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CITY OFFICIALS

Toberman, James

NAME Toberman, James R. (deceased January 26, 1911)

PUBLIC OFFICES HELD

(DATE)

CITY:

City Council	Feb. 23, 1870-Dec. 1870
Mayor	Dec. 5, 1872-Dec. 18, 1874
	Dec. 5, 1878-Dec. 9, 1882

COUNTY:

STATE

FEDERAL:

U.S. Revenue Assessor for Southern California, 1864-70

CIVIC ACTIVITIES:

Chamber of Commerce

BUSINESS OR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Federal official
Banker
Executive
Realtor-Insurance Broker
City official

PORTRAIT:

ATTACHED OR ENCLOSED IN ENVELOPE:

PORTRAITS APPEARING ELSEWHERE (DATES)

The Los Angeles Public Library
Local History Collection
Biography

NAME Toberman, James R. (deceased January 26, 1911)

Occupation Realtor

Address _____

Birth (Date and Place) June 22, 1856, Richmond, Va.

FATHER John Toberman

Birth (Date and Place) Germany

If Deceased, When _____

MOTHER Elizabeth Campbell

Birth (Date and Place) Lexington, Va.

If Deceased, When _____

IF MARRIED, TO WHOM _____

Birth of Same (Date and Place) _____

If Deceased, When _____

When Married _____

CHILDREN (Married Names of Daughters)

Ralph (deceased)

James R. (deceased)

ANCESTORS OF DISTINCTION OR LOCAL INTEREST

(Please include names of local interest as "forty-niners," or any one connected with the affairs or development of the state or city, as officials, professional men, merchants, etc.)

EDUCATION (Schools, Colleges, Degrees, Etc.)

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va.
A.B. degree

CLUBS, LEARNED SOCIETIES, ETC.

Pioneer Society, University Club; Clubs; Masons;
Knights of Pythias

RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION Methodist

POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS Democrat

RESIDENCE IN CALIFORNIA SINCE 1864

SKETCH

(Please make this as full as possible, giving business affiliations, positions of honor or trust with dates if possible.)

James R. Toberman was born on June 22, 1836 in Richmond, Virginia, son of John Toberman who had migrated to Virginia from Germany and Elizabeth Campbell of Lexington, Virginia. James R. Toberman graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia.

As a member of the "Richmond Blues" a crack cavalry troop organized for military service among the Virginia Blue Bloods, in 1861 he was automatically drafted into the Confederate Army under General Lee where he served for the duration of the war.

In 1864 Mr. Toberman accepted an appointment from President Lincoln as United States Revenue Assessor for Southern California with headquarters in Los Angeles. He served in that capacity for six years meanwhile taking over the agency for Wells, Fargo, and Company. In 1868 he added banking to his other activities and became one of the Directors and Founders of the newly organized Hellman, Temple & Company bank.

Mr. Toberman was elected a member of the City Council on February 23, 1870 and served until December of the same year. On December 5, 1872 Mr. Toberman was elected Mayor of Los Angeles and served two one-year terms being defeated for reelection in December 1874. In December 1878 he was again elected Mayor of Los Angeles and served until December 1882.

In 1882 he entered the real estate and insurance business and together with his business associate J.R. Little, he organized the Portland Cement Association.

On August 1, 1873 the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce was founded with J.R. Toberman then Mayor, as one of its charter members.

Mr. Toberman turned over the active management of his business enterprises to his two sons, James and Ralph in 1904 and spent the remaining years of his life in comparative seclusion; he died at his home, 149 North Crown Avenue, Hollywood, on January 26, 1911.

ANECDOTES AND PERSONAL IMPRESSIONS:

SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

BOOKS:

L.A. City Vital Statistics-Deaths
L.A. Co. Probate records-Wills

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS:

L.A. Times obituary

PERSONAL INTERVIEW: Telephone interview
C.E. Toberman (nephew)

INTERVIEWED BY: Florence Goddard

DATE OF INTERVIEW December 2, 1937
Written by: F. Goddard