Biographies of western delegates who attended the 1861 Virginia Secession Convention were transcribed by undergraduate students enrolled in Dr. Billy Joe Peyton’s Fall 2010 “Introduction to Public History” class at West Virginia State University.

By Victoria Souhala

C. B. CONRAD, of Gilmer County (now in West Virginia), was born about 1812. He was a farmer and a justice of the peace of Gilmer County, and a brigadier general in the militia. Conrad was the delegate from Gilmer, Wirt and Calhoun counties to the State Convention. He voted against secession on April 4 and again on April 17, but he subsequently changed his vote from “nay” to “aye”.

Sources: Justices, Reg. 7; Willis G. Tetrick, (ed.), Census Returns of Doddridge, Ritchie and Gilmer Counties for 1850…. (Clarksburg, W. Va., 1933), p. 209; Calendar of Virginia State Papers, XI, 174