

Beaver County, Pennsylvania

Civil List of County Offices of Beaver County

This list contains the names of persons who have held county offices, and also of those resident in Beaver County, who have held important offices in or under the State or National Government.

President Judges

Charles Shaler, 1824-31
L. L. McGuffin, 1863-66
Henry Hice, 1874-85
J. Sharp Wilson, 1896

Associate Judges

Abner Lacock
David Drennan
Joseph Hemphill
John Carothers
John Scott
Joseph C. Wilson
Jesse Moore, 1803-06

Sheriffs

William Henry, 1803-06
Samuel Power, 1809-12
James Lyon, 1818-21
John Dickey, 1824-27
J. A. Sholes, 1830-33
David Somers, 1839-42
James Kennedy, Jr., 1845-48
George Robinson, 1851-54
William W. Irwin, 1857-60
Joseph Ledlie, 1863-66
John Graebing, 1869-72
J. P. Martin, 1875-78
Henry E. Cook, 1881-84
Andrew J. Welsh, 1887-90
Oliver Molter, 1893-96
J. Henry Geer, 1899-1902

Those who remained in office as sheriff for a period longer than three years did so upon reappointment by the governor.

Prothonotaries

David Johnson, 1803-09
John Dickey, 1821-24
John A. Scroggs, 1836-39
John Collins, 1848-54

Michael Weyand, 1861-67
Stephen P. Stone, 1879-85
Frank A. Judd, 1897-1903

Those persons who served in the office of Prothonotary for a period longer than three years did so by reappointment by the governor previous to 1839, and by re-election subsequently.

Samuel W. Sprott was succeeded in the same year of his appointment by Milton Lawrence, owing to a change in the Constitution, making the county offices elective. A. R. Thomson resigned and was succeeded by the appointment of M. S. Quay, who was continued in the office until 1861, when he resigned and was succeeded by the appointment of Michael Weyand, who served by re-election until 1867.

Clerks of Courts

William McCallister, 1839-42
John A. Frazier, 1863-69
John M. Scott, 1884-90
J. H. Sturgeon, 1902-

The duties of the Clerk of Courts previous to 1839 were discharged by the Prothonotary and Register and Recorder.

District Attorneys

James Allison, Jr., 1803-09
N. P. Fetterman, 1824-27
William B. Clarke, 1830-33, 1836-39
Thomas Cunningham, 1839-45
B. B. Chamberlin, 1848-49-
Joseph H. Wilson, 1853-56

John B. Young, 1861-62
Joseph R. Harrah, 1868-71
John M. Buchanan, 1874-80
James Rankin Martin, 1883-89
D. M. Twiford, 1895-98
David K. Cooper, 1901-1904

Previous to 1850 the District Attorneys were appointed, and subsequent to that date were elected by the people.

Registers and Recorders

David Johnson, 1803-36
T. M. Johnston, 1839-48

Samuel McClure was appointed in February, 1839, and was succeeded in the same year by the election of T. M. Johnston.

Alfred R. Moore, 1860-66
H. M. Donehoo, 1878-84
Herman F. Dillon, 1896-99
Up to 1839 the offices of Prothonotary and Register and Recorder were held by one and the same person.

Jonathan Coulter, 1803-04
John McCullough, 1806-07
James Kennedy, 1809-10
John Sharp, 1812-13
John Roberts, 1815-16
Thomas Kennedy, 1818-19
George Dilworth, 1821-22
James Logan, 1824-25

Robert Potter, appointed by Judge Breslin to fill vacancy caused by death of Robert McFarren, and then elected, 1850-51

Commissioners

John Sharp, 1827-28
John Bryan, 1830-31
John Hanha, 1833-34
James Scott, 1836-37
James Mackall, 1839-40
Thomas Cairns, 1843-44
William Carothers, two years, 1845-46
Robert McFerren, 1847-48

W. C. Plants, 1851-52
James C. Ritchie, 1853-54
Philip Cooper, 1856-57
William Shrodes, 1859-60
Daniel B. Short, 1862-63

Joseph Irons, 1865-66
William Ewing, 1868-69
Samuel Torrence, 1871-72
David Patten, 1874-75

Up to this time the commissioners served only two years, and under the Constitution of 1874 the term was made three years

G. W. Shrodes, John C Calhoun, and Andrew Carothers were elected in 1875 for the term of three years each; Samuel Nelson, Levi Fish, and J. C. Ritchie, 1878-81; Daniel Reisinger, Robert A. Smith, 1881-84; David Johnson, John C. Boyle, and W. H. Partington, 1884-87; Thomas B. Hunter, James Todd, and W. H. Partington, 1888-91; John H. Wilson, William B. Smith, and Thomas L. Darragh, 1891-94; George E. Smith, John E. Harton, and Thomas L. Darragh, 1894-97; John E. Harton, George W. Carey, and William A. Freed, 1897-1900; James C. Coleman, Harry C. Glasser, and James L. Mayhew, 1900-02; James C. Coleman, George W. Carey, and John Hinenaan, 1902-05.

In September, 1853, W. C. Plants left the county, and the vacancy thereby created was filled by the appointment of Moses Welsh.

Treasurers

Guion Greer, 1803-07
James Allison, 1811-15
David Hayes, 1820-22
Thomas Henry, 1828-32
David Porter, 1835-36
Dr. Oliver Cunningham, 1839-41
Alfred R. Moore, 1847-49
Richard H. Agnew, 1853-55

John S. Darragh, 1859-61
M. R. Adams, 1865-67
C. P. Wallace, 1871-73
John R. Eakin, 1875-78
John F. Miner, 1884-87
Christopher C. Hazen, 1893-96
T. B. Bradshaw, 1902-

upon reappointment by the Governor.

Those persons who remained in office as Treasurer for a period longer than two years did so

James McDowell
Hugh McCullough
James Davidson
David Findley
James Davidson
John G. Johnston

Auditors

Stewart Boyd
Josiah Laird
William Johnston
Andrew Jenkins
Matthew Kennedy
Joseph Niblock

1840, John Shane; 1841, Thomas Nicholson; 1842, Robert Dunlap; 1843, John Keelin; 1844, Robert McFerren; 1845, Wm. F. Davidson; 1846, Philip G. Vicary; 1847, John B. Early; 1848, Henry Bryan; 1849, Philip L. Grim; 1850, James C. Ritchie; 1851, Samuel Bigger; 1852, David White; 1853, Thomas Russell; 1854, Robert Ramsey; Wm. H. Frazier; 1855, Thomas Boggs, three years, Rezin R. Gamble, two years; 1856, James W. Pandar; 1857, John R. Eakin; 1858, Wm. C. Hunter; 1859, James Morrison; 1860, _____; 1861, Findley Anderson; 1862, John Stewart; 1863, Wm. Chaney; 1864, Joseph McClure; 1865, James Whitham; 1866, Hugh J. Marshall; 1867, J. F. McMillen; 1868, G. K. Shannon; 1869, Wm. Thomas; 1870, Wilson H. Lukens; 1871, James Harvey Christy; 1872, Ralph Covert; 1873, Charles A. Hoon; 1874, J. F. Culbertson; 1875, John E. Harton; in 1878, Joseph A. Sutherland, Alexander L. McKibben, and Alonzo P. Sickman were elected to serve three years, 1876, 1877, and 1878; 1879, Henry Cooper, Findley Anderson, and A. P. Sickman; 1882, Hugh Davis, David E. McCallister, and Hugh Morrow; 1885, James I. Douds, Christopher C. Hazen, and Wm. Patton; 1888, Christopher C. Hazen, Robert M. Swaney, and James E. Kennedy; 1891, Williamson Graham, John S. Cunningham, and Thomas Allen; 1894, Augustus Tomlinson, Frank Springer, and Wm. L. Reed; 1897, John B. McClure, Frank Springer, and Wm. J. McKenzie; 1900, Everett M. Standley, Stephen M. White, and Henry M. Wilson; 1903, David F. Funkhouser, James B. Edgar, and David B. Hartford.

Coroners

Ezekiel Jones, 1804
James Conlin, 1818-22
William Hales, 1836-39
James H. Douds, 1845-46
James A. Sholes, 1850-51

John B. Early, 1856-57
Thomas Devinney, 1863-65
Daniel Corbus, 1869-75
William Raymer, 1881-84
James K. White, 1896-1901

County Surveyors

James Carothers, 1800-15
William Law, 1824-27
John Bryan, 1830-35
William McCallister, 1836-39
William Minis, Jr., 1842-45

A. Wynn, 1850-53; 1856-59; 1862-71
James Harper, 1859-62
James Harper, 1874-77
James Harper, 1883-86; 1886-93; 1893-96

Up to 1850 the County Surveyors were appointed by the Surveyor-General, after that time they were

elected by the people.

County Superintendents
Thomas Nicholson, 1855
R. N. Avery, 1857-58
James Whitham, 1867-69
Benjamin Franklin, 1875-81

J. S. Briggs, 1881-84; re-elected in May, 1884, but resigned September 1, 1884; J. M. Reed, appointed to fill out unexpired part of term, and elected in May, 1887; resigned in November, 1889, to take effect January 1, 1890, but not released until January 17th; John G. Hillman, appointed, January, 1890, elected May, 1890, re-elected May, 1893, served to June, 1896; Chester A. Moore, elected May, 1896, re-elected in 1899 and 1902.

George Cope and S. H. Peirsol were appointed to fill the un-expired term of Thomas Nicholson. Thomas Carothers was appointed in 1858 to fill the unexpired term of R. N. Avery. James Whitham was appointed to fill the unexpired part of J. I. Reed's second term.

Directors of the County Home

Joseph Douthett
Robert Potter
Henry Goehring
Samuel Wilson
Samuel Gibson
Hiram Reed
Thomas Ramsey

Joseph W. Appleton
Thomas Reed
Stephen Miner
John S. Cunningham
Andrew W. Tanner
Jacob A. Rose

The above-named persons served for one or more terms.

Previous to 1852 the poor were supported by the township in which they resided.

United States Senate

Beaver County has given two members to the United States Senate, viz., General Abner Lacock, 1813-1819, and Colonel Matthew Stanley Quay, 1887-1904. [1]

[Footnote at the bottom of page 217]; [1] Another United States Senator has a slight connection with the county. William Marks, Jr., was born in Chester County, Pa., in 1778, and came as a child to Allegheny County, making his home on the Steubenville Pike, at a place now called Remington. He was coroner of that county, then member of the Assembly and Senate of Pennsylvania and served one term as a member of the United States Senate. Some years before his death, which was on the 10th of April, 1858, he and his wife came to Beaver and made their home with Mrs. Clarinda McCreery, a niece of Senator Marks. He is buried in the McCreery lot in the old cemetery at Beaver. From early boyhood he was a member of the Covenanter church.

Members of Congress

From this county there have gone to the Congress of the United States the following:

Abner Lacock, 1811-1813;
Robert Moore, 1817-1819, 1819-1821;
James Allison, Jr., 1823-1825;

Thomas Henry, 1837-1843;
John Dickey, 1843-1845, 1847-1849;
John Allison, 1850-1852, 1854-1856;
William S. Shallenberger, 1877-1879, 1881-1883;
Charles C. Townsend, 1889-1891;
James J. Davidson was elected in 1896, but died before taking the oath of office.

State Senators

From 1801 to 1817 the district was composed of the counties of Allegheny, Beaver, and Butler, and had the following Senators:

Thomas Morton, 1801-05
James Martin, 1805-08
Abner Lacock, 1808-09
Francis McClure, 1809-11
Thomas Baird, 1811-13
Walter Lowrie, 1813-17

From 1817 to 1823 the district consisted of Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, and Armstrong counties.

Senators:

Walter Lowrie, 1817-19;
Samuel Power, 1819-21;
William Marks, 1821-23.

From 1823 to 1831 the district was known as the Twenty-first and consisted of Allegheny, Beaver, and Butler counties again.

Senators:

William Marks, Jr., 1823-25;
Samuel Power, 1825-27;
Moses Sullivan, 1827-29;
John Brown, 1829-31.

From 1831 to 1835 the district was the Twenty-fifth and the counties were the same. Moses Sullivan, 1831-35.

From 1835 to 1838 the district was the Twenty-first, composed of Beaver and Butler counties. John Dickey, 1835-37.

From 1838 to 1845 the district was the Twentieth, and from 1845 to 1848, the Twenty-fifth, and was composed during both periods of Beaver and Mercer counties.

Senators,

John J. Pearson, of Mercer, 1838-41;
William Stewart, 1842-44;
Robert Darragh, 1845-47.

From 1848 to 1851 the district was the same, with the addition of Lawrence County. David Sankey, 1848-50.

From 1851 to 1860 the district was known as Twenty-first; counties Beaver, Butler, and Lawrence.

Senators,
William Hoslea, 1851-52;
Archibald Robertson, 1852-53;
John Ferguson, 1854-56;
John R. Harris, 1857-59.

From 1860 to 1864 the district was the Twenty-fifth, comprising Beaver and Butler counties.

Senators:
D. L. Imbrie, 1860-62;
Charles McCandless, 1863-64.

From 1864 to 1873 the district was the Twenty-sixth, comprising Beaver and Washington counties.

Senators:
William Hopkins, 1864-66;
Alexander W. Taylor, 1867-69;
James S. Rutan, 1870-72.

From 1873 to 1876 the Twenty-sixth district comprised Beaver, Butler, and Washington counties.

Senator, James S. Rutan, 1873-75.

Since 1876 the district has been known as the Forty-sixth, and includes Beaver and Washington counties.

Senators:
George V. Lawrence, 1876-82;
Franklin H. Agnew, 1883-86;
Jos. R. McClain, 1887-90;
William B. Dunlap, 1891-94;
Samuel P. White, 1895-98;
John F. Budke, 1899-01;
Samuel P. White, 1902-.

[Footnote at the bottom of page 219] [1] Colonel Alexander L. Hawkins was elected to the Senate in 1898, but died July 18, 1899, on the voyage home from the Philippines. Budke was elected November 7, 1899, to fill the vacancy.

Representatives

From 1802 to 1808 Allegheny, Beaver, and Butler counties were in the same district, and sent to the House the following: Samuel Ewalt, John McMasters, and Abner Lacock, 1802-03; George Robinson, John McBride, and John Wilson, 1803-04; George Robinson, Abner Lacock, and Jacob Mechling, 1804-05; Jacob Mechling, Abner Lacock, and Francis McClure, 1805-06; and the same three from 1806 to 1808.

From 1808 to 1829 Beaver County stood by itself, with but one representative: John Lawrence, 1808-14; Thomas Henry, 1814-15; John Clarke, 1815-18; George Cochran, 1818-19; James Stockman, 1819-21; Samuel Lawrence, 1822-25; John A. Scroggs, 1825-26; John R. Shannon, 1826-29.

From 1829 to 1851 Beaver County sent two representatives: Samuel Power and Robert Moore, 1829-31; Samuel Power and John R. Shannon, 1831-32; Abner Lacock and Benjamin Adams, 1832-33;

Abner Lacock and John Clarke, 1833-34; Abner Lacock and Joseph Pollock, 1834-35; John Clarke and John Harsha, 1835-36; John Harsha and William Morton, 1836-38.

In 1839 there was no regular session, the time of meeting having been altered by the Constitution of 1838 from December to January. Then follow: James Sprott and William Morton, 1838-40; Matthew T. Kennedy and James Sprott, 1841; Matthew T. Kennedy and John Ferguson, 1842-43; Solomon Bennett and Thomas Nicholson, 1844; Thomas Nicholson and J. T. Cunningham, 1845; Robert McClelland and Thomas Nicholson, 1846; John Allison and John Sharp, 1847-48; John Sharp and William Smith, 1849-50.

From 1851 to 1858, Beaver, Butler, and Lawrence counties were united and sent three representatives: Thomas Dungan, Daniel H. B. Brower, and Samuel Hamilton, 1851; Thomas Dungan, Samuel Hamilton, and John R. Harris, 1852; John R. Harris, Brown B. Chamberlin, and John D. Raney, 1853; Brown B. Chamberlin, William Stewart, and R. B. McCombs, 1854 and 1855; De Lorma Imbrie, A. W. Crawford and R. B. McCombs, 1856; De Lorma Imbrie, George P. Shaw, and A. W. Crawford, 1857.

From 1858 to 1865 Beaver and Lawrence counties were united, with two representatives: De Lorma Imbrie and George P. Shaw, 1858; Joseph H. Wilson and James F. Bryson, 1859-60; Joseph H. Wilson and John W. Blanchard, 1861; William Henry and John W. Blanchard, 1862; William Henry and Isaiah White, 1863-64.

From 1865 to 1872 Beaver and Washington counties were united, sending three representatives: R. R. Reed, James R. Kelly, and Matthew Stanley Quay, 1865; on the 24th of February, 1865, a special election was held for member of Assembly in place of Hon. R. R. Reed, deceased, and Joseph B. Welsh was elected; James R. Kelly, Joseph B. Welsh, and M. S. Quay, 1866; John H. Ewing, J. R. Day, and M. S. Quay, 1867; J. R. Day, John H. Ewing, and Thomas Nicholson, 1868; H. J. Vankirk, A. J. Buffington, and Thomas Nicholson, 1869; William C. Shurlock, A. J. Buffington, and H. J. Vankirk, 1870; D. M. Leatherman, William A. Mickey, and William C. Shurlock, 1871.

From 1872 to 1874 Beaver, Butler, and Washington counties were united, sending four representatives: G. W. Fleeger, Joseph Lusk, D. M. Leatherman, and William A. Mickey, 1872; Samuel J. Cross, William S. Waldron, David McKee, and Jonathan Allison, 1873; Samuel J. Cross, David McKee, A. L. Campbell, and Jonathan Allison, 1874.

Since 1874 Beaver County has been independent and sends two representatives for two years: Joseph Graff and C. I. Wendt, 1875-76; John Caughey and Gilbert L. Eberhart, 1877-78; John Caughey and Thomas Bradford, 1879-80; Ira F. Mansfield and Edward Spencer, 1881-82; A. R. Thomson and J. E. McCabe, 1883-84; R. L. Sterling and W. H. Marshall, 1885-86; Hartford P. Brown and John F. Dravo, 1887-88, 1888-90; Richard R. Quay and R. L. Sterling, 1891-92; Ira F. Mansfield and Jacob Weyand, 1893-94, 1895-96; Ira F. Mansfield and Andrew J. Lawrence, 1897-98; Simon Harrold and W. H. Bricker, 1899-1900; W. H. Bricker and T. L. Kennedy, 1900-01; Ira F. Mansfield and John T. Taylor, 1902-.

It will be apparent from the length of the foregoing list of those whom Beaver County has honored with her suffrages, and who have honored her in the high places of the State and the nation, that the number is too large for us to give biographical notices of all. Many are mentioned in other parts of these volumes, and for these we must refer the reader to the General Index. We shall limit ourselves here to brief sketches of our United States Senators, and of such members of Congress and of the State Senate as are not elsewhere mentioned.

United States Senators

Of these there have been, as previously stated, two from the county. A sketch of the first one, Abner Lacock, will be found in the chapter on the legal history of the county.

Hon. Matthew Stanley Quay, the second from Beaver County to fill this high position, was born in Dillsburg, York County, Pennsylvania, September 30, 1833, the son of Rev. Anderson Beaton Quay and Catherine McCain Quay. His father was an able Presbyterian minister, whose pastorates were first at Dillsburg, York County, then at Beaver, Beaver County, and finally at Indiana, Indiana County, Pa.

Senator Quay was prepared for college at Beaver and Indiana academies, and was graduated from Jefferson College, Canonsburg, Pa., in 1850. He studied law with Colonel Richard P. Roberts, in Beaver, Augustus Drum, in Indiana, Pa., and Penny & Sterret, in Pittsburg, and was admitted to the bar of Beaver County in 1854. The following year he was appointed prothonotary of Beaver County, and was elected to the same office in 1856 and re-elected in 1859. In 1861 he resigned his office to accept a lieutenancy in the Tenth Pennsylvania Reserves. He became colonel of the 134th Pennsylvania Volunteers assistant commissary-general, and afterwards was appointed private secretary to Governor Andrew G. Curtin. He was State military agent at Washington, major and chief of transportation and telegraphs, and military secretary to the Governor of Pennsylvania. From 1865 to 1867 inclusive, he was a member of the Legislature; secretary of the Commonwealth, 1872-1878; recorder of the city of Philadelphia and chairman of the Republican State Committee, 1878-79; again secretary of the Commonwealth, 1879-82; delegate at large to the Republican National Conventions of 1872, 1876, and 1880. In 1885 he was elected State Treasurer by the largest vote ever given to a candidate: or that office. He was elected a member of the Republican National Committee and chosen chairman thereof and ex-officio chairman of the executive committee when the committee organized in July, 1888, and conducted the successful Presidential campaign of that year. And so from year to year the Colonel has worn his blushing honors thick upon him. He was a delegate to the Republican National Convention of 1892; chairman of the Republican State Committee, 1895-96; delegate to the Republican National Convention of 1896; elected a member of the Republican National Committee and chosen a member of the executive committee in 1896; delegate to the Republican National Convention of 1900, and was elected a member of the Republican National Committee of 1900. Colonel Quay was elected to the United States Senate to succeed John I. Mitchell, and took his seat March 4, 1887, and was re-elected in 1893. In 1899 he was defeated for re-election by a deadlock existing throughout the session of the Legislature. He was appointed United States Senator by the Governor to fill the vacancy caused by the failure of the Legislature to elect, but the appointment was not recognized by the Senate. On the day of his rejection by the Senate he was nominated to succeed himself by the Re-publican State Convention of Pennsylvania, and was re-elected United States Senator, January 15, 1901. [1]

Senator Quay was married in 1855 to Agnes Barclay, daughter of John and Elizabeth Shannon Barclay. The children of this marriage, all of whom were born in Beaver, are Richard Roberts, Andrew Grgg Curtin, Mary Agnew, Coral, and Susan Willard.

[Footnote at the bottom of page 222]; [1] Senator Quay died at his home in Beaver, Pennsylvania, Saturday, May 28, 1904, and was buried on Tuesday, May 31st, in the Beaver cemetery.

Members of Congress

The subject of the following sketch was, in order of time, the fifth of her sons whom Beaver County honored with a seat in the National Legislature.

Hon. John Dickey was born June 23, 1794, at Greensburg Westmoreland County, Pa., and came to Beaver County about 1812. He settled in Old Brighton, where he became a clerk at Barker & Ormsby's iron furnace, of which, with James Stockman, he finally was owner. He was the first postmaster in Old Brighton, being appointed April 11, 1818, and served as prothonotary of Beaver County from 1821 to 1824, and as sheriff from 1824 to 1827. In May, 1827, he moved to the tavern stand at Brady's Run, to superintend the building of the Brady's Run bridge, for which he had the contract. He removed to Beaver in 1830, where he remained until 1836, when he returned to Sharon (Brady's Run), and opened one of the largest mercantile houses in the county. There also, with his relatives. Samuel and Milo Adams, he

established various industries, such as boat-building, salt-works, a saw-mill, etc., and was interested in the foundry of Jeremiah Bannon and Robert Wallace. In 1828 Dickey and James McIlroy had the steamboat Rhuansah built by John Boles of Bolesville, to run from Fallston and Brady's Run warehouses. The first trip was to Pittsburg on April 29, 1829, William Reno as captain and John Dickey, clerk. Mr. Dickey took a deep interest in the development of Beaver Valley and of the county, and was honored by his fellow-citizens in being twice elected to serve them in Congress, first from 1843 to 1845, and again from 1847 to 1849. He also served as Senator in the State Legislature two terms, 1835-37, with great ability and distinction, being always devoted to what he considered the best interests of the people. He was appointed United States Marshall for the District of Western Pennsylvania in 1852, but died before the expiration of his term, March 14, 1853. aged 59 years.

Five sons of John Dickey and his wife, Elvira Adams Dickey, served in the Union armies; three, Samuel Adams, Major Charles John, and Robert, served full three years: Colonel Oliver J., nine months, and Socrates, three months.

Hon. William S. Shallenberger, Second Assistant Postmaster-General, was born in Mount Pleasant, Pennsylvania, November 24, 1839. He was educated in the public schools. Mount Pleasant Academy. and the University of Lewisburg, now Bucknell University. Early in the Civil War he enlisted in the 140th Pennsylvania Volunteers, and served under Generals Miles and Hancock in the First Division, Second Army Corps. He was several times wounded, the last wound being in the thigh and caused by a minie ball, which could not be removed for more than two years, necessitating his discharge in October, 1864. From that time until 1876, when he was elected Representative in Congress, Mr. Shallenberger was engaged in mercantile business. He represented, in Congress, the twenty-fourth district of Pennsylvania, composed of Washington, Beaver, and Lawrence counties, was re-elected in 1878, and again in 1880.

During his third term he was chairman of the committee on public grounds and buildings, but devoted most of his time to the study of the tariff. His speech on April 1, 1882, has been widely circulated.

Upon his retirement from Congress, Mr. Shallenberger was engaged as cashier in the First National Bank of Rochester. He continued his connection with this bank and was treasurer of the Rochester Tumbler Works until the inauguration of President McKinley. He then resigned, in order to accept the position of Second Assistant Postmaster-General, tendered him by the President, who was a personal friend, and who, during the six years spent by Mr. Shallenberger in Congress, had been closely associated with him in many ways. Both entered the Forty-fifth Congress and represented contiguous districts President McKinley in eastern Ohio, and Mr. Shallenberger in western Pennsylvania.

The interests of their constituents were so nearly identical, and their own views on political and social questions so much alike, that they became warm friends, and it was due to this that President McKinley conferred this appointment upon him. The bureau over which Mr. Shallenberger presides has jurisdiction over all transportation of mails, either by steam railways, steam-boats, electric cars, or what is known as the Star Route Service, reaching every village and hamlet of the country. This includes all foreign transportation, to and from our new possessions.

He was married on the first day of December, 1864, to Josephine, daughter of General Thomas J. Power, of Rochester. Their children were Thomas P., Laura, Francis W., Elizabeth, Mary, William, and Josephine, of whom Thomas P. and Francis W. are deceased.

Mr. Shallenberger was a member of the Baptist Church of Rochester, and a deacon from its organization to the date of his removal to Washington City.

Hon. Charles C. Townsend, a son of William P. and Sarah A. (Champlain) Townsend, was born in Allegheny, Pa., November 24, 1841. He received a good common school education. At the age of fifteen years he became a clerk in his father's office, and on the breaking out of the Rebellion he enlisted and

served two years as a private in Company A of the Ninth Regiment, Pennsylvania Reserve Volunteer Corps, and in the First Pennsylvania Cavalry, to which he was transferred with the rank of adjutant. Receiving a discharge on account of ill health, Mr. Townsend returned to his home in New Brighton, Pa., when he and his brother, Edward P. Townsend, were taken in as partners with their father in his extensive business at Fallston as manufacturers of wire, wire nails, and rivets. In 1894 the sons became sole proprietors of this establishment, the firm name being changed to C. C. & E. P. Townsend. This is one of the largest, as it was also one of the first industrial enterprises in Beaver County. Mr. Charles C. Townsend's sons, who now assist in running the plant, are the fourth generation of that name who have been interested in this factory.

In his religious connection Mr. Townsend is a Presbyterian and he is a ruling elder in his home church at New Brighton. In political faith he is a staunch Republican. He was elected on his party ticket to the Fifty-first Congress, receiving 21,636 votes against 14,481 votes for Samuel B. Griffith, Democrat; 1,597 votes for William T. May, Prohibitionist, and 562 votes scattering.

In October, 1865, he was married to Miss Juliet Bradford, a daughter of Benjamin Rush Bradford. The children of this union are the following: Juliet, Gertrude (died at the age of twenty-two), William P., Jr., Vincent Bradford, Charles C., Jr., Benjamin Rush, and John M. Benjamin Rush is Teller in the National Bank of New Brighton, and the other four sons occupy various positions with the firm of C. C. & E. P. Townsend.

His second marriage in 1902 was to Mattie K. Lynch. VOL. 1.-15.

Hon. James J. Davidson, deceased, was born in Connellsville, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, November 5, 1861. He was the son of the late Colonel Daniel R. Davidson, and grandson of Hon. William Davidson, both of whom were men of prominence in the political and financial world, the latter having been several times a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature and having been also a senator and speaker of the House. In his sixth year Mr. Davidson removed with his family to Beaver County. His early education was obtained in the public schools of Beaver and in the Beaver Seminary. In 1878 he entered Bethany College, Bethany, W. Va., and afterwards spent three years at the University of Kentucky, at Lexington, Ky., graduating therefrom in 1883. Returning to Beaver, he spent the two following years in the study of law with the Hon. John J. Wickham, with a view to thoroughly equipping himself for a business career. In 1886 Mr. Davidson entered the oil trade as a new member of the firm of Darragh, Watson & Co., oil producers, and was subsequently interested in several other enterprises. In the course of a few years he became president of the Union Drawn Steel Works of Beaver Falls, and was one of its largest stockholders.

Early in life Mr. Davidson became actively engaged in politics, and was soon recognized as a leader in the Republican party. In 1894 he received the unanimous nomination of his party in Beaver County for Congress, but at the congressional conference held in Beaver Falls, he withdrew in favor of T. W. Phillips, of Lawrence County. In 1896, he was again the unanimous choice of his county, and at the congressional conference held in Butler was nominated on the first ballot, being equally successful at the polls in the ensuing election. Mr. Davidson then went west for the purpose of recruiting his failing health, but after some weeks spent at Salt Lake City and Colorado Springs, with no improvement being indicated, he removed to Phoenix, Ariz., where, on the 2d of January, 1897, he died, at the early age of thirty-five years. His decease occurred before he had taken the oath of office as a member of Congress. January 31, 1889, Mr. Davidson was married to Emma Eakin, daughter of John R. Eakin, of Beaver, where Mrs. Davidson, with two children of this marriage, Philip James and Sarah Norton, still resides.

State Senators

Hon. Samuel Power was a native of Loudon County, Virginia, and his wife, who was Elizabeth Penny, was a native of New Jersey. Many of her relatives reside in Allegheny County, prominent among them,

Hon. John P. Penny, a lawyer, who served from 1859 to 1864 in the State Senate. Mr. Power came to Beaver County in the year 1796, and settled on a farm where Chewton is now located on the east side of the Beaver River. His wife brought with her a family of negro slaves consisting of "Old Kit" and his wife and four children—two boys and two girls. From the two boys came all the Pennys of negro blood now in Beaver County.

Mr. Power seems to have taken an active part in the interests of the Democratic party soon after he came to Pennsylvania, and he was elected Sheriff of Beaver County in 1809 and served till 1812. His election brought him to the county seat, and he took up his residence on the southwest corner of McIntosh Square. He purchased a farm near Beaver on the upper waters of Two-Mile Run, where he continued farming some years, and at the same time he was engaged in merchandising with his son-in-law, John Eberhart, Jr., on the corner of Third Street on the public square in a building which stood where the Masonic Hall now stands.

He was elected to the State Senate and served in the years 1825 to 1827, and in 1829 was elected to the House, of which he was a member from 1829 to 1833. He was a man of much public spirit, and was instrumental in securing the first appropriation by the State to construct the Ohio and Pennsylvania Canal from Rochester to the Ohio State line west of Mahoningtown, and thus connecting by a similar enterprise in Ohio the cities of Pittsburg and Cleveland by an unbroken line of water transportation. His action and interest in this enterprise gave him great popularity in the State, and at the expiration of his last term in the Legislature he was appointed Superintendent of the Canal and served in that capacity until the year 1836.

He served in the War of 1812 as Inspector with the rank of Major in the Second Brigade of the Sixteenth Division of Pennsylvania, Militia, and marched to Meadville under orders received from the Governor under date of September 5, 1812. He served, also, in an expedition toward Erie in the months of January and February, 1814, when it was supposed some of the English forces were dangerously near that place. He was appointed Adjutant-General of the State in May, 1830, and served till August, 1836.

He left to survive him two sons, Thomas J. and James M., both of whom became prominent in the State. James M. built a large portion of the Erie Extension of the Ohio and Pennsylvania Canal; was a successful merchant and iron manufacturer for a number of years in Mercer County; was elected on the Whig ticket in 1847 as Canal Commissioner, and in 1848 was appointed by President Taylor, Minister to Naples and the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies. He made the first and only improvements, under a contract with the federal government, that ever were made prior to the completion of the Davis Island dam, on the Ohio River, from the mouth of the Beaver to Pittsburg. Those improvements can still be seen at a low stage of water.

Thomas J. Power was a civil engineer, and was engaged, in his early years, on the Pennsylvania Canal and Portage Railroad; and also on the first surveys of what is now known as the Philadelphia Railroad. He was one of the promoters of the Erie and Pittsburg Railroad. He was Adjutant-General of the State from October 25, 1856, to February 5, 1858.

General Samuel Power died at Beaver, August 22, A.D. 1840, and "sleeps his last sleep" beside his wife, Elizabeth Penny, and his son James Madison Power, in the old grave yard in the northwest corner of the county town. His second daughter,

Hon. Robert Darragh was born February 23, 1776, in Darraghstown, near Milk Hill, County Fermanagh, Ireland, and came to America when about twelve years of age, landing at Philadelphia. For a short time he remained there, then coming on to Carlisle, Pa., and later coming to Beaver County, where he first settled on the south side, obtaining employment upon the farm of John Braden, on Raccoon Creek.

He was naturalized in Beaver County, August 3, 1807. He built a warehouse in Bridgewater and

entered into the boating business, and met with success, till he suffered the loss of a pirogue, or flat-boat, load of merchandise, the same being caught in a heavy ice flow near the mouth of Chartiers Creek, the boat sinking and he himself narrowly escaping from a watery grave.

As there were few insurance companies in those times, the loss fell entirely upon him, and in order to assist in meeting the same, he taught school in Beaver County, later going for a short time to Yellow Creek, Ohio, where in the daytime he worked in the salt works and at night taught a night-school, until he was able to meet all losses claimed against him.

Returning to Bridgewater (in those days known as Sharon), he at once opened a general store and warehouse, and later built a large iron foundry, which he successfully conducted with his sons, John Stafford, Hart, Mattison, and Scudder Hart, under the name of R. Darragh & Sons, until in 1848, when he himself (his sons John Stafford and Hart having retired a few years before) withdrew and the business was conducted by his sons Mattison and Scudder Hart, and his son-in-law Hiram Stowe. The latter soon withdrew, leaving the business to the remaining partners, by whom the foundry business was carried on until in the summer of 1902, at which time, because of age, they sold out and retired.

The store and foundry conducted as above were long among the largest and most successful of the neighborhood.

Robert Darragh was elected to the State Senate of Pennsylvania in 1846, where, though himself a Whig, he voted for Simon Cameron, a Democrat, for United States Senator, because of the agreement of their ideas as to a protective tariff.

During the War of 1812, when news came reporting the massacre of women and children near the present city of Warren, Ohio, he sent at his own expense all the powder, shot, lead, and flints stored away in his warehouse, to the relief of the city.

Robert Darragh was one of the pioneers of the Methodist Episcopal Church in western Pennsylvania, and one of the founders and first trustees of the Beaver M. E. Church erected in 1829, and later of the Bridgewater M. E. Church. Prior to the erection of these two churches he was a member of the old Methodist Episcopal Church located in Sharon, on the hillside, not far from the end of the present Sharon toll-bridge, and was one of the first trustees of this church.

During his lifetime he was prominently identified with the financial, mercantile, and manufacturing interests of the Beaver valley and of western Pennsylvania, and was widely known for his liberal support of the church and charitable institutions.

He died July 21, 1872, beloved and respected by all.

Hon. Archibald Robertson was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, March 5, 1805, and came to this country with his parents in 1812. He became interested in the Fallston paper mill in 1828-29. In 1829 he built a steam paper mill in what was then called Brighton, on the site now occupied by the freight station of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railway, in Beaver Falls.

This he operated successfully until 1849, when he built a paper mill to utilize the water power at the upper dam, then known as Adamsville, which he operated until 1864.

Politically, Senator Robertson was a Clay Whig and a Republican, representing his district in the Pennsylvania State Senate in 1851-52. He was made Collector of Internal Revenue for the Twenty-fourth District of Pennsylvania in 1866-69.

Mr. Robertson died June 19, 1871.

Hon. De Lorma Imbrie was born in Big Beaver Township, Beaver County, on March 4, 1824, his parents John and Nancy (Rankin) Imbrie, being natives of Pennsylvania, of Scotch descent. He received his education in the common schools, and at Darlington Academy, from whose rustic walls went forth many to places of influence and honor. After leaving the academy, he taught school for a number of terms in Darlington, Old Brighton, and New Wilmington. While teaching at New Wilmington he met his future wife, Miss Margaret Carman, who was then a pupil in his school. Upon his marriage on October 27, 1851, he took up his permanent residence in Beaver. Though many years of his later life were spent at the State capital, Beaver continued to be his home, and to it he always eagerly hastened when the briefest cessation from his labor permitted. Taking up the study of law in the office of the Hon. Thomas Cunningham, he was admitted to the bar of Beaver County on November 25, 1853. His natural ability and taste for politics soon led him from his profession into the political arena, where he figured conspicuously and as a leader, for many years. He was elected for three successive terms to the Legislature in the years 1856, 1857, and 1858; the first two terms representing the Legislative District composed of the counties of Beaver, Butler, and Lawrence, and the last term the District composed of Beaver and Lawrence counties.

In 1859 he was elected to the State Senate, from the Twenty-fifth Senatorial District, composed of the counties of Beaver and Butler, thus representing his county in the Legislative body continuously, and with fidelity and ability, for the period of six years.

In February of 1863, he became editor of the Argus, in which capacity he served until November 9, 1864. In the fall of 1872, the Constitutional Convention having met in the city of Philadelphia for the purpose of framing for the State a new organic law, Mr. Imbrie was, without opposition, elected its chief clerk, which responsible position, through the entire session of that body, he filled with marked efficiency.

During the last seven years of his life, he was employed in the Auditor General's office at Harrisburg, where he died on November 6, 1888. There survive him, his widow and four children: Carman, Nannie B., wife of Rev. W. S. McClure of Xenia, Ohio; Mary E., wife of W. H. S. Thomson, Esq., of Pittsburg, and Miss Lillian Fra. A daughter, Edith, died on December 31, 1895.

Hon. Alexander W. Taylor was born near Enon Valley, Lawrence County (then within the limits of Beaver County), March 31, 1836. He was educated in the common schools, and at a select school (known locally as "Tansy Hill,") in charge of Prof. W. E. Lincoln, a graduate of Oberlin College and a native of London, England.

In the Civil War Mr. Taylor served as captain of Co. H, 101st Regiment, P. V. I. This position he held for about one year, when (November 13, 1862) he was promoted to the rank of major. He was subsequently (July 1, 1863) made lieutenant-colonel of that regiment, and its colonel (David B. Morris), having been wounded at Fair Oaks and afterwards detailed for duty at Pittsburg, Pa., where he had charge of a drafted camp, Taylor was in command of the regiment for perhaps eighteen months.[1]

Colonel Taylor was captured with his whole brigade at Plymouth, N. C., on the Roanoke River, April 20, 1864, and imprisoned, first at Macon, Ga., and subsequently in the city jail in Charleston, S. C., where fifty officers of the highest rank were transferred, ostensibly for safe-keeping, but really, as was believed, to prevent the Union forces from continuing to fire on the city of Charleston.

Colonel Taylor served over three years and was mustered out November 20, 1864. In 1866 he was elected from Beaver County to the State Senate for a period of three years In 1871-72 he was the owner and editor of the Alliance Monitor, Alliance, Stark County, O. In 1872 Mr. Taylor entered the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but on account of ill health, soon abandoned that and all other active duties. In 1883 he re-entered the ministry in the Presbyterian Church (Holston Presbytery) in East Tennessee, but owing to rheumatic trouble has been for many years unable to perform any active duties, and is now

postmaster at Tusculum, Tennessee.

[Footnote at the bottom of page 232]; [1] History Of Penna. Vol., Bates, vol iii., p. 605

Hon. Franklin Howell Agnew was born in Beaver, Beaver County, Pa., April 6, 1842. He was educated at Beaver Academy and at Jefferson College, where he was graduated in 1862. He afterwards graduated from and taught in, Iron City Commercial College, Pittsburg, Pa. He was principal of Beaver Academy, 1864-65, resigning to accept a position in the United States Coast Survey in the fall of 1865.

During his term of service in the Coast Survey he was engaged in some very important work, such as large primary triangulation, where in some cases the sides of the triangles would run from fifty to sixty miles; accurate measurement of lines by means of the base measuring apparatus; the measurement of an arc of meridian from Nantucket to the northern part of Maine; the measurement of longitude across the continent from Cambridge, Mass., to San Francisco, and incidentally connected with this, the accurate determination of latitudes by means of the zenith telescope. He was one of the Coast Survey party observing the total eclipse of the sun at Shelbyville, Ky., in 1869. Mr. Agnew was to have been one of the party for the determination of longitude between Washington City, Greenwich, and Paris, by means of the Atlantic cable, but through ill health was compelled to forego it. Resigning his position in the Coast Survey, he was admitted to the bar of Beaver County in September, 1872, after studying law with his father, the Hon. Daniel Agnew. He formed a partnership with John M. Buchanan, Esq., under the firm name of Agnew & Buchanan.

In 1882, at the solicitation of friends, he was induced to run for the State Senate in the Washington-Beaver District; was elected, and served four years, including the famous extra session of 1883. Mr. Agnew was married in 1885 to Miss Nancy K. Lauck, daughter of the Rev. William F. Lauck of the Pittsburg M. E. Conference. Owing to ill health he was compelled to give up all work and go to California in the early part of 1891. After remaining there for eight years, he returned to his native town, where he has again taken up residence. For the past year or two Mr. Agnew has been engaged in some important scientific researches, the results of which, it is hoped, will sometime be given to the world.

Hon. William B. Dunlap, the present manager of the Beaver Star, was born at Darlington, Beaver County, Pa. His parents were Samuel Rutherford Dunlap and Nancy Hemphill Dunlap. The former was a grandson of Walter Clarke, who was a member of the first Constitutional Convention of Pennsylvania, which was held in Philadelphia in 1776, and over which Dr. Franklin presided. Walter Clarke was buried in 1802 in the Westfield graveyard, then in Beaver, now in Lawrence County. The latter was the third daughter of Judge Joseph Hemphill, one of the three commissioners named in the Act of Assembly for the erection of the county of Beaver.

The education of William B. Dunlap was obtained at the common school's, and at Darlington and Beaver academies, and Jefferson College. He was intended for the bar, but being overtaken by ill health at the completion of his college course he was forced to abandon this purpose, -it was then hoped temporarily. Later he was principal for two years of the Scott Street Public Schools of the city of Covington, Ky. Failing to attain restored health, he entered upon the more open, out-door life of the river, and was for a number of years engaged in the transportation business in our inland rivers.

In 1800, in a triangular fight, he was elected to represent Washington and Beaver counties, as a Democrat, in the Senate of Pennsylvania. Since the expiration of his term in the Senate he has been connected with the publication of the Daily Star and Semi-Weekly Star.

Hon. Samuel P. White of New Brighton has been one of the active and successful men of Beaver County. His father, Timothy Balderston White, was born in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and his mother, Olive Bowen Howland, in New Bedford, Mass. They belonged to the Society of Friends or Quakers, were married at Ledyard, Cayuga County, N. Y., and came to Beaver County in 1838 and lived first in Bolesville,

then in Fallston, and built in New Brighton in 1840, where the family has since resided in the same homestead and where Samuel P. White was born in 1847. Mr. White attended the public schools of his native place and later graduated at Eastman's Business College of Poughkeepsie, N. Y. He left school at the age of fourteen years and went to work with his father as a bridge builder and contractor. At present he is president of the Penn Bridge Company, Valley Electric Company, and Quaker Milling Company. Mr. White served in the 366 Pennsylvania Volunteers State troops in 1863 when but fifteen years of age. In 1884 he was a member of the Republican County Committee of Beaver County, was its chairman in 1883, and its treasurer in 1889. He was a member of the State Committee of the same party in 1888, and a delegate to the State Convention in 1900. He was nominee for State Senator in Beaver County in 1886, 1890, 1894, and 1902, the county making no nomination. in 1898 as the nomination was conceded to Washington County. Mr. White was elected State Senator in 1894 and 1902, and served on the Committees of Finance, Corporations, Appropriations, and Railroads and was chairman of Public Roads and Highways and Judiciary Special.

Source: History of Beaver County, Pennsylvania and its centennial celebration, Volume 1
Joseph H. Bausman
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