr. Eastman, of Wisconsin, to constitute the escort.