

John Norman Staples (1846-1920)

Researched and written by Elon University School of Law student Erin Milligan, Summer 2011

Born in Patrick County, VA, John N. Staples was educated at Franklin Institute in Alabama and at Trinity College.¹ He left college during the war to join Cummings battery, 13th North Carolina.² Following the war, Staples began studying law and received his practicing license in 1868.³

Staples practiced law in Greensboro and was a member of North Carolina State House of Representatives from 1874 to 1876; he served as the North Carolina delegate to Democratic National Convention in 1876; was a member of North Carolina State Senate 24th District in 1881; and served as Presidential Elector for North Carolina in 1884.⁴ Staples made numerous speeches to literary and political communities during his career and gained a reputation as both an orator and a scholar.⁵

¹ Wheeler, John H. *Reminiscences and Memoirs of North Carolina and Eminent North Carolinians*. Baltimore: Genealogical Pub., 1966. 195. Print.

² Wheeler 195.

³ Wheeler 195.

⁴ "Index to Politicians: Stanwood to Starin." *The Political Graveyard*. Web. 30 June 2011. <<http://politicalgraveyard.com/bio/stanwood-starin.html>>.

⁵ Wheeler 195.