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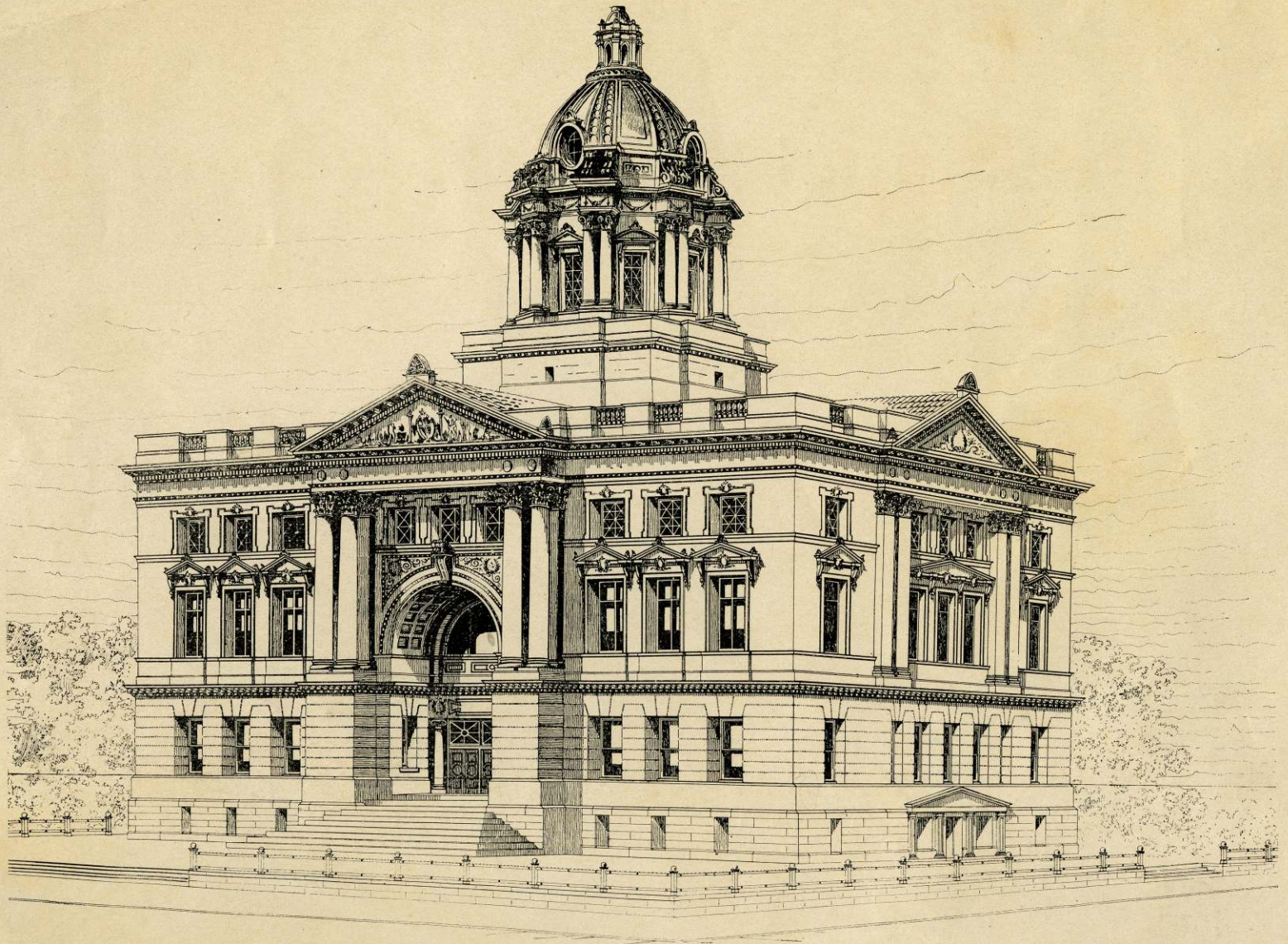
WEST VIRGINIA

The Personnel of Government

Legislative, Executive, and Military



CHARLES W. WALKER, Editor



CAPITOL ANNEX.

WEST VIRGINIA: The Personnel of its Government

IN

Legislative, Executive, Judicial and Military
Administration

AND

Its + Citizens + Distinguished + in + Public + Life.

OF

Records of their Acts as Contributions to History and as Leading
the Way to a Higher Civilization.

OF

The Men whose Aspiring Ambitions and Energetic Applications of Individual Resources have won
for West Virginia its Present Hopeful Augury of Future Greatness.

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..WEST : VIRGINIA..

THE PERSONNEL OF ITS GOVERNMENT IN LEGISLATIVE, EXECUTIVE, JUDICIAL AND MILITARY ADMINISTRATION.

The State of West Virginia may at this time be regarded as especially fortunate in having at the heads of its government such important and valuable representatives. These men have come forward from the ranks of the people; have been selected as the best exponents of a popular government; have proven themselves worthy of public confidence and support and as safe custodians of the trusts reposed in them. The election of men to administer the affairs of a State is a serious responsibility as in them is reposed the continuity of the institutions, rights and liberties of its people. The foundations upon which rest these sacred obligations are in the abilities, judgment, discretion and wisdom of those who compose the government of a State. The executive, legislative, judicial and military departments of the administration of West Virginia are fortunately under the control of representatives who may be regarded by their acts as being competent, honorable, judicious and just. The Legislature of 1899 brought into action new and untried men, but men of strong principles who acquitted themselves in the discharge of their obligations with a proper devotion to the interests of their constituents and the general welfare of the State. The proper administration of the government of West Virginia is of such vital concern to its people that the character of the men who conduct it becomes

of the highest public interest and importance. Hence does it follow that a particular account of their lives and their claims to recognition and honor are duties they owe to their constituents and posterity. The subjoined sketches have been prepared from original sources with the careful attention to detail they deserve and are submitted to public perusal and study as among the strongest types of administrative abilities afforded by nineteenth century civilization.

STATE GOVERNMENT.

The elective officers of the State are the Governor, Attorney General, Auditor, Treasurer and Superintendent of Public Instruction and constitute the Board of Public Works, which levies taxes for the support of the government and has general control of and supervision over the properties and revenues of the State, the Governor being ex-officio president and the Secretary of State, the secretary of the Board. All the other officers of government are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate, their terms of office being coequal with that of the Governor, four years.

THE EXECUTIVE OFFICES.

To the average man the office of Chief Executive of a State seems easy to manage; that there is but little real work connected with it; that the duties are plain and simple, and in short, that it is a sort of a bed of roses. This is a mistake. It is one of the most difficult offices to fill in the entire category of responsible public places. A Senator or a Member of Congress when the session ends, has the remainder of the year to himself. He can go and come as it pleases him; and even when the session is on, he can pair with a political opponent and can be absent from his desk almost as often as he likes. But the Governor of a State is expected to be at his office every business day in the week. No day is his own. He is presumed, during business hours, to be accessible to any and all the people, and is paid, as they take it, to listen to all their grievances; to hear pardon arguments; to give some one a coveted office; to furnish newspaper articles for industrial newspapers upon the resources of his State; to deliver public addresses upon all manner of subjects, Sundays, as well as week days; to help every poor tramp that chances to come along; to subscribe to every book that may be presented; and, in brief, to be every man's man in his State.

This is not an overdrawn statement of the every day life of the Chief Executive of a State. It is no wonder, therefore, that one term generally satisfies a Governor, and it is not much wonder also that one term in the Executive chair, generally kills him off from rising higher in political life.

For several months past the writer has noted the trials and perplexities of the Governor of West Virginia, who gives all of his time to public callers from 9 o'clock a. m. to 4 o'clock p. m., daily except Sundays. Naturally courteous, he receives all callers in a pleasant manner, and always treats all alike. Although an ardent Republican in politics, a Democrat is as graciously received as a Republican, and his requests are invariably considered as much so as if he was not a member of an opposing political organization. It is only justice to say, that Governor Atkinson is an attentive, conscientious official, and is always approachable at any time and place, by any citizen, either of high or low estate.

The Governor has, as private secretary, General E. L. Boggs, a most accomplished and efficient clerk. He is the acknowledged

best penman in the entire capitol building, and is gentlemanly, courteous and attentive to his duties. The Governor receives in the neighborhood of one hundred letters daily. These are all opened, and the majority of them are answered by General Boggs, without reference to the Governor. He has a stenographer, Miss Roberta Coleman, a young lady of accomplishments, who understands her duties thoroughly and well, and who is of inestimable value both to the Governor as well as to his private secretary.

The Governor's duties embrace the pardoning of criminals and the appointment of commissioners of deeds, notaries public, and the members of all the State boards, which have under their management the business institutions of the State. He also appoints the Secretary of State and other heads of departments of the State government, not elected by the people.

The Secretary of State, who is one of the busiest officials of the State government, is also secretary of the Board of Public Works, issues all charters and is superintendent of public printing. The present incumbent, Hon. William M. O. Dawson, is acknowledged to be, perhaps, the most careful and efficient man that has yet filled that important official station.

George Wesley Atkinson, Governor.

The Hon. George Wesley Atkinson, the Governor incumbent of West Virginia, was born in Kanawha county, of that State in 1847. He was graduated from the Ohio Wesleyan University in the class of 1870, and received a thorough legal education at Columbian University, being admitted to the bar in 1875. He won success and prominence in the practice of his profession, and has been conspicuously identified with the Republican political history of West Virginia, serving his party with singular zeal and fidelity. In 1881 he was appointed United States Marshal for the district of West Virginia and performed the duties of that office with credit and ability for the full term of four years. He returned to the practice of his profession in May, 1885, and, in November, 1888, was elected upon the Republican ticket as a member of Congress from the First District of West Virginia. His opponent was given the certificate of election by the Governor, but upon a trial before Congress Mr. Atkinson was awarded, at the beginning of the session, the seat as his just right.



GOVERNOR GEORGE W. ATKINSON AND STATE OFFICERS.

J. S. CRITCHFIELD
PUBLISHER

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Charleston, S.C.

WEST VIRGINIA: PERSONNEL OF ITS GOVERNMENT.

His congressional acts were characterized by an unswerving allegiance to duty, which has throughout his whole career fortified and guided him. For many years Mr. Atkinson engaged in journalistic pursuits, and was for nine years interested in the West Virginia Journal, published at Charleston, as one of its editors and proprietors. He has also made his mark in literature as the author of "The History of Kanawha," "After the Moonshiners," "Revenue Digest," "The West Virginia Pulpit," "Don't" and as the principal editor and publisher of "Prominent Men of West Virginia." His work, "A B C of the Tariff," considered an able exposition of a mooted political question, ran into an edition of more than one million copies. As a member of the M. E. church, Mr. Atkinson has been essentially prominent, and has on two occasions, in 1876 and 1888, served as a lay delegate to its general conference. He is worthily distinguished in the Masonic fraternity, having attained the thirty-third degree and successively discharged the functions of office in subordinate and grand lodges, rising to the rank of Grand Master and Grand Secretary, having held the latter office for 14 years past. For many years he has indited the reports on Foreign Correspondence for the Grand Lodge, entailing a vast amount of labor and demanding an intimate acquaintance of comprehensive masonry.

As a member of the Republican party, Mr. Atkinson has been signally honored by the bestowal upon him of various positions of trust and responsibility, having served as a member of the Republican State Executive Committee in 1876; its chairman from 1880 to 1884, and its secretary for four years. He was also the chairman of the Kanawha County Republican Executive Committee for eight years, and chairman of the Third Congressional District Executive Committee for ten years, and chairman of the First District Executive Committee for six years. He was also a member of the National Republican Committee for four years. As a politician Mr. Atkinson has exhibited the abilities of organization the management of which place him in the front rank of the great leaders of the country. His career in all relations he has assumed in public life has been emphasized in meritorious successes, and continual performance, while his social identity has given him a widespread popularity. Mr. Atkinson came before the people of West Virginia for gubernatorial honors in 1896 and was

triumphantly elected. He has not disappointed his supporters, but has infused into all his official acts as Chief Executive of the State the sterling principles and sound judgment which constitute him a man to be relied upon in all cases requiring the impartial exercise of those qualities. He was prominently mentioned as the Senatorial candidate of the Republican party to succeed Senator C. J. Faulkner, but failing of the caucus nomination, gave to his successful opponent earnest and loyal support. He has dignified and ennobled public trusts by the value and importance of his services, wherever directed, and is a son of West Virginia pledged to the highest and truest interests which can actuate the ambition in behalf of right and justice. Governor Atkinson is a man of striking and commanding physique and possesses a pleasing and graceful mannerism. He is an eloquent speaker and never fails to elicit the sympathy of his audiences. No man in West Virginia is better known or more popular. Col. James Atkinson, his father, deceased since 1866, was for many years identified with important business movements in the Kanawha Valley. In both parents George Wesley Atkinson had wise and prudent instructors and in his early years were placed before him the examples by which he has profited and which have elevated him into a splendid and resourceful manhood, crowned with imperishable honors and the nobility of a sincerely Christian character. Mr. Atkinson was married, December 8, 1868, to Miss Ellen Eagan, of Charleston, W. Va., a union which proved a happy one. Five children were the fruits of this marriage. He was married a second time, June 24, 1897, to Mrs. Myra H. Camden, widow of the late Judge G. D. Camden, of Clarksburg, West Virginia, a most estimable lady, who is highly esteemed for her meritorious qualities and accomplishments.

ATTORNEY GENERAL.

The Attorney General stands as the arbiter of justice in the enforcement of the Supreme laws of the State and the maintenance of the equal rights and privileges of its people. He is the advisory counsel of the Executive Departments of the administration of the State, involving all questions of legal rights and procedure and is required, when called upon to do so, to express his opinion in writing. He is the prosecutor before the Supreme

Court of Appeals of all Criminal cases that may come before it on appeal from courts of lower jurisdiction. Is the defender of the State against the assaults or encroachments of its own or other peoples on its territorial, property or other valued interests, privileges, rights and exemptions. He is the stern monitor of the integrity, honor and obedience of its citizens in their relation to the properly constituted lawful authority of the government. Is the State's attorney in all civil cases in the Circuit Court of the District wherein the capitol is located and ex-officio member of the Board of Public Works, and Reporter of the Supreme Court, for the performance of the duties of which latter important position he is provided with an assistant. He is also required to prepare annually reports of decisions of the Supreme Court. The duties of this office demand for the proper performance of its obligations and fulfillment of its trusts, men of undoubted ability, dauntless courage and unswerving integrity; and West Virginia is fortunate in having had such men in the incumbency of its affairs.

In the last report of the Attorney General we have before us some of the work done by him during his administration and from it we make statement and extract. In addition to the numerous opinions to the various departments and the heads of the various State institutions, copies of which have been preserved for the assistance, convenience and reference of his successors in office, he cites the cases submitted to the Court of Appeals, many of which involve intricate and important legal questions, and of them the Report says: "Ten cases have been briefed and submitted and the State has never yet asked for the continuance of a single case. Not only has the work been kept up, but it has always been done promptly. In my opinion all State cases should be heard and determined at the earliest possible moment, so as to avoid any delay which might justify the popular criticism of the slowness with which the courts enforce the laws and administer justice."

The most important case is, no doubt, that of the Pittsburg, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis Ry. Co. versus Board of Public Works. At the time of induction into office of the present Attorney General this case was pending in the United States Supreme Court on an appeal from the Circuit Court of the U. S. for this district. By direction of the present Board of Public Works he appeared with his predecessor, the Hon. T. S. Riley, and

Judge Melvin, of Wheeling, and submitted the case in January, 1898, receiving in November following a decision in favor of the State. In connection therewith the Report says:

"This was a most important decision, involving not merely the taxes due on the bridge of this railroad across the Ohio river at Stubenville, but also the taxes now being collected by the State from other railroads having bridges across this stream. The taxes on this bridge alone amounted to about \$3,000.00 per year, and as no taxes have been paid on it since 1894, there are now four years back taxes due and unpaid, amounting to about \$12,000.00. There are four other similar bridges in this State, on which taxes have been regularly paid, which would not only have been released from future taxes, but on which the State would doubtless have been asked to refund amounts already paid."

Another important matter was the prosecution of what is commonly known as the "Wheeling Whiskey cases," which resulted in breaking up the illegal sale of whiskey and from which the State received that year in fines and taxes \$18,000 and established a permanent and substantial increase in the revenue derived from license taxes. In another case, that of the Pullman Car Company, which had been running its cars for years without paying any taxes whatever, the Board of Public Works under advice of Attorney General, assessed the property for taxation, which resulted in bringing about negotiations that terminated in the property of the Company being taxed for the first time in the history of the State. The Report cites other cases which were settled to the advantage of the State and to the increase of its revenues, but we have selected only the principal ones as evidence of what has been accomplished in the work of this office. Of the responsible and important position of Reporter of the Court of Appeals, which duties, as stated, are performed by his assistant, the Attorney General says in his report that he was fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Edwin M. Keatley, a most valuable man of ability and education to whom is principally due not only the improvement in the State Reports but also largely the promptness with which the work of the office has been done.

Hon. Edgar Parks Rucker, Attorney General.

Hon. Edgar Parks Rucker, Attorney General of West Virgin-

ia, was born at Covington, Va., December 23, 1861. His parents are William Parks and Margaret Ann Rucker. His education was received in the State public schools and he was graduated in law from the West Virginia University in June, 1887, beginning the practice of his profession on being admitted to the bar July 1, of the same year. He was a candidate for the State Senate on the Republican ticket in the Eighth Senatorial district in 1888 and ran for Congress in the Third Congressional district in 1892. He was defeated in both instances, but by greatly reduced majorities. He was a regent of the West Virginia University and held that position from 1895 to 1897, the time of his election as Attorney General of West Virginia, when he resigned to enter upon the duties of that office.

His opponent in the race for Attorney General was the Hon. T. S. Riley, over whom his majority was 11,392 and 10,257 over all, Lynch receiving but 1,123 votes. Gen. Rucker ran second on the ticket, the plurality of Governor Atkinson over him in the whole State being but 197 votes. General Rucker has a notable and distinguished legal record. He began the practice of law July 1, 1887, and at that time entered into partnership with his father at Lewisburg, West Virginia, which was continued up to December, 1888, after which he conducted business alone until 1890, when he associated himself with Mr. Hugh G. Woods at Princeton, W. Va., the partnership terminating January 1, 1893. He then became and still is, the senior member of the firm of Rucker, Keller & Hamill, of Welch, W. Va., which controls a large and lucrative practice in the counties of Mercer and McDowell, West Virginia, and in which Mr. Rucker takes a just pride. His parents are both living at the age of 67 at Lewisburg, W. Va. His father, William Parks Rucker, continued in the practice of the law from the close of the civil war, during which time he was for four years the prosecuting attorney of Greenbrier and Pocahontas counties, until September, 1898, when from physical infirmity he was compelled to give up his practice and retire to the comforts of domestic life and the enjoyment of a well earned repose and many honors in the evening of his days. The elder Rucker was born in Campbell county, Va., November 9, 1831, and was married at Lynchburg October 28, 1852, removing to Covington, Va., where soon after he began the practice of medicine for which he prepared himself in the Jefferson College of Philadelphia and

the Baltimore College of Medicine and continued in it until the beginning of the civil war.

He served with distinction, and at the close of hostilities was mustered out with the rank of Major. His services were principally rendered on the staffs of Generals Crook and Sigel and he has letters from Abraham Lincoln in testimony of his brave, soldiery record. The mother of Attorney General Rucker was Miss Margaret Ann Scott, of a prominent family of Lynchburg, Va., where she was born January 29, 1832. Attorney General Rucker has ever been among the strongest supporters in West Virginia of Republican principles and his ambition and highest aims are directed to their perpetuity. He was married January 11, 1888, to Miss Maude Applegate, at Keytesville, Mo., and has one daughter, Margaret Clark, a very bright and interesting child born November 4, 1890.

AUDITOR'S OFFICE.

Through the Auditor's office are collected all the revenues of the State from every source whatever and disbursed all the expenses of the government. The work of this office is of greater volume than that of any other and a larger number of clerks are employed than in any other department of the State government, all of whom are conspicuous for their efficiency and ability as well as for their uniform kindness and courtesy and to them is due the high standard to which the work in this office is kept up.

TREASURER'S OFFICE

It is more important, and involves more responsibility than is commonly supposed. The Treasurer is required to give a larger bond than any other State official. Not one dollar can get into the Treasury until he receipts for it, not a penny can be drawn from the Treasury until he signs the check. In his office alone are kept the bank accounts showing where the money is deposited, and he draws the checks on whichever banks he chooses. His books also show, not only the exact condition of the Treasury, but the condition of all the funds and all the accounts. Once every quarter he settles with the depositories, and the cancelled

checks are kept on file in his office, thus furnishing conclusive evidence of obligations discharged. The total business of the office amounts to nearly \$4,000,000.00 a year. By virtue of his office the Treasurer is a member of three of the most important State boards the Board of Public Works, the Board of The School Fund and the Board of Public Printing.

Under the present administration the work of the office has been thoroughly systematized and the office has assumed the dignity and the prominence originally designed for it in the organization of the State.

Hon. M. A. Kendall, Treasurer.

Prominent among the young Republicans of West Virginia is State Treasurer M. A. Kendall, who was born on a farm in Ritchie county, West Virginia, July 23, 1862, and is the youngest son in a large family of children, three of whom were serving in the Union army at the time of his birth. His early education was acquired in the schools of his county, supplemented by home instruction until he attained his fourteenth year, when he secured employment with his brother as clerk in store at Elizabeth, Wirt county, attending school as his duties would permit, and graduating from the high school. At the end of five years he bought out the business and conducted it successfully for four years when he sold it and removed to Parkersburg. For several years after he represented a Wheeling house on the road, and for the four years previous to his election as State Treasurer, traveled West Virginia and Eastern Ohio for one of the leading business concerns of Cincinnati, establishing for himself the reputation of being one of the best and most popular salesmen throughout the territory traveled by him. In 1896 he received the Republican nomination for State Treasurer and was elected, his popularity adding strength to the ticket. As Treasurer of West Virginia he has made himself conspicuous for the zeal with which he has performed the duties of the office. He has always been an active, enthusiastic Republican, whose best energies have been devoted in council and on the stump to the success of the party, and whose voice has ever been raised for purity in politics and honesty in office. Mr. Kendall was chairman of the Republican Executive Committee of Wirt county for several

years and rendered such splendid services during the Blaine campaign as to stamp him as a leader whose ability should be recognized and rewarded in future political contests. Mr. Kendall is a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, a member of the Executive Committee of the State Sunday School Association and a trustee of the Ohio Wesleyan University, in the work connected with all of which he feels a zealous care and interest. As a public speaker and lecturer he has already earned an enviable reputation. As a public official he is courteous, affable and obliging.

DEPARTMENT OF FREE SCHOOLS.

The Department of Free Schools has its foundation in the constitution of West Virginia which provides that "The State Superintendent of Free Schools shall have a general supervision of free schools, and perform such other duties in relation thereto as may be prescribed by law." In addition to this constitutional requirement the Legislature has enacted that the State Superintendent of Free Schools shall reside and keep his principal office at the seat of government, shall have supervision of county superintendents, shall prescribe and prepare all forms and blanks used by teachers and school officers in the State, shall publish and distribute the school law, shall make an annual report to the Governor of the progress of education, shall fix the time and place of holding teachers' institutes and shall appoint instructors and prepare a graded course of institute work and shall serve ex-officio, as president of the Board of Regents of the State Normal School, and shall be a member of the Board of Regents of the Preparatory Branch of the West Virginia University, and of the Bluefield Colored Institute. He is also, by law, a trustee of Storer College and a member of the Board of Public Works.

The Department of Free Schools occupies six well furnished rooms in the State Capitol and in the discharge of his manifold duties the State Superintendent requires the services of two clerks and a stenographer. The present office force is: J. R. Trotter, State Superintendent; M. P. Shawkey and L. C. Anderson, clerks, and Miss Elizabeth Taylor, stenographer.



GOVERNOR GEORGE W. ATKINSON AND STAFF.

Hon. W. M. O. Dawson, Secretary of State.

The Hon. William Mercer Owens Dawson, Secretary of State of West Virginia, was born at Bloomington, Maryland, and is the youngest son of Francis Ravenscraft and Leah (Kight) Dawson. When a child his mother died and his father removed to Cranberry, now Terra Alta, Preston county, West Virginia, and subsequently to Bruceton Mills, remaining at the latter place until the outbreak of the Civil War, when he moved to Ice's Ferry, in Monongalia county. In the autumn of 1863 Mr. Dawson returned to Cranberry to reside with his sisters. He here found employment in the cooper-shop with his brother-in-law, at which he worked from 1863 to 1868, attending the country schools during the winter. His education was obtained in the free schools and in several terms of select schools at Terra Alta. He served as clerk in the store of the Hon. John P. Jones at Terra Alta for several years. He taught several terms of country free schools and was employed as book-keeper and clerk in other stores in Terra Alta.

In September, 1873, he gave up clerking and book-keeping, removed from Terra Alta to Kingwood; and, before he had reached his majority, took charge of The Preston County Journal, at Kingwood, the Republican newspaper at that place. He had previously acted as a valued correspondent of this newspaper and of the Wheeling Intelligencer. On taking charge of The Journal he reduced its price of subscription, and greatly improved it, and two years later became the owner of the paper. The business flourished despite the panic of 1873, and the paper steadily won its way to popularity and liberal support, which it continued for many years to receive as the result of his management and direction. From his tender years Mr. Dawson evinced a lively interest in political movements. In 1874, against his wishes, he was elected chairman of the County Committee of Preston county; was twice unanimously re-elected, when he voluntarily retired. He was unanimously nominated by the County Republican Convention at Terra Alta in 1880—the largest convention ever assembled in the county—for State Senator from the Tenth district, composed of Preston and Monongalia counties; and was elected in October of that year, and took his seat in the State Senate on January 12, 1881, the youngest member of the body.

In 1884, he was again unanimously nominated and reelected with only formal opposition, to the State Senate. The Tenth district (now the Eleventh) was and is the strongest Republican district in the State. When Mr. Dawson took his seat in the Senate in 1881, his colleague and himself were the only Republicans among the twenty-four senators; but when he retired in 1888, the Senate was nearly evenly divided, and the succeeding senate was Republican. At the end of his second term Mr. Dawson refused to be considered a candidate, and announced in the public prints that he would not accept a renomination if offered, and could not serve if re-elected, as he was too poor longer to neglect his private business.

In the Senate Mr. Dawson rendered valuable service as a member of the committees on banks and corporations, on finance, on the joint committee on finance, on the joint sub-committee on finance to prepare the appropriation bills; on counties and municipal corporations, on the penitentiary, on mines and mining, on public printing, and on the joint committees on enrolled bills (of which he acted as chairman on behalf of the Senate during the important sessions of 1881 and 1882, when the Code was revised.) He was also a member of other regular committees; and was a member of the joint sub-committee to investigate the assessment and taxation laws of the State, with a view to their thorough revision, in which he took an active part, and spent much time. He wrote the minority report of that committee, in which he contended that every citizen should pay taxes on what he owns only and not on mortgages or other debts; that the debts due on the homes of the people, on farms, and on real estate, should be deducted from their values, and taxes on the mortgages on them be paid by the holders of the mortgages, and not by the owners of the property. He was the only Republican member of a special committee to investigate the public printing and the report written by him and signed with him by two of the four Democratic members of the committee, was adopted by the Democratic Senate, after a lively fight. He was a member of a special committee to investigate the financial condition of the State, and especially of the wrongful use of the irreducible school fund. He wrote the minority report of that committee; and a motion, the substance of which was to adopt the recommendations of that report, was defeated by a vote of 12 to 12, in the Senate of 22 Democrats and

two Republicans.. But the Legislature did then appropriate money to pay back various amounts taken at different times from the irreducible school fund to pay deficits in the revenue. Since that time the practice of playing fast and loose with this fund has stopped. The justice of Mr. Dawson's position was not questioned by any one. His investigation into the matter led him to draft an amendment to the constitution to abolish the irreducible school fund, to provide for its distribution to the children of school age of the State for free school purposes, and to provide that the moneys which go into that fund should go into the distributable fund. He collected many statistics on the subject, and showed how, in some other states, a similar fund was looted, or wasted, or lost by bad investment. His amendment was advocated by the *Wheeling Intelligencer*, then edited by the late A. W. Campbell, and by the *The Wheeling Register*, then edited by the late Lewis Baker, they being the leading papers respectively of the Republican and Democratic parties of the State. The amendment was adopted in two different sessions of the Senate, and each time by more than the required two thirds vote. Mr. Dawson, however resisted all suggestions to use any part of this irreducible fund for any other purpose than the support of the free schools.

About the time he took his seat in the Senate the people of the State were stirred up on the question of exorbitant railroad charges for freight and unjust discrimination in such charges against West Virginia's products, by the two trunk lines of the State. He made a study of the question and introduced into the Senate an elaborate bill, providing for a commission, on the lines afterward adopted in the creation of the Federal Inter-State Railroad Commission, and delivered a speech in explanation of it, which was printed and circulated in the State and was very favorably commented on by nearly all the newspapers of both political parties.

The *Wheeling Register* (Dem.) printed the speech in full and gave it considerable and favorable editorial comment. The measure, after being ordered to its second reading, without opposition, went over until the adjourned session of 1882, when it was thoroughly debated. Party lines were drawn against it by leading Democrats of the State, who were interested in railroads and it was defeated by a very few votes. Mr. Dawson emphasized that he was friendly to railroads, as they were essential to the

development of the State, physically and mentally, and should be treated justly and liberally. He redrafted the chapters of the Code, concerning licenses, consolidating the two chapters into one; made amendments of the law concerning the printing of bills and the journals of the two houses, and made many amendments to the road laws. He advocated the relegation of larger discretion to the local authorities in the management of their fiscal affairs.

He was one of the chief factors in the building of the eleven miles of railroad from Tunnelton to Kingwood in Preston county, which is now a standard gauge road, in a prosperous condition, and soon to be extended to Morgantown. Perhaps there is not another instance in the country where the same number of people of the same wealth built so many miles of railroad over so difficult a route, without outside aid. To this project Mr. Dawson gave several years of work and considerable money, and was for several years one of its chief managers. In its inception he was associated with Judge John Barton Payne, now of Chicago, the Hon. Charles Edgar Brown, late postmaster at Cincinnati, and Judge Joseph H. Hawthorne, of Kansas City, Mo., all of whom were then residents of Kingwood. Mr. Dawson has devoted many years of his life to duties of a public nature. He served as mayor of the town of Kingwood; and his present office of Secretary of State, with the exception of Clerk of the House of Delegates in 1895, is the only office of profit he has ever held. Mr. Dawson became the Chairman of the Republican State Committee in 1891; was re-elected in 1892 and 1896, and is the present incumbent of that position. He effected a thorough organization of the party in 1892, which he further perfected in 1894 and 1896. He was complimented by the National Committee with having the best organized State in the Union.

He was appointed by Governor Atkinson Secretary of State of West Virginia to serve for four years from March 4, 1897, and invests that office with commendable and exemplary management. He is *ex-officio* the Superintendent of Public Printing; Secretary of the Board of Public Works, and keeper of the Executive Journal. The uniform duties of his office require the services of two additional clerks to those provided by the State, and which are in his private pay.

Of Mr. Dawson it may well be stated that he possesses in a remarkable degree the qualities best adapted to the discharge of

the gravest public questions. His knowledge of law and his long experience in the printing trade and business enterprises and his cool and inflexible judgment especially recommend him as a responsible curator of the onerous responsibility attaching to the duties of his present office. His well known integrity and indomitable zeal and energy in the discharge of every duty imposed upon him demand that his services will continue to be gratefully recognized at the hands of a discriminating public.

We close this sketch with some official figures showing the conduct of the office of Secretary of State during Mr. Dawson's incumbency.

As Superintendent of Public Printing, he has made a splendid record for his party and for himself. The cost of public printing, binding and stationery from 1890 to 1896, seven fiscal years, closing with September 30th of each year, was \$328,316.53, or an annual average of \$46,902. For the two fiscal years Mr. Dawson has been in charge, the average annual cost has been less than \$16,500, a decrease in the two years of over \$61,000, or an annual saving of over \$30,500.

The amount of money collected by him and paid into the State Treasury, from March 4, 1897, to July, 1, 1899, is as follows:

For tax on State seal	\$ 3,947 00
For proceeds of sale of books	6,441 35
For the first year's license tax, as new corporations chartered by the Secretary of State	71,420 00
<hr/>	
Total amount collected and paid in by him	\$81,808 35
Amount of first year's license tax on new corporations chartered by the Secretary of State during said period and paid direct to Auditor, . . .	\$ 8,110 00
<hr/>	
Total arising from Secretary of State's office from the above three sources during said period . . .	\$89,918 35

The item of "tax on State seal" is the proceeds of a tax of \$1 charged when the seal is attached to any paper, excepting such papers as are exempt by law.

The item of "proceeds of sale of books" is the amount collected for sale of Supreme Court Reports, Acts, and Codes. During this period, however, there were almost no Codes to sell, as the latest edition, (that of 1891) has been out of print since April 1,

1897; and many of the Supreme Court Reports have been out of print. At this date (Aug. 1, 1899), 24 of the 44 volumes of these Reports are out of print. Had the Code and Reports been in print the item named would have been much larger. Mr. Dawson has handled the important business of his office with the same industry and fidelity that he would were it his own private business. For instance, early in his term of office he made a ruling that he would not issue a charter until the first year's license tax was paid either to the Auditor or himself, no matter if the applicant paid the fee belonging to his office—he must pay also the tax due the State. The law does not require him to do this; he is not charged by the law with the collection of license tax at all; but his ruling has resulted in large gains to the State; and since the date of the ruling the initial license tax has been paid on every charter before it was issued.

DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND MINING

The Department of Mine Inspection was created by an act of the legislature in 1883. The purpose of the act was to provide for the inspection of Coal mines, and to meet that end an official, to be appointed by the Governor, to be known as a Mine Inspector, was provided for. The duties of the inspector are to see that the provisions of the mining law are observed and to make personal inspections of the mines, and, each year, to make a report to the Governor of the State, stating the condition in which the mines were found, the extent to which the law is observed or violated, and to make recommendations on any needed legislation. The mine law provides that the mines shall be properly ventilated; that the places where the men work be kept free from standing bodies of water or gas; that the roof be securely timbered and that all machinery be inspected and in charge of competent persons.

The main object of this department is to enforce the laws which insure to the miners protection against accidents and to promote a healthful condition of the mines. Another duty of the inspector is to collect statistics relative to the mining industry of the State.

In no manner is this department vested with any conciliatory powers in case of strikes or labor troubles.

Since the establishment of this department the mines in the

State have increased in number to the extent that it has been necessary to increase the number of inspectors from time to time until at present there are four district and one chief inspector. Over three hundred mines come under the surveillance of the law, and the safety and welfare of twenty-five thousand workmen are looked after by the inspectors. The mine inspection department is often confounded with the department of Labor Statistics. These departments are wholly different in their purposes;—while the mining department attempts to protect the lives of all persons engaged at labor in and at the mines in the State, the Labor Bureau deals with the educational, financial and wage conditions of the laboring classes of people in all branches of industry in the State.

Prior to May, 1897, each district inspector reported directly to the Governor, and from a perusal of the reports it may be observed the reports were dissimilar in some important features. Since May, 1897, this department has been in charge of a Chief Inspector, who has supervision over all of the district inspectors. This change has had the effect of making an organization of the department a possibility.

There are in print fifteen annual reports of the mine inspectors and the sixteenth report is now in the hands of the printer.

One hundred and twenty-five thousand people of this State depend upon the mining industry for a livelihood.

For the maintenance of this department the State appropriates annually the sum of eight to ten thousand dollars.

James W. Paul, State Mine Inspector.

The present age has been prolific in bringing forward in public affairs young men who have won distinguished merit by the exercise of conspicuous abilities. In this connection is presented James W. Paul, chief mine inspector of the State of West Virginia. He was born in Newburg, Preston county, West Virginia, December 14, 1868. His early education was received in preparatory schools, and he was graduated from the West Virginia University in the class of 1893 with the degree of B. S. C. E., afterward attending a full course of mining at Columbia University, N. Y. He was subsequently engaged in mining engineering on New River, and was appointed to his present responsible po-

sition by Governor Atkinson in 1897, the youngest man officiating in his capacity in the United States. His duties embrace the superintendence and direction of the inspection of all the coal mines in the State of West Virginia, in which he is ably assisted by four district inspectors. Mr. Paul is proficient in chemistry and was for one year the chemist of the Davis Coal and Coke Co., in Tucker county, West Virginia, and the mining engineer for two years of the Monongah Coal and Coke Co. He is the incumbent Vice-president of the West Virginia Society of Civil Engineers and a director of the West Virginia Historical and Antiquarian Society. His report on mines and mining in West Virginia for 1897 is exhaustive, and is conceded to be the best and most comprehensive exposition of these industries yet laid before the public. In this work Mr. Paul has demonstrated his eminent qualifications for the thorough and effective management of the trust reposed in him and which invest him with a valuable identity as among West Virginia's promoters of weighty interests. Mr. Paul is a resident of Tucker county, West Virginia. His parents and a paternal grand parent are still living.

His paternal grandfather, coming from Philadelphia, settled in West Virginia over fifty years ago. His father was for some years engaged in the mercantile business, but is now interested in mining. His maternal grandfather also directed his attention to mining pursuits. Mr. Paul's term of office exists during the administration of Governor Atkinson and will, doubtless, under such exemplary jurisdiction be constituted a department of the government of the State of the most progressive and satisfactory determination. The administration of the office is appreciably facilitated by the services of the following assistants: Stephen A. Lewis, inspector first district; Jerry Meade, inspector second district; Edward Pinkney, inspector third district, and William J. Preece, inspector fourth district.

Mr. Paul is a young man full of energy and well directed ambitions; is an ardent Republican in politics, and the supporter of proper measures looking to the welfare of the people of West Virginia as implied in the utilization of its great natural resources.

As the custodian of the great mining interests of West Virginia and as a faithful and zealous promoter of their fullest development he deserves the honor conferred upon him and the attainment of the goal of higher preferment in the public cause.

Mr. Paul is an occasional contributor to the leading mining publications, notably "Mines and Minerals" and the "Engineering and Mining Journal," which have awakened general interest as directed to the expansion of the great mining resources of West Virginia.

COMMISSIONER OF LABOR.

It is the duty of this officer to collect, compile and present the Governor in annual reports statistical details relating to all departments and industrial interests of the State, especially in relation to the financial, social, educational and sanitary condition of the laboring classes and all statistical information that may tend to increase the prosperity of the productive industries of the State. He must once a year at least visit and inspect the principal factories and work shops of the State, and shall have power in the discharge of his duties to enter and inspect any public institution of the State, and any factory, workshop or other place where labor is employed.

Hon. I. V. Barton, Commissioner of Labor.

Isaac Vernon Barton, Jr., was born May 20th, 1849, in Belmont county, Ohio, near what is now the busy mining town of Barton Station on the Cleveland, Lorain and Wheeling Railroad. Here his father, Isaac Vernon Barton, Sr., adjudged one of the finest mechanics of his time, engaged in cabinet making and the manufacture of agricultural implements, and here the early days of the subject of this sketch were spent. In 1860 the family removed to Wheeling, where Mr. Barton continued his education abruptly terminated by his enlistment in the volunteer service of the civil war, August 4, 1863, in the famous Holmes' battery, at fourteen years of age. After eight months service he was transferred to the Third West Virginia Cavalry, serving throughout the war. Returning to Wheeling at the close of the rebellion, here he again resumed his studies and finished his education in that city. At the age of twenty-one years, he turned his attention to mechanics and studied the science of steam, steam appliances and stationary engineering. For many years he held a very important position in one of the largest manufacturing es-

tablishments in the State. Mr. Barton will be remembered as being identified with the early Trades Union movement in West Virginia. Attending a national convention in New York City in 1871, as a delegate from this State he was elected second vice-president of the strongest labor organization in this country, at that time. Here he was commissioned to travel in the interests of the association and for two years traveled in Ohio, West Virginia and Kentucky where he became well and favorable known. He voluntarily severed his connection with the organization to become an employe of labor, and his keen sense of fairness and good judgment endeared him to all he came in contact with.

For State Commissioner of Labor he had the hearty support of organized and unorganized labor throughout the State. He is a man of high personal character and as the representative of the interest of the State has shown himself to be, painstaking, fair-minded and trustworthy. His report on the condition of labor of West Virginia has been complimented by the press everywhere and in his work, "Developing the State's Resources," showed great adaptability, thought and research. It has been demonstrated by his work, that he is a man of splendid capabilities and well equipped for the position he has been called upon to fill. He came himself from the ranks of skilled labor and has been a close student of the labor problem for years. His appointment is directly in the interest of the toiling masses for whose benefit he has devoted much of his time and energy. The Commissioner enjoys the confidence of these people for whom he has great sympathy. His greatest ambition is to elevate labor to that dignity, to which it rightly belongs. In the first two years of his administration his efforts have been unceasing in carrying out the primary objects of the office, for which it was originally intended, and the verdict is, in this he has been successful.

Hon. Pleasant S. Shirkey, State Librarian.

The friend of education is always of useful import in aiding the operation of the government machinery, as upon knowledge and its dissemination among the people depend the perpetuity of justice and the rights of citizenship. The law library of the State of West Virginia, with its 14,000 volumes of legal digests, decisions, manuals and reports, is an important auxiliary of the judicial department, and is regulated and managed by Mr. Pleas-

WEST VIRGINIA: PERSONNEL OF ITS GOVERNMENT.

ant S. Shirkey, the librarian, in an efficient and commendable manner. Mr. Shirkey is the son of David and Mary (Samuels) Shirkey, and was born in Kanawha county, West Virginia, August 3, 1842. He was educated in the free schools of Ohio; taught school for several years and was afterwards admitted to the bar and practiced law in West Virginia. He was married at the age of twenty-six to Mary E. Douglass, of Barbour county, West Va. He achieved success in the legal profession and has been active in Republican politics and the cause of education. He was appointed to his present position by Governor Atkinson in 1897 and has fully justified the confidence reposed in him, his services being always intelligently and capably rendered. Mr. Shirkey was for a number of years a member of the State Board of Education and is at present a member of the book board. As a friend of education and the earnest supporter of all movements implied in the general diffusion of knowledge he deserves well of the public, and his example of meritorious service in his present office distinguishes him as among the valuable custodians of public trusts.

BANK EXAMINER.

It is the duty of the Bank Examiner to examine into and report the condition and affairs of all banks and banking institutions organized under the laws of the State and known as State Banks, annually between the 1st of April and 30th of September and whenever required at other times to make special examination, when ordered to do so by Board of Public Works.

Hon. Ottmer B. Wetzel, Bank Examiner.

The Honorable Ottmer B. Wetzel, State Bank Examiner of West Virginia, was born at Ravenswood, Jackson county, West Virginia, May 4, 1867, and is the son of Robert T. and Nellie Wetzel, natives and life long residents of the same county. Young Wetzel received his education at the Ravenswood High School.

supplemented by a business course in the Eastman Business College, Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Though a young man, he is essentially qualified for the important position he holds, having served with credit and honor as teller for three years of the Bank of Ravenswood and as cashier for two years of the Bank of Spencer. During his incumbency of the office of Bank Examiner he has performed its duties with high honor and ability and proven himself a public officer worthy of the highest confidence and commendation. In 1895 he was elected by the Republican party, in whose councils and battles he has always taken an active part, Mayor of Ravenswood, serving one term to the eminent satisfaction of the whole people. Mr. Wetzel was married December 19, 1898, to Miss Flora A. Smith, of Spencer, where he resides honored and esteemed for the integrity of his life and nobility of character.

Hon. Frank Lively, Game and Fish Warden.

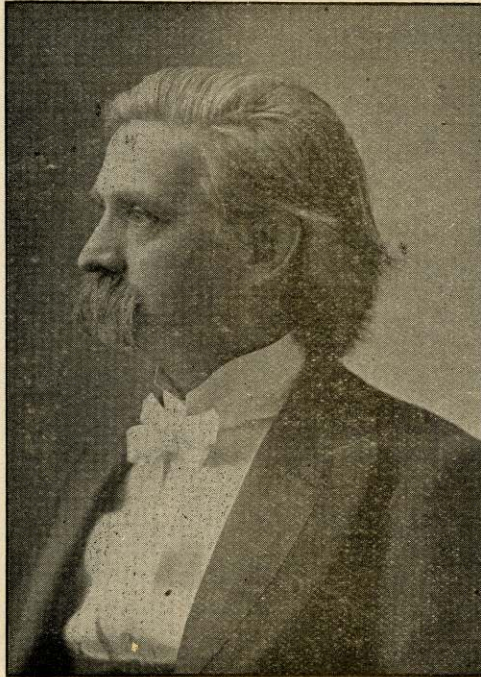
The Honorable Frank Lively, Game and Fish Warden of West Virginia was born September 8, 1864, in Monroe county, West Virginia, of which county his parents, Colonel Wilson Lively and Elizabeth Gwinn Lively, are natives. His preparatory education was acquired in the Concord Normal School, from which he graduated with honor in '82. This was supplemented during the years 1883-84-85 with a course at the West Virginia University from which he graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. He was admitted to the bar in 1886 and has continued in the practice of his profession ever since. Mr. Lively has always been an ardent lover of the sports of fishing and hunting and is particularly well fitted for the performance of the duties of his office. As a Republican he has served his party actively in many campaigns and is held in high esteem in its councils. He was married January 1, 1890, to Miss Annie E. Prince and resides at Hinton, Summers county, enjoying the confidence and high opinion of a host of friends for his noble qualities and warm generous nature.

IN LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION.

The Senate of West Virginia.

Hon. Oliver S. Marshall, President.

In the Senate, session of 1899, there were many men of marked personality and distinguished ability who established for themselves reputation and record worthy the praise and commendation not alone of their constituents but of the whole people. Of these, conspicuous to a greater degree, perhaps, than any other, because of the commanding position he occupied and his strongly marked personal characteristics, the Hon. Oliver S. Marshall, its president, demands foremost consideration and attention, not only for the eminent ability, dignity and grace with which



he presided over its deliberations, but as well for his wise, clear and impartial decisions on legislative questions and his tender consideration and uniformly kind and courteous treatment of all members. He was born September 24, 1850, in Hancock county,

West Virginia, of which his parents James G. and Levina Marshall were natives and life long residents. His early education was received in the schools of his native county, acquitting himself with distinction and at the age of eighteen was engaged as teacher. In 1873-4 he was student at the West Liberty Normal School and was the valedictorian of his class of eleven. Later he attended Bethany College from which he graduated in 1878 with degree of B. S. and four years after was elected one of its trustees to fill vacancy occasioned by death of General James A. Garfield. From 1880 to 1885 he was principal of the New Cumberland graded school. Mr. Marshall is a Republican tried and true, high in the councils of his party and earnest in the advocacy of its principles. He was elected in 1884 Clerk of the County Court of Hancock and by successive elections continued as such until 1896, at which time he was elected to the State Senate as one of the Senators to represent the First Senatorial District. In the same year he was admitted to the bar in Hancock county, since which time he has continued in the practice of his profession building up a large and lucrative business and winning reputation for his legal ability and scholarly attainments. In 1892 he was a delegate to Minneapolis from the First West Virginia district and voted for Harrison the successful nominee of his party. Senator Marshall has been twice married and has had born to him five children. His first wife was Miss Lizzie, a daughter of Campbell Tar, of Brooke county and his present wife Miss Nora, the second daughter of Capt. William Householder, of Hancock county. Senator Marshall is a tall and handsome man, his iron gray hair, which is worn long giving him a conspicuous and distinguished appearance. As President of the State Senate and ex-officio heir apparent to the gubernatorial chair he is a prominent figure today before the people of the State for the next Governor, his eminent ability well qualifying him for the position.

Hon. Walter Lewis Ashby.

The subject of this biography, a rising young attorney of Charleston, and member of the Senate of West Virginia from the Ninth Senatorial District, was born in Norborn county, Missouri, November 3, 1862. His parents removed to Boone county, W. Va., in 1865, and to Kanawha county 1869, the son receiving his educational training in the schools of Charleston, afterwards at

tending Rock Hill College at Ellicott City, Maryland. He studied law in the office of his half brother, the late Senator John E. Kenna, and was admitted to the bar January 30, 1885, shortly thereafter forming a partnership with General C. C. Watts, under the firm name of Watts & Ashby. Mr. Ashby has since devoted himself assiduously to the practice of his profession and has achieved success and prominence. He received the nomination for State Senator on the Democratic ticket and was elected November 8, 1898, over his opponent, D. M. Shirkey, by a majority of 545 votes.

Mr. Ashby is a young man of prominence and his popularity is evidenced by his selection to fill the responsible trust confided to him by the people.

As a member of the Senate, Mr. Ashby was one of its most punctual attendants and an earnest and active supporter of all measures directed to the advancement of the public good and the promotion of the best interests of his constituents and of the whole people. He was a prominent and highly esteemed member of eight of the most important Senate committees: Education; Roads and Navigation; Public Buildings and Humane Institutions; Railroads; Federal Relations; Mines and Mining; Claims and Grievances; Rules and on Public Library.

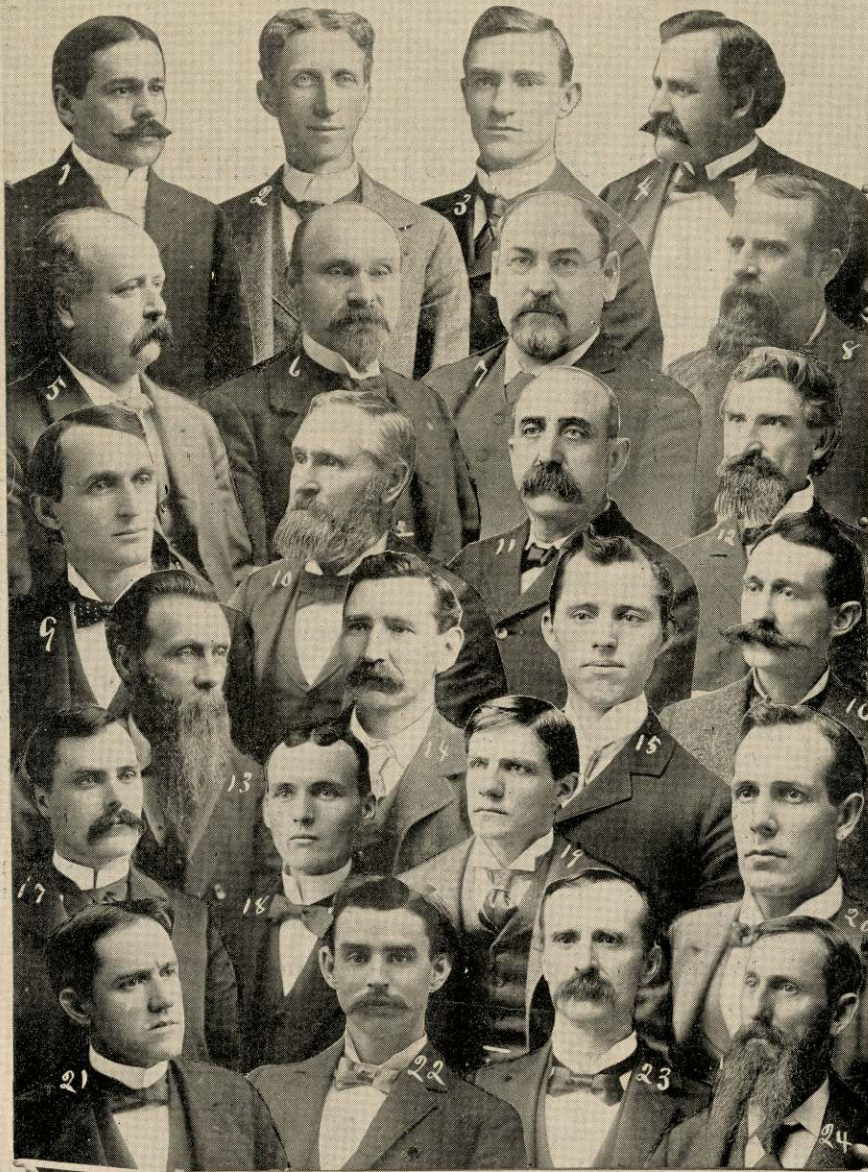
Hon. Bernard J. Baker.

The Hon. Bernard J. Baker, the hold-over Senator from the Twelfth Senatorial District, was born at Petersburg, Hardy county, Virginia, now Grant county, West Virginia, March 1848. He is a son of E. W. and Frances Baker, now deceased, natives of the county where he was born and reared. Besides the advantages of a sound and thorough schooling in the common schools of his native county where he finished with credit to himself and the satisfaction of his teachers, he attended Marshall College, Huntington, and in 1868 Eastmans Business College at Poughkeepsie, New York, in preparation for the activities of a life of trade. At the age of twenty-two he began his mercantile career as clerk for Grove & Co., serving as such but a short time when the firm was changed to Baker & Hodners, then to Baker & Co., and finally to B. J. Baker as the business is now conducted. Senator Baker has always been a Democrat and has frequently been honored by election to positions of trust and dignity by his fel-

low citizens of the District, his first office being the responsible one of township treasurer. He has many times been elected chairman of the Democratic County Central Committee of Grant county and has also been the Grant county member of the Democratic Congressional Committee of the Second District, filling that position on the several occasions of the candidacy of the Hon. William L. Wilson for Congress. Mr. Baker was elected in 1896 to the Senate of West Virginia over Hon. C. M. Babb by 940 majority and was a member two years ago of the joint Committee on Constitutional Amendments. He is a man of distinguished presence and would command the attention of any assemblage. He is recognized as one of the leading members of the Senate and though he did not often engage in its debates his advice and judgment in the councils of his party was frequently sought and followed. He was married in November, 1875, to Miss Mary C. Welton and resides at Petersburg, where he is engaged in mercantile pursuits, farming and live stock dealing.

Hon. James Floyd Beavers.

One of the Senators representing the Seventh Senatorial District of West Virginia, was born of humble but worthy parents in Tazewell county, Virginia, on the 5th day of May, 1865. At the early age of twelve years his ambition led him to choose a profession which should fit him for political activities and so entering a printing office as an apprentice in preparation for journalistic life, he worked himself up through all the branches of that business, devoting his spare moments and nights to the prosecution of his studies which had been interrupted by his employment and supplementing his common school and home acquired education by the useful schooling of a typo. He has had varied experience in newspaper work both in the old State and in the new, and in 1891 established at Welch the McDowell Recorder of which paper he was for four years, from 1891 to 1895, the editor and manager. Mr. Cleveland during his second term honored him by making him postmaster of his town. In the campaign of 1892 Mr. Beavers was the nominee of his party for the Legislature but though receiving its full vote he was unable to overcome the large Republican majority and was defeated by his Republican competitor A. W. Cook. Senator Beavers has always been a Democrat and in the election of 1898 he defeated Col. John D.



SENATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, 1899.

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Hewitt the popular Republican candidate by a majority of 610, in a district which had gone Republican two years before by 997. In 1893 Mr. Beavers married Miss Alice McDonald, of Raleigh county, since which time he has permanently resided at Welch, identifying himself with its people and interests and becoming a leader of a constituency who have expressed their confidence in his worth and ability by electing him their representative to the upper house of the Legislature. Senator Beavers is an industrious and ever watchful member of the Senate and always keeps in sight the interests of his district and its people.

Hon. R. C. Burkhart.

The Honorable Robert Christopher Burkhart was born October 8, 1839, at Darkesville, Berkeley county, Virginia, now West Virginia, and is the only son of Dr. F. M. and Annie E. Burkhart. His father was a native of Washington county, Maryland, but for forty years a practicing physician of Berkeley county and at the time of his death at the age of 84 one of its oldest and most prominent citizens. His mother nee Annie E. Stewart, was a native of Berkeley county, and as in the case of her eminent husband, lived to advanced old age, dying at 82 years honored and loved by all who knew her. Young Burkhart was reared and educated under the wise guidance and refining influences of home instruction and in the schools of his native county. Leaving home at an early age he settled at Oregon, Holt county, Missouri, where during the years 1858-59 he was engaged in general merchandise business with S. Moore. Tiring of this life of little activity, he returned home where the war between the States, soon after found him. Espousing the cause of the South and of his native State he enlisted in Company B, 1st Virginia Cavalry serving in it about one year, when his youthful ardor fired with enthusiasm for the cause he loved, and yearning for greater activity and adventure in the stirring scenes of strife was moved to high sense of pride and gratification by the appointment as chief of General Fitzhugh Lee's scouts, a position which suited his hazardous spirit and won for him the praise and affectionate regard of his distinguished commander, which latter relation is mutually expressed even at this distant day when occasion brings them together. At the

conclusion of hostilities he returned to the peaceful pursuit of business, conducting a drug store in Shepherdstown, Jefferson county, West Virginia until 1873, during which time he studied medicine but he has never practiced. In July, 1866, he married Miss Sue W. Moore of Jefferson county, West Virginia, from which union fourteen children, eight girls and six boys were born, eleven of whom and eight grandchildren are still living. On his retirement from business he moved to his farm near Shenandoah Junction in the same county, where he engaged in agricultural and horticultural pursuits. In 1877 he purchased the splendid fruit farm known as Kiefer's Park on the Valley pike three miles from Martinsburg and eighteen miles from Winchester, where he has since resided, devoting his time and talents to the growing of fine fruits principally pears, his large and productive orchard of 65 acres being considered the finest in the two Virginias. He has always taken an active interest and is a firm believer in, the future of the State as a horticultural one. Was elected January, 1897 president of the State Agricultural Society, of which he has been a member since its organization, and reelected at its last annual meeting, his eminent qualifications well fitting him for the position. He is also president of the local Horticultural Society of Berkeley county. In politics Senator Burkhart has always been a Democrat, dyed in the wool and was elected to the Legislature of 1899 over Republican and gold Democrat opponents by 1310 majority, thus attesting his great popularity among his people. As chairman of the Committee on Emigration and Agriculture of the Senate, he occupies a distinguished position, in that, he is the onl chairman of either branch of the Legislature in political opposition to the dominant party, a high and well merited compliment to his splendid abilities.

Hon. J. J. Cornwell.

The Hon. John J. Cornwell of the Twelfth Senatorial District is a native of Pennsboro, Ritchie county but was reared on a farm in Hampshire, his father having moved to that county from Fauquier county, Va., just prior to the Civil War. His parents J. H. and Mary E. Cornwell were respectively of English and Scotch nativity. His education was acquired in the common

schools, chiefly. He taught in the public schools for seven terms and was a member of the County Examining Board for teachers before he was of age. The subjoined facts as incidents leading up to his present position are of political interest. In 1890 he, with his brother, W. B. Cornwell, Prosecuting Attorney of Hampshire county, purchased the Hampshire Review, an influential Democratic paper which he still owns and edits. Under the second administration of Mr. Cleveland he was appointed State Statistical Agent but because of his advocacy of the free coinage of silver and the strictures on the administration in his newspaper, and through the influence of Hon. William L. Wilson and some Federal officials in this State, Secretary Morton who was an extreme gold-standard advocate removed him from office early in the summer of 1896. The same summer he was sent as a delegate from the Second Congressional District to the Chicago Convention and was one of the two delegates from this State who voted for the nomination of Hon. William Jennings Bryan for President. He was unanimously nominated for State Senator in the Twelfth Senatorial District in 1898 and ran ahead of his ticket in every county in the District, except one, despite the fact that his opponent the Hon. F. M. Reynolds, was by all odds the ablest and most popular Republican in that Senatorial District. Mr. Cornwell studied law in the office of his brother mentioned in this article, who is one of the leading lawyers of the Second Congressional District, and is partner with him, the firm being Cornwell & Cornwell. He is an active member of five important committees, viz: On Counties and Municipal Corporations; Public Buildings and Humane Institutions; Railroads; Militia and on Immigration and Agriculture. He has a tall and commanding presence, is a bold and aggressive speaker, a logical and able debater and ever ready to do battle in the interests of his people and for the cause of his party.

Hon. N. C. McNeil.

The Hon. Nathan Clawson McNeil, Senator from the Eighth Senatorial district, was born at Buckeye Cove, Pocahontas county, November 7th, 1865. His parents are Claiborne and Elizabeth McNeil, natives respectively of Pocahontas county, Virginia, now West Virginia, and Augusta county, Virginia. Young McNeil received his education at the Hillsboro Academy and the

University of West Virginia, from which latter institution he graduated July 12, 1889, with the degree of Bachelor of Laws, at the head of his class and its president, beginning the practice of his profession at Huntersville, December, 1891, and has continued in it uninterruptedly ever since. He has always been a Republican, ardent in his zeal for the great principles for which his party stands, and honored by it in council and responsible trusts. He has been since 1894 chairman of the Republican Executive Committee of Pocahontas county and has been active in its every campaign. He was elected in 1896 over Mr. E. T. Holt by 337 majority to represent in part the Eighth Senatorial district in the Legislature of the State. During the session of 1897 Senator McNeil was one of the conspicuous and active members on the floor of the Senate and prominent as a member of several of its most important committees. During the session of 1899 he took a leading part in its debates and committee meetings, the effectiveness of his work proving itself in the success which marked his efforts. In recognition of his services as manager of their campaigns he was given the honor and privilege of nominating the Hon. O. S. Marshall for the Presidency of the Senate and the Hon. N. B. Scott in joint assembly for U. S. Senator, both of whom were elected. He was chairman of the Committee on Privileges and Elections which tried the celebrated Morris and Kidd contest case, and member of the Senate Committee on Judiciary; Public Buildings and Humane Institutions; Militia; Claims and Grievances and on Public Printing. Was also a member of Conference Committee to Revise the Code; to Reprint West Virginia Reports and to compromise Senate and House contests. He was patron of many important bills such as the creation of Board of Pardons, the establishment of Laborers' Lien Law; the revision of the Fish and Game Laws and appointment of Warden for same, and many others. Senator McNeil is of commanding presence; is a ready and forcible speaker and easily impresses his hearers by his clear and logical sentences. He is a resident of Marlinton and one of its leading attorneys.

Hon. C. W. Osenton.

One of the youngest and most prominent Senators in the 1899 session of the West Virginia Legislature, represents the Eighth Senatorial district. He is a son of George N. Osenton and Daisy

Lansdowne Ossenton, the latter a daughter of the late Dr. A. J. Lansdowne, of Kentucky and was born at Ashland, Ky., in 1865. He commenced active life at the age of 16 as a clerk in a railroad store. He went through many grades of this service, and afterwards clerked in a wholesale house on Portsmouth, O., and has won his way to his present distinction by reason of his own force of character. He is a graduate of the Georgetown, (D. C.,) Law School in the class of 1895. During Mr. Cleveland's second administration he was chief of a division in the treasury department. In 1889 he married Miss Kate Cappellar and now lives in Montgomery, Fayette county, where he enjoys a lucrative law practice.

Senator Ossenton is a great admirer of William J. Bryan and an ardent advocate of his financial theories. He tendered his resignation of the position he held in the treasury department in order that he might take an active part in the campaign of 1896. His resignation was not accepted, however, and he went on the stump in defiance of Mr. Cleveland's civil service order.

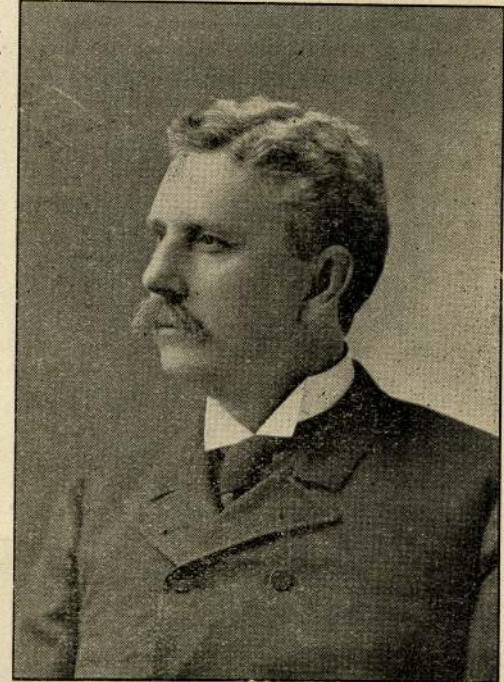
Senator Ossenton never held any public office except that of recorder in the town of Montgomery until he was elected to the State Senate in 1898. His plurality in that election over his competitor, Col. H. H. Andrew, was 1014, in a district which had gone Republican twice by several hundred majority. This great change in the vote is owing to his great popularity among the laboring classes. Senator Ossenton is an indefatigable worker, and has rendered valuable service to his party in organizing its forces in the last two campaigns. He is a young man of promise, and his further advancement is assured.



HOUSE OF DELEGATES OF WEST VIRGINIA.

Hon. Owen S. McKinney, Speaker.

The Legislature of 1899 developed to a marked degree the abilities of the men of both parties who will be distinguished as leaders in the campaign of 1900. Conspicuous, not alone for being the head of the Democratic party in the popular branch of the Legislature as its Speaker, but as well for his splendid ability, dauntless integrity, impartial rulings and the acumen with which his decisions were rendered, the grace and dignity with which he presided and the wisdom and fairness that directed and actuated his treatment of every question without regard to party the Hon. Owen S. McKinney must be regarded as the most prominent figure of the last Legislative assembly of West Virginia.



Although elected without previous experience to preside over an assembly tactful and practiced in parliamentary usages, his strong intelligence coupled with coolness and courage and fine executive ability enabled him to meet every emergency in the performance of the duties of his exalted

WEST VIRGINIA: PERSONNEL OF ITS GOVERNMENT.

and frequently trying position to the equal satisfaction and commendation of both parties.

Owen S. McKinney was born near Fairmont, Marion county, Virginia (now West Virginia) September 30, 1849, his parents being John S. and Matilda C. McKinney, natives and life long residents of the same county. His education was acquired in the common schools of his native county where he distinguished himself by close application to study and high standing in his classes, the success attained by him in his business career since, attesting his superior intellectual character and high mental attainments. Selecting journalism as best suited to his tastes and as leading the way to political honors and preferment, he entered upon his profession in 1873 and has continued in it ever since, for the past ten years being the editor of the Fairmont Index, a vigorously edited and influential Democratic paper. He has always been a Democrat, prominent and influential in the councils of his party and was for four years member of the State Executive Committee. He was elected to the Legislature of 1899 by 176 majority over his highest Republican competitor and was the unanimous choice of his party for Speaker and so elected. Mr. McKinney has a tall and distinguished presence, is a logical and forcible speaker and able debater. He is prominently mentioned as the candidate of the Democratic party for Governor, on which office he would reflect dignity and honor. He was married May 25, 1874, to Miss Anna Belle Ayers, and resides at Fairmont esteemed and honored by a large constituency.

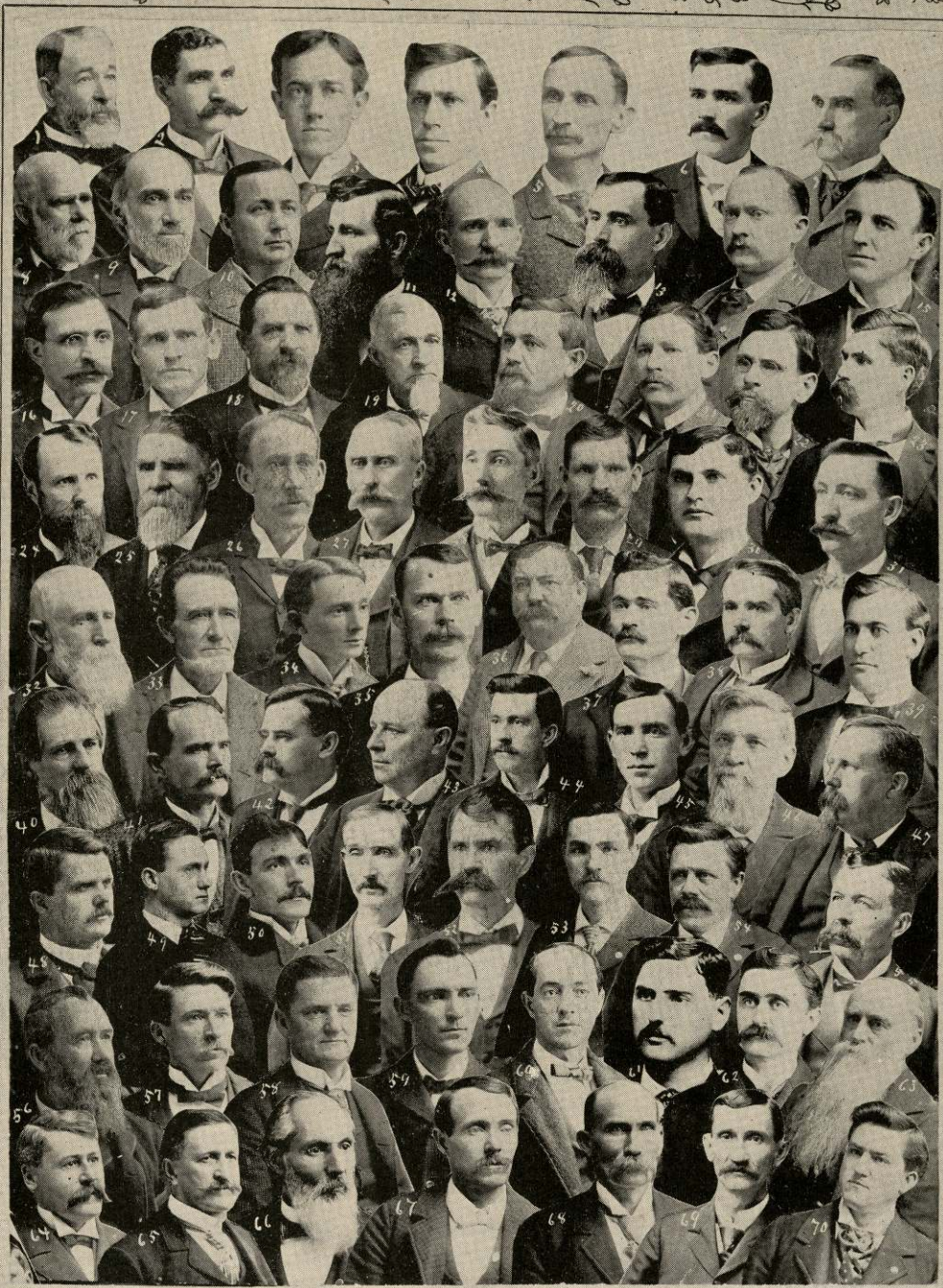
Hon. H. L. Carter.

As one of the responsible leaders of the Democratic party in the House, Dr. H. Lon Carter, the representative from Boone County, holds an influential and commanding position. He was born in Monroe County, West Virginia, Aug. 21, 1866, of Virginia ancestry, his parents being William L. and Margaret C. Carter. After the completion of his education which was acquired in the common schools of his native county he entered the service of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, with which he continued for five years to their entire satisfaction and his own credit. Deciding upon the Medical profession as the one best suited to his tastes and inclinations he entered the Kentucky

School of Medicine, at Louisville, Ky., and graduated in the class of 1895, with the degree of M. D., and later took a Post Graduate course at the Polyclinic, New York City. In politics he has always been Democratic and is Secretary of Boone County Democratic Committee. He has been specially honored and active in Committee, being the chairman on Executive Affairs and Library and member of its Committees on Elections and Privileges; Federal Relations; Military Affairs; Education; Private Corporations and Joint Stock Companies, and Humane Institutions and Public Buildings. He has been a resident of Boone County for the past sixteen years, during the last four of which he has enjoyed a large and lucrative practice, as one of its leading physicians. Was married Feby. 24, 1892, to Miss Mary E. Hopkins, and lives at Madison Boone County.

Hon. W. B. Cutright.

The Hon. William Bernard Cutright, son of Granville S. and Elizabeth Cutright, was born at Hinklesville, Upshur county, May 3, 1868. Since early childhood his life has been spent in the, to him, pleasant duty and occupation of student and teacher. Until the age of seventeen he was a student, mastering and completing, by earnest and energetic application, the full course of public school instruction in his native county. For three years after graduating he taught where he had studied, thus demonstrating his skill to impart, as well as to acquire. Next we find him a student in the Normal and Classical Academy, of Buckhannon, his unsatisfied educational aspirations reaching beyond the curriculum of the country school house. His studies at this latter institution were terminated by his election to the office of county superintendent of schools. He continued his studies however, and in 1891, was graduated from the Normal and Classical Academy with the degree of B. P., and in the classical course of the West Virginia Conference Seminary in 1892. Still unsatisfied, he entered in 1892, the State University at Morgantown, and in June, 1895, was given his degree of A. B. Mr. Cutright left this institution undetermined whether to enter upon an educational, professional or business career, and while in this mental state of indecision, was called to teach the preparatory department of the West Virginia University, which he continued to do for two years, resigning August 4, 1897, to accept a schol-



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arship in Columbia University, New York, taking there a post-graduate course in political science. He afterwards attended a session of the Law School of the Columbian University, Washington, D. C., returning home after the June commencement, in 1898, and was appointed principal of the West Liberty Normal School, which position he held until the end of the school year. Having received the Republican nomination for the Legislature by a majority of over 200 in the primary election of his party, he was sent as a delegate from Upshur county, defeating the Democratic candidate by 800 majority. Mr. Cutright is a bold and aggressive talker, a ready debater and staunch defender of his party's principles. He married December 25, 1898, Miss Cornelia Cooper of Buckhannon, of which place he is a resident, and where he is now engaged in the practice of the law, having been admitted to the bar in 1897.

Hon. J. W. Davis.

Hon. John William Davis, the young leader of the Democratic party of the House of Delegates was born at Clarksburg, Harrison county, West Virginia, April 13, 1873. He is the son of Hon. John J. and Anna Davis, nee Anna Kennedy. Mr. Davis was educated at the Washington & Lee University, Lexington, Va., winning in 1890 the Modern Language Scholarship and in 1892 the Scholarship in Geology and Biology, graduating in the latter year at the early age of nineteen with the degree of A. B. He afterwards studied law at the same institution receiving his B. L. degree in 1895, and during the session of 1896-1897 was assistant Professor of Law, a distinction rarely enjoyed by one so young. In this connection the Calyx of 1898 pays him this tribute: "Much to the regret of all, however, at the end of the year he designed. Popular, courteous and kind he was universally loved. May his success in the practice of his profession be as great as was his in teaching it."

His alma mater did not however stop at this mark of esteem for his splendid abilities and scholarly attainments, for at the next session she offered him a full professorship, a high and justly merited honor which he fully appreciated but which he declined, fearing its acceptance would give pause to the early advancement of his high ambition, the practice of the law. Mr.

Davis was admitted to the bar in July, 1895, at the age of twenty-two and began the practice of law at once in his native city, Clarksburg, thus following closely in the footsteps of his distinguished father who entered upon his brilliant professional career before he had attained his twentieth year, and has continued in it uninterrupted since. Mr. Davis was elected on the Democratic ticket to the House of Delegates from Harrison county, over his Republican competitor R. T. Lowndes, Jr., by 576 majority. He is an eloquent and forcible speaker of fine address and clear enunciation and commanded the attention of both parties of the House when he addressed them. As chairman of the Judiciary Committee he had responsible duties for which his eminent qualities particularly fitted him.

Hon. T. B. Davis.

Who represents Mineral county in the House of Delegates is the oldest and one of the solid members of that body. He was born in Baltimore, Md., on the 25th of April, 1828, and is the son of Caleb Davis and Louisa W. Brown Davis, deceased.

The subject of this sketch was not surrounded with wealth and comfort in his childhood days, and at the age of 15 he went to work on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, which at that time was only a small corporation. By diligence and industry he advanced to the position of conductor on the road, and had charge of the first train west of Cumberland loaded with rails for the extension of the road to Wheeling in 1851. He remained in the service of the B. & O. road until it was completed through to the Ohio river.

In 1855 Mr. Davis engaged in business at Piedmont, dealing in lumber, coal and produce. Afterwards the business operations in this line were extended under the firm name of H. G. Davis & Co., which in its branches included Grafton, Piedmont and Keyser. During this period Mr. Davis with his brothers Henry G. and William established the Davis National Bank of Piedmont.

In 1879 the West Virginia Central Railroad was projected and Mr. Davis was one of its principal promoters. In that year the road was built from Piedmont, south to Shaw, thence up the mountain to reach the rich coal mines of Elk Garden. The "Colonel" as he is familiarly known, tells many amusing incidents rel-

ative to the operations of that road in its early days when the trains were run by telephone, and when there were never any mistakes in orders. Mr. Davis had money in the road and became its general manager, which position he held for years, and until the road was completed through to Elkins.

Colonel Davis has paid little attention to public office, and still less to matrimony, as he has never married. He has held many positions in the municipal government of his town, Keyser, but not until the legislative elections of 1898 did he ever go beyond that. He was elected over his competitor, Geo. T. Carscaden, Republican, by a majority of 186, in a county which had given 250 majority for the Republicans two years before.

Mr. Davis is now connected with three banks, the Davis Coal & Coke Company, and the West Virginia Central Railroad. He is president of the Davis National Bank at Davis and director in the Piedmont and Elkins banks. He, with his brother, Henry G., is largely interested in farm, timber and mineral lands in the northern part of the State, and he is one of the men who believes in developing the natural resources of West Virginia now.

Colonel Davis takes great pleasure in fine horses, and at his farm adjoining Keyser he keeps a number of the best blood, several of them having won prominent stakes on the race course "Colonel Tom," as he is called among his neighbors, is warm-hearted and generous, and no man is touched more quickly than he in case of distress and want.

Hon. W. R. D. Dent.

The Hon. William Richard Drinkard Dent, the representative from Taylor County was born at Duke, Monongalia County, April, 1852. His parents were Marshall M. and Mary Caroline Dent, the former a native of this State and the latter of Quincy, Massachusetts, her parents being Dr. D. W. and Hettie Stroug Roberts. He received such education as afforded by the common schools of this county before the introduction of the public school system, supplementing it by instruction in the home of his educated and refined parents. Thrown upon his own responsibility, at fourteen he secured employment as farm hand and teacher in Kansas, in which avocations he continued for several years when in 1875 he returned to West Virginia and

entering the law office of Andrew Edmiston an attorney of considerable prominence at Weston, Lewis County, spent two years in preparation for the legal profession, into which he was admitted in 1877. Immediately after his admission to the bar he removed to Grafton, Taylor County, where he became associated with his brother Marmaduke H. Dent, who was at that time town attorney and continued in practice with him until 1885 when for four years and during the first administration of Mr. Cleveland, he was deputy in the United States Internal Revenue Service under Col. John T. McGraw, the recent Democratic candidate for United States Senator. Upon the accession of the Republican party to power he resumed his business relations which were continued until 1892, when his brother was elected to the Supreme Bench of the State, being at this time its President. Since 1892 he has practiced alone. He has always been a Democrat; his party's candidate for County Attorney and State Senator and has been a member of the city council of Grafton. His contested election to the House as the representative of Taylor County has been given wide publicity in the papers of the State, the question being carried to the Supreme Court. On coming before the House it declared him elected by 34 majority and justly entitled to his seat. He was not an active member because of having been seated late in the session, but did what he could during that time in the interest of his constituents.

Hon. Byrd Hill.

The County of Mason had in its dual representation a member who has distinguished himself in the councils of his party and been honored by it in his election for three successive terms to represent it in the popular branch of the Legislature of the State. He is a native of Mason County as was his father, his mother being a native of Wetzel County, and he was born January 2, 1862. His parents were Jonathan and Maria Hill. He received his early education at home and in the county schools attending afterwards the Iron City Commercial College at Pittsburg, from which he graduated in 1881. Later he took a course in Valentine's School of Telegraphy, at Janesville, Wisconsin. He began a business career on his own account at the age of twenty-one engaging in mercantile pursuits at Beech Hill, which were transferred to Kansas and extended over the period from

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1885 to 1888. Returning to West Virginia in 1889, he engaged in the timber business..

Always a Republican, earnest active and aggressive, he has been prominent among those who have directed and promoted the affairs and interests of his party in council and debate. He was a delegate to the State Convention to nominate State officers and also to the Convention to elect delegates to the last National Convention. He was elected to the Legislature in 1894 re-elected in 1896 and again in 1898, the last time over Charles Bryan, Democrat by over 300 majority. He is amember of four of the most important Committees of the House, viz: Elections and Privileges, Education, Immigration and Agriculture, and Railroads. Under the accepted interpretation of the Constitution that "The oldest Delegate (in point of service) shall call the House to order, &c." Mr. Hill became conspicuous in the organization of the House by the bold and fearless manner in which he caried out the behests of his party. He is recognized as one of his party leaders, is a clear and forcible speaker and active and zealous member. He lives at the home of his birth Beach Hill, Mason County and is still engaged in the timber business.

Hon. Thompson H. Jarrett.

Was born in the Blue Grass county of Greenbrier, June 25, 1851. He is the son of James and Elizabeth Jarrett, natives and lifetime residents of the same county. During his childhood years the clash of arms and the devastating march of armed legions dispelled all thoughts of school, closed the doors of study and sent master and pupil into the ranks of contending armies, leaving only the extremes of youth and age as student and teacher. Aid so though primarily instructed at home the educational advantages of a collegiate course were denied him until after the cessation of hostilities, when he entered Roanoke College Virginia, from which he graduated June, 1877 with high honor. Reared in one of the most favored sections of the State, the plateau region of Greenbrier, the luxuriant growth of whose blue grass is not excelled in productiveness and pasturage by the most favored sections of Kentucky, he longed to return to its verdant plains and smiling valleys, to the cattle that roamed them and the occupation of its people and so in 1878 almost immediately

after leaving College he became a farmer and raiser of fine stock in his native county, and has continued in the business ever since. He has been a life-long Democrat, always ready to take the stump in the interest of his party and has canvassed the county from end to end in several of its fiercest political contests. He was elected to the Legislature in 1894, and re-elected in 1898 over Joseph E. McClung by 635 majority. He is a member of five of the most important Committees of the present Legislature, viz: Taxation and Finance; Military Affairs; Forfeited and Unappropriated Lands; Mines and Mining; and State Boundaries. Mr. Jarrett was married October 15, 1877, to Mrs. Georgia Bustle, of Bedford County, Virginia and is a resident of Blue Sulphur Springs, Greenbrier County.

Hon. Joseph Davies Logan.

The Democratic member from Monroe County is a native of Virginia, as were his parents before him and was born at "Dungeness", Goochland County, October 6, 1853. His father who is still living at a ripe old age, in Salem, Virginia, is a native of Rockbridge and his mother, Sarah A. Logan, now deceased, was from Culpeper County. He was instructed in private schools until his fourteenth year, when for one year he was a student at Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, Virginia, completing his education by a two years course at Roanoke College, Virginia, of which latter instition he is now one of the trustees. Having been a diligent student and mastered those branches prescribed in the curriculum of the public schools he became in 1871 a teacher and continued in the performance of the duties of that position for two years. He then turned his thoughts to business and for nine months was employed as clerk in a dry goods store at Columbia, Tennessee. Finding this employment unsuited to his tastes he determined to fit himself for a professional career, and entering in the Fall 1874, at Union, Monroe County, West Virginia, the offices of those eminent jurists and distinguished citizens. Hon. Allen T. Caperton and Judge James F. Patton, devoted eighteen months under their direction to the study of law, when in 1876, he was admitted to practice. On the death of Senator Caperton, in 1876 he was made the junior member of the firm of Patton &

Logan, which partnership continued until June 1, 1881, when it was dissolved by the appointment of Judge Patton to the Supreme Bench of the State. For the succeeding twelve months he practiced alone, when in January, 1893, A. G. Patton, son of Judge James F. Patton coming to the bar he formed with him, the present firm of Logan & Patton. A few years ago he was elected Lieut. Colonel of the West Virginia Militia, but declined the honor for the reason that his time was fully occupied and could not give the position proper attention. Mr. Logan was elected in 1888 to the office of Prosecuting Attorney of Monroe County, for a term of four years. In 1894 he was Democratic nominee for the State Senate, but failed of an election. He was elected in 1898 to the House of Delegates from Monroe County over the Republican candidate, C. M. Via by a majority of 5, in a hard fought and closely contested political struggle. Mr. Logan has been a Democrat at all times and under all circumstances and it is his proud boast that he has never scratched his party's ticket in his life. He is a bold and fearless talker and a strong advocate of his people's interests. He is valued member of the Committees on Military Affairs; The Judiciary; Private Corporations and Joint Stock Companies of which he is chairman, and Claims and Grievances. He made a hard fight against the extravagant appropriations of the Legislature. He married Miss Georgia Willis, daughter of Col. George Willis, of Orange County, Virginia, and besides being one of the most prominent attorneys at his home, Union, West Virginia, is president of the Bank of Union, one of the soundest banking institutions of that section of the state.

Hon. George Colin McIntosh,

Representative from Fayette County, West Virginia, was born at Gauley Bridge, same county, June 24, 1868, and is the son of George R. and Cornelia McIntosh. His father was a native of Scotland, who came to this country in his early manhood, and to the State of West Virginia in the service of the United States Government during the civil war. His mother nee Miss Cornelia Copeland, is a native and life long resident of Fayette County, where she married in June, 1865. Young McIntosh received his education in the free schools and the Mar-

shall Normal College at Huntington, acquitting himself credibly and preparing himself specially for a journalistic career, in which he has since engaged, displaying marked efficiency as a graceful and forceful writer. He was variously employed for several years on papers published in Huntington, Hinton and Fayetteville. In 1892 he established the Sunday Gazette at Huntington, conducting its publication with signal success and noticeable ability. In 1895 he acquired and is now the editor and publisher of the Fayette Journal, a paper of strong Republican proclivities, devoted to the best interest of the party of which he is a conspicuous member. Although he has always given freely of his time and means at his party's call, he has never received political preferment at their hands until his nomination in 1898, as Delegate to the 1899 Legislature, defeating the Democratic candidate in the election by over 500 majority. He is a member of four of the most important Committees of the House: The Judiciary; Roads and Internal Navigation; Claims and Grievances and Enrolled Bills. Mr. McIntosh is an earnest and pleasant talker and ever watchful of the interests of his constituents. He was married November, 1894 to Miss Bertha M. Smith at Knoxville, Tenn., and resides at Fayetteville, the county seat of Fayette county.

Hon. W. L. Mansfield.

As the recognized leader of the Democratic party in the popular branch of the Legislature of 1899, the Honorable William Lawrence Mansfield demands special mention. Born in Wayne county Virginia, now West Virginia, December 4, 1854 he is in the very prime of a vigorous manhood. With a well defined muscular development, indicating capabilities for sustained effort, a commanding and dignified presence, clear and distinct enunciation and graceful and easy delivery, he is the peer of any member of the House of either party. He is besides a sound and logical reasoner, and wise and safe leader. He is the son of Joseph and Amanda Mansfield, natives of Virginia. His boyhood years were spent on the farm, his early education having been received in the common schools of those days and through home instruction. Later he attended Bethany College, at Bethany, West Virginia, taking there a two year's course. At

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twenty and for three years thereafter he was a teacher, during which time he prepared himself for admission to the bar accomplishing his ambitious purpose in 1878. He has long been recognized as one of the leading lawyers of Wayne County. In 1886 he purchased the Wayne News, an influential Democratic paper, which he controlled and edited until June 1899 when he became the managing editor of the Charleston Gazette. He was elected as a Democrat to the Legislature of 1897 and was the author of the re-assessment law at that session. Was also a member on behalf of the House, of the committee to revise the constitution of the State. He was elected 1898 to the recent session by a majority of 518 leading the Democratic ticket nearly one hundred votes. He is chairman of the Committee on Taxation and Finance, and a member of the committees on Elections and Privileges, Education, Private Corporations and Joint Stock Companies and on Rules, and has been chairman of all of his party's joint caucuses. Mr. Mansfield was strongly urged for Speaker of the past session but refused to be a candidate. He was one of the best parliamentarians in the House, his appointment to the Committee on Rules attesting the high esteem in which his ability is held in this respect. On March 17, 1880 he married Miss Isabelle Frizzell and resides at Charleston, West Virginia.

Hon. Stuart Hampton Bowman.

This young and talented representative from Barbour County who divided honors with the other youthful Democratic leaders of the House, was born at Valley Furnace, Barbour County, June 28, 1875. He is the son of Captain Adam C. and Tacy J. Bowman, natives of West Virginia, and of Barbour County. In childhood young Bowman developed the studious habits and mental capacity which have made him conspicuous in the institutions from which he has graduated with such high honor. His intellectual vigor and diligent application enabled him at an early age to master all the branches in the course of study as appointed by the public schools and at fifteen he taught in the free schools of Tucker County, and later in the graded schools and Fairmont Normal School successively, closing in the latter his brilliant youthful career as teacher, as third assistant. From childhood forward his advancement in intellectual culture was rapid. In 1893 at the age of eighteen he grad-

uated from the Fairmont Normal School, leading his class of twenty-one as valedictorian; in 1895 from the Peabody Normal College, where for two years he was editor of the Peabody Record, the College magazine of rank; in 1896 from the University of Nashville, being class representative and receiving the degree of A. B., and later from the University of West Virginia, at Morgantown, with degree of A. B. He has been active and prominent in College contests and debates and in literary and College enterprises, and won in 1895 a gold medal in joint debate at the University of Nashville. Mr. Bowman is an earnest and logical speaker, youthful in appearance, tall in stature and slightly built. He is modest and unassuming in his manner, genial and affable. He has always been a Democrat who has taken an active interest in his party's affairs and has represented it in County and State Conventions. He was elected to the Legislature of 1899 over Rev. John F. Mason in a County that gave 55 majority for Dayton, Republican candidate for Congress. He was chairman of the Committee on Education and member of the Committees on Elections and Privileges, Taxation and Finance, and Claims and Grievances. Mr. Bowman is an earnest and outspoken advocate of the imposition of a tax on incomes and believes in making the wealth of the State carry its just burden of taxation, as is evidenced by his measures in the House to tax the Telegraph and Express Companies. His present business interest lies in the Acme Publishing Co., a large and well equipped printing establishment at Morgantown, but he contemplates the study and practice of the law, a profession for which his talents and abilities well adapt him. His home is at Valley Furnace, Barbour County.

Hon. E. F. Raymond.

Greenbrier is fortunate in having had as her delegates in the 1899 Legislature two of her prominent citizens as the responsible sponsors of her best interests, the agricultural and stock raising and the professional. Of the former we have already treated. The latter finds its ideal expression in the person of Dr. Edward Francis Raymond, of Frankford, who was born October 16, 1835, in Berkshire County, Massachusetts, whence at the age of three years his parents removed with him to Connecticut, where he was reared and educated and where too, he began

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the professional life of teacher at the very youthful age of fifteen. At the end of three years, in 1853, he changed his field of labor to West Virginia, settling in Greenbrier County, where he has since been identified with the best interests of her people. In 1859 he graduated from the Berkshire Medical College, Massachusetts, receiving the degree of M. D. and entered immediately after upon the practice of the profession in Greenbrier, the home of his adoption. In 1863 he entered the Confederate States Army as Assistant Surgeon of Chapman's Battery and in 1864 was transferred with said battery to King Battalion of artillery and rendered efficient service in the active campaign of 1864 in the Valley of Virginia. He was with his command till the close of the war and had the confidence of the officers and the esteem and love of the men. He then returned to Greenbrier and resumed the practice of his profession at Bungers, where in Sept., 1865, he married Miss Eliza L. Bungler, whose father, Henry Bungler was widely known as an energetic business man and efficient officer in the Presbyterian church. In 1870 he removed to Frankford, where he still continues to practice, and interests himself somewhat in agriculture and stock raising. He has always been friendly to the public schools, and for many years has worked officially in its interests. His motto on the Board of Education and in the Legislature has been economy and honesty in the expenditure of the public funds. He has always been a Democrat and was elected to his present representative position over his Republican opponent by 600 majority. Is a member of the Committees on Roads and Internal Improvements; Humane Institutions and Public Buildings; Penitentiary; Immigration and Agriculture and on Labor.

Hon. Wilbur Spencer.

The delegate from Roane County was born of New England

parentage, Oct. 1st, 1859, at Tariff, Roane County, Virginia, now West Virginia. His father Capt. John W. Spencer, M. D., a native of Boston and his mother Permelia a native of Connecticut, removed to then Gilmer County in 1845, ending their days in the county, where the subject of this sketch was born, esteemed and honored by all who knew them. Young Spencer received instructions in the common schools of his native county until at the early age of fifteen the exacting cares and responsibilities of a farm life being placed upon him, he was forced to relinquish his studies to follow the plow and to the performance of such other duties as the exigencies of such life of toil imposes. With the religious spirit of forbearance and acquiescence in the will of Almighty God, which his Puritan forefathers displayed to such eminent degree, and which have actuated and guided him in all of the affairs of life, he accepted the trust imposed upon him, carrying its burdens until he attained his majority, when on March 1, 1881, he engaged in farming and handling timber on his own account, continuing in it ever since. During the years 1895-96, he managed the mercantile house of T. R. Simmons, and in 1897, added to his farming operations a general store of his own. Mr. Spencer has always had a desire for ministerial life, the acme of his ambition being to preach the gospel; to bring the sinner to repentance and the just to the appreciation of the fullness of the realization of Eternal Life. He was licensed to preach by the West Virginia A. C. Conference in 1888, ordained in 1892 and elected president of the conference in 1898. He was elected to the Legislature of 1899, as a Republican over Dr. A. R. Parsons, by a majority of 84 and is a member of the Committee on Forfeited and Unappropriated Lands; Humane Institutions and Public Buildings, and Immigration and Agriculture. On August 21, 1880 he married Miss Malissa Boggs, of Roane County, and resides at Linden, Roane County, West Virginia.



IN JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION.

Supreme Court of West Virginia.

Judge M. H. Dent, President.

The character and force of a people are largely reflected through the mind and native powers of their public men, and a recurrence to these from time to time is not only wholesome to the public mind, but helpful to those who are just entering the activities and severer responsibilities of life. Although a young state, West Virginia has made liberal contribution to that class of men who have won their way to prominence and power in the affairs of state without the aid of abundant wealth and the legacy of official influence. Such an one is the Hon. Marmaduke Herbert Dent, who now holds the honored position of president of the Supreme Court of West Virginia. He has attained his exalted position at an earlier age than most men in this most serious branch of our constitutional government, Judge Dent was born at Duke, in Monongalia county, West Virginia, on the 18th of April, 1849. His father was Marshall M. Dent and his mother, from whom he inherits many amiable qualities of mind and character, was Mary Caroline Dent, daughter of Dr. D. W. and Hettie Strong Roberts, of Quincy, Mass., and her family genealogy and the Judge's children occupy a prominent place in the "Strong" and "Harrison" biographical books which found publication a few years ago. The grandfather of Judge Dent was Dr. D. W. Roberts, an original Republican, and a man of mental vigor and prominence in the state during the stirring times in '59 and '60, and in the latter year was a delegate to the Chicago convention which nominated Abraham Lincoln. His father, a Douglass Democrat, was clerk of both the county and circuit courts at Morgantown and editor of its principal paper. It was in Morgantown where Judge Dent spent his early life, and where he prepared himself to enter the West Virginia University which was then known as an agricultural college. He graduated from this institution in 1870, being the first graduate and the only one of that year. He taught school at Pruntytown, in Taylor county, for several years, and in 1873 was appointed deputy clerk

for the county and circuit courts for a term of two years. It was while in these positions that he studied law and at the expiration of his terms of office in 1875 was admitted to the bar, and located in his profession at Grafton.

It was at the beginning of this period that Judge Dent's mind marked the man. Without ostentation or impatience to advance, his growth in the mind of the community was prompt and substantial. He studied first principles and adhered to them, both in law and politics, with a steadfastness, which came only from conscientious conviction. His party made him its candidate for prosecuting attorney in 1876, in Taylor county, which was overwhelmingly Republican, and notwithstanding the popularity of his opponent, he was defeated by only 96 votes. In the year following Judge Dent was elected to the city council of Grafton and served successively as city clerk and city attorney, which latter position he held at the time of his election to the Supreme Bench. The demands of the Democratic party upon the subject of this sketch, both as councillor and candidate were frequent and many, and in 1884 he was the party's nominee for the House of Delegates, and in 1888 again its candidate for prosecuting attorney, and defeated only by small majorities.

In 1892 the Democratic and People's party joined forces in the campaign of that year and elected Mr. Dent to the Supreme Court by a majority of 8,500. In doing so they contributed largely to the integrity of the law and the respectability of the decisions of the highest court in the state. Judge Dent's mental characteristics are judicial and his nature kind and just. His analytical powers are highly developed and enable him to pass upon intricate questions of law with promptness and unerring judgment. Socially, he is modest and companionable. He married Miss May J. Warder, of Pruntytown, W. Va., October 11, 1876, and enjoys the blessings of a happy home at Grafton, W. Va.

Judge Henry Brannon.

Judge Brannon, youngest son of Robert and Catherine Brannon, was born November 26, 1837, at Winchester, Va., where he resided until his eighteenth year attending the private schools and Winchester Academy, when he went to the University of Virginia from which he graduated in 1858. He read law in the office of his oldest brother, Judge John Brannon at Weston, un-

til 1859, when he was admitted to the bar. In 1860 he was elected prosecuting attorney of Lewis county, which office he filled with distinguished ability and to the credit and satisfaction of himself and constituents. As a lawyer and a man he won the esteem and confidence of the people and built up a large and lucrative practice. He was elected to the Legislature in 1870-1871 and served on the committees of Education and Humane and Criminal Institutions of which first one he was chairman. For eight years, from 1880, he was judge of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit, succeeding his brother Hon. John Brannon, during the incumbency of which office he reached and fully sustained a high reputation for legal learning and sound and discriminating judgment in the decision of complex and difficult questions. Judge Brannon was in 1888 elected one of the associate Judges of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia, for which exalted and responsible position he is fully equipped both by his rare abilities and legal attainments. Judge Brannon is also a linguist, his library containing many of the works of distinguished French and Spanish authors, as well as the Latin and Greek classics. He was married in 1858 to Miss Hetta J. Arnold, daughter of Elijah and Prudence J. Arnold, of Weston, from which union there has been born to them six children. Judge Brannon's term of office will expire December 31, 1900.

Judge J. W. English.

Hon. John Warth English born in Jackson county, January 31, 1831, is a native of Virginia, as were his parents, Job and Mary Warth English, who removed in 1835, to Kanawha county, near what is now Malden, when the subject of this sketch was but four years of age. He attended the common schools of Kanawha county until he was sixteen, when he was sent by his parents to Illinois College, at Jacksonville, Morgan county, Illinois, where he took the full course, graduating with high honors at the age of twenty. Although of a studious disposition and having decided qualifications for the profession of the law he was unable to immediately avail himself of the advantages received in his collegiate course and for a time assisted his father in the conduct of his mercantile business and salt manufacturing interests. He continued his studies, however, during the spare hours of day and at night, under the direction of his uncle Judge Warth,

Judge Summers and other prominent attorneys and so rapid was his advancement that in 1855 he was admitted to the bar and at once began professional work in partnership with Mr. Henry J. Fisher, of Mason county, in whose office several of the best counsel of today received their early training. Judge English has never taken an active part in political agitations and has never figured in any contest for office except for prosecuting attorney of Mason county in 1859 when he was defeated, until 1888, when he was elected Judge of the Supreme Court of Appeals for the fall term of twelve years. His liberal education and sterling qualities as a lawyer fit him well for the high dignity of his position. He is particularly noted in the law relating to wills and estates and shares with his associates of the Supreme Court the reputation for learning and probity for which that tribunal is justly distinguished. Judge English was married May 6, 1862, to Miss Fannie Lewis, eldest daughter of John S. and Mary T. Lewis, at Point Pleasant, W. Va., and there has been born to him five children, all of whom are living. His term of office will expire December 31, 1900.

Judge Henry Clay McWhorter.

Judge H. C. McWhorter, of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia, has since 1861 been a conspicuous figure in the history of the bench and bar of this State. He was born in Marion County, Ohio, February 20, 1836, and is the son of Fields and Margaret M. (Kester) McWhorter, of Harrison County, Virginia. He enlisted in 1861 in Co. B. 9th Virginia regiment in the Federal army; in September of that year made a Lieutenant of the company, and in March of the succeeding year, Captain of Company G. of the same regiment. With this rank he served until 1863 when, being disabled from serious wounds he retired from active service, but continued to perform duties in the office of provost marshal to the expiration of the war. Before entering the army he had begun the study of law, resuming it at the close of hostilities; was admitted to the bar at Charleston in 1866. He was the prosecuting attorney of Kanawha County in 1869-70. He was elected to the Legislature of West Virginia from Roane County in 1865, and from Kanawha County in 1866-'67-'68, being the Speaker of the House of Delegates in the ses-



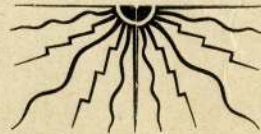
SUPREME COURT OF WEST VIRGINIA—JUDGES AND CLERKS.

sion of 1868. He was again in 1885-'87 the choice of the Republican party as a member of the House of Delegates from Kanawha County. He was the first president of the Board of Education of the independent district of Charleston, serving for several years in that capacity. He has also served as a member of the city council and city solicitor. He was the postmaster of Charleston from February, 1891 to June 1893. He is one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia, his term of office expiring December 31, 1908. Judge McWhorter has throughout his career observed the sterling principles of honor and justice which have placed him conspicuously before the people of West Virginia and that he has been a useful and valuable citizen has been demonstrated by his many public acts directed to the general welfare. He has been married three times, his first wife being Mary Hardman, his second, Eliza F. McWhorter and his third Lucy M. Clark, to which last named he was married Jan. 8, 1885.

General J. A. Holley, Clerk.

James Avis Holley, the genial, popular and efficient Clerk of the highest tribunal of the State, was born in Cabell county, W. Va., now Lincoln county, W. Va., November 12, 1855. His early schooling was acquired at home and in the common schools and his collegiate education at the West Virginia University which he entered in 1872 and where he remained two years, after which he took a business course at the Duff Commercial College in

Pittsburg, graduating therefrom in 1875 with high honor. For the next succeeding five years he was engaged in farming and stock raising in Lincoln county, after which he conducted a general mercantile business at Hamlin, West Va. General Holley has always been a Democrat, bold and aggressive, outspoken and frank, his honesty making for him many friends among those of opposite political faith. In 1884 he was elected clerk of the circuit court of Lincoln county for term of six years and here acquired the knowledge of clerks' duties which eminently qualifies him for the performance of the onerous and responsible duties of incumbent affairs. He has always taken an active part in the councils and campaigns of his party. In 1888 he was elected chairman of the Senatorial Committee and chairman of Lincoln County Executive Committee and as such contributed largely to the success of his party during the memorable contests of that year. In 1890 he was reelected clerk of the Circuit Court thus attesting his fitness for the position and the high esteem in which he was held by the citizens of the county. On March 4, 1893, Gov. MacCorkle appointed him Adjutant General of the State which office he held together with clerk of the Circuit Court, for four years. In 1896 he was elected and still is, a member of the State Executive Committee and in 1898 was appointed a member of the State Organizing Committee and as such assisted in the management of the last campaign. He was selected for his present honorable and responsible position January 11, 1898. General Holley is a man of splendid physique, tall and distinguished looking; has a genial disposition and is affable and courteous in all his business relations.



STATE MILITARY ORGANIZATION.

From 1863 to 1899.

In the strong arm of the military branch of the Government of West Virginia rests the guaranty for the safety of the lives and property of its citizens. It is the power of last resort when the civil constabulary force is overridden or insufficient for the preservation of peace and the protection of corporate and individual rights, and the liberties and privileges of the people. The physical organism of the State, the cosmopolite character of its laboring classes and the rough nature of their employments have created the erroneous thought and in some the fear, that these denizens of the forest, these men of brawn have partaken of the wild and rugged character of the mountains from whose sides and peaks are cut the millions of feet annually of magnificent timber and out of whose depths are mined the millions of tons of finest coal. These industries give employment to tens of thousands of horny handed sons of toil, 25,000 alone being employed in its mines and many more in its forests. Strikes, the danger of massed labor, the dread of timid capital and the enemy of both, are held in check by the armed force of the State in her militia which stands as a menace to lawlessness, injustice and wrong. The citizen soldiery of West Virginia are the guardians of the civil liberties of her people and proper recognition, encouragement and support should be given them for services rendered with little or no compensation, often at sacrifice of business interests and not infrequently at great personal risk and danger. It is our purpose in this article to briefly sketch the successive stages through which the Volunteer Militia and the National Guard have passed and the services rendered by them as gathered from the reports of the Adjutants General of the State and other meagre sources of information.

Adjutants General.

From the formation of the State until September 10, 1866, General Francis P. Pierpoint was Adjutant General, resigning on that date. He was succeeded by George W. Brown, who served

until March 4, 1867, less than six months. He was followed by Isaac H. Duval, for two years, and he by Thomas M. Harris for nearly two years, resigning December 31, 1870. From January 1 to March 4, 1871, General James M. Ewing, Jr., was Adjutant General to fill vacancy, when under act of the Legislature, 1871, Charles S. Lewis, Superintendent of Free Schools, was made ex-officio Adjutant General and Quartermaster General. He made one report of the affairs of the office, January 3, '72, but from that time until February 26, 1877, no one seems to have had charge of the office. February 26, 1877, by act of the Legislature, which took effect from its passage, the act of 1871 was repealed and the State Librarian, being then Ed L. Wood, was made ex-officio Adjutant General and Quartermaster General. General Wood served until November, 1881 when he resigned, since which time there have been by appointment of the Commander-in-Chief, General William F. Butler, Jr., 1881-5; Ed L. Wood, 1885-90; B. H. Oxley, 1890-3; James A. Holley, 1893-7, and J. W. M. Appleton, the present incumbent, appointed in 1897—their terms of office being co-equal with that of the Governor.

System of Organization.

That there was some law governing the system of Militia organization prior to the act of Legislature of 1868 as set forth in Sec. V, Chap. 19, of the Code, is evidenced by the report of Adj't Gen'l Brown, of date January 1, 1867 in which he says: "If we change our present system of Militia Organization which is fundamentally defective the present would probably be the best time to do so, as we could have the aid and experience acquired by our veterans in the late war to assist us in the re-organization." That there was no interest taken in the militia of the State which continued in unorganized condition until 1877, the reports of Adjutants General Brown, Duval, Harris and Lewis all attest. But that this lethargic condition should have continued for twelve years succeeding the civil war, when the people were rudely awakened from their dreams of peace by the riots on the B. & O. Road at Martinsburg, seems strange, as in the then disturbed condition of society, a military force of some kind might in emergencies which were liable to arise at any time, be required for the protection and safety of the State and the rights and liberties of its citizens, for which emergencies a well organized and disciplined State militia would be demanded as was the

WEST VIRGINIA: PERSONNEL OF ITS GOVERNMENT.

case on the memorable 17th day of July, 1877, when the B. & O. strike was of such magnitude that the Governor was compelled to call on the General Government to suppress the riots, there being but small and inefficient force of State troops. This cost the State \$9,000. In the report of Adjutant General E. L. Wood of date Nov. 1, 1878, he states that at the time he came into office (Feb. 26, 1877) that the Berkeley Light Infantry, of Martinsburg, commanded by Capt. C. J. Faulkner, Jr., and which was organized December 1876, composed largely of railroad men and which was disbanded shortly after their refusal to do duty at the July riots, was the only military organization in the State, the Jacobs Zouaves and the Wheeling Blues, which had been organized about the same time, having disbanded. In addition to the Berkeley Light Infantry, the only companies uniformed and armed at the time of the July riots at Martinsburg were the Matthews Light Guard, of Wheeling, which was organized April 3, and mustered in July 12, 1877, the Hardy Guards, organized April 27, and mustered in June 20, and the West Virginia Guards, of Martinsburg, organized May 3 and mustered in June 5, 1877. These were followed in 1877 by Martinsburg Light Infantry, June 19, and Greenbrier Light Infantry, July 21, both unattached companies, and by Davis Light Guard, July 29 and Delaplain Guards, (Co. C) Aug. 2, attached to the First Regiment. In 1878 the following companies were organized: of the First Regiment, Co. A, Matthews Light Guard (a re-organization) Feb. 14; Co. D, Wilson Blues, May 29; Co. E, Goff Light Guard, May 28; Co. F, Camden Guard, May 29 and Co. G, Sheridan Rifles a re-organization of the Schmulbach Guard. Unattached: Kanawha Riflemen, May 9; Hale Riflemen, June 29; Mason County Riflemen, September 16; Burlington Cavalry, September 29; Garrett Rifles, October, 31; New Creek Guard, October, and the West Virginia University Cadets. In his report November 1, 1880, General Wood says, that the 1st Regiment as a regiment had ceased to exist, the withdrawal of the Goff Light Guard and disbandment of the Camden Guards and Wilson Blues leaving but four companies which, being quite a distance apart, rendered Battalion drill impossible, but stated that the Second Regiment commanded by Colonel Appleton, was in prosperous condition. The Second Regiment was formed by the unattached companies, Hale Riflemen, Kanawha Riflemen and Mason County Riflemen, becoming respectively Companies A, B and C, and the organization in 1879 of Fairview Rifle Guards and in 1880 of Hereford Guards, Hawks Nest Riflemen, Greenbrier Light Infantry Grays and Monroe Artillery,

which became Companies D, E, F, G and H, respectively and leaving at the time unattached the Goff Light Guards, Garrett Rifles, New Creek Guards, Thompson Grays (organized July 26, 1880) and the Martinsburg Light Infantry, which had re-enlisted for 3 years. The Berkeley Light Infantry was mustered out Dec. 8, 1879, by reason of expiration of time of service, as were also the Matthews Light Guard and Burlington Cavalry, for same reason during 1880. During this latter year the Wilson Blues, the Camden Guards and the Hardy Guards were disbanded, the last named company being afterwards re-organized, and serving for a time as an unattached command. By Nov. 1, 1882, because of the apparent indifference on the part of the State to give substantial aid and support to her volunteer soldiery, her militia strength had been reduced to 450 by the disbandment of the 1st Regiment, one company of the 2nd and the several unattached volunteer organizations, leaving eight companies in the Second Regiment and four unattached companies.

During the next two years three unattached companies were organized, the Berkeley Zouaves, Nov. 1883; Camden Light Infantry, March 1, 1884 and the Harper's Ferry Mountain Rangers, March 17, 1884, and the First Regiment having gone out of existence the Second Regiment took its number.

This First Regiment was disbanded September, 1885, their term of enlistment having expired two years before and the Berkeley Zouaves, an independent organization was disbanded Nov. 1886, their term of enlistment expiring on that date. At the close of the year 1886, the State contributing nothing towards their support, the martial spirit of the young men had almost died out and there were but four military companies in the State: the Camden Light Artillery, Harper's Ferry Cavalry, Ritchie Guards and Auburn Guards. And in 1887, at the time of the Centennial Anniversary of the Adoption of the Constitution of the United States, Sept. 17, at Philadelphia, in which they took part, only the two last named were in existence. The act of Congress March 1887, making appropriations for arming and equipping the militia of the several States, by which West Virginia should receive annually \$5,000, in ordnance and quartermaster stores, including uniforms and camp equipment, revived the languishing spirits of the men of the State in the militia organization and resulted in putting more than 800 fully equipped soldiers into her service. The Volunteer Militia was disbanded and the West Virginia National Guard came into existence.

The National Guard.

The General officers of the National Guard have been since its organization, men of exalted character and distinguished for their commanding positions in civil life as well as for their active participation in the military service of their State. Many of them since their connection with the Guard, and some no doubt because of it, have been honored by election and appointment to prominent positions in public affairs, municipal, State and National. The West Virginia National Guard was organized July 10, 1889 during the administration of Governor E. W. Wilson, General E. L. Wood being then Adjutant General. It consisted of one brigade of two regiments designated as the First and Second Regiments with a membership of 96 commissioned officers and 742 enlisted men. Brigadier General C. P. Snyder, was the first Brigade Commander; Romeo H. Freer, of Ritchie, afterwards Judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit of the State and now Member of Congress for the Fourth district, Colonel of the First and J. W. A. Ford, of Lewisburg, Colonel of the Second Regiment. The Brigade Adjutant General was Lieut. Colonel Clarence L. Smith, of Fairmont. General Snyder resigned June 26, 1890, and was succeeded by Brigadier General B. D. Spilman, of Parkersburg, who continued as Brigade Commander until May, 1898, when he accepted the Colonelcy of the First West Virginia Regiment, United States Volunteer Infantry, in the Spanish-American war. He was succeeded June 18, 1898, by Col. G. W. Curtin, the present incumbent. Lt. Col. Smith was succeeded Oct. 3, 1893, by Lt. Col. S. B. Baker, of Parkersburg, who resigned July, 1898, the present Adj't Gen'l Lt. Col. Charles B. Kefauver, of Grafton, succeeding him September 9, 1898. Lieut. Col. C. N. Simms serving as acting Brigade Adjutant General in the interim. The officers of the National Guard down to and including Company Commanders, up to the time of new militia law of Feb. 25, 1897, have been:

First Regiment,

Colonels: Romeo H. Freer, Richard E. Fast, Clarence L. Smith.

Lt. Colonels: Richard E. Fast, Clarence L. Smith.

Majors: R. A. Armstrong, Phil A. Shaffer.

Adjutants—Captains: John S. Hamilton, Phil A. Shaffer, Macker Babb, Wm. J. White.

Quartermasters—1st Lieuts.: L. G. Bennington, M. McD. Price, C. E. Vance.

Paymasters—1st Lieuts.: George W. McCleary, D. T. Price, C. R. Jones.

Surgeons—Majors: H. B. Baguley, G. M. Joseph.

Asst' Surgeons—1st Lieuts.: J. M. Goff, G. M. Joseph, Charles T. Nesbitt.

Inspectors Rifle Practice—Captains: C. D. Robinson, Phil A. Shaffer, Macker Babb.

Signal Officers—1st Lieuts.: E. L. Thomas, H. A. Steed.

Chaplains: Revs. U. S. Fleming, A. M. Buchanan.

Captains,

Co. A—Organized at Ritchie C. H., July 8, 1886, W. S. Hamilton; reorganized at Elkins, July 12, 1894, Z. F. Collett.

Co. B—Organized at Auburn, Dec. 7, 1886, C. L. Sinn; reorganized at Keyser, Jan. 12, 1895, Charles F. Miller.

Co. C—Organized at Grafton, June 30, 1890, R. H. D. Willis, E. E. Price and A. W. Burdette.

Co. D—Organized at Flat Run, Oct. 15, 1887; reorganized at Mannington, Oct. 15, 1890, W. B. Sine; reorganized at Berkeley Springs Apr. 23, 1895, R. L. Starnes and H. E. Householder.

Co. E—Organized at Rowlesburg, Nov. 19, 1889, Ad Laughlin and Larkin Goff; reorganized at Martinsburg, Apr. 13, 1893, H. H. Emmert, W. Newton Lynch and A. J. Moore.

Co. F—Organized at Burton, June 27, 1890, R. B. Ash.

Co. G—Organized at West Liberty, Apr. 4, 1888, B. L. Low; reorganized at Bethany, May 25, 1891, Colley Shriver; reorganized at Palatine, Dec. 7, 1894, W. W. Scott.

Co. H—Organized at Wellsburg, March 22, 1888, S. E. Provines; reorganized at Piedmont, Dec. 15, 1891, Maner Jenkins and A. S. Hutson.

Co. I—Organized at Morgantown, March 19, 1887, Joseph R. Miller and Phil A. Shaffer; at Charles Town, Dec. 19, 1894, J. M. Pyne.

Co. K—Organized at Wheeling, Apr. 12, 1888, George E. Boyd, Jr.; reorganized at Clarksburg, June 30, 1891, Lee H. Vance, J. Horner Davis and H. R. Smith.

SECOND REGIMENT.

Colonels: J. W. A. Ford, Thos. E. Hodges, D. T. E. Casteel W. H. Banks.

Lieut. Colonels: James H. Miller, Thos. E. Hodges, D. T. E. Casteel, W. H. Banks.

Majors: Thos. E. Hodges, D. T. E. Casteel, W. H. Banks, W. H. Lyons.

Adjutants—Captains: B. C. Wilson, John B. White, Robert L. Archer, W. H. Lyons, J. E. Middleton.

Quartermasters—1st Lieuts.—John B. White, Frank L. Beardsley, Phil G. Walker, A. M. Hobson, H. W. Jenkins.

Paymasters—1st Lieuts.: Robt. C. Rodes, Wirt A. French, M. B. Gibbens.

Surgeons—Majors: Samuel H. Austin, Cuthbert Gilham.

Asst. Surgeons—1st Lieuts.: W. Fant Lippet, William Neill, French W. Smith.

Inspectors Rifle Practice—Captains: James E. Wyatt, T. W. Peyton, J. B. White.

Signal Officers—1st Lieuts.: C. D. Bray, Alex W. Hobson, John Nuzum.

Chaplains: Revs. John O. Knott, R. Willoughford, E. D. Jeffries, W. P. Walker.

Captains.

Co. A—Organized at Princeton, Sept. 3, 1890, Isiah E. Bee; reorganized at Bluefield, May 4, 1893, W. F. Lord and W. W. Anderson.

Co. B—Organized at Buckhannon, Apr. 30, 1890, D. T. E. Casteel, W. H. Hilleary and W. S. O'Brien; reorganized at Red Star, Apr. 4, 1896, J. B. McGuffin.

Co. C—Organized at Union, March 21, 1888, A. S. Johnston; reorganized at Ansted, Feb. 9, 1892, Wm. N. Page.

Co. D—Organized at Hinton, March 22, 1888, J. Alex Parker.

Co. E—Organized at Spencer, May 15, 1888, Isaiiah H. Lynch; reorganized at Parkersburg, May 14, 1892, Chas. E. Morrison.

Co. F—Organized at Charles Town, May 4, 1888, C. E. Baylor; reorganized at Milton, Apr. 15, 1893, M. L. Howes and D. L. Irwin.

Co. G—Organized at Bramwell, Dec. 15, 1888, John D. Hewitt; reorganized at Huntington, Feb. 27, 1892, W. H. Lyons and Strother Hay, Jr.

Co. H—Organized at Ronceverte, July —, 1899, W. D. Slaven and Charles N. Simms.

Co. I—Organized at Huntington, Aug. 13, 1889, W. H. Banks and J. E. Verlander.

Co. K—(Governor's Guards) Organized at Charleston, March 16, 1888, John L. Winkler, Frank L. Beardsley and Chas. Dryden.

Under the new militia law February 25, 1897, which went into operation early in the administration of Gov. Atkinson it was provided that there should not be less than two nor more than three battalions in each of two regiments and one battery of artillery; a medical department consisting of Chief Surgeon with rank of Lieut. Colonel, one Surgeon for each regiment with rank of Major, one Asst. Surgeon for each battalion and battery with the rank of 1st Lieut., the assistant surgeons after five years service being entitled to the rank and pay of captains; a Hospital Corps not exceeding sixty hospital stewards and privates; a Signal Corps, consisting of one signal officer with rank of Captain; one first and one second Lieut. and non-commissioned officers and privates not exceeding forty and one Corps of Cadets at West Virginia University, held as a part of the West Virginia National Guard subject to such duty as the Commander-in-Chief may order. We give the organization of the Brigade at this time, which continued until its disintegration by the drafts made upon it for the Spanish-American war, May, 1898.

Brigadier General Commanding, B. D. Spilman.

Adjutant General, Lt. Colonel S. B. Baker.

Chief Quartermaster, Maj. J. C. Gluck.

Inspector General, Maj. R. H. D. Willis.

Chief Commissary, Maj. P. D. Neal.

Judge Advocate, Maj. W. G. Peterkin.

Inspector S. I. Practice, Maj. Thos. E. Hodges.

Aides-de-Camp, Captains Sprigg D. Camden, Frank H. Baker.

WEST VIRGINIA: PERSONNEL OF ITS GOVERNMENT.

Medical Department.

Chief Surgeon, Lt. Colonel H. B. Baguley.
Surgeons, Majors Cuthbert Gilham and G. M. Joseph.
Asst. Surgeons, 1st Lieuts. F. W. Smith, Charles T. Nesbitt, C.
C. Hogg, Z. T. Kalbaugh, Wm. T. Henshaw, Horace M. Patton.

FIRST REGIMENT.

Colonel, Clarence L. Smith.
Lt. Colonel, Phil A. Shaffer.
Adjutant, Captain W. J. White.
Quartermaster, Captain C. Earl Vance.
Paymaster, Captain C. R. Jones (supernumerary).
Signal Officer, Captain Henry A. Steed.
Commissary, 1st Lieut. Stephen W. Poe.
Chaplain, Rev. A. M. Buchanan.

First Battalion.

Major, R. B. Ash.
Adjutant, 2nd Lieutenant Clarence F. Joliff.
Quartermaster, 2nd Lieutenant J. L. Hunt.

Second Battalion.

Major, Macker Babb.
Adjutant, 2nd Lieutenant Harry A. Eaton.
Quartermaster, 2nd Lieutenant George E. Gramm.

Third Battalion.

Major, A. S. Hutson.
Adjutant, vacancy.
Quartermaster, vacancy.

The Company changes of the First Regiment were as follows:
Co. B—Reorganized at Moundsvills, Sept. 23, 1897, Capt. Robt.
N. Humphreys.

Co. F—Captain Levi K. Hoge succeeding Captain R. B. Ash,
promoted to Major of First Battalion.

Co. H—Captain Fred H. Beck succeeding Captain A. S. Hus-
ton, promoted to Major Third Battalion.

SECOND REGIMENT.

Colonel, W. H. Banks.
Lt. Colonel, W. H. Lyons.
Adjutant, 1st Lieutenant H. W. Jenkins.
Quartermaster, 1st Lieutenant B. P. Dickson.
Commissary, 1st Lieutenant M. B. Gibbens.
Signal Officer, Capt. John Nuzum (supernumerary).
Chaplain, Rev. W. P. Walker.

First Battalion.

Major, J. A. Parker.
Adjutant, 2nd Lieutenant Lee R. Clough.
Quartermaster, 2nd Lieutenant C. Luther Johnson.

Second Battalion.

Major, J. B. White.
Adjutant, Captain J. E. Middleton.
Quartermaster, 2nd Lieutenant P. G. Walker.

Third Battalion.

Major, C. E. Morrison.
Adjutant, Second Lieutenant Chas. D. Forrer.
Quartermaster, vacancy.

The Company changes in the Second Regiment were as follows:
Co. C—Capt. John E. Vawter succeeding Capt. W. N. Page,
resigned.

Co. D—Vacancy occasioned by promotion of Capt. J. A. Par-
ker to Major First Battalion.

Co. E—Capt. Jesse L. Cramer succeeding Capt. C. E. Morrison, promoted Major Third Battalion.

Co. G—Capt. I. H. Sabel succeeding Capt. Strother Hay, Jr., resigned.

Cadet Corps.

Organized May 23, 1897.

Colonel, acting Commandant, Richard Elsworth Fast.

Cadet Major, George E. Gramm.

Surgeon, Major James W. Hartigan.

Co. A—Cadet Captain DeMoines Utt.

Co. B—Cadet Captain William D. R. Annan.

Co. C—Cadet Captain Benjamin F. Laughlin.

In the Spanish-American War.

The National Guard was given the preference under the first call of the President of the United States and allowed to arrange the appointment of officers for United States service themselves. After the absence of a large portion of the National Guard from the State the Commander-in-Chief proceeded to re-organize the National Guard as under the State law making appropriation for same he was obliged to have two organized Regiments in the State all the time. This was also necessary in order to secure the appropriations from the National Government, the law requiring that there shall be one hundred men in the service for each U. S. Senator and Member of Congress—six hundred in all. In order that the State might be in position to avail itself of the services of officers who enlisted in the Volunteer Service of the United States those officers were placed on the supernumerary list, as their acceptance of commissions in the Volunteers and their muster into the U. S. Service amounted to a voluntary vacation of their commissions in the Guards. Placing them on the supernumerary list, provided by law, enabled the Commander-in-Chief to assign them to duty when he should need them and many have already been so assigned where vacancies occurred.

The Present Organization of the Guard.

At the time the present Brigade Commander was commissioned, June 18, 1898, the command had been reduced to small proportions and generally disorganized by this transfer as we have stated of the majority of the officers and men, to the service of the General Government in the Spanish-American war. On May 24, less than two weeks after the muster of the last company into the service of the United States, a General Order was issued by the Commander-in-Chief which required that the formation of two regiments of six companies each should be proceeded with as rapidly as possible. In forming these organizations the effort was made to have them of minimum strength, as fixed by law, in order that every man might be fully equipped and further that as many places as would be consistent with the good of the service, should be kept open for the return to the State of these former officers and men of the Guard of whom Gen. Curtin in his report December 31, '98, says: "The efficiency of the officers and men of the Guard is borne out by the good record they have made in the U. S. Volunteer service and the re-enlistment of these men is considered desirable as the experience gained by them in the U. S. service would add materially to the efficiency of the Brigade."

General Curtin's report says that he proceeded with the execution of the order for re-organization as speedily as circumstances would permit; examinations were held to provide field officers for the regiments, promotions made and commissions issued and in a remarkably short space of time the mandate of the law requiring that an organized military force be maintained in the State all the time, was fulfilled. This was not accomplished, however, with the ease with which we write of it. Frequent visits had to be made to different parts of the State, and many meetings held before organizations were effected. The work was, however, in most capable hands, General Curtin bringing to the performance of the duties of his commanding position the experience of a soldier of the war between the States and an officer in the National Guard of Pennsylvania. General Curtin is a man of splendid physique, quick and clear of perception of sound and discriminating judgment and being every inch a soldier himself, impresses his strong personality on those whom he commands. In accomplishing the reorganization he has been ably as

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sisted by his Adjt. General whose sincere and earnest interest in the work has been second only to that of the Brigade Commander himself. Of the other officers of the command it might be invidious to discriminate, we therefore content ourselves by quoting the high tribute of the Brigade Commander himself, in which he says: "It gives me pleasure to testify to the fidelity and zeal in the service of the State, displayed generally by the officers and men who constitute the organization under my command. The officers are careful, painstaking and faithful in the discharge of their duties, and the routine work necessary to the maintenance and conduct of their commands entails considerable labor for which there is but small compensation." In conclusion we give the Brigade organization as at present constituted. Some few appointments have yet to be made and a few companies restored but it is expected this will be done at an early day.

WEST VIRGINIA NATIONAL GUARD.

Headquarters—Charleston.

Brigade Commander, Brigadier General G. W. Curtin.
Adjutant General, Lt. Colonel C. B. Kefauver.
Chief Surgeon, Lt. Colonel W. J. Davidson.
Chief Quartermaster, Major J. C. Gluck.
Chief Paymaster, Major F. M. Thomas.
Inspector General, Major C. C. Lewis, Jr.
Chief Commissary, Major P. D. Neal.
Judge Advocate, Major W. G. Peterkin.
Inspector S. A. Practice, Major Thos. E. Hodges.
Aide-de-Camp, Captain Sprigg D. Camden.
Aide-de-Camp, Captain M. B. Gibbens.

FIRST REGIMENT.

Colonel, Macker Babb.
Lt. Colonel, R. B. Ash.
Adjutant, 1st Lieutenant Benjamin F. Laughlin.
Quartermaster, 1st Lieutenant George E. Gramm.
Commissary, 1st Lieutenant Francis H. Babb.
Chaplain, A. M. Buchanan.

First Battalion.

Adjutant, 2nd Lieutenant C. F. Joliff.
Quartermaster, 2nd Lieutenant J. L. Hunt.

Second Battalion.

Major Com'd'g., W. W. Scott.
Adjutant,
Quartermaster,

Third Battalion.

Major Com'd'g., A. S. Hutson.
Adjutant,
Quartermaster, Wm. H. Fredlock.

Captains.

Company A. (Elkins) 2nd Lieut. T. J. Stalnaker.
Company B. (Moundsville) vacancies.
Company C. (Wellsburg) Capt. Thos. E. Amick; 1st Lieut. John E. Fowler; 2nd Lieut. vacancy.
Company D. (Berkeley Springs) Capt. vacancy; 1st Lieut. vacancy; 2nd Lieut. W. H. Webster, in command.
Company E. (Martinsburg) Capt. Albert J. Moore; 1st Lieut. John A. Weddell; 2nd Lieut. vacancy.
Company F. (Burton) Capt. Levi K. Hoge; 1st Lieut. J. W. L. Stewart; 2nd Lieut. vacancy.
Company G. (Fairmont) Capt., V. N. Jones; 1st Lieut. Ernest E. Barnes; 2nd Lieut., vacancy.
Company H. (Piedmont) Capt., vacancy; 1st Lieut., Com'd'g., Chas. W. Cramer; 2nd Lieut., C. L. Wiseman.
Company I. (Charles Town) 2nd Lieut., J. H. Easterday, Jr.
Company K. (Clarksburg) Capt. Harry R. Smith; 1st Lieut., C. A. Osborne; 2nd Lieut., vacancy.
Company L. (Morgantown) Capt., C. R. Jones; 1st Lieut. J. M. Kunkle; 2nd Lieut., vacancy.



Maj. W.G. PETERKIN,
Judge Advocate.



Lieut-Col. CHAS. B. KEFAUVER,
Adjutant-General.



Brig-Genl GEO. W. CURTIN,
Commander.



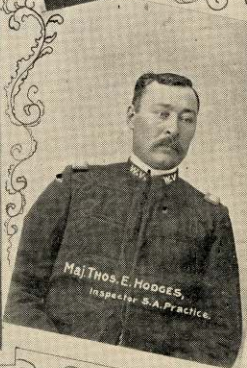
Lieut-Col. W.J. DAVIDSON,
Chief Surgeon.



Maj. F.M. THOMAS,
Chief Quartermaster.



Capt. SPRIGG D. CAMDEN,
Aide-de-Camp.



Maj. THOS. E. HODGES,
Inspector S.A. Practice.



Maj. C.C. LEWIS, JR.,
Inspector General.



Maj. PHILIP D. NEAL,
Chief Commissary.



Capt. M.B. GIBBENS,
Aide-de-Camp.

J.H. Chatillon,
M. Peaslee

BRIGADE COMMANDER GEO. W. CURTIN AND STAFF.

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SECOND REGIMENT.

Colonel, J. Alex Parker, Hinton.
Lt. Colonel, Chas. N. Simms, Ronceverte.
Adjutant, 1st Lieut. Lee R. Clough.
Quartermaster, 1st Lieut. John D. Sweeney.
Commissary, 1st Lieut. Wm. T. Hamilton.
Chaplain, Rev. W. P. Walker.

First Battalion.

Major Com'd'g., Chas. E. Morrison, Parkersburg.
Adjutant, Chas. D. Forrer.
Quartermaster, Lester Ridenour.

Second Battalion.

Major Com'd'g., D. L. Irwin, Milton.
Adjutant, John F. Grant.
Quartermaster

Third Battalion.

Major Com'd'g., Wm. N. Page, Ansted.
Adjutant, John C. R. Taylor.
Quartermaster, H. M. Wood.

Captains.

Company A. (Bluefield) Capt. W. W. Anderson; 1st Lieut., vacancy; 2nd Lieut., G. E. Bailey.
Company B. (Bissell) Capt. J. B. McGuffin.
Company C. (Ansted) Capt. Raleigh C. Taylor; 1st Lieut., vacancy; 2nd Lieut., Wm. S. Roberts.
Company D. (Hinton) Capt., Joseph Grim; 1st Lieut. M. G. Murrell; 2nd Lieut., H. E. Miles.
Company E. (Parkersburg) Capt., Jesse L. Cramer; 1st Lieut., vacancy; 2nd Lieut., Brady G. Ruttencutter.
Company F. (Milton) Capt., Benj. L. Perry; 1st Lieut., Lawrence L. Wilson; 2nd Lieut., Wm. H. Wysong.
Company G. (Huntington) Capt., Isaac H. Sabel; 1st Lieut., vacancy; 2nd Lieut., A. F. Vanfleet.

Company H. (Ronceverte) Capt., vacancy; 1st Lieut., Robert A. Kramer; 2nd Lieut., vacancy.

Company I. (Huntington) Capt., James E. Verlander; 1st Lieut., Charles W. Cole; 2nd Lieut., Fred W. Lester.

Company L. (Parkersburg) Capt., Austin H. Brown; 1st Lieut., A. B. Coffman; 2nd Lieut., Chas. G. Howes.

Company M. (Charleston) Capt., C. C. Rand; 1st Lieut., T. D. B. Stewart; 2nd Lieut., Charles A. Wood.

Battery of Artillery.

(Organized February 28, 1898, Berkeley Springs.)

Capt., H. G. Strong; 1st Lieuts., A. M. Mendenhall, T. W. B. Duckwall; 2nd Lieuts., S. J. Hovermale, E. L. Rice.

Medical Department.

Surgeon 1st Regt. Major G. M. Joseph, Morgantown.
Surgeon 2nd Regt. Major Cuthbert Gilham, Ansted.
Asst. Surgeon 2nd Regt. Capt. F. W. Smith, Bluefield.
Asst. Surgeon 2nd Regt. 1st Lieut. Horace M. Patton.
Asst. Surgeon 2nd Regt. 1st Lieut. C. C. Hogg.

Signal Corps.

(Organized March 3, 1899—Charleston.)

Signal Officer, Capt. W. H. Peyton.
1st Lieut., John S. Chilton.
25 men.

Cadet Corps.

(Organized May 23, 1897, at Morgantown.)

Colonel and Commandant, Richard Elsworth Fast.
Cadet Major, George E. Gramm.
Surgeon Cadet Major, James W. Hartigan.
Company A. Cadet Captain Des Moines Utt.
Company B. Cadet Captain Edward B. Carskadon.
Company C. Cadet Captain Benjamin F. Laughlin, artillery officer.

WEST VIRGINIA IN NATIONAL REPRESENTATION.

Hon. Stephen B. Elkins.

Stephen B. Elkins, lawyer, financier and statesman, Secretary of War in the Cabinet of ex-President Harrison, and now United States Senator from West Virginia, is pre-eminently a West Virginian and for West Virginia. He is a man of striking appearance, of exceptional ability and a brilliant orator.

He was born in Perry county, Ohio, September 26th, 1841. During his early boyhood the Elkins family moved to Missouri. There Mr. Elkins received an excellent education in the public schools, and at the State University, where he graduated in 1860. After thoroughly fitting himself for the practice of law he was admitted to the bar in 1863. During the Rebellion, he joined the Union forces and served on the Missouri border, with the rank of Captain. The spirit of adventure, and a desire to practice his profession in a field not overcrowded, led him, at the close of the war, to cross the plains to New Mexico, then a rough border country, where life was full of hardships, danger and adventure, but presenting magnificent opportunities for success to a man of pluck, ability and energy. Stalwart and capable both mentally and physically, he soon attracted important clients, gained a large practice and unbounded popularity and influence.

In 1866, he was elected to the Legislature, in which body his speeches revealed great force of character and devotion to the welfare of the Territory. In 1867 he rose to the position of Attorney General of New Mexico. In 1868, President Johnson appointed Mr. Elkins United States District Attorney for the Territory of New Mexico.

In 1869, he organized the first National Bank of Sante Fe, and retained his presidency for thirteen years. By a judicious investment of the income arising from his law practice in land and mining speculations, he soon took rank as one of the largest landholders in the country and an extensive owner in the great Bo-

nanza silver mines of Colorado and New Mexico. In 1873 he was elected as the Territorial Delegate to Congress from New Mexico, where he served his constituents so admirably that in 1875 he was re-elected while traveling in Europe, notwithstanding his positive refusal to accept the office again. In Congress, he quickly gained prominence by his magnetic manliness, his great industry, ability and effective support of important measures. His untiring efforts to secure the admission of New Mexico into the Union of States was marked by brilliant speeches; one especially, setting forth the great resources of the then little known territory, gaining him a national reputation.

While in Congress, Mr. Elkins married a daughter of ex-Senator Henry G. Davis, of West Virginia; a woman of great refinement and high social ability, thus forging the first link in the chain of his affection for West Virginia.

These years of Congressional experience in Washington brought Mr. Elkins well forward in the arena of political affairs. He has, from the beginning of his public career, been an active, earnest and aggressive Republican, a strong advocate of Protection to American industries and our merchant marine, of sound money, of annexation of the Hawaiian Islands, of freedom for Cuba, of increased coast defence and navy, and re-organization of the army on the best lines—in fact, everything that is best for the interests of the United States. Always a leader in his party, he served as a member of the Republican National Committee during the Presidential campaign of '84. He was the warm personal friend of James G. Blaine and ex-President Benjamin Harrison, who appointed Mr. Elkins, December 17, 1891, Secretary of War in his Cabinet. His appointment brought to President Harrison's aid a man of magnetic personality, of great strength of character, an excellent organizer, one patient in investigation and prompt in decision, one sincerely desirous of promoting the welfare of the army; hence he proved himself to be a successful and efficient Secretary of War.

Mr. Elkins' reputation does not rest entirely upon his public services, for his progress in the fields of business and finances has been equally marked. About 1878, he removed from New Mexico to West Virginia, and here has devoted himself, in company with Hon. Henry G. Davis, to the development of the railroads of the State, and thereby to the opening up of the wonderful coal deposits and timber-lands of our mountain State. Suc-

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cess has followed him in all these enterprises, and while trying to benefit himself he has conferred upon the people of West Virginia lasting benefits. These favors they have appreciated, for they elected him in January, 1895, their Senator to the United States Congress.

Mr. Elkins' influence and power, both in and out of Congress, at Washington, is most marked, because of his great personality, his public speeches, showing originality, public spiritedness, wise counsellings and decided statesmanship, founded on his evident and earnest desire to advance our nation's welfare; all this is known and appreciated by West Virginians without regard to party.

For many years a leader in the Republican party, Mr. Elkins, as soon as he took his seat in the Senate was recognized as equipped by natural talent and a wide business and political experience for the duties of his new and high position. He took a prominent part in the debate on the vexed question of issuing bonds to supply the deficiency in revenue during the latter days of the Cleveland administration. His stand on this question was endorsed by the public in general and by leading men in financial circles, and had much weight in influencing the subsequent action of the Executive. All through the debate on the tariff question no one was more active or determined for the re-establishment of a thoroughly American system of protection and encouragement for our home industries. Many of the best features of this bill owe much of their value to his careful and convincing arguments and tireless work.

Perhaps the most noteworthy effort of his career in the Senate has been his attempt through legislation to rebuild our American Merchant Marine. On this question he delivered on April 5th, 1897 a speech which has won for him more than a national reputation. Although the war with Spain has set aside for a time the consideration of this most important question, Mr. Elkins and his supporters in the Senate and in the House are still determined upon a vigorous line of action looking toward the revival of our shipping interest.

The speech of Senator Elkins on the aggressions of the Canadian Pacific Railway, made in the Senate on March 2, 1898, brought to the attention of the country in a forcible way the taking of trans-continental freight from American roads by the Canadian Pacific. He argued that the bonding privileges per-

mitting this injustice to American roads should be abolished; that they are not sanctioned by any law nor based upon treaty rights. He reviewed in his speech nearly all the questions that will come before the Canadian Commission appointed by the United States, Canada and Great Britain, to adjust the differences between the two Governments.

Mr. Elkins has a most beautiful home, in his country-seat of "Halliehurst," at Elkins, Randolph county, West Virginia, where the latch string of hospitality is always out, in true Virginia style to his many friends.

Hon. Nathan B. Scott.

The Hon. Nathan B. Scott, recently elected United States Senator from West Virginia, has for many years figured in public life in various positions of trust, in all of which he has shown himself worthy of the honors that have come to him as the results of eminent services. He was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, December 18, 1843, and began his business life as a clerk in a country store, at the early age of eleven years, attending the public schools during the winters. He enlisted in 1862 in the Union Army, and was mustered out in 1865 at the close of the war, settling in Wheeling directly afterwards. Since 1874 he has engaged in the manufacture of glass and was the head of the Central Glass Company for years, the industry under his exceptionally vigorous management becoming one of the largest of its kind in the country. He organized the first Savings Bank in the State and was elected its President and is still the head of the institution, which is one of the most successful in the State. He has been an extensive traveler at home and abroad and is a keen observer and a broad minded man. He has always taken an active part in politics as a Republican. In 1880, he was elected a member of the city council of the City of Wheeling and president of its second branch. He was elected in 1882, a member of the State Senate and again in 1886 serving eight years, in the last race defeating Hon. John O. Pendleton, who was afterwards elected to Congress. He served on important Committees while a member of the Senate and is the framer of the Mutual Savings Bank law of our State which has been generally approved. Since 1888 he has been West Virginia's member of the Republican National Committee during all of which time he

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has had the honor of being a member of its Executive Committee. In the campaign of 1896, he was selected by President McKinley to serve with General Powell Clayton and Vice President Hobart at headquarters in New York City, and because of his acknowledged friendly relations to organized labor had charge of the work pertaining to the Labor Organizations of the United States. In recognition of his services, President McKinley was pleased to appoint him to the position of Commissioner of Internal Revenue which office he held until his election to the Senate of the United States. As the "War Commissioner" he displayed in the administration of the business of the office executive ability of the highest order. Mr. Scott is a director in numerous large business foundations in the city of Wheeling and is extensively interested in large tracts of coal and timber lands in Logan and Mingo counties. His earnings from whatever source have ever been devoted to the extension of business enterprises and the employment of labor. His interests in the glass and steel industries of the State are very large and it is safe to say there are few manufacturing concerns of any magnitude which he has not promoted or in which he does not hold an interest. He is in fine a public servant of West Virginia, who is able to uphold the highest behests of the people of the State in National Council.

Hon. Blackburn Barreft Dovener.

West Virginia's distinguished Representative in Congress from the first Congressional District, was born April 20th., 1842, at Hurricane Bridge, Teys Valley, in what was then part of Cabell county, West Virginia, now Putnam county, West Virginia. He is the son of Dr. R. G. Dovener, a native of Cherry Valley, New York. The mother of the subject of this mention was the daughter of Andrew Barreft, of Cabell county, Virginia. During the infancy of their son, the parents removed to Elizabeth, Wirt county, and at the age of twelve years, they changed their residence to Parkersburg, and here the childhood of young Dovener was spent. He attended the district schools, also several terms of the well known Parkersburg Academy conducted by Prof. John C. Nash. It was here that his education was abruptly terminated by his enlistment in the volunteer service of the civil

war, in 1861 at the age of 19 years. He raised a company known as Company A, of the Fifteenth Regiment, Virginia, afterwards designated as Fifteenth West Virginia Volunteer Infantry, on admission of West Virginia as a State, but on account of his youth, he declined to accept its leadership. He served as First Lieutenant until after the battle of Cedar Creek, when he was promoted as Captain of the company. His services throughout the war were distinguished and valuable to the national cause and won him an enviable record. At the close of the war Captain Dovener moved to Wheeling, where he married Miss Margaret Lynch, daughter of the late William Lynch, of that city.

In 1867 he was appointed chief clerk in the office of Secretary of State, after which he decided to pursue the profession of law. He was admitted to the bar in 1873 and began practice in Wheeling the same year. By patience, perseverance and industry, he won for himself as a lawyer a position at the bar and in the courts of his native and adjoining states, an enviable and worthy distinction as an able and successful practitioner. As a counsellor he is safe and wise and ready in the comprehension of the salient features of his case. As an advocate, he is earnest, making his client's cause his own. He is ready in debate and fluent in expression. As a man he is affable, courteous and polite. He was for a time the junior member of the late firm of Davenport and Dovener. Upon the death of the senior member, which occurred in 1880, he succeeded to their practice, which under his auspices has been greatly increased until now he enjoys one of the largest and most lucrative in Wheeling. As a criminal lawyer he has had much experience and in this line of his profession he has no peer.

In politics, Mr. Dovener is a Republican, a stalwart of the stalwarts. He has championed the principles of the party in all parts of the State, and no one has accomplished more for the success of the Republican cause, than Mr. Dovener. He represented Ohio county in the Legislature in 1883 and in 1894 was elected to represent the First Congressional District of West Virginia in Congress and is now serving his third term. As a member of the River and Harbor Committee he has made himself immortal. No member of Congress from this State has accomplished so much for the improvement of our water courses as this gifted and brilliant man. In the Fifty-fourth and Fifty-fifth Congresses



UNITED STATES SENATORS AND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS OF WEST VIRGINIA.

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unaided and alone, he secured appropriations of \$7,000,000, for the permanent improvement of the rivers in which West Virginia is directly interested. Through his energy, influence and perseverance, improvements on the Ohio river between Pittsburg and Marietta which will cost the sum total of \$10,200,000 have been entered upon and commenced by the general government to carry out that which originated in the mind of Mr. Dovenor, the improvement of our water courses, whereby navigation may be kept up all the year round and our commerce may be carried and distributed to the southern markets, whereby West Virginia will receive a permanent and lasting benefit. As Henry Clay achieved greatness and immortality in building a national highway, so will the subject of our sketch, and his name will go down to posterity, honored and revered by a grateful and loving people.

Hon. A. G. Dayton.

The Hon. Alston Gordon Dayton who represents for the third consecutive term the Second Congressional District in the Congress of the United States, was born at Philippi, Barbour County, West Virginia, October 18, 1857. His parents Spencer and Sarah Bush Dayton were natives of Connecticut and Massachusetts, respectively, but for nearly half a century residents of Barbour County. He received his Collegiate education at the West Virginia University, graduating therefrom in class of 1878 with degree of Bachelor of Arts and was admitted to the bar in October of the same year. In 1880 he was appointed prosecuting attorney of Upshur County, and in 1884 was elected prosecuting attorney of Barbour County, for term of four years. November 26, 1884, he married Miss Columbia M. Sinsel, of Grafton and resides at Philippi.

Hon. David E. Johnston.

The Honorable David E. Johnston, Democratic member of Congress from the Third Congressional District of West Virginia, was born in Virginia, April 10, 1845. His early education, which was acquired in the common schools of his native county, was interrupted at the age of sixteen by enlistment,

April, 1861, in the Confederate States army, serving during the four years of the war in the Seventh Virginia Infantry, Picketts Virginia Division. He was engaged in many of the most sanguinary conflicts of that memorable struggle and was twice wounded, once slightly in the battle of Williamsburg, May 5, 1862, and once severely in the charge of Picketts Division at Gettysburg, July 3, 1863. After the close of the war he concluded his studies, and in 1866 taught school and prepared himself for the bar to which he was admitted to practice in 1867, being since recognized as one of its leading members. Mr. Johnston has always been a Democrat and has been frequently honored by his party with its important and responsible trusts. In 1872, he was elected prosecuting attorney for Mercer county serving as such for four years. In 1878 he was elected to the State Senate, serving one term when he resigned to become a candidate for judge of the Ninth Judicial Circuit to which he was elected October, 1880, and serving as such for eight years. In 1896 he was Presidential Elector on the Democratic (Bryan) ticket. In June, 1898 he was nominated by acclamation for Congress and elected to the 56th Congress, November, 1898, over Hon. Wm. Seymour Edwards, his Republican opponent by 765 majority. In mental attainments he will be the peer of any man in Congress. He is not only a level headed man who understands the needs of his people but an orator of ability who will be heard in the halls of legislation. He is in thorough accord with his party on all its great issues. A bimettalist and opposed to trusts, plutocracy and monopoly. Is of sterling integrity, high character and large experience and will do honor to himself and his constituency. He resides at Bluefield, Mercer County where he is a distinguished member of the firm of Johnston & Hale, prominent attorneys of that place.

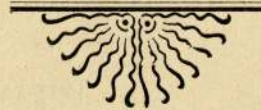
Hon. Romeo H. Freer.

This brilliant soldier, lawyer, diplomat and jurist was born November 9, 1847, in Trumbull county, Ohio, but removing to Ashtabula county, on Lake Erie, in childhood, was there reared and in its common schools educated. Enlisting at the youthful age of fifteen in the army of the Union, he served through three years of long and sanguinary conflict, participating in many of its most stirring scenes and hard fought engagements. Remov-

WEST VIRGINIA IN NATIONAL REPRESENTATION.

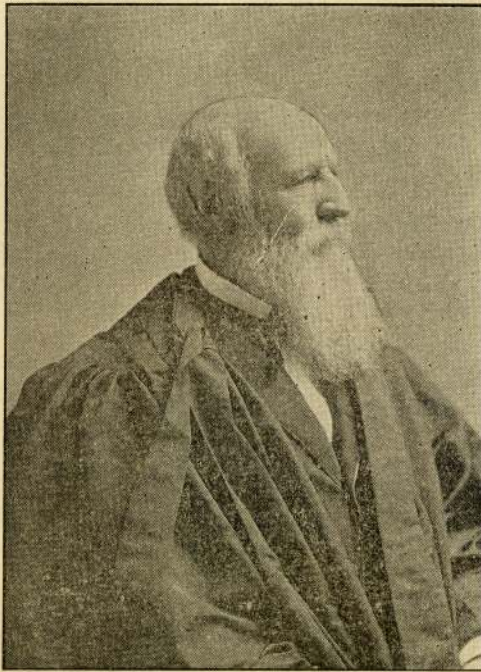
ing to Charleston after the close of the war, he taught school and studied law and being admitted to practice in 1868, became the partner of Supreme Judge H. C. McWhorter, the partnership terminating in 1873 by his appointment as United States Consul to Nicaragua under President Grant. He was assistant Prosecuting Attorney from 1868 to 1870 and Prosecuting Attorney from 1870 to 1873 when he accepted the Nicaraguan mission. After four years in the diplomatic service of his country, during which his acts reflected honor and credit alike on country and self, he returned in 1877 to Charleston and resumed the practice of the law. In 1881 he removed to Ritchie county, since which time he has practiced and resided there. In 1891 he was sent to the Legislature from Ritchie county and from 1892 to 1897 was its Prosecuting Attorney, at the close of which term he was elected Judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit, establishing for himself during his two years incumbency the reputation of being one of the best Judges in the State. He has served twice as Presidential elector; for Grant in 1872 and for Blaine in 1884. In 1898 at the urgent solicitation of his party's representatives from every county of the District he accepted the nomination for Congress and possessing without doubt greater elements of strength than any other man of his party or of the party itself, was elected over his strong Democratic opponent Hon. George I. Neal by

873 majority. Ever since attaining manhood's years Judge Freer has been made the responsible sponsor of public trusts, his fellow men delighting to honor him because of his resplendent qualities of heart and brain and the nobility of his truly benevolent and charitable life. He is an able and eloquent speaker and will be a conspicuous figure among the brilliant men of the next Congress. He is notably distinguished for having organized at Harrisville the first company of the West Virginia National Guard and as its captain and subsequently the major and colonel of the First Regiment, which latter position he held for five years, won for himself a long and honorable military record. He is Past Grand Master of the I. O. O. F. of the state and Past Department Commander of the G. A. R. of West Virginia. Judge Freer has been twice married, his first wife whom he wedded May 24, 1870, being Miss Lilly S. Fuller. He has one son, Romeo H. Freer, Jr. His second wife, to whom he was married July 8, 1884, was Miss Mary Iams, a lady of many charms of mind and person, who, together with her husband in their home of culture and refinement at Harrisville, entertain their many friends with prodigal hospitality. Judge Freer is frequently mentioned as being the strongest Republican possibility for Governor, an office on which he would with his splendid attainments and rare ability reflect high honor and dignity.



DISTINGUISHED CITIZENS IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

Judge John Jay Jackson.



Judge John Jay Jackson, eldest son of General John Jay Jackson, was born at Parkersburg, West Va. August 4, 1824; graduated from Princeton College in 1845; was a law student under his father and Hon. John J. Allen, president of the Supreme Court of Virginia; was admitted to the bar the following year and was elected the first Prosecuting Attorney of Wirt county in 1848, and the same year was appointed to the same office in Ritchie county. In 1852 and again in 1853 he was elected to the Virginia legislature from Wood

county. During this time he acquired a high reputation as a speaker and debater. In 1852, 56 and 60 he was elected on the Whig ticket. In the political campaign in which he took part he was justly distinguished as one of the finest speakers on the hustings, and by his efforts in the region of the State in which

he lived contributed largely to the success of the Bell and Everett ticket in carrying Virginia in 1860. It was stated in the Richmond Whig of that day, the organ of the party in Virginia, that the success of the ticket was largely due to him. In August, '61 when the nation was trembling in the balance President Lincoln appointed him United States Judge for the District of W. Va. and although at that time he had already attained notoriety he became generally known all over the State as the newly appointed United States Judge before whom many questions of grave importance would come for consideration and adjudication. It was a trying hour but the youthful jurist met the issues squarely and faced the opposition to the Government with a courage that at all times bordered on heroism. Judge Jackson is in many respects a remarkable man.

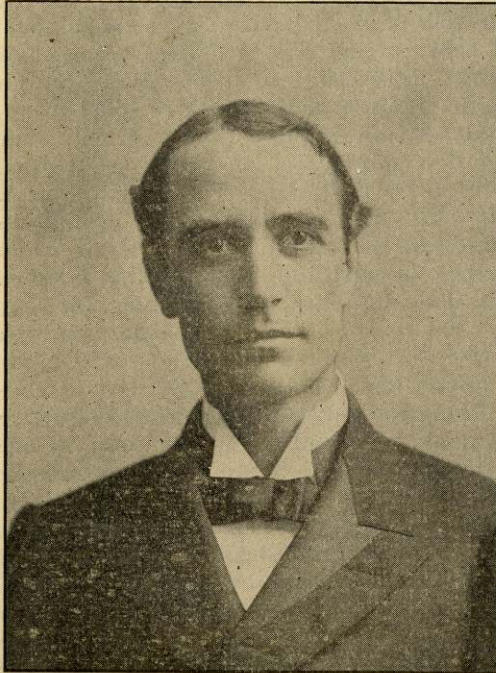
He has served on the bench of the District Court continuously for over a third of a century and has probably disposed of more causes than any other judge living or dead. Possessing a strong physical make-up, a vigorous and an active disposition, he has stood the tremendous strain on both mind and body that would have swept the greater number of men off the stage of action. He is now several years past the age at which United States judges may retire with pay, and yet he is as prompt in action, as vigorous in mind and as forcible in decision as when he entered upon the duties of the position. The question is often asked why Judge Jackson does not retire and take the rest that most men would require. The reasons which he is said to assign are well considered. After an unbroken service of thirty-eight years on the bench, the duties have become to him as commonplace as second nature. Being too active by disposition to retire from all kinds of employment, he would not at his stage in life essay to build up a practice in law. He is credited with having said that he preferred to "wear out in harness to rusting out in idleness." The retirement of Judge Jackson from the bench would result in little less than a public disaster. His long experience and the perfect clockwork precision with which the business of his court is transacted, is familiar to every attorney in the State. What other lawyer could bring to the bench of the United States district court the same profound ability and the peculiar tact for conducting and facilitating the business of that court? While he is dignified in his bearing, and at times may seem stern and even austere, in his manner, he is by nature as

DISTINGUISHED CITIZENS IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

kindhearted and sympathetic as he is vigorous in intellect, acute in judgment and profound in law.

Like all positive men, Judge Jackson is strong and emphatic in his likes and dislikes. His quick perception enables him to instantly detect deception in any form and he is rarely deceived. He is bold, outspoken and fearless and because of these characteristics, those who differ with him learn to admire and respect him, and as a jurist there are none more able. He resides in a stately mansion in Parkersburg where he entertains his friends with a generous hospitality.

Hon. J. H. Gaines.



Hon. Joseph Holt Gaines, son of Theophilus and Adrian Gaines, natives of Ohio, was born in Washington, D. C. Sept. 3, 1864. He removed with his parents to Fayette County, West Virginia when but two years of age and received his early education in its schools, later attending the University of West Virginia, for two and half years. This was followed by a four years course at Princeton, whence he graduated in June 1896, with the degree of A. B., this institution in 1889

conferring upon him the degree of A. M. He studied law at Fayetteville, was admitted to the bar in 1887 and at once com-

menced the practice of his profession as a partner of General St. Clair the firm being St. Clair & Gaines until 1895, when he moved to Charleston where his legal abilities were at once recognized and secured for him a prominent position and lucrative practice. Mr. Gaines has always been a Republican who has taken an active part in the campaigns and conventions of his party, his wide range of interest and information in public affairs making him a valuable factor in its Councils. He was Chairman for eight years of the Fayette County Republican Central Committee and has stumped the State in several of the most exciting contests that have been waged between the two great parties in the State. He has never enjoyed political preferment until appointed in June 1897 by President McKinley to the exalted and responsible position of United States Attorney for West Virginia the performance of the duties of which, he has discharged with distinguished zeal and ability. Mr. Gaines has grown rapidly in public esteem and the favor of his party and is now prominently mentioned as nominee of the Republican party for Governor of the State. He was married Nov. 23, 1898 to Miss Marjorie Lewis Gentry one of the most charming and accomplished daughters of the Capital City of West Virginia.

Hon. J. H. Copenhaver.

One of Kanawha county's contributors to the solidarity of her citizenship is found in the person of Sheriff J. H. Copenhaver.

This man of merit is a son of Jacob P. and Virginia Copenhaver, and was born in this county, above Charleston, in 1856. He was raised on the farm and obtained only the common school education afforded in his boyhood days. But he had the elements of success in him and at the age of 19 he commenced business for himself, and has steadily grown in wealth and experience from that day to the present time.

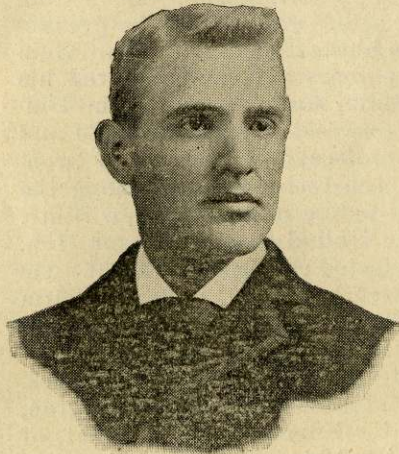
He never took to politics by nature, but continued in business until 1892, when he was induced to stand for election, in which he was successful, of assessor for the Upper District in Kanawha county. In 1888 he moved to Charleston, bought property, and his sturdy business qualities attracted the favorable notice of his neighbors; and in 1896 he was elected sheriff on the Republican ticket against his Democratic competitor, W. D. Lewis, by

DISTINGUISHED CITIZENS IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

a majority of 1,273, notwithstanding there was an independent candidate in the field.

Mr. Copenhaver's first marriage was with Miss Elizabeth Given, in 1877, and his second marriage with Miss Chloe Jarrett in 1894. He is naturally a money maker, and besides several pieces of property in Charleston, owns several farms, about six hundred acres in all, in Kanawha bottom above Charleston, of which 250 acres are in fine blue grass pasture, a rare thing in West Virginia. He is now feeding 130 head of cattle, and he looks forward with pleasure to the time when his term of office expires and he can return to the farm which has for him so many attractions. Mr. Copenhaver is now formulating plans for a fine residence on one of his farms on a site overlooking the Great Kanawha River. Although a Republican, he is not a partisan, and in his official duties he knows neither favorite nor foe, and thereby he holds his friends in all classes. The subject of this sketch is a man of few words, very practical, and quick reader of human nature. While he is contemplating a quiet and comfortable life in his prospective new home on the Kanawha, his neighbors may again call him back to public duty.

Hon. Edward Wilbur Staunton.



of Kanawha Co., Will Staunton, as he is familiarly called by his

The reputation that men enjoy for any particular talent, power or ability gives them distinction in proportion to the degree in which it is exercised. In the field of politics there is opportunity for wide range and one must be quick to grasp and take advantage of every incident of detail in the situation. He must be a good judge of human nature, shrewd, sagacious and discerning and if courage and intellectual force be added he is recognized as a leader. Such a man is one of the young Republican leaders

wide circle of friends and admirers. Edward Wilbur Staunton was born in Charleston, Kanawha county, February 12, 1866. He is a son of the celebrated physician, Dr. Joseph M. Staunton, a native of New York State, but for forty-four years a resident of Kanawha county, where he has reared a large family of children, all of whom have distinguished themselves in the professions and avocations of life upon which they have entered. His mother who has lived to have her children grow up and call her blessed and from whom the children have taken their Christian character and religious spirit, is a native of Vermont. Young Staunton acquired his education in the common schools of the city, supplemented by instruction in his home of refinement and culture. On leaving school he started on his business career as clerk in the shoe store of Charles Loeb, after which he became and is still associated with his brother in the ice and coal business which has grown to large proportions, controlling valuable interests and enjoying extensive patronage. He has always been an active, aggressive Republican, prominent in the councils and campaigns of his party. In 1889 he was elected City Sergeant of Charleston serving two years. In 1893 he was elected mayor, serving one term. He has always taken a deep interest in the upbuilding and improvement of the city and was active in the movement for the issue of bonds for street improvements. He was elected County Clerk in 1896 over W. B. Donnally by 1,300 majority, notwithstanding the fact that his opponent received the Independent party's endorsement.

He was a delegate to the last Republican State Convention held at Parkersburg, as well as to other party conventions held during the past ten years, and is recognized as one of the brightest young Republican leaders in the Third Congressional District. Mr. Staunton was married December 15, 1893, to Miss Florence Buffington, of Huntington, and is one of Charleston's most substantial business men and prominent citizens.

Hon. A. E. Kenney.

The Honorable Alfred E. Kenney, the efficient assistant clerk of the House of Delegates of the 1899 session of the Legislature of West Virginia was born October 5th, 1865, and was reared in the Little Kanawha valley, at Burning Springs, Wirt county, the oldest oil town in the State. He is the son of Martin and Mary

E. Kenney, natives of the State of Ohio, and neighbors of General Phil Sheridan, a distinguished officer of the Union army in the Civil War. Young Kenney received his early education at the Burning Springs high school where he distinguished himself by his close application to study and the high standing in his classes. Having well fitted himself for a life of trade, he began his business career as clerk for McConaughy & Co., at Richardson, establishing for himself during his six years continuance with them, the well merited reputation for honorable and conscientious performance of every duty. Since 1887 he has been variously engaged in mercantile pursuits for himself and as member of the firms of A. E. Kenney & Co., Burning Springs; Trippett, Kenney & Co., Brooksville, and Connell & Kenney, Arnoldsburg. But his ambition longed for a life of greater activity and excitement than found in the methodical affairs of business and so he determined upon a professional career, and after due preparation he was admitted in 1892 to the practice of the law, in which he has continued uninterruptedly since, except for the two years 1894-1895 when he attended the law department of Georgetown University, Washington, D. C., receiving during them the degrees of L. L. B. and L. L. M., respectively. He has always been a zealous worker for the Democratic party and has been honored with its responsible trusts. Was elected Committee Clerk in the Legislative session 1893; appointed Clerk in Census Bureau, Washington, D. C., which office he held for three years; elected the delegate to represent Calhoun county in the Legislature of 1897 and was a valued member of the joint Committee on Constitutional Amendments of that year, and is now and has been for four years Chairman of the Democratic Committee of Calhoun county. Mr. Kenney is the author of Kenney's Geography of West Virginia, a publication which has been highly commended, has received the State adoption and is generally used in the schools of the State. His home is at Grantsville, seat of justice of Calhoun county, where he is recognized as an attorney of prominence and ability.

Hon. C. C. Watts.

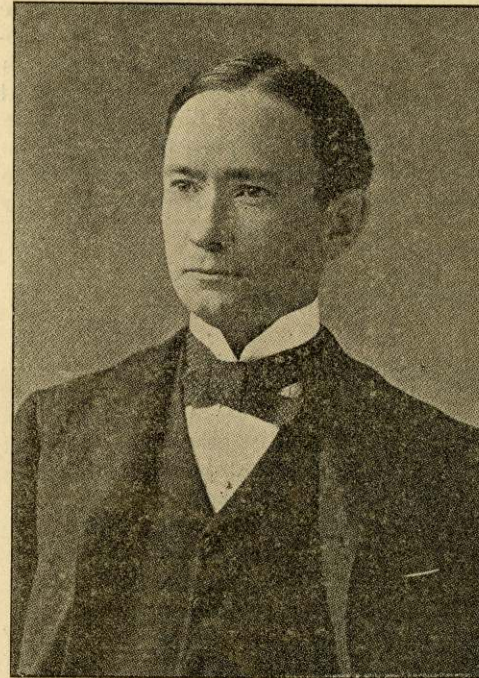


The test of fitness for public office can only be determined by the acts of the individual during his incumbency of responsible trusts, and when he has shown himself worthy of the confidence reposed in him he becomes of necessity of the greatest value to the State and the Nation. In this relation, and as occupying a position which he has achieved by intrinsic merit, and which distinguishes him as among the leading public men of West Virginia, the Hon. C. C. Watts, of Charleston, deserves to be presented

to the people as demanding the highest consideration. Gen. Watts was born in Virginia, fifty years ago, and received his education in the schools of that State, studying law at the University of Virginia. He removed to West Virginia in 1870 and at once began the practice of his profession at the age of twenty-two years, where he has since been recognized as among the ablest lawyers and most prominent public men of the new State. He was the lawpartner of the late United States Senator Hon. John E. Kenna, from 1875 until elected Attorney General. He is now associated with Hon. Walter L. Ashby, under the firm name of Watts & Ashby. In 1880 General Watts was elected Attorney General of West Virginia, and during his incumbency of that office represented the State in various important cases, and one before the United States Supreme Court at Washington, in which he was declared by Senator Edmunds, of Vermont, of the opposing counsel, to have acquitted himself with distinguish-

ed credit and ability, as well as success. Senator Edmunds, in a letter to General Watts concerning this case, remarks the exceedingly commendable manner in which he conducted it, and characterizes his efforts as masterly and effective. In 1886 President Cleveland presented the name of General Watts to the Senate for confirmation as United States Attorney for West Virginia, the appointment being promptly confirmed. In 1890 he was elected to the State Senate of West Virginia by a majority of 2,200 in a senatorial district which, two years before, had given a Republican majority of 800. As a member of the Senate he was a prominent figure, effective debater and hard worker. On May 4, 1893, General Watts resigned his seat in the West Virginia Senate to accept a second appointment by President Cleveland as United States District Attorney for West Virginia, the duties of which office he continued to discharge up to August 1896, when having been nominated by acclamation by his party for Governor, he went to Washington and handed in his resignation in person to the administration that had turned its back upon Mr. Bryan as the Democratic nominee for the presidency and the Chicago platform, in order, as he said, that he might be unfettered in championing the principles of Democracy, the cause of free silver and the election of William J. Bryan. Though defeated in that memorable contest, he made a most remarkable canvass. Locking the door of his office and going into the field, he overcame the Republican vote of two years previous by more than 5,000 and increased the Democratic vote of four years before by 10,000, at which time the State went Democratic by over 4,000 majority. And what is equally remarkable, his vote for governor in 1896, exceeds the Democratic vote in the entire State for the election held November, 1898, by 8,151, and was not only larger in every congressional district, but in every county of the State except six, than the vote cast for congressmen throughout the State. General Watts is a man of exceptional worth and would do honor to any position in the gift of the people. He is an uncompromising Democrat in politics but not offensively partisan and has many friends in both parties who recognize his abilities and his value to West Virginia as among the stalwart, stanch and true supporters of its highest and best interests. While still taking an active interest in the political situation he now devotes his whole time to the practice of the law.

Hon. John T. McGraw.



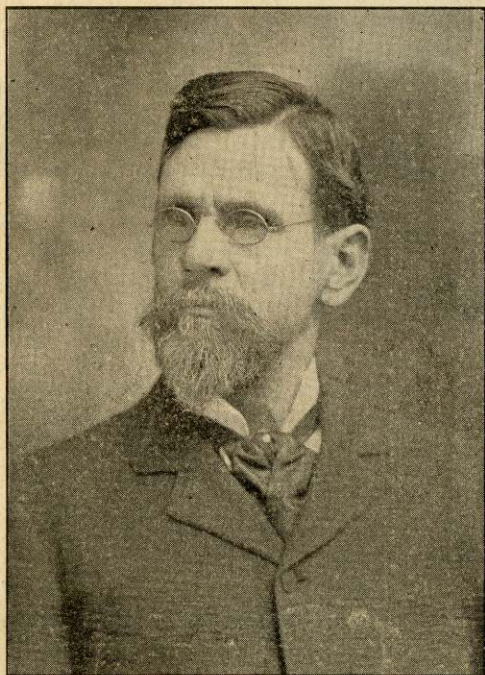
Before the people of West Virginia as worthy of preferment and distinction as their next United States Senator is the Hon. John T. McGraw. Some account of his public life is hence of interest. He is the son of Thomas McGraw, a pioneer merchant of Grafton, Taylor county, W. Va., where he was born January 12, 1856. Both of his parents were natives of Ireland, emigrating to this country when quite young, his mother being Mary B. Luley. Young McGraw received his preliminary education at St. Vincent College, at Wheeling, and was

graduated from the Law Department of Yale College in the class of 1876. He was admitted to the bar of Taylor county, W. Va., in the same year and has since practiced his profession at the county seat of that county. Soon after his admission to the bar he was appointed one of the West Virginia counsel for the Baltimore & Ohio R. R. Co., and continues to act as their legal adviser and attorney. In 1880 he was elected prosecuting attorney of Taylor county, rendering valuable services until the spring of 1885. In 1882 he was honored by the appointment of aide-de-camp on the staff of Governor Jackson of West Virginia, serving during that administration of four years. In the spring of 1886 he was appointed by President Cleveland Collect-

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or of Internal Revenue for the collection district embracing all the counties of West Virginia, resigning his office in May, 1889, and turning it over to his successor in the most excellent condition. His management of the affairs coming under his jurisdiction as Collector of Internal Revenue was singularly effective and exemplary and he retired with credit and honor. He was appointed also during President Cleveland's administration as United States Disbursing Agent for the public buildings at Clarksburg, Charleston and Wheeling, a duty which he discharged with commendable fidelity. Mr. McGraw possesses in an eminent degree the qualities to commend him for any position to which he may aspire. He is a zealous Democrat and is popular with his party as he is with all who know him.

Hon. Lewis A. Martin.



Lewis A. Martin, member of the House of Delegates of West Virginia, was born at Malden, in Kanawha county, W. Va., December 29, 1838. He is the son of Tipton Martin, whose father, Joseph, served as a soldier during the war of the Revolution and was a native of Nelson county, Virginia. The mother of Lewis A. Martin was a daughter of Richmond Walton, of Albermarle county, Virginia.

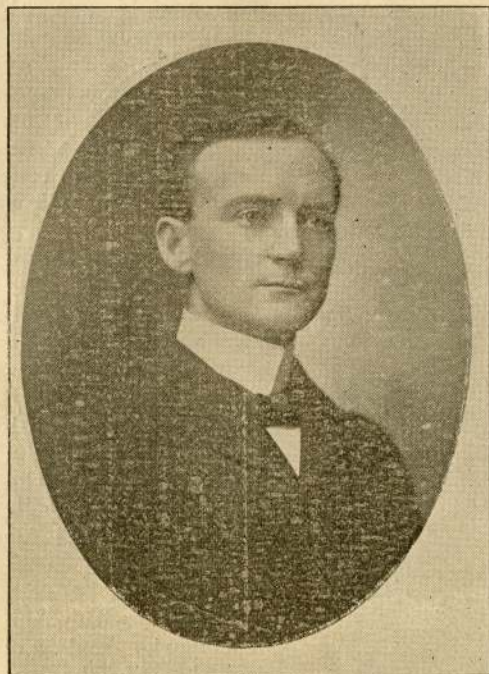
Young Martin attended the subscription school of George Taylor in his native county and gave his attention at intervals to the study of law un-

til the outbreak of the civil war in 1861. He enlisted in the Home Guards under the command of Gen. Lewis Ruffner in 1861, rendering in the meantime valuable services in organizing and recruiting the Seventh West Virginia Cavalry, being at Buffalo, Putnam county, with them during the winter of 1861-2. He subsequently became the senior Major of the 153rd Virginia militia and participated in several engagements in the Kanawha valley, being on the Lightburn retreat in 1862. He afterward (the militia being disbanded) joined the Seventh West Virginia Cavalry, and continued to serve with that command until mustered out August 1, 1865. With the return of peace he resumed his study of the law and was admitted to the bar of Lincoln county, W. Va., in 1868, being soon afterward appointed by the court of the newly created county prosecuting attorney and discharging the duties of that office for one year. He was chosen at the fall election of 1868 a member of the West Virginia Legislature of 1869 which assembled at the then capital of the State at Wheeling, and performed efficient and valuable service on several committees, notably those relating to privileges and elections. During this session the bill selecting Charleston for the first time as the capital of West Virginia was passed, Mr. Martin strongly urging the measure and employing his best abilities in aiding to secure its adoption. He was reelected in 1870, being nominated on the Republican ticket to take the place of Judge C. W. Smith, the prior nominee, who declined to accept by reason of his appointment as judge of the Cabell district. In the canvass that followed Mr. Martin succeeded in restoring to his party the control of the county, which had in the previous year been secured by the opposition. During the session of 1871 Mr. Martin vigorously combatted the adoption of the measure before the House for a constitutional convention, which was however enacted into law, the Legislature at that time being overwhelmingly Democratic. Until his nomination for, and election to, the Legislature of 1895 he had devoted himself to the practice of his profession, in which he ranks with the ablest jurists in the country. He is prominently mentioned for a judgeship in one of the courts of the U. S. for Hawaii or of the other new territorial possessions for which he is eminently fitted from long experience at the bar and his ready grasp of all questions involving legal acumen and the best methods of court procedure. Mr. Martin has been a valuable representative, and his legisla-

DISTINGUISHED CITIZENS IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

tive acts have shown a zealous advocacy of the best interests of the people of West Virginia. In the past session of the Legislature, before which were many important measures he again demonstrated his readiness and ability to range himself on the side which champions the cause of the principles which best express a popular government. Mr. Martin has creditably filled various important positions in the G. A. R., having been Commander of the Charleston post and as having served as aide-de-camp on the staff of National Commander John P. Rea. He is past Junior and Senior Vice Commander, G. A. R., of the Department of West Virginia. Mr. Martin is a man of pleasing and graceful personality; possesses a vigorous and resourceful intellect, and is capacitated to fill any position to which he aspires, with credit and honor.

Hon. George I. Neal.



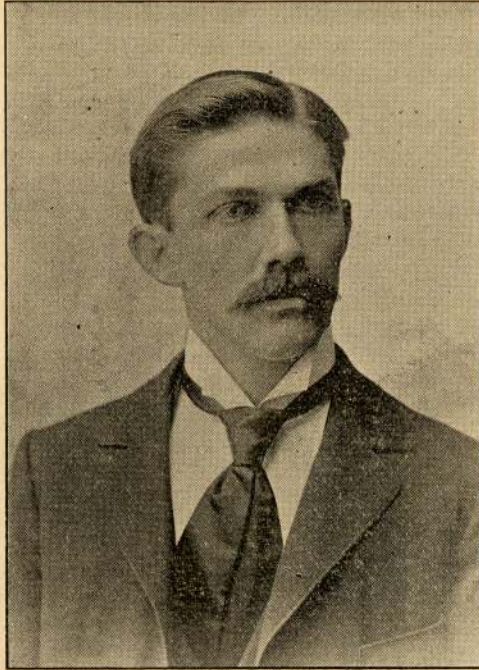
As one of the young men of the State who has won distinction and honor in the discharge of the responsible duties and trusts imposed upon him the Hon. George Ira Neal deserves special mention. He was born in Cabell county near Milton, March 23, 1858, of humble, but respected parents, his father A. D. Neal, being for twenty five years Justice of the Peace of his native county. His career has already been remarkable enough to class him among the great men of the state. Rising by his own indomitable will and energy from obscurity to

prominence he has filled positions of great responsibility with honor, and demonstrated in them his splendid ability. His early years were spent upon the farm, the spare moments devoted to study and in the winter attending school. Having at the age of sixteen passed satisfactory examination and received high certificate of qualification he taught school, using the money earned thereby and from the sale of books through Southern Ohio, to pay for a course at the West Virginia University whence he graduated in law at the age of twenty and was immediately thereafter admitted to the bar. Locating in Huntington he began the practice of his profession and rose at once to high position in that city, securing at the age of twenty-two the Democratic nomination for mayor over five older and more prominent citizens, but was defeated. Two years later he was renominated and elected, being the youngest mayor in the State. His splendid record in the administration of the affairs of the office of mayor and ex-officio police judge gained for him a reelection to which the votes of many outside his own party contributed. The panic of '93 came on during his second term of office but despite the scarcity of money and the severity of the winter, so carefully and systematically did he direct the work of alleviating the necessities of the poor that there was scarcely any real suffering in the city. As an evidence of Mr. Neal's great popularity he received in 1898, the nomination for Congress without the expenditure of money over nine other aspirants, some of whom were men of influence and large means. He made an active, vigorous canvass of the District and though defeated by his Republican opponent, Judge Romeo H. Freer, he reduced the Republican plurality of 1,900 two years before to 873 at the last election.

Mr. Neal learned early to bear philosophically the disappointment of defeat which has been subsequently crowned by victory and has risen step by step by his own efforts, uplifting others as he went and never injuring another to attain his own promotion. He was married in January, 1899, to Miss Kathleen Vera Burns of Huntington where he resides and has extensive practice, being recognized as one of the leading attorneys of a bar which ranks with any other in the State. He is of tall and slender build, has a pleasant delivery and is a logical and convincing speaker. He has a genial and happy disposition and the faculty of making and holding friends. His strong points in politics are giving close attention to details and standing by political friends.

DISTINGUISHED CITIZENS IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

Hon. Grant P. Hall.

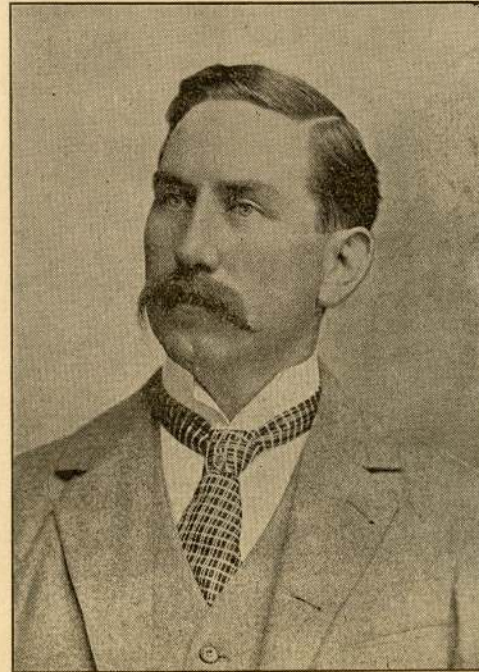


The efficient clerk of the Circuit Court of Kanawha county was born in Roane county December 21, 1865, his parents William and Isabelle Hall being natives of Harrison and Monroe counties, respectively. Young Hall received his education in the common schools of his native county supplemented by normal course at the Ohio Wesleyan University and Marshall College, Huntington from which latter institution he was graduated with honor in 1889. Having fully qualified himself by his educational training and received teachers certificate he ac-

cepted, at the early age of sixteen the hardship of teaching county schools in Kanawha and Clay counties and continued in this occupation until 1893 when he was elected County Superintendent of schools over J. B. Whittington, of St. Albans, by 500 votes and served as such for two years. During his term as superintendent of schools he prepared himself by dilligent application to study for admission to the bar and in 1895 being admitted, entered at once on its practice. At the end of one year, during which he gained an honorable position and lucrative business, his party nominated him for Clerk of the Circuit Court of Kanawha county, to which position he was elected for term of six years over his Democratic opponent R. E. L. Blackwood by over 2,000 votes, thus attesting his great popularity and the high esteem in which he is held by the people. Mr. Hall has for the

past ten years taken an active interest and part in politics and is now the chairman of the Republican Senatorial Committee for the Kanawha District. His aggressiveness has always brought in opposition to him determined characters, and every inch of political success has been gained by the force of his own individual nature, the character and courage of which both in resistance and action has worthily won for him his commanding position. He has been assailed and maligned by those of hostile political faith in the whirlwind of resentment and revenge but in the honorable performance of public duty he has broken the shaft of the one and extracted the venom of the other. Mr. Hall was married November 15, 1895, to Miss Anna Steel, of Minneapolis, Minn., and resides in Charleston, where he is held in high favor by a large circle of admiring friends and acquaintances.

Hon. J. A. de Gruyter.



The people are always interested in useful ambition. Any man who reaches maturity of mind at an early age always receives the plaudits and favors of his fellow man.

We have in the Hon. J. A. deGruyter, who has recently terminated his second term as mayor of Charleston, an instance of this fact. He commenced a business life at 14 years, was the recorder of the city at the age of 21, and was re-elected for the second term.

In 1889 he became associated with the water works and gas companies of Charleston, and has ever been

WEST VIRGINIA ASYLUM FOR INCURABLES.

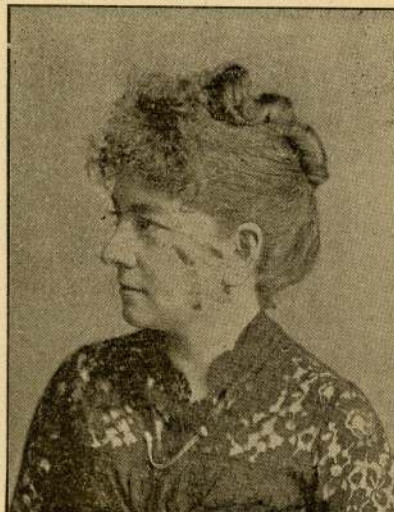
one of their most trusted representatives. In 1895 he was elected on the Democratic ticket mayor of the Capital City of the State, and in '97 was honored by a reelection. He is not demonstrative in his social relations, but warm hearted and companionable.

He is a man of keen penetration and an excellent judge of human nature. This element of strength has been shown by his rulings in the police court, and, also by his unswerving integrity in the administration of justice, for which the city is largely indebted for its revenues from fines.

The greatest weakness of the ex-mayor is his great modesty and yet this weakness is an element of strength with the people. In a work published in connection with the Atlanta Exposition two years ago Mr. de Gruyter was a prominent figure in the West Virginia group. The subject of this sketch is a son of M. F. and Julia Crockett de Gruyter, the latter a lineal descendant of the celebrated Congressman, Davy Crockett. Mr. de Gruyter was married in 1889 to Mary Noyes, a niece of P. H. Noyes, recently deceased, who was at the head of one of the leading wholesale houses of Charleston. Mr. de Gruyter furnishes a marked instance in which brain controls matter. He, like many other men of the State who have become prominent in public and business affairs, started out with only a common school education. He is a man who lives close to nature, and takes a lively interest in all healthful and innocent sports. He has a fine physique, delights in the hunt and piscatorial sport, and is an enjoyable companion and a prominent member in the outing clubs of the city.



WEST VIRGINIA ASYLUM FOR INCURABLES.



To West Virginia belongs the proud distinction of being the first in this great Union of states to assume the responsibility of providing a permanent and comfortable home at public expense, for the large number of its citizens who, unable to provide for themselves, are afflicted with diseases and maladies that medical skill cannot reach—the incurable. And to a brave and determined woman, with brain of man and heart of woman, to whom obstacles were quickening impulses to renewed endeavor; stepping stones to the successful accomplishment of a work, the glory of which will wreath her name with the rich benediction

of the unfortunate in all future generations, is due the credit the praise and honor for founding this greatest of all the charitable institutions of the State. The deaf, dumb and blind are not infrequently restored to sound, speech and sight; the insane to reason; the critically ill to health, but those who enter this retreat leave hope without its portals. Mrs. Mary Jackson Ruffner, whose picture fittingly embellishes this article was the first woman who ever came before the legislature of the State not only for the appropriation for the establishment and support of a great eleemosynary institution, but for any object. Her position was an anomalous one, against which her friends dissuaded her and her acquaintances and those who did not know her scoffed and jeered her, predicting failure. But they did not know or underestimated the determined character of the woman who had under

WEST VIRGINIA ASYLUM FOR INCURABLES.

taken the work which is to be the crowning glory of her life. Four years of fruitless endeavor were spent before the bill for the establishment of the Home was recognized, it being then sent to an unfavorable committee who returned it with recommendation that it should not pass and the bill was virtually considered dead. Securing sufficient influence to have the bill recommitted, she appeared before the committee with two incurable children against the advice of, and opposed by, all who knew her and criticized by all who did not. The sight of those helpless children, the suffering of the child Chloe, who has since passed into the light of perfect day, so touched and moved those strong men, in the homes of some of whom were robust, happy-hearted little ones, that their hearts were softened and, resisting no longer the touch of suffering that makes all the world akin, they favorably recommended and the legislature made in 1897, the first appropriation of \$10,000.00. At last were her efforts successfully crowned in part in the initiatory establishment of what is destined to be the pride and lasting glory of West Virginia. The Governor, George W. Atkinson, under whose administration this great philanthropic work was accomplished, in recognition of the pre-eminent services rendered by Mrs. Mary Jackson Ruffner, appointed her on the Board of Directors for the longest term of eight years, and the Board in turn honored her by electing her its president, the first and only woman president of any of the institutions of the State.

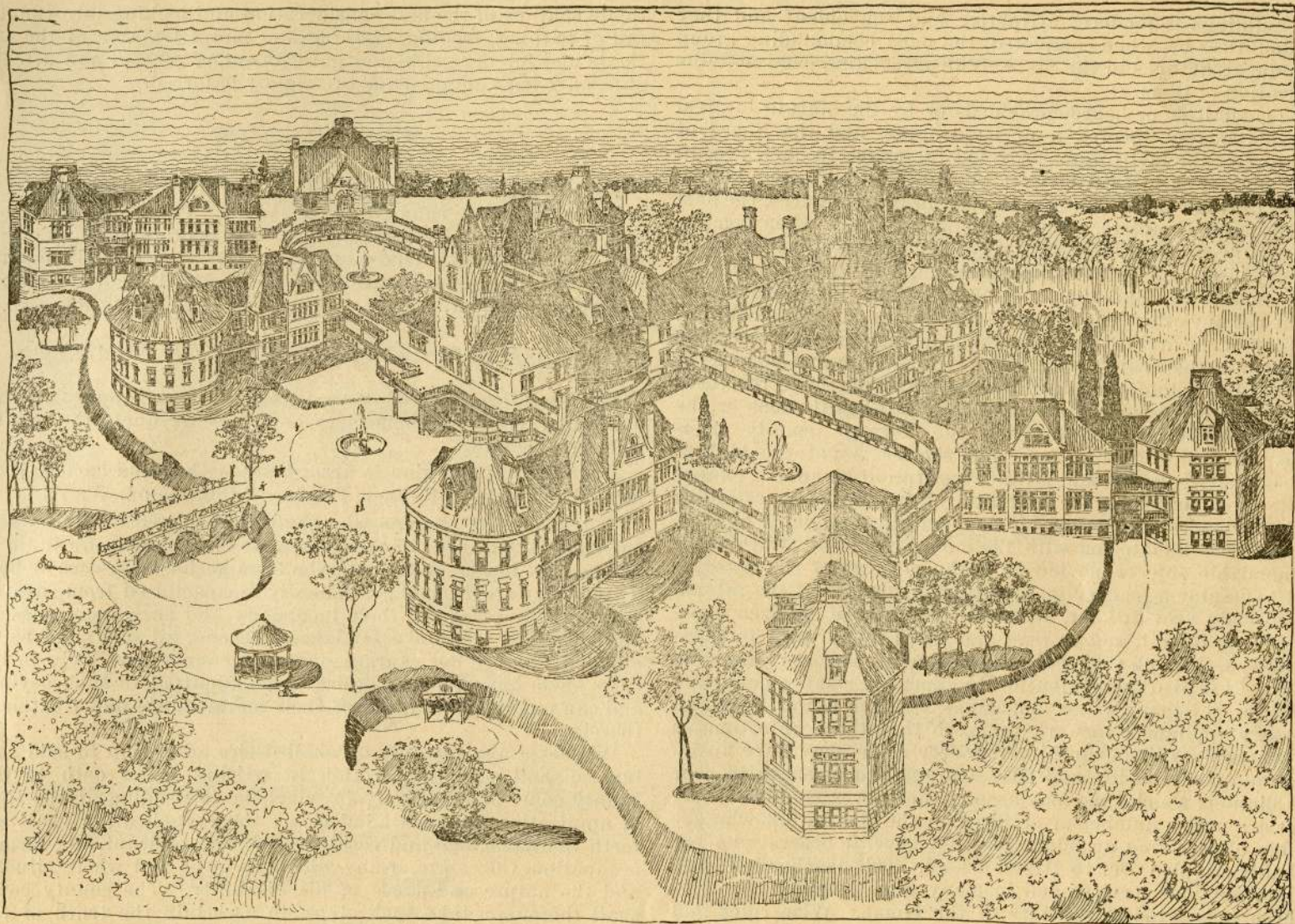
Recently the Board has renewed its evidence of confidence and esteem by re-electing her president and general manager, the duties of which responsible position are both difficult and laborious. She has organized the present building, superintended and directed all the buying connected with it, written all the reports, done all the correspondence, hundreds of letters in all, and directed every detail of the management. The first Board of Directors were:

Mrs. Mary Jackson Ruffner, of Charleston, president;
Hon. John K. Thompson, of Putnam, vice president;
Miss Kinnie E. Smith, of Parkersburg, secretary;
Judge John J. Jackson, of Parkersburg;
Mrs. Stephen Benton Elkins, of Elkins;
Dr. T. L. Barber, of Charleston;
Mrs. Frank Heermans, of Kingwood;
Hon. John W. Harris, of Greenbrier.

As its treasurer the Board elected Mr. John Q. Dickinson, one

of the most influential and honored citizens of Charleston. The first directress of the institution was Dr Amelia J. Prior, a woman eminently fitted for the position who brought to the performance of her duties the highest credentials from the leading physicians of the country. The first inmate was Jesse James, whose back was broken. The first appropriation of ten thousand dollars enabled the Board to have one of the several buildings erected and to care for a limited number of patients whose cases seemed most distressing, but the work has been arduous in the extreme and must have failed but for the presence on the Board of the several noble hearted, self-sacrificing women whose time and means have been liberally given in alleviating the suffering and bringing sunshine into the lives of the unfortunate inmates. It is an undoubted axiom, give a woman a motive and she is the bravest creature on earth, and what higher, nobler, holier purpose and duty could possibly excite the gentle impulses of a woman's heart to heroic deeds than charity generously bestowed in the relief of physical suffering? It is doubtful if any of the great charities of today would exist but for woman.

The time has now come when the institution is about to enter into a more perfect existence and realize the high hopes and sublime purposes for which it was founded. It is now financially able to meet all its obligations and to push forward and develop the work under which for two years it has been tottering and struggling for life under most unfavorable conditions. The recent appropriation of sixty-five thousand dollars will enable it to cancel every debt, to support with comfort the unfortunate under its care and to erect one large building, which, together with the one now used, will be so filled by the time of the next session of the legislature, and the record of results so replete with good, that recognition must be given both the wisdom and necessity of larger appropriation, making this institution rank not only as first in the charities of our own State, but that it may be known the length and breadth of the United States. In the present building there are 50 patients who are surrounded with every care, comfort and pleasure their unhappy lives are capable of receiving into them. The children's day nursery has been furnished with toys, games and musical instruments, the gifts of Mrs. Elkins, whose generous heart delights in acts of benevolence, and these little afflicted ones have as much as possible, been made to feel the loving, gentle influence and spirit of home. The plan adopted by the Board for the



THE WEST VIRGINIA ASYLUM FOR INCURABLES, Huntington, W. Va.

Harrison Albright, Architect.

new buildings is modern, attractive and convenient and they will doubtless be, when completed, the most commanding group of public structures in the State. The preceding page contains illustration of them.

The committee or board, provided for by the statute in creating this asylum, located it at Huntington, and the Board of Directors of the institution, provided for under the act, accepted the plan of architect Harrison Albright, of Charleston, known as the "Cottage plan," which will cost, in round figures, the sum of \$200,000 to complete. These various buildings when completed, will accommodate comfortably one thousand patients, an exhibit of less cost by far for the same capacity and character of accommodations, than any other of our State institutions, and perhaps of any other institution of the kind in our entire country. The plan of the architect reveals great genius and impresses one as worthy of the Board's adoption. It is the aim and purpose of the Board to establish a high standard and not have the institution sink to the level of the ordinary State institutions or the still more deplorable condition of the average county poor-house. To simply clothe, feed and shelter is not the highest sense of charity, nor should a State institution be upon a pauper basis. It is, therefore, the ambition of the Board to establish their own precedents and on all lines within reasonable bounds, deal with the inmates as with their own children. With these commendable objects in view it is the purpose of the management to employ a teacher in substitution for one of the attendants already provided for, who will teach those children capable of being taught, and to read and teach fancy work to those adults who, through their afflictions, have an almost aimless existence. It is also their intention to expend a small amount annually for newspapers and magazines, and for flower beds and necessary appliances to work them, so that these unfortunates into whose lives little sunshine has ever come, may have an interest and object in life and gain courage and strength to bear the afflictions which time may assuage but never wholly relieve. There are now a number of children in the institution who are capable of receiving an education, but several others who are too badly crippled ever to attend school. This teacher will also conduct religious services and in many ways brighten the lives of those committed to the care of the Home. Wise rules and regulations providing that the comfort and welfare of the pa-

tients shall be of the first consideration and looking into the detail of bathing, feeding, clothing and moral training of the patients and for the guide and government of officers and attendants, have been adopted and are rigidly enforced.

ENDOWMENTS.

As has been the case with other worthy institutions in every section of our country, there is every reason to hope this one, too, will receive benefactions and endowments from the rich and charitably inclined and so memorial rooms will be provided in the administration building, entirely cut off from the pauper element.

HOW TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION.

For the information of those desiring to make application for admission either for themselves or others we quote the law in reference thereto:

Make your application in accordance with it and enclose it to Mrs. Mary Jackson Ruffner, President, Charleston, W. Va.

"The classes of persons who shall be admitted as patients in the said asylum are: First, epileptics, idiots, incurables; those persons not insane or violent, who from accident, disease or bodily infirmity are deemed permanently incapacitated from earning a support by reason of their incapacity and such incurables as need constant care and attendance. Second, all such persons so afflicted who are not charges upon the county nor likely to become such, but who may desire to be admitted to such asylum and can pay the actual cost of their maintenance and treatment therein.

Whenever any such person shall desire admission to said asylum he shall make application in writing under oath to the county court of the county in which he is residing at the time of application for such admission. Such application shall set forth the name, age and residence of the applicant, his former occupation, the estate, if any which he owns and where situate, and the nature and cause of his disability. The county court shall thereupon take such steps, to ascertain the truth of the statements contained in said application, as may be necessary

WEST VIRGINIA ASYLUM FOR INCURABLES.

to determine whether or not the applicant should be admitted to said asylum, Provided: That said application shall be accompanied by a certificate of some practicing physician of good standing, to the effect that he has made an examination of the physical condition of the applicant, and is of opinion that he is incurable, which certificate shall be sworn to. If upon such investigation the court shall determine that the applicant is entitled under the provisions thereof, to admission to said asylum, it shall enter the same of record, and direct the conveyance of the applicant to said asylum. If the applicant be of the first class, as mentioned in the preceding section, the expense of his removal shall be paid out of the county treasury; and if the applicant be of the second class, such expense shall be borne by the applicant.

It shall be the duty of the clerk of the county court upon the entry of an order for the admission of an applicant to said asylum, forthwith to transmit to the superintendent of said asylum a certified copy of such order; and said superintendent shall at once, upon the receipt of the same, cause such applicant to be conveyed to said asylum, and the expense of such conveyance shall be allowed him by the county court making such order and be paid out of the county treasury."

N. B.—Patients will not be allowed to bring any baggage except a clean clothes bag containing clean clothing.

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M. G. TYLER,
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