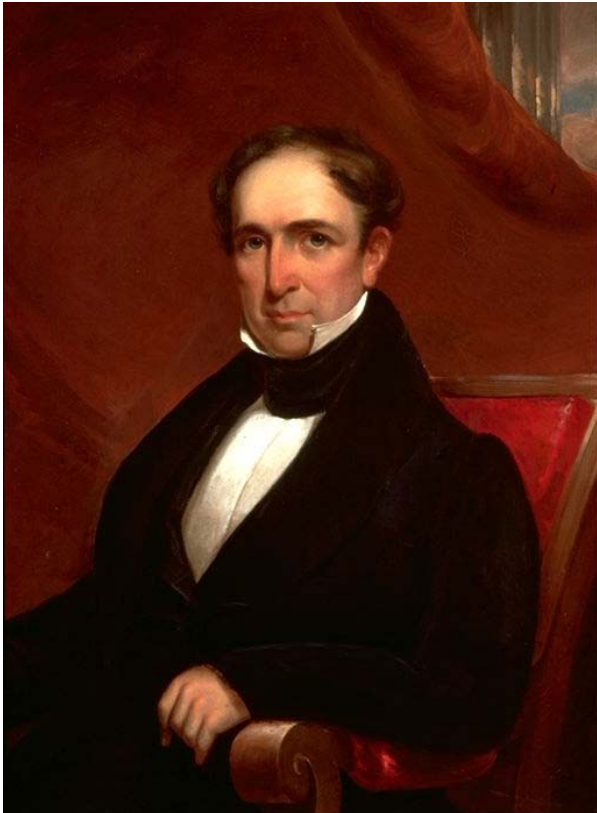


HENRY HITCHCOCK

Fourth Chief Justice: 1836-1837

BORN: September 19, 1792; Burlington, Vermont

DIED: August 11, 1839; Mobile, Alabama



**Portrait by JAMES REID LAMBDIN,
American 1822-1872
Oil on canvas, 1853**

Henry Hitchcock, grew up in his native state of Vermont. After graduating from the University of Vermont, he read law and was admitted to the bar in 1815. He traveled to the Mississippi Territory in 1816, locating first in Mobile and then in St. Stephens, the new Alabama territorial capital, to practice law. He was appointed territorial secretary in 1818 by Governor William W. Bibb, and represented Washington County in the Constitutional Convention of 1819.

In 1819, when the seat of government moved to Cahaba, Hitchcock became the state's first Attorney General, a post he held until 1823. In 1826, when the state capital was moved to Tuscaloosa, Hitchcock returned to Mobile. There he was appointed federal district attorney, practiced law, and undertook various business ventures.

In January, 1835, the General Assembly elected Hitchcock judge of the Supreme Court, and in June of 1836 he was chosen chief justice. He resigned in January of 1837 and returned to Mobile to manage business enterprises adversely affected by the panic of that year. Hitchcock was elected to represent Mobile County in the General Assembly in 1839, but he died of yellow fever before the session began.

Henry Hitchcock was married to Ann Erwin, of Nashville, Tennessee. They had five children.

In 2010, Chief Justice Hitchcock was inducted into the Alabama Lawyers Hall of Fame.

Junius Moore Riggs Collection

Location: Antebellum Gallery, 3rd Floor, Heflin-Torbert Judicial Building