

## **Chief Justice Jeremiah S. Black**

1810-1883

### **Term**

December 1, 1851-1857; Chief Justice, December 1, 1851-November 13, 1854

### **Education**

Studied law under Chauncey Forward, Somerset, Pa.

### **Professional Experience**

- Admitted to Somerset County bar, December 2, 1830
- Governor David Porter appointed Black, Judge, 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial District (Somerset, Bedford, Sullivan Counties; Blair County added in 1846; Fulton County added in 1850), 1842-1851
- Elected Justice, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, October 1851; re-elected in October 1854
- Attorney General, United States, 1857-1860
- Secretary of State, December 17, 1860-March 4, 1861
- Reporter of Decisions, U.S. Supreme Court, 1861-1862
- Private Practice, 1863-1883
- Counsel, U.S. Secretary of War William W. Belknap, 1869-1876
- Commissioner, Boundary Dispute Between Virginia and Maryland, 1874

### **Honors and Awards**

- President Buchanan nominated Black, Justice, U.S. Supreme Court, but Senate confirmation withheld

### **Memberships and Associations**

- Member, Pennsylvania Constitutional Convention, 1873

### **Publications**

- Reports of the Attorney General on Navy Cases [1858?]
- Observations on Senator Douglas's Views of Popular Sovereignty: As Expressed in Harpers' Magazine, for September, 1859 (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> eds., 1859)
- Pacific Guano Company Dispute, 1859 (1859)
- U.S. Reports Volumes 66 and 67
- Argument in the Case of the Rancho De Los Capitancillos, (Fossatt vs. The United States), Before the Supreme Court; Reported by Mr. Murphy (1864)
- Judge Black's Argument for Kentucky in the Case of the United States Vs. Blyew and Kennard : The Civil Rights Bill and its Constitutionality (1871)
- United States vs. Blyew, et al., for Murder. Constitutionality of the Civil Rights Bill; Argument [Before The] Supreme Court of the United States. Reported by D. F. Murphy. (1871)
- Wilson, Henry and J. S. Black. A Contribution to History: Edwin M. Stanton, His Character and Public Services on the Eve of Rebellion, as Presented in a Series of Papers (1871)
- Letter of Judge Black to M. Stoughton. Reply to Stoughton's Defence of the Great Fraud (1877)
- The McGarrahan Claim. Argument of J. S. Black, Before the Senate Committee on Public Lands, May 14th, 1878 [1878?]
- Ingersoll, Robert G. and Jeremiah S. Black. The Christian Religion, 133 no. 297 North Am. Rev. 109 (Aug. 1881)
- Mistakes of Ingersoll and His Answers Complete (1882, 1889)
- Federal Jurisdiction in the Territories: Right of Local Self-Government: Judge Black's Argument for Utah Before the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives, February 1, 1883 (1883)
- Essays and Speeches of Jeremiah S. Black: With a Biographical Sketch by Chauncey F. Black (1885)

- Roberts, Thomas P. *Memoirs of John Bannister Gibson, Late Chief Justice of Pennsylvania: with Hon. Jeremiah S. Black's Eulogy, Notes from Hon. William A. Porter's Essay upon His Life and Character, Etc., Etc.* (1890)

**Sources**

2 *Twentieth Century Bench and Bar* 1172 (1903); Mark A. Graber, *Black, Jeremiah Sullivan*, *The Yale Biographical Dictionary of American Law* 81 (Roger K. Newman, ed., 2009); Frederick J. Blue, *Black, Jeremiah Sullivan*, *American National Biography Online*; Jeremiah S. Black, *Wikipedia*, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeremiah\\_S.\\_Black](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeremiah_S._Black); 2 David Brown, *The Forum* 102 (1856).