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John Flavel Fisk was born on December 14, 1815, in Genesee County, New York. He received his education in common schools. While John was still a boy, his father, David, relocated the family in Kentucky, settling in Kenton County. Meanwhile, John furthered his schooling at the Freeman Carey Institute in Hamilton County, Ohio.

John first arrived in Covington in 1839 but did not stay long. A year later he accepted a teaching position at the Germantown Academy in Mason County, Kentucky. In 1842 he went to the Maysville Academy as principal and served in that capacity for two years. On October 14 of that year he married Miss Elizabeth S. Johnson of Cincinnati, who bore him seven children. Also while at Maysville, Fisk became interested in the practice of law, and studied under Frank Hord.

In October of 1848 Fisk returned to Covington and attended law school under the guidance of Governor James T. Morehead and Judge Pryor. That same year he was admitted to the Kenton County Bar and served two terms as city attorney and two terms as county attorney. He became one of the most successful and celebrated lawyers in Kentucky.

A brilliant orator, Fisk was elected to the State Senate in 1857, and was unanimously elected its president. He served *ex-officio* Lieutenant Governor in 1862 and 1863, and was elected to that same office in 1865. Fisk was a man who could get things done, and he accomplished much on both state and local levels. Even those who questioned his politics never questioned his ability, determination, or impartiality.

Fisk was a member of the I.O.O.F. and served as its president in 1877. He was a director of Covington's First National Bank in 1882 and also connected with the following institutions: the Queen City National Bank of Cincinnati; the Covington Bridge Company; the Champion Coal and Towboat Company; the Covington and Cincinnati Railway Company and; the Covington Protestant Children's Home.

John Fisk was also a very religious man and was an original member of the Covington Christian Church when its congregation met to worship in a small frame house on Third Street. Fisk also served as trustee of that church.

In 1879, Fisk joined a group from the American Industrial Deputation on a business trip to Mexico to exhibit and exchange products. The delegation was well-received and the venture proved very successful.

In 1902, at eighty-seven years of age, John Fisk died. His wife, Elizabeth, died a couple of years later at the age of eighty-two.

The John Fisk home, located at 13 West Eleventh Street, was built in the late 1860's.