

Collection #
SC 2965

**SENATOR THOMAS A. HENDRICKS
INVITATION, 3 JULY 1865**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

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COLLECTION
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NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Thomas A. Hendricks (September 7, 1819—November 25, 1885) served as a Representative and Senator from Indiana before he went on to serve as the state's governor and later as the Vice President of the United States. Hendricks, the nephew of Governor William Hendricks, was born near Zanesville, Ohio, but the family moved to Madison, Indiana in 1820. Hendricks attended Hanover College, where he enrolled in classical studies. Upon his graduation from Hanover in 1841, Hendricks moved to Chambersburg, Pennsylvania to study law. He was admitted to the bar in 1843 and started a practice in Shelbyville, Indiana. Hendricks married Eliza Morgan in 1845, and they had one son, Morgan, who died at the age of three.

Perhaps inspired by his family's involvement with politics, Hendricks won a seat in the Indiana House of Representatives in 1848, where he served as speaker of the house. In 1850, he was elected to the United States House of Representatives, where he served as Chairman of the Committee on Mileage and the Committee on Invalid Pensions. Hendricks' position of popular-sovereignty and the extension of slavery to the western United States was unpopular in his district, so he did not win re-election in 1854. Hendricks moved to Indianapolis in 1860 and ran an unsuccessful campaign for Governor. Instead, he opened a law practice, but had to leave when the Indiana General Assembly elected him to the United States Senate in 1863. Hendricks, a Democrat, was in the minority party, and was opposed to the post-war 13th, 14th, and 15th constitutional amendments. However, he only served one term, as the Republicans came into power in Indiana, and he was replaced by Oliver Morton.

On his third attempt, Hendricks was elected Governor of Indiana in 1872. He was the first Democratic governor elected in a Northern state after the Civil War. After, his term as governor, Hendricks set his sights on national politics again, unsuccessfully running for Vice President in 1876, and then successfully running in 1884 under Grover Cleveland. However, Hendricks was not in good health at that time, and died in his sleep on a trip home to Indianapolis in 1885.

Sources:

Biographical Directory of the United States Congress. <http://bioguide.congress.gov>

"Indiana Governor Thomas Andrews Hendricks," Indiana Historical Bureau. <http://www.in.gov/history/2701.htm>

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This printed invitation invites Captain Nelson Roberts to a dinner given by the City Council at the International Hotel of St. Paul, Minnesota for Senator Thomas A. Hendricks. The invitation was issued by J.I. Beaumont, the Chairman of the Committee of Invitations.

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Invitation, 3 July 1865

CONTAINER

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