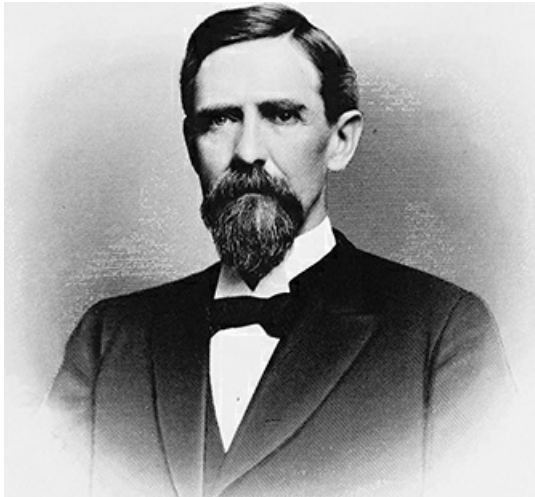


## **Patterson, Samuel Legerwood** <sup>[1]</sup>

### **Patterson, Samuel Legerwood**

by Charles S. Powell IV, 1994

**6 Mar. 1850–14 Sept. 1918**



Engraving of Samuel Legerwood Patterson, circa 1905. Image from Archive.org.

<sup>[2]</sup>Samuel Legerwood Patterson, farmer and legislator, was born at Palmyra <sup>[3]</sup>, the family home located in the Yadkin River valley in Caldwell County <sup>[4]</sup>, the son of Samuel Finley <sup>[5]</sup> and Phebe Caroline Jones Patterson. His father, a farmer, financier, and businessman, was a member of the state house of representatives and the senate, state treasurer <sup>[6]</sup>, and president of the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad for five years. Samuel L. Patterson was educated at Faucette's school, Bingham's, and Wilson's Academy. He entered The University of North Carolina <sup>[7]</sup> in 1867 but the school closed the following year. He then attended the University of Virginia for one year before taking a clerking job in Salem <sup>[8]</sup>. On 17 Apr. 1873 he married Mary S. Senseman, the daughter of a Moravian <sup>[9]</sup> minister from Indiana.

Although a Republican <sup>[10]</sup>, Patterson was appointed county commissioner and district superintendent of the census in a Democratic <sup>[11]</sup> county. He served in the state house of representatives in 1891 and 1898 and in the state senate in 1893; in the legislature he was chairman of the committee on agriculture and was a member of many other committees. He was also a trustee of The University of North Carolina. Patterson was commissioner of agriculture from 1895 to 1897, when he was removed by the Fusion party <sup>[12]</sup>. He was reappointed in 1899 and then elected by popular vote through 1908. Patterson Hall <sup>[13]</sup> at North Carolina State University <sup>[14]</sup> is named in his honor.

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