

1834

HIRAM BARNEY:

Son of Daniel B. and Sarah Bucklin Barney. Born Henderson, N.Y. Collector Port of New York under Lincoln; partner of B.F. Butler. Director of many corporations. Knighted by Victor Immanuel for protection to Italian ships in the Civil War. Republican (voting for Cleveland). Congregation-
alist.

Died May, 1895, at King's Bridge, of heart disease, age 85. Thrice married--8 children--daughter (1899) Susan E. Barney, 33 E 21st St..N.Y.City.

Prof. Lamoroux-Notes.

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CLASS OF 1834.

HIRAM BARNEY.

In the course of our conversations Mr. Lincoln remarked that it was particularly pleasant to him to reflect that he was coming into office unembarrassed by promises. He owed, he supposed, his exemption from importunities to the circumstance that his name as candidate was but a short time before the people, and that only a few sanguine friends anticipated the possibility of his nomination. "I have not," said he, "promised an office to any man, nor have I, but in a single instance, mentally committed myself to an appointment; and as that relates to an important office in your State, I have concluded to mention it to you,---under strict injunctions of secrecy, however. If I am not induced by public considerations to change my purpose, Hiram Barney will be collector of the port of New York." I supposed that Mr. Lincoln, in thus frankly avowing his friendship for Mr. Barney, intended to draw me out. I remarked that until I met him at the Chicago convention my acquaintance with Mr. Barney was very slight; but that after the convention adjourned Mr. Barney joined us (my daughter and a lady friend) in an excursion down the Mississippi and through Iowa, and that my impressions of him personally and politically were favorable, and that I believed he would make an acceptable collector. I added that if it were true, as I had heard, that the reply of an extensive and well-known mercantile firm in New York during an exciting crisis, to Southern merchants, who threatened to withdraw their patronage on account of its opposition to slavery, namely, "We offer our goods, not our principles, for sale," originated with Mr. Barney, it entitled him to any office he asked for. "He has not," said Mr. Lincoln, "asked for this or any other office, nor does he know of my intention."

Autobiography of Thurlow Weed
Harriet A. Weed, Editor
Boston, Mass. 1884.

p. 613

Barney, Hiram, 1834
Pearson Diaries, V. 4, p.714

NOV 29 1982

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November 22, 1982

Director of Alumni Relations
Alumni Office
Union College
Schenectady, NY

Dear Sir:

1834
I am engaged in writing a history of the law firm of Kelley, Drye & Warren and am inquiring for any information you may have on Hiram Barney, one of the two partners, with William Minott Mitchell, Class of 1930, of the original predecessor firm of Mitchell and Barney of 1841. (This Hiram Barney is not to be confused with Hiram H. Barney, born October 7, 1804 and who was graduated from Union College in 1830.)

Specifically, please advise me if Barney, who was born in 1811 in Henderson, Jefferson County, New York, was appointed Collector of the Post of New York by Lincoln, and who died in 1895, ever attended Union College and, if so, was he graduated or whether he received any honorary degrees there or elsewhere.

Please address your reply to me in care of Mr. Louis B. Warren. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Lunny
Robert M. Lunny

RML:MB

ucslaf1834barney_h-0004

KELLEY DRYE NEWHALL MAGINNES & WARREN

350 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK 22

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WILLIAM G. BARR
COUNSEL

TELEPHONE
AREA CODE 212
PLAZA 2-5800

CABLE "LAWYERLY"

March 26, 1964

ack 3/30/64

Mr. Henry J. Swanker
Director of Alumni Relations
Union College
Schenectady 8, New York

Dear Mr. Swanker:

Thank you very much for your prompt and informative response to my March 17th inquiry respecting Hiram Barney, William Minott Mitchell and Benjamin Franklin Butler.

The Hiram H. Barney, whose biography you set forth in your letter, is not the same Hiram Barney who was one of the founding partners of this firm. According to his obituary in the New York Times on May 20, 1895, the Hiram Barney to whom I referred was born in Jefferson County, New York on May 30, 1811, is supposed to have graduated from Union College in 1834 and practiced law in New York City from 1835 until his retirement in 1873. During the period 1861-64 he served in the politically important position of Collector of the Port of New York by appointment of President Lincoln, with whom he maintained a close association both political and professional.

KELLEY DRYE NEWHALL MAGINNES & WARREN

Mr. Henry J. Swanker

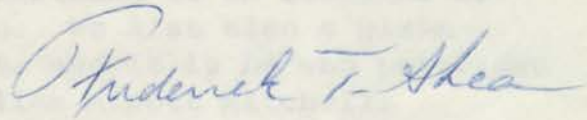
- 2 -

March 26, 1964

I would deeply appreciate your rechecking the records of the College to determine whether the Hiram Barney to whom I referred was graduated from the College in or about the year 1834, and any other information you may have with respect to him.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,



FTS/af

March 30, 1964

Mr. Frederick T. Shea
Kelley Drye Newhall Maginnes & Warren
350 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10022

Dear Mr. Shea:

You are quite correct; the material we sent you on Hiram H. Barney, Union 1830, pertains to an educator of that name who was born in Ohio. We list also a Hiram Barney, Union College 1834 A.B. and it is he who practiced law in New York City with William Minott Mitchell.

The enclosed photo material may not be of use to you and much of it particularly the political commentary may be well known to you. However, the genealogy may prove interesting. This will confirm the information you quote from the obituary printed in the NEW YORK TIMES of May 20, 1895.

Sincerely yours,

Henry J. Swanker

Director of Alumni Relations

HJS:mvl

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CABLE "LAWYERLY"

March 17, 1964

ack 3/25/64

Office of the President
Union College and University
Schenectady, New York

Gentlemen:

In connection with a compilation of this firm's history we should like to ascertain the year or years in which two of our founding partners (Hiram Barney and William Minott Mitchell) were graduated from Union College. We believe each was graduated sometime in the early 1830's. If there is any further information you can give us from your records concerning these two gentlemen we would appreciate it very much.

A third founding partner, Benjamin F. Butler, who was born in 1795 and commenced the practice of law in Albany in 1817, may also have been graduated from Union College. We would appreciate your informing us whether or not this is so.

With many thanks for any cooperation you can extend to us in this matter,

Very truly yours,

FTS/af

KELLEY DRYE NEWHALL MAGINNES & WARREN

By

Fredrick T. Shea

A Member

ULScaf1834barney-h-0008

March 25, 1964

Mr. Frederick T. Shea
Kelley Drye Newhall Maginnes & Warren
350 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10022

Dear Mr. Shea:

President Davidson has referred your March 17 inquiry to the Alumni Office. We are pleased that we can give you information on your firm's founding partners, Hiram H. Barney, William Minott Mitchell and Benjamin Franklin Butler for your history.

HIRAM H. BARNEY

According to our records Hiram H. Barney was born in Lyden, Vermont on October 7, 1804, entered Union College from Ellisburg, N.Y., and graduated in 1830 with an A.B. degree, and Phi Beta Kappa. He became a teacher, studied law and was admitted to the bar. Principal of Griffith Academy, Springville, N.Y., 1831-33; of Union Lit. Society, Belleville, N.Y., 1834-1836; of Aurora Academy, East Aurora, N.Y., 1838-47; Superintendent Cincinnati, Ohio, High School 1847-53; Superintendent Public Schools, Circleville, O., 1862-69; School Commissioner, State of Ohio 1853-57; President of Ohio State Teachers' Assoc., 1849-50; an organizer of the American Assoc. for the Advancement of Education at Philadelphia, Dec. 17, 1849; Member of its Executive Committee until 1854. Author of numerous important papers published in "Proceedings of Ohio State Teachers' Assoc.," and of lectures, etc., delivered before Teachers' Institutes and Associations in Ohio. Mr. Barney died in Wyoming, Ohio, August 25, 1886, according to information furnished by his son, Roderick D. Barney, reference Barney (Barney-Hosmer), W. F. Adams, Springfield, Mass. 1912. Mr. Barney married Miss Mary Ann Elliot in August 6, 1831. They had three children- Mary Louisa (b. Dec. 1, 1832), Roderick (b. Nov. 6, 1835) and Howard (b. Sept. 10, 1840). According to the Sigma Phi catalogue 1891 he was a member of that fraternity.

WILLIAM MINOT MITCHELL

Mr. Mitchell of White Plains, N.Y., was born in New Canaan, Conn., May 29, 1811 and graduated from Union College with an A.B. degree in the Class of 1830, and was a member of the Philomathean Society. He practiced law in New York City during his life; was Public Administrator of New York City and a lawyer of recognized

Mr. Frederick T. Shea

-2-

March 25, 1964

ability and of great promise. His political sentiments were "Democratic-Republican." On December 9, 1834, New York City, he married Miss Sarah Elizabeth Silliman. Mr. Mitchell died suddenly, March 15, 1849 in New York City, leaving a family of several children.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN BUTLER

Mr. Butler did not graduate from Union College, but received an Honorary A.M. degree from that institution in 1821. He also received an Honorary LL.D. degree from Rutgers in 1834. A great deal more information on Benjamin Butler is given on the sheets we are enclosing.

We trust this information will be of help to you in compiling your firm's history.

connection with a compilation of this firm's history
Sincerely,
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partners (Hiram Barney and William Minott Mitchell) were
Henry J. Swanker,
from Union College. Director of Alumni Relations. Some-

Enc. (2)

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With many thanks for any cooperation you can extend to
us in this matter,

Very truly yours,

FTS/af

KELLEY DEXE NEWHALL MAGLEBEN & WARDEN

By *Frederick T. Shea*
A Member

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-1-

HIRAM BARNEY, Lawyer, was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., May 30, 1811. He was graduated from Union College in 1834, and then studied law, and was admitted to the bar. In 1840 he settled in New York City, and in 1849 became associated in legal practice with Benjamin F. Butler and his son, William Allen Butler. Benjamin F. Butler having soon afterward retired from active practice, James Humphrey of Brooklyn became associated with the business, and the firm was continued under the name of Barney, Humphrey, & Butler, and afterward - on Mr. Humphrey's election to Congress - under the title of Barney, Butler & Parsons, which was succeeded, on Mr. Barney's retirement, by the firm of Butler, Stillman & Hubbard. Mr. Barney was appointed Collector of the Port of New York by President Lincoln, and served during the first three years of Lincoln's administration, when he resigned, and declined an appointment to a foreign mission. Mr. Barney was first married to Susannah, daughter of Lewis Tappan, the abolitionist, and after her death to Miss Kilburne of Keokuk, Ia. In 1830 he became identified with the temperance and anti-slavery cause, and was chairman of the executive committee of the Young Men's Anti-Slavery Society in New York City. In 1840 he was nominated as a representative to Congress by the Anti-Slavery Party, but received only 350 votes. In 1848, when the Anti-Slavery Party formed the Free Soil Party, Mr. Barney was a presidential elector. In 1852 he was on the electoral ticket for Hale and Julian. When the Republican Party was formed, in 1856, Mr. Barney was a delegate to the Philadelphia convention that nominated Fremont and Dayton. At that convention he voted for Sumner instead of Fremont. In 1860 he attended the convention at Chicago that nominated Lincoln and Hamlin, and he succeeded in raising \$35,000 in New York, which he sent to the state committee in Illinois to assist in carrying that state. He died at Kingsbridge, New York, May 18, 1895.

(The above taken from Vol. I, Lamb's Biographical Dictionary of the United States, Congressional Library, Washington, D. C.)

From another source it is learned that Hiram Barney was a legal adviser and personal friend of Abraham Lincoln, and helped to draft the Emancipation Proclamation. He was at one time a law partner of Samuel A. Tilden.

Mr. Barney was descended from the ancient family of Barney which settled in Norfolkshire, England, at the time of the Norman Conquest in 1066. His son, William Barney, has given much time to the study of the family history, and he says that the Barneys first came to England with William the Conqueror from Normandy and that the name was spelled as is common there, "Bjarne." The name has, however, been spelled Barney for five hundred years or more in Norfolk Co., England. (The Iclander who discovered America was named "Bjarne.") Other spellings are Berney, Barné, and Barnie. A Sir George Barne, Knt., was Lord Mayor of London in 1586, and Sir Richard Berney de Reedham, 1st Bart., was created a Baronet, May 5, 1620, in the 18th year of the reign of James I.

EDWARD BARNEY, of Braddenham, Buckinghamshire, England, who died 1645, married Isbell Rooles, daughter of John Rooles and Sibell Pytcher. Their son,

JACOB BARNEY, was born in the Town of Barney, England, 1601, and was the first Barney to reach American soil. He settled in Salem, Massachusetts, where he was a prosperous merchant, a leader in civil affairs, and frequently representative to the General Assembly. He served on the first grand jury that ever sat in this country. With him from England came Elizabeth, his wife, and one son, Jacob, and possibly one son, Absalom, who probably died early. He left England for religious reasons, and came by way of West Haven and Swansea, So. Wales, taking ship probably under concealed identity at Bristol. He was considered a well-to-do business man. He is said by one who talked with his great-grandson Daniel Barney (great-grandfather of Hiram) to have been a little less than six feet tall, with dark hair and eyes, fresh complexion, dignified in manner, and a hearty well-wisher to all men. It is probable that from him have descended all the Barneys now in this country. He died in 1673, aged 72 years. His son,

JACOB BARNEY, born 1634 in the Town of Barney, England, was the only son of Jacob 1st surviving childhood. He was a Baptist clergyman and founded churches in Charlestown, Swansea, and Haverhill, Massachusetts. He also founded churches at Bristol and Newport, R. I., and perhaps other places. Although a clergyman, he owned considerable land, and, no doubt, gave some attention to farming as he is spoken of in Salem records as "yeoman." He moved to Rehoboth, Massachusetts, in 1690 or 1691 where he died February 12, 1692. His son,

JOSEPH BARNEY, was born Salem, Massachusetts, in 1673. He settled in Rehoboth, Massachusetts, in 1690, and died there February 5, 1730. He married Constance Davis, daughter of James and Elizabeth Davis of Haverhill, Massachusetts, September, 1692.

DANIEL BARNEY, his son, was born 1697 in Rehoboth, Mass., and died there. He married Elsie Wheaton, 1728. His son,

DANIEL BARNEY, born September 14, 1736, married Rachel Bowen, 1757, and fought in the Revolutionary War. His son,

DANIEL BARNEY, born July 2, 1768, at Swansea, Mass., was a doctor; married Sarah Bucklin, daughter of Capt. David Bucklin of the British Army; he settled in Little Falls, Herkimer Co., N. Y., in 1795 and went to Henderson, Jefferson Co., N. Y., in 1807, where he died May 19, 1829. His wife and five children survived him.

Children of Daniel Barney and Sarah Bucklin

1. Lowrey, born February 24, 1793 in Coventry, R. I., followed his father's profession 58 years, 1814 to 1872. He died in 1884, aged 92. He was a member of the New York State

Legislature (1832 or 1836), and was president of the New York State Medical Society. While in New York he met at the home of a mutual friend, Major T. J. Jackson, afterward called Stonewall Jackson, who was so impressed with Dr. Barney that he accompanied him home to Henderson for treatment for stomach trouble; he obtained great relief and was entirely cured. He wrote the doctor later that he felt a feeling of gratitude which would accompany him to the grave. A daughter of Dr. Lowrey Barney was a personal friend of Edgar Allen Poe and the poem "The Bells" was written in her drawing room in New York City. He wrote a poem dedicated to M. L. S. The S. stands for Shew as she was then the wife of Dr. Shew. Afterward she married Dr. Houghton.

2. Sophia, born at Little Falls, never married.

3. Schuyler, named after General Schuyler, was born at Henderson, 1805, where he died, 1821. Never married.

4. Godfrey W., born at Henderson, 1795, died in Wisconsin about 1871. He was a Methodist minister; was married, and had the following children:

Hiram W., who was, in 1880, District Attorney of Juneau Co., Wis.,

Mary,
Charles.

5. Elmira, born at Henderson, 1807; died young.

6. HIRAM, born at Henderson, N. Y., May 30, 1811, a lawyer; ~~died~~ at Kingsbridge, N. Y., May 18, 1895. First married Susan A. Tappan, daughter of Lewis Tappan, May 29, 1839, in New York City. She died 1873. Married second, Harriet Kilbourne, August 26, 1880.

Children by his first wife:

William, born May 29, 1840;
Susan E., born May 27, 1842;
Lewis Tappan, born March, 1844;
Mary, born 1848;
Augustus Aspinwall, born 1848.

Child by second marriage:

Sara, born 1862.

(The following from Herringshaw's Library of American Biography)

LEWIS TAPPAN BARNEY, soldier, was born in New York. In 1862 he became First Lieutenant in the 68th Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry; and in 1865 was brevetted Brigadier-General and Major-General of volunteers.

CLASS OF 1834

HIRAM BARNEY

Was the youngest son of the third Daniel. His brothers were: Lorin, who was a physician of some note, and Godfrey, who was a Methodist minister.

He also had sisters, but their names my informant does not remember.

Was Collector of the Port of New York, and married a Miss Tappan.

Daniel (his father) went to the Black River region, married and settled. He was a doctor and had three sons and two daughters. Lorin was a doctor of some eminence. He lived to the great age of ninety-three years. In 1884, Hiram was Collector of the Port of New York. Between the years 1858 and 1860, Godfrey was a Methodist preacher, which was the last we knew of Him.

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Am.
FROM Barney (Barney-Hosmer)
W. F. Adams
Springfield, Mass. 1912.

(Ira) Harris took little interest in the distribution of patronage, or in questions of party politics that quicken local strife, but he insisted upon a fair recognition of his friends, and to adjust their differences Seward arranged an evening conference to which the President was invited. At this meeting the discussion took a broad range. The secretary of state had prepared a list covering the important offices in New York, but before he could present it, Lincoln, with the ready intuitions of a shrewd politician, remarked that he reserved to himself the privilege of appointing Hiram Barney collector of the port of New York. v.2 p.390

To Weed, Barney's name aroused no agreeable memories. At the formation of the Republican party he had found it easier to affiliate with Lucius Robinson and David Dudley Field than to act in accord with the Whig leader, and the result at Chicago had emphasized this independence. Too politic, however, to antagonize the appointment, and too wary to indorse it, Weed replied that prior to the Chicago convention he had known Barney very slightly, but that, if what he had learned of him since was true, Barney was entitled to any office he asked for. "He has not asked for this or any other office," said Lincoln, quickly; "nor does he know of my intention." v. 2 391-2

The immediate influence that led to the announcement of Barney's selection, however, is not entirely clear. At the Cooper Institute meeting in February, 1860, at which Lincoln spoke, Barney occupied a seat on the stage, and was among the few gentlemen having opportunity to pay the distinguished Illinoisian those courtesies which especially please one who felt, as Lincoln did "by reason of his own modest estimate of himself," that he was under obligation to any person showing him marked attention. But neither this fact nor Barney's subsequent support at Chicago sufficiently accounts for the strong preference indicated by such an important and far-reaching appointment. Among the few indorsements on file in the treasury department at Washington, one letter, dated March 8, 1861, and addressed to Salmon P. Chase, speaks of Barney as "a personal friend of yours." Six days later a New York newspaper announced that "the appointment of Barney has been a fixed fact ever since Chase went into the Cabinet. It was this influence that persuaded Chase to accept the position." The biographer of Thurlow Weed, probably basing the statement upon the belief of Weed himself, states, without qualification, that "Barney was appointed through the influence of Secretary Chase." This may, in part, account for Weed's and Seward's bitter hostility to the Ohioan's becoming a member of the Cabinet; for, if Chase, before his appointment as secretary of the treasury, had sufficient influence to control the principal federal office in New York, what, might they not have asked,

would be the measure of this influence after the development of his great ability as a financier has made him necessary to the President as well as to the country? Inquiry, however, as to the one first suggesting Barney's name to Lincoln does not lead to the open. Chase's entrance into the Cabinet being settled, his influence firmly sustained Barney, but, before that, very early after the election, between November 7 and Weed's visit to Springfield on December 17, some one spoke the word in Barney's behalf which left such a deep and lasting impression upon the President's mind that he determined to advise Weed, before Seward could accept the state portfolio, of his intention to appoint Barney collector of the port of New York. The name of the person exerting such an influence, however, is now unknown. During this period Chase neither saw the President-elect, nor, so far as the records show, wrote him more than a formal note of congratulations. Another possible avenue of communication may have been Bryant or Greeley, but the latter distinctly denied that he asked, or wanted, or manipulated the appointment of any one. Bryant, had great influence with Lincoln, and who ~~was~~ strongly opposed going /Seward into the Cabinet, had presided at the Cooper Institute meeting and sat beside Hiram Barney. He knew that such a man, placed at the head of the custom-house and wielding its vast patronage, could be a potent factor in breaking Weed's control, but the editor's only published letter to Lincoln during this period was confined to reasons for making Chase secretary of state.Bryant had been partial to Chase for President until after Lincoln's Cooper Institute speech, and now, after election, he thought Chase, as secretary of state, would be best for the country.....Other letters, or parties personally interested in Barney, may have passed between the President-elect and Bryant, or Chase. Indeed, Lincoln confessed to Weed that he had received telegrams and visits from prominent Republicans, warning him against the Albany editor's efforts to forestall important state appointments, but no clue is left to identify them. The mystery deepens, too, since, whatever was done, came without Barney's suggestion or knowledge.

Hiram Barney, a native of Jefferson County, a graduate of Union College in 1834, and the head of a well-known law firm, was a lawyer of high character and a Republican of Democratic antecedents, who had stood with Greeley and Bryant in opposing Seward at Chicago, and whose appointment to the most important federal office in the State meant mischief for Weed.

Footnote:-Hiram Barney belongs to the Van Buren Democratic Buffalo Free-soil wing of the Republican party. He studied law with C.C.Cambreling and practised it with Benjamin F. Butler. For President he voted for Jackson, for Van Buren in 1840 and 1848, for Hale in 1852, and for Fremont and Lincoln. He was also a delegate to the Buffalo convention of 1848; so that as an out-and-out Van Buren Free-soil Republican, Barney is a better specimen than Van Buren himself.-New York Herald, March 28, 1961.

HIRAM BARNEY:

Footnote:--Mr. Barney's quiet, unostentatious bearing has deprived him of the notoriety which attaches to most of our politicians of equal experience and influence. Nevertheless, he is well known to the Republican party and universally respected as one of its foremost and most intelligent supporters.--N.Y. Evening Post, March 27, 1861.

To the outsider, the appointment of Barney looked, for the moment, like a substantial defeat for Seward. "The mighty struggle," said the Herald, "is for the possession of the New York appointments, and the strife is deadly and bitter." The anti-Weed forces, reinforced by the arrival of Greeley, the coming of Barney, and the persistence of Harris, were elated over reported changes in the Weed slate, believing the fruit of their long labours was about to come at last, but from the sum-total of the nominations, made day by day, it appeared that while several attaches of the Tribune's staff had been recognized, Seward had secured all the important offices save collector of the port. During this turmoil the Secretary's unfailing calmness was not disturbed, nor his uniform courtesy ruffled.

A Political History of New York State
Vol. 2 pp. 390-398
DeAlva Stanwood Alexander
Henry Holt & Co.
1906.

1834

HIRAM BARNEY:

Married: At New York on Wednesday evening the 29th ult. by Rev. George Duffield of Detroit. Hiram Barney, esq. to Susan Aspinwall, daughter of Mr. Lewis Taffan. - Albany Argus, June 3, 1839.

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Little damage was done. This is the third time in a year that fires have taken place in the stable.

May 21, OBITUARY. 1895

USLA 1834 Barney - K-0019

Hiram Barney, once collector of the port of New York, died at his home in Kingsbridge in his eighty-fourth year. He was born in Henderson, Jefferson county, and was graduated from Union College in 1834. He studied law, and was admitted to the bar in this city in 1836. He was associated for a time with Benjamin F. Butler. His position at the bar for many years was a prominent one. In early life Mr. Barney became interested in the cause of temperance and anti-slavery, and was especially active in the latter cause. He served as Presidential elector on two tickets of that party. He also attended the convention that nominated Lincoln. He was on terms of intimacy with Lincoln and was consulted by him with reference to the formation of his Cabinet. Mr. Barney was appointed by Mr. Lincoln collector of the port of New York in 1861, and when he resigned, at the end of three years, the President offered him an appointment to a foreign mission, but he declined it. Mr. Barney was an intimate friend of Chief Justice Chase, and was acquainted with other well known public men.