

## HON. JOHN BROOKS.

### Earliest Champion of Local Option.

Philadelphia Evening Star.

If the latest developments at Harrisburg in connection with the proceedings of the Legislature, anent the Local Option agitation, are to be taken as a criterion, the relations of the State to the liquor traffic will not be seriously disturbed during the present session. Rev. S. W. Nicholson, head of the anti-saloon League, has taken a practical view of the situation and made friends with United States Senator Penrose, Speaker Cox and the other leaders of the Republican Party on the Hill, instead of casting his fortunes with the enemies of the dominant political element in the State, as represented by the bellicose Van Valkenburg and the disgruntled but powerless element which he represents.

In adopting this obviously sensible course the Rev. Nicholson and his associates in the Local Option movement are in all probability actuated by the idea that it is up to them to get all they can in the way of legislation in favor of the cause temperance, even if they cannot bring about the enactment of a straight Local Option law. And along this line the bill which is fathered by State Senator Tustin, of the West Philadelphia district is very favorably regarded by the temperance advocates of this city. The bill is purely a local measure and provides for the restriction of the liquor selling privilege in residential sections in a manner which meets the approval of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, who are charged with the duty of administering the existing license law including the renewal of prevailing licenses and the granting and refusing of new ones.

Should the Tustin bill go through both branches of the General Assembly and obtain the approbation of the Governor, no new ordination licenses to sell intoxicating beverages either at wholesale or retail, will or can be permitted in any locality whose residents to the number of sixty per cent. within a certain area, shall protest. This is somewhat drastic and in the opinion of many good citizens, might be properly amended so as to work both ways. That is, it would be much fairer if it contained a clause permitting sixty per cent. of the citizens in a similar locality to have a petition for the establishing of a saloon favorably acted upon by the License Court Judges. However, it is not my province, nor is it my intention to pass upon the merits or point out any demerits that may exist in the Tustin bill, in advance of the action of the learned law-makers at the State capitol, hence I shall not pose as a critic in this matter at this time.

The temperance question has been an issue before the Legislature at different times for more than fifty years. Senator Quay, when he was the commanding influence dominating the political affairs of the State, headed off a strong movement in behalf of prohibition by giving his support to the high license idea, and as a result the liquor traffic in Pennsylvania is now regulated by an Act, which is commonly known as the Brooks High License Law. The gentleman whose name is attached to the Act is William H. Brooks, a Philadelphian, who in 1887, when it was passed, was a member of the House of Representatives from the Germantown district. Later on he was Chief of the Bureau of Highways and now fills with credit to himself and the city the position of Assistant Highway Commissioner. It is only just to say of William H. Brooks that in every capacity in which has appeared in public life, he has made good, and it gives me pleasure to testify to this fact.

But Brooks of Philadelphia is not the only man of that name who ever championed the cause of temperance in the Legislature of Pennsylvania. Before the Quaker City man assumed the dignity, and the honors of a Solon there was a Brooks in the Legislative halls of the Commonwealth, whose opposition to the "power of rum" as he styled it, was rampant. More than thirty years ago he stood in the House of Representatives and

shouted aloud his denunciation of the evils of the liquor traffic and demanded Local Option as the only fair and adequate remedy for the conditions brought about by the existence of the saloon in the suburban districts, and the country tavern with a bar, in the rural sections.

This was John Brooks, of Cameron county. I do not know whether or not he is still in the land of the living, but I do know that when he served as a member of the House of Representatives at the sessions of 1877 and 1879, he was a prominent figure at Harrisburg. The general campaign for the total abolition of the saloon, which has of late been waged in all parts of the United States, had then not yet been heard of, but Brooks, of Cameron was an anti-saloonist for fair. He was the advance agent in Pennsylvania for Prohibition. He was willing to talk against the liquor traffic in the House or out of it at any time of the day or night and he taxed his persuasive powers to the utmost in this direction. And many of his colleagues listened to him intently, but the fact must be chronicled in justice to the truth of history, that most of them did not take either him or his "issue" seriously.

Brooks was a man of peculiar appearance. He was tall and slender, angular in build and the most striking thing about him was a long white beard which reached almost to his waist line and made him look venerable and impressive. At each of the two sessions during which he represented Cameron County in the House, he presented a bill providing for "Local Option" throughout the Commonwealth. He supported it with great vigor and a single-minded earnestness that attracted attention and to humor him, his fellow members cheerfully voted to put the measure through the first and second readings. But when it came to the third reading and final passage, things were different. Incidentally it may be mentioned that Brooks of Cameron was an orator, at least from his own point of view and that of his enthusiastic admirers, and when he made a speech in favor of his Local Option bill, it was an event in Harrisburg. He made two such speeches, one at each session, in which he served. The second sounded very much like the first, but as two years had elapsed between them no one paid any particular attention to a little thing like that.

If a sonorous voice, an impassioned delivery and violent and entirely unconventional gestures could prevail, Brooks, of Cameron, would have easily commanded a majority of the House and this he expected to do without difficulty when he called up his little Local Option bill, a day or two before the close of the session of 1879. There was a full attendance for the Brooks performance at the previous session and his oft-expressed determination to outdo himself this time in the cause that was dearest to his heart—"the wiping out of the rum business"—gave promise of a rare entertainment. Every member was present and the galleries were packed with an expectant throng. It was the most important occasion of the session.

The bill at the request of Mr. Brooks was called up for final passage, and its sponsor, venerable, imposing and very serious took the floor to advocate his daring measure.

"There are," he said as a starter, "40,000,000 drunkards in the United States." This startling statistical assertion made his auditors sit up and take notice at once. And, he went on, "no drunkard can ever enter the kingdom of heaven." He had a peculiar swinging motion of the right arm, which was similar to the action of a pump handle when vigorously operated, and this gesture he employed with much frequency and great force throughout his entire remarks. It is hardly necessary for me to reproduce his speech here. Anyone who desires to read it will find it recorded in the Journal of the House of Representatives for that particular session.

A prominent Philadelphia member of the House in those days was Hugh Mackin, a Democrat, who represented the little Sixth

Ward. Perhaps it might be well for the purpose of this narrative to mention that "Hughey" was engaged in some capacity in the liquor business. When the gentleman from Cameron county had concluded his remarks, his fellow members crowded around him and tendered him their congratulations in the warmest terms and his face fairly beamed with joy. "Hughey" Mackin stepped up to him bearing a monster bouquet of beautiful roses and presented them as a fitting tribute from the Ladies' Christian Temperance Societies of Pennsylvania—there was no such organization in existence at the time but that made no difference with Mackin, who was one of the wags of the General Assembly and never lost an opportunity to perpetrate a practical joke.

Representative Brooks took the flowers with a profound Chesterfieldian bow and proceeded to deliver a speech of thanks. In doing so he got that pump handle right arm to work and as he held the bouquet in his right hand, he waved it around, regardlessly. As he did so the roses threw out a lively shower of liquid drops, and members in the vicinity of the speaker were liberally sprinkled. At the same time an aroma, distinctly alcoholic arose in the atmosphere. The beautiful roses had been drenched with whiskey before they were handed to the legislative temperance apostle. Poor Brooks, he threw away the bouquet in disgust, and stalked majestically out of the House. And his pet Local Option bill was ingloriously beaten.

It is hardly likely that any practical jokes will be played in connection with temperance legislation this session.

### THE BYSTANDER.

#### Apology.

The PRESS is up against it proper this week and we are forced to run an unusually short paper, leaving out a large amount of news, on account of being short of compositors, owing to sickness. We hope our readers will excuse this misfortune. Misfortunes will happen, in the best regulated families.

#### BEST PORTRAIT OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

THE PRESS this issue presents to its readers the best portrait of Abraham Lincoln, purchased from the publisher at no small cost, because we feel that nothing would be more acceptable, at this time, when the entire world is doing honor to the name of Abraham Lincoln, the World's Greatest Emancipator.

The portrait was made in March, 1864, at the time of Grant's visit to Washington to receive his commission as Lieutenant-General and his appointment to the command of the armies of the United States.

Grant reached Washington on the evening of March 8th, was given his commission from the hand of President Lincoln on March 8th, visited the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac on the 10th, and left Washington for the West on the 11th. From the recorded details of the visit, which he has given in his "Memoirs," we may almost with certainty fix March 9th as the day the picture was taken.

The occasion was momentous in its relation to the conduct and outcome of the war; and beyond this, Grant's visit had peculiar personal interest for President and General, because this was their first meeting. It was quite in keeping, then, with Lincoln's penchant for having his picture taken that he should suggest to Grant a visit to the photographer's to commemorate the meeting and the event of the day. They accordingly repaired to the studio of Brady, on Pennsylvania avenue, and the photographs then taken—both that of Lincoln and the one of Grant—are considered the best portraits of them extant. Lincoln's is full-face, the eyes looking into ours, and revealing the soul of the man.

**Emmanuel Church Notice.**  
Sunday, Feb. 14, Sexagesima: 10:30 a. m. morning prayer and sermon. Subject: The Alaska Mission. 7:30 p. m., evening prayer and sermon. Subject: The Historic Ministry.

**Cameron Sheriff Here.**  
Sheriff John W. Norris, of Cameron county, came over from Emporium Wednesday to attend to some official business with Sheriff Kennedy.—Potter Enterprise.

## DEATH'S DOINGS.

### MURRAY

Albert Murray, died at his home on Seventh street, on Wednesday, Feb. 10th at 4:30 p. m., from pneumonia. Deceased was 54 years of age and is survived by a wife and eleven children, four of whom are small. The funeral will be held on Saturday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the M. E. Church, the Rev. J. F. Anderson will officiate.

Owing to the illness of Mr. Mullin Mr. Murray's obituary will appear in our next issue.

### EASTERBROOKS.

The remains of Mrs. Mary Easterbrooks, aged 59, who died at Corry, Pa., last Sunday, were brought to Emporium on Tuesday for burial. Funeral services were conducted at the Baptist Church, after which the remains were taken to West Creek Cemetery for burial, in the family lot. Deceased will be remembered as the widow of Edward Easterbrooks, who died at this place about nine years ago. Two children survive—one son and one daughter—Frank and Mrs. Gillson. Mrs. Easterbrooks while suffering for a long time with Bright's disease, only a short time ago became seriously ill. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gilson and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Easterbrooks accompanied the remains to Emporium.

### CHAPMAN.

MRS. VINIA CHAPMAN, aged 62 years, died at Spokane, Wash., Monday, Feb. 1st, 1909. Deceased leaves a husband, Mr. Almeron Chapman, and three children, viz: Clark, Georgia, (Mrs. Othmer), and Sadie, all being present at the time of her death; also Mrs. Geo. W. Gentry and Mrs. Chas. A. VanLew, who reside in that state.

The death of this excellent lady will be a great shock to her many friends in this county, especially her only brother, Mr. H. C. Taylor and family, of Emporium. Deceased had been in poor health for more than a year, after locating in Spokane, and underwent an operation for the removal of a tumor one week before her death. This information is furnished us by Mr. H. C. Taylor, who received the sad intelligence on Sunday last, by postal from Mr. Chapman.

The PRESS and the many friends of the family extend to the deeply bereaved husband and children their sympathy in their great loss.

### LEWIS.

EMELINE LEWIS, wife of Lyman Lewis, died at the family residence, at Rich Valley, last Thursday, Feb. 4th, aged 55 years and three months. Deceased suffered a stroke of of apoplexy last January and died from the effect. For the past 18 years Mrs. Lewis has been a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church and was one of its most active members. She was one of the first members of the Women's Home and Foreign Missionary Society and will be sadly missed both in the church and society. Deceased is survived by her husband, two daughters and one son, Mrs. Vernie Lewis, Mrs. Murdoch McNeil and Clyde Lewis, also nine grand-children, three brothers and two sisters, John and Frank Lewis, of Rich Valley and Charles, of California, Mrs. Hannah Latin, of Jersey City, and Mrs. Mina Ballard, of Gardean. All were present at the funeral excepting her brother Charles. Services were conducted by the Rev. Wm. Osgood, pastor of the Rich Valley Church, on Saturday morning and interment was made in the Rich Valley Cemetery. The family have the sympathy of the PRESS and their many friends.

### A Trip Abroad.

The Misses Thressa, Helen and Frances Blumle are contemplating a trip to the old world. Their visit will include places of interest in Germany, Italy and Switzerland. The young ladies expect to sail about the 25th of April.

### From Old Friends.

Mr. Oscar H. Havens, of Missoula, Montana, a former resident of Cameron county, writes the PRESS, under date of Jan. 28th, enclosing a money order for his renewal at the same time remarking, "I like to hear from my old home."

### Card of Thanks.

We wish to extend our thanks to the neighbors and friends who so kindly assisted us during the sickness and death of our wife and mother also to the Free Methodist choir for their beautiful music, and to the ladies of the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society for the floral tribute.  
LYMAN LEWIS AND FAMILY.

## Class of 1909.

The class of 1909 were entertained by Harold Seger last Thursday evening. A new stunt in the line of entertainment, in Emporium, was that of a theatre party, the entire class witnessing the performance of "Tempest and Sunshine." After the play the class was given an elaborate luncheon by Mr. Seger at his home on Fourth street. Prof. and Mrs. C. E. Plasterer and Miss Lora McQuay, teachers of the class, were present.

## Friendly Society Doings.

The Friendly Society held its regular monthly meeting last Friday evening, at the home of Miss Bessie McQuay. After the business was transacted the meeting was turned into a valentine party and was enjoyed by all present. A pie social will be given on Thursday evening, February 18, 1909, in the basement of the Presbyterian Church for the benefit of the Society. Ice cream and coffee will also be served. A cordial invitation is extended to all to be present.

## Birthday Party.

A birthday party in honor of the 62nd anniversary of the birth of Mrs. M. H. Dodge, was given last Saturday evening, at her home on Walnut street. Mrs. Dodge, is one of Emporium's most estimable ladies and is held in the highest regard, by all who know her. Those present were: Mesdames O. P. Warner, M. M. Larrabee, M. A. Beck, J. D. Swope, Orville Proudfoot, E. H. Gregory, W. H. Cramer, Henry Bliss, Thomas Cleary, R. Robinson, Dennis Donovan, S. McDonough, Wm. Dalrymple, Ella McSwan, Gilbert Morse, Belle Beattie, P. R. Beattie, James Farrel, Wm. Swartz, M. C. Tulis, Henry Klees, James Fetter, B. F. Phalon, Elwood Ness, John Koehler, Ira Good, and Miss Lena Evans.

## Burning Mid-Night Oil.

A neat cartoon entitled "Burning Mid-Night Oil" was found on our desk this morning. It is the work of our popular townsman, Ross T. Overturf. The picture portrays a lamp burning brightly and a very patient father holding a baby evidently in the height of a very boisterous time. A little note accompanying the cartoon announces the fact that a bright little daughter arrived at the home of Ross T. Overturf and wife last Sunday. Of course Ross is wearing "the smile that won't come off." May the little one live to be a joy and comfort to her proud parents, is the wish of the PRESS.

## It Pays to Use the Press.

"Last fall I placed an adv. in the PRESS, offering for sale a stove. The third day after the adv. appeared I sold the stove to a man at St. Marys; the adv. was continued for two weeks and I could have sold a car load."—W. W. Weiman.

"Newerf, Pa.—Last fall I had a little adv. in the PRESS about Shephers sheep and was well pleased with results. I inserted same in two other publications, but your publication sold more sheep for me than both the others. You may send me price for two insertions."—E. W. Wilcox.

## A word to the wise is sufficient.

## The Sick.

Typhoid fever has appeared again in this section. Up to the present time two cases have been reported. Miss Leathra Victory, one of the public school teachers in Shippen township, is a victim of the disease. Harry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arch Andrews, of East Emporium, is also down with the fever.

## Little of Everything.

The Pennsylvania R. R. Co., are arranging to lay the fourth rail track between Altoona and Pittsburg.

O. E. Nellis agent for the Grand Union Tea Co. All orders promptly attended to.

Remember the Hamilton Hose Company, ball, supper and reception, Wednesday evening, Feb. 17th. Tickets, \$1.00; supper tickets, 25c.

The Mountaineer Minstrels give an entertainment at Port Allegany this evening, for benefit of Star Hose Company.

## Slaughtering Prices.

We call the attention of the PRESS readers to the advertisement of Mr. N. Seger, the pioneer clothing merchant, who is offering a big reduction in the prices of clothing, from Feb. 16th to 27th. Be sure that you read his adv. and then call and see the big bargains.

Itch cured in 30 minutes by Wopford's Sanitary Lotion. Never fails sold by L. Taggart, druggist, 32-6m.

THE WEATHER.  
FRIDAY, Fair.  
SATURDAY, Fair.  
SUNDAY, Rain or Snow.

## First National Bank,

At the close of business, Feb. 10, 1909,  
\$808,514.96.

## Lincoln's First Political Speech,

Gentlemen and Fellow Citizens:—

I presume you all know who I am. I am humble Abraham Lincoln. I have been solicited by my friends to become a candidate for the Legislature. My Politics are short and sweet. I am in favor of a national bank. I am in favor of the internal improvement system. \* \* \* These are my sentiments and political principles. If elected, I shall be thankful, if not, it will be all the same.

\$1.00 Starts an Account.

3% INTEREST PAID ON CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT.

DR. LEON REX FELT,  
DENTIST.  
Rockwell Block, Emporium, Pa.

DR. H. W. MITCHELL,  
DENTIST,  
(Successor to Dr. A. B. Mead.)  
Office over A. E. Vogt's Shoe Store,  
Emporium, Pa 12y

## Religious—Lincoln Sermon.

In the Methodist Episcopal Church, on next Sunday evening, the pastor, Rev. J. F. Anderson, will take as his discourse, "Lincoln, the Liberator."—To this service are cordially invited members of the G. A. R. Post, Patriotic and Fraternal Orders, High School and Grammar School students, and patriotic citizens in general, where it will not interfere with their other duties and obligations.

## The Revival Services.

The special revival services which have been going on in the Methodist Episcopal Church, of this place, during the past month, were well attended all through, and resulted in much good. About fifty persons entered upon the Christian life and about forty of these united with the church on probation. On last Sunday morning, fifteen persons received the sacrament of baptism. While the members of this church were very faithful and were greatly helped, many persons from other denominations, as well found it convenient to be present and take part in these services and hence shared in the meetings' benefits.

## Eighteenth Annual Ball.

Hamilton Hose Company, No. 3, will next Wednesday evening, Feb. 17th, give their eighteenth annual ball, supper and reception. The boys will give their many admiring friends a jolly good time, at the opera house. This company was organized in 1881 and is composed of an active membership that never fails to respond promptly when called and always does good work, frequently risking themselves to save property. See that they have a rousing attendance. Purchase tickets at once. Keating's popular orchestra, of Olean, has been engaged and all patrons can rest assured of most excellent music and a fine program of dances, now being prepared at the Press job rooms.

## Get on the Band Wagon.

Be sure you secure seats early—do it now—for the Mountaineer Minstrels, to take place at the opera house Friday evening, Feb. 12th. Their menu this year exceeds any ever given here—amateur or professional. No old chest nuts. All the latest songs, jokes and stunts. A new departure, that will take with the audience, the adding of several ladies to their circle. Don't you ever think of missing it. Purchase your seat at once.

## The Caleb Power's Lecture.

The chart for the sale of reserved seat tickets for the Caleb Power's lecture—the noted Kentuckyan—to be given at the court house, Tuesday evening, Feb. 23rd, at 8 p. m., will be ready at H. S. Loyd's store, Monday morning, at 9 o'clock. Lecture under the auspices of Presbyterian church. Tickets: Reserved seats, 75c; general admission, 50c; children, 25c.

## Fair.

On Saturday evening, February 20, 1909, a Fair will be held at the Sweeney school house. The main feature of the evening will be a Necktie and Apron Supper. Candy and other notions will be on sale. Come bring your friends, enjoy the evening, and help a good cause.