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by C. Sylvester Green [2], 1986

### 1 Jan. 1858-21 June 1923

John Gaston Grant, farmer and congressman, was born in Edneyville Township, rural<u>Henderson County</u> [3], the son of William C. and Elizabeth Grant. He attended local schools for a few months and afterwards was self-educated. From his early years he was engaged in farming in Henderson County, where he also worked as a blacksmith. He was a successful Republican [4]candidate for the North Carolina House of Representatives but served only one term (1889–91), declining renomination. One year later he was elected <u>sheriff</u> [5]of Henderson County and served from 1892 until 1896. He would not accept nomination for another term. Upon the termination of his duties as sheriff he was a presidential elector on the Republican ticket that put William McKinley in the White House and elected Garret A. Hobart vice-president. Grant was elected in 1908 from the Tenth North Carolina District to the United States House of Representatives and served from 1909 to 1911; he was unsuccessful in his bid for reelection. Resuming his agricultural pursuits in his native county, he was not a candidate for public office again.

Grant and his wife, Zura Edney, whom he married on 30 Mar. 1876, were the parents of four children: sons V. Echols and L. Grant, and daughters Alda and Elizabeth. He was buried in Oakdale Cemetery, Hendersonville.

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#### **Additional Resources:**

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Subjects: Biographies [9] Farmers [10] Public officials [11] Authors: Green, C. Sylvester [12] Origin - location: Henderson County [13] From: Dictionary of North Carolina Biography, University of North Carolina Press.[14]

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