



## Kentucky's War of 1812: Tunstall Quarles

*After the War of 1812, several Kentucky veterans used their military experience to propel themselves to higher political office. Among these veterans was Tunstall Quarles.*

Born in King William County, Va., Quarles moved to Kentucky when he was about 20 years old. An attorney, he served in the state legislature before moving to Pulaski County, where he was again elected to the Kentucky House. A legislator when the War of 1812 erupted, Quarles, “at his own expense, armed and equipped a company of the Second Regiment, Kentucky Militia, which he commanded.”

After the war, Quarles was appointed circuit judge and was elected to the U.S. Congress. Although he resigned from that seat in 1820, he was named speaker of the Kentucky House in 1828 and served in the Kentucky Senate in 1840.

A judge, congressman, state legislator, state senator and speaker of the Kentucky House, Quarles died in Somerset in 1855 and was buried in the “old Baptist Cemetery.”

KHS is the administrator of the Kentucky War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission. For more information, see [www.history.ky.gov](http://www.history.ky.gov).