

The University of Delaware Library's federal depository designation anniversary is observed on June 30. Records show that Delaware College became a depository sometime between June 15 and July 1, 1897, sponsored by a United States Senator. Which one? Senator Richard Rolland Kenney served as Delaware's State librarian 1879-1881 prior to his election to serve in the Senate from 1897 to 1901. The other possibility is Senator George Gray, who served in the Senate 1885-1899.

Excerpts from *Biographical Directory of the United States Congress, 1774 – Present*

**KENNEY, Richard Rolland, (1856-1931)**

**Senate Years of Service:** 1897-1901

**Party:** Democrat



**KENNEY, Richard Rolland**, a Senator from Delaware; born in Laurel, Sussex County, Del., September 9, 1856; attended the public schools and Laurel Academy, Delaware; attended Hobart College, Geneva, N.Y.; studied law; admitted to the bar in 1881 and commenced practice in Dover, Del.; State librarian 1879-1881; captain in the National Guard 1880-1889; adjutant general of the State 1887-1891; member of the

Democratic National Committee 1896-1908; elected on January 19, 1897, as a Democrat to the United States Senate for the term commencing March 4, 1895, to fill the vacancy caused by failure of the legislature to elect and served until March 3, 1901.

**GRAY, George, (1840-1925)**

**Senate Years of Service:** 1885-1899

**Party:** Democrat



**GRAY, George**, a Senator from Delaware; born in New Castle, New Castle County, Del., May 4, 1840; attended the common schools and graduated from Princeton University in 1859; studied law with his father and attended Harvard Law School; admitted to the bar in 1863 and commenced practice in New Castle; attorney general of Delaware 1879-1885, when he resigned, having been elected Senator; elected as a Democrat to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Thomas F. Bayard; reelected in 1887 and 1893 and served from March 18, 1885, to March 3, 1899.