

Hilliard, Louis ^[1]

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by Claiborne T. Smith, Jr., 1988

24 Dec. 1837–20 Aug. 1894

Louis Hilliard, Confederate officer, legislator, and judge, was the son of William Henry and Sallie Dortch Hilliard of "The Meadows" in [Nash County](#) ^[2]. His grandfather, Robert Carter Hilliard (1771–1828), was the brother of Isaac Hilliard; he attended [The University of North Carolina](#) ^[3] in 1799 and represented Nash County in the House of Commons in 1813–15 and in the Senate in 1817.

Hilliard was graduated from The University of North Carolina with a B.A. degree in 1858. His senior graduating thesis, "William Walker—the Great Fillibuster," is in the North Carolina Collection of the university library in Chapel Hill. During the [Civil War](#) ^[4] he was a captain in the Confederate Army, serving as assistant commissary of subsistence with the Second Regiment from July 1861 until July 1863; he was then transferred to the Quartermaster Department. After the war Hilliard practiced law and was a member of the [General Assembly](#) ^[5] from [Pitt County](#) ^[6] in 1866. He was elected a Superior Court judge in 1874, but his appointment was questioned and the matter went to the [state Supreme Court](#) ^[7] where his election and commission were declared void. From 1875 to 1877 he served as a trustee of The University of North Carolina. About 1880 he moved to Norfolk, Va., where he entered the cotton commission business.

Hilliard married first Claudia Gorham, by whom he had four children: Churchill, Emma, David, and Lillie. His second wife was Nellie Cherry, daughter of William and Mary Gorham Cherry. They had six children but only two, Landon and Elinor, married and left descendants. Elinor married Richard Blackburn Tucker, son of the Right Reverend Beverly Tucker, Bishop of Southern Virginia.

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Authors:

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Origin - location:

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