

Biographies of West Virginia statehood leaders were prepared by Marshall University Humanities Program graduate students enrolled in Dr. Billy Joe Peyton's Fall 2010 "Historical Studies" class at Marshall's South Charleston campus.

By Wesley A. Kuemmel

John Sinsell Burdett:

John S. Burdett was born in Harrison County on December 20, 1818. He represented Taylor County at the Second Wheeling Convention and served as a state senator for two terms from 1866 to 1867. Burdett entered Union service during the Civil War and returned to politics at the war's end. In 1871 he became the state's fourth treasurer and served in this post until 1876. Burdett has the dubious distinction of having been the first state official to be impeached by the West Virginia legislature. (Sullivan and West Virginia Humanities Council.) Burdett died on April 4, 1904 and was buried at Spring Hill Cemetery, Kanawha County. (Graver 2007)

Graver, Garver. "John Sinsell Burdett." *Find a Grave*. 04 03, 2007.
<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GSln=burdett&GSfn=john&GSbyrel=in&GSdyrel=in&GSst=52&GScntry=4&GSob=n&GRid=18756458&df=all&> (accessed 11 28, 2010).

Sullivan, Ken, and West Virginia Humanities Council. *The West Virginia Encyclopedia*. Charleston, W. Va.: West Virginia Humanities Council ;, 2006. Print.