

= James T. Brady =

James Topham Brady (April 9 , 1815 ? February 9 , 1869) was an American lawyer . Born in New York City , Brady studied law in his father 's practice before being admitted to the New York bar himself . He is most notable for his career as a criminal lawyer , being involved in numerous high @-@ profile proceedings . He tried fifty @-@ two criminal cases and only lost one . Brady died at his home after having the left side of his body paralyzed for several days , and was interred at Calvary Cemetery in New York .

= = Early life = =

Brady was born on April 9 , 1815 , in New York City , the eldest son of Thomas S. Brady and his wife . Later , Brady would have seven siblings , two boys and five girls . The senior Brady had emigrated from Ireland to the United States while the War of 1812 was ongoing , and started a boys school in New York . When James was seven , he attended his father 's school . In 1831 James 's father had left teaching to become a lawyer , and he helped his father in his practice and in trials . In his father 's office , James studied legal material tirelessly , and soon operated most of the firm 's managerial affairs .

= = Career = =

Brady was admitted to the New York Bar in either 1835 or 1836 , when he was about twenty years old . His first case was an insurance proceeding , where he opposed the prominent lawyer , Charles O 'Connor . The plaintiff staked a claim for insurance money from a property allegedly burned down by a fire . Though Brady lost that case , his proficiency for law and oration was immediately noted .

Brady received his first taste of legal notoriety during the Goodyear v. Day patent case , where he worked under Daniel Webster and delivered the opening arguments for the plaintiff . Nevertheless , Brady is best known for his work as a criminal lawyer . In the quarter century preceding his death , he was involved in nearly every notable criminal proceeding in the Eastern United States . Among his most famous legal undertakings was the defense of Daniel Sickles during his trial for the murder of Philip Barton Key , the then Attorney General of the District of Columbia . During this trial , Brady worked with Edwin Stanton , who would go on to become the United States Secretary of War . Brady also defended Lew Baker at the murder trial of the infamous William " Bill the Butcher " Poole , whom Baker shot to death in 1855 at Stanwix Hall , a bar on Broadway in Manhattan . Over his career , Brady tried 52 criminal cases and lost only one , the case of Confederate privateer John Yates Beall .

Though he professed membership in the Democratic Party , Brady was notably disengaged from politics . In 1843 he was made the interim district attorney for New York County . Two years later , Brady was appointed the city 's corporation counsel , a position in which he served two terms , each term lasting for a year . In 1850 Brady ran for , but was not elected to , the position of Attorney General of New York . Brady was on John C. Breckinridge and Joseph Lane 's 1860 Democratic ticket for Governor of New York . When the American Civil War began , Brady switched sides and became an ardent supporter of Abraham Lincoln and his Republican Party . He deeply disdained Southern politics and policy .

= = Personal life and death = =

Brady remained a lifelong bachelor . When a friend asked why , he said , " When my father died , he left five daughters who looked to me for support . All the affection I could have had for a wife went out to those sisters ; and I have never desired to recall it . " On Sunday , February 7 , 1869 the left side of Brady 's body was paralyzed . He died at the age of 53 at his home in New York on February 9 at 4 : 45 pm . Brady 's funeral occurred at St. Patrick 's Cathedral , and he was interred at Calvary Cemetery .

