

## Carl Schurz - politician, diplomat and musician



Carl Schurz was born as Karl Christian Schurz on March 2nd, 1829 in Liblar, Prussia. From 1837 he attended the seminar training school in Brühl and from 1839 to 1846 the Jesuit high school in Cologne.



He studied philology and history at the University of Bonn. There he joined the fraternity in 1847. For his participation in the storming of the Sieburg armory in 1849, he was charged in Cologne but acquitted.

Carl Schurz received piano lessons on an Erard instrument. He played pieces by Beethoven, Schubert and Schumann.



Carl Schurz also made a name for himself as a music critic. Although

appalled by Richard Wagner's arrogance, he praised his work. And he also knew exactly how to describe the art of the famous singer Jenny Lind.



In 1852 Carl Schurz moved to the USA. President Abraham Lincoln sent him as ambassador to Spain in 1861.

In 1862 he joined the Union Army and took part in the American Civil War.



In 1869 he was elected to the United States Senate for the state of Missouri. In 1876 he gave concerts with the violinist and Senator Whitelaw Reid at campaign appearances for Rutherford B. Hayes.

After his election, Rutherford B. Hayes appointed Carl Schurz as the first German in the American cabinet to be Secretary of the Interior.

Carl Schurz died on May 14, 1906 in New York City. Mark Twain wrote an obituary for him in Harper's Weekly.

