

Sims, Leonard Henly ^[1]

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by E. Thomas Sims, 1994

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Leonard Henly Sims, congressman and farmer, was born in [Burke County](#) ^[2], 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](#) ^[3] 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](#) ^[4] 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.

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Authors:

[Sims, E. Thomas](#) ^[15]

Origin - location:

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