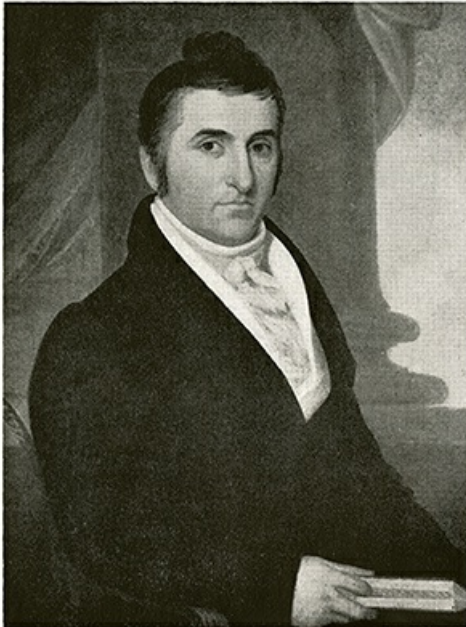


## **Daniel, Joseph John** <sup>[1]</sup>

### **Daniel, Joseph John**

by Joseph K. L. Reckford, 1986

**13 Nov. 1783–10 Feb. 1848**



**UNC Press. p. 61. (Digital page 75).**

<sup>[2]</sup>

Joseph John Daniel, legislator and jurist, was born in [Halifax County](#) <sup>[3]</sup>, the son of Anne Brinkley Daniel; the name of his father has not been found. Little is known of his childhood or early education. He attended [The University of North Carolina](#) <sup>[4]</sup> in the term 1801–2 and was a member of the Philanthropic Society, but was not graduated. After leaving Chapel Hill he read law in [Halifax](#) <sup>[5]</sup> under [William R. Davie](#) <sup>[6]</sup>.

Daniel had a home in the town of Halifax and was elected to represent the borough in the House of Commons in 1807 and 1815; he also owned a rural home, Burnt Coat, near Heathsville, and represented the county in the House of Commons in 1812. He later represented [Edgecombe County](#) <sup>[7]</sup> in the House of Commons in 1836–37. In 1816 he was elected a judge of superior court for a three-year term, and in 1832 he was elected to the [North Carolina Supreme Court](#) <sup>[8]</sup> where he served until his death. For eleven of those years Daniel sat with [Thomas Ruffin](#) <sup>[9]</sup> and [William Gaston](#) <sup>[10]</sup>. Daniel also represented Halifax County in the [Constitutional Convention of 1835](#) <sup>[11]</sup>. Although not regarded as an outstanding public speaker, he was thought to be a fine conversationalist, perceptive and witty. He had simple tastes and was practical in everyday affairs.

Married to Maria Stith on 1 Jan. 1822, Daniel was survived by three children: William A., Mary Long Gordon, and Lavinia Bassett Battle.

An unsigned portrait of Daniel hangs in the [Philanthropic Society hall](#) <sup>[12]</sup> at The University of North Carolina; a copy is in the Supreme Court Building, Raleigh.

#### **References:**

W. C. Allen, *History of Halifax County* (1918).

George T. Blackburn, II, and others, *The Di and Phi Portrait Index* (1980).

Walter Clark, *History of the Supreme Court of North Carolina* (1919).

Margaret M. Hofmann, *Genealogical Abstracts of Wills 1758 through 1824, Halifax County, North Carolina* (1970).

John H. Wheeler, *Historical Sketches of North Carolina* (1851).

#### **Additional Resources:**

Joseph John Daniel Papers, 1848; 1941 (collection no. 02320-z). The Southern Historical Collection. Louis Round Wilson Special Collections Library. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.  
[http://www.lib.unc.edu/mss/inv/d/Daniel,Joseph\\_John.html](http://www.lib.unc.edu/mss/inv/d/Daniel,Joseph_John.html) <sup>[13]</sup> (accessed June 4, 2013).

**Image credit:**

Unidentified artist, circa 1835. "Joseph John Daniel." North Carolina Portrait Index, 1700-1860. Chapel Hill: UNC Press. p. 61. (Digital page 75). <https://www.worldcat.org/title/832326?oclcNum=832326> <sup>[2]</sup>. Accessed 10/14/2014.

**Subjects:**

[Biographies](#) <sup>[14]</sup>

[Judges](#) <sup>[15]</sup>

[Public officials](#) <sup>[16]</sup>

**Authors:**

[Reckford, Joseph K. L.](#) <sup>[17]</sup>

**Origin - location:**

[Halifax County](#) <sup>[18]</sup>

**From:**

[Dictionary of North Carolina Biography, University of North Carolina Press.](#) <sup>[19]</sup>

1 January 1986 | Reckford, Joseph K. L.

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