

# JOHN M. LANGSTON DEAD.

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## Was First Negro Ever Elected to Office by Popular Vote.

Washington, Nov. 15.—Ex-Congressman John M. Langston of Virginia, one of the prominent colored men of the country, died here at 8:30 this evening. He was 68 years of age, having been born a slave in 1829. He was emancipated at the age of 6 years and was educated at Oberlin, where he graduated from the theological department in 1854. He afterwards studied law and practiced his profession until 1869, during which time he held several township offices in Ohio, being the first colored man elected to office in the United States by popular vote. In 1869 he was given the professorship of law at Howard university, remaining with that institution for seven years. From 1877 to 1885 he was United States minister and consul general to Hayti. Upon his return to this country he became president of the Virginia Normal and Collegiate institute at Petersburg, Va., where he remained for three years, when he was elected to the Fifty-first congress and was given his seat on a contest. Since 1891 Mr. Langston has been prominent in politics, but did not hold office.