

## **Sims, Leonard Henly** <sup>[1]</sup>

### **Sims, Leonard Henly**

by E. Thomas Sims, 1994

**6 Feb. 1807–28 Feb. 1886**

Leonard Henly Sims, congressman and farmer, was born in [Burke County](#) <sup>[2]</sup>, the son of Dr. Swepson and Jane Meriwether Lewis Sims. The younger Sims, who received a limited amount of schooling, moved to Rutherford County, Tenn., in 1830 and became a farmer. He was also a member of the [Tennessee State House of Representatives](#) <sup>[3]</sup> for two terms.

In 1839 he moved to Springfield, Green County, Mo., and continued his agricultural pursuits. From 1842 to 1846 he was a member of the Missouri State House of Representatives. Elected as a Democrat to the U.S. House of Representatives from Missouri, Sims served in the Twenty-ninth Congress from 4 Mar. 1845 to 3 Mar. 1847. In the latter year he returned to Rutherford County, Tenn., to continue farming, and in 1848 he was a presidential elector for Tennessee on the Democratic ticket of Lewis Cass and William Orlando Butler.

In 1859 Sims relocated to Independence County, Ark., where he settled on a farm near Batesville and engaged in cotton planting and farming. He also served in the [Arkansas State Senate](#) <sup>[4]</sup> during 1866–70 and 1874–78.

On 8 Dec. 1824 Sims married Louisa Batey. They had eleven children. He died on his plantation near Batesville, Ark., and was buried in the family graveyard.

#### **References:**

*Biog. Dir. Am. Cong.* <sup>[5]</sup> (1950).

*Biog. Dir. Tenn. General Assembly* <sup>[6]</sup> (1975).

*Who Was Who in America, 1607–1896*

#### **Additional Resources:**

Onofrio, Jan. *Missouri Biographical Dictionary (Third Edition)*. third ed. Missouri: North American Book Dist LLC, 2001. [http://books.google.com/books/about/Missouri\\_Biographical\\_Dictionary\\_Third\\_E.html?id=0oQueph\\_raYC](http://books.google.com/books/about/Missouri_Biographical_Dictionary_Third_E.html?id=0oQueph_raYC) <sup>[7]</sup> (accessed July 23, 2014).

Sims, Leonard Henly. 1846. *Speech of Mr. Leonard H. Sims, of Missouri, on the Oregon question delivered in the House of Representatives, U.S., January 5, 1846*. [Washington?: s.n.]. [https://archive.org/details/cihm\\_17203](https://archive.org/details/cihm_17203) <sup>[8]</sup> (accessed July 24, 2014).

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#### **Authors:**

[Sims, E. Thomas](#) <sup>[15]</sup>

#### **Origin - location:**

[Burke County](#) <sup>[16]</sup>

[Morganton](#) <sup>[17]</sup>

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