

to his unaided efforts may be attributed the eminence he has attained. In the best sense of the word he is a self-made man. At the outbreak of the late war, though but eighteen years of age, he enlisted as a private in Company F, Forty-seventh Pennsylvania Infantry, August 21, 1861. Shortly after entering the army he was promoted to First Sergeant, which position he held until his re-enlistment in October, 1863. At that time he was promoted to First Lieutenant, in which capacity he served until the close of the war, being mustered out in January, 1866.

Returning to Catasauqua, Captain Bartholomew has since made his home in this city. In 1877 he was one of the organizers of Company I, Fourth Regiment National Guards of Pennsylvania, which he commanded for ten years. In August of 1870 he founded the *Valley Record*, and has continued its publication to the present day. The paper is the organ of the Democratic party in the community, and is an eight-column folio, issued weekly. In politics the Captain is one of the leaders of the Democracy in Catasauqua, and was Postmaster here under the first administration of President Cleveland. Twice he was nominated for Burgess, and although the odds were largely against him, he was defeated by a very small majority, running considerably ahead of his ticket. In his religious connections he is a member of the Reformed Church.



**A** ARON W. RADLEY, D. V. S., one of the native residents of Bethlehem, is a graduate and successful veterinary practitioner. His office is located at No. 18 High Street, which place he owns, as well as his residence and other property in the city. He stands high in his profession and practices considerably in this and adjoining counties.

Dr. Radley was born December 14, 1859, being

a son of A. W. Radley, a native of Plainfield, N. J. The latter was a real-estate agent, and was located for some years at Butztown, where he also engaged in merchandising. Later he came to Bethlehem, where he was engaged in the real-estate business, and here his death occurred in 1871. He was of English descent, while his wife's ancestors were born in Germany. Mrs. Radley was in her girlhood Rebecca Gradwohl, her birth having occurred in Butztown. Her father, John Gradwohl, was a native of this county, and followed agricultural pursuits. Mrs. A. W. Radley died in Bethlehem in 1889, and four of her eleven children are also deceased.

Dr. A. W. Radley passed his boyhood in Butztown with his uncle, Thomas Gradwohl, a retired farmer, and managed to acquire a good common-school education, for a time attending the schools of Freemansburg. In 1874 he went to Easton to learn the drug business, and remained in the employ of A. Odenwelder for a period of two and a-half years. Thence going to Philadelphia, he entered the College of Pharmacy, where he completed the prescribed course of study, and graduated with the degree of Graduate of Pharmacy. His uncle having died in 1879, he returned to Butztown, where for a time he was in charge of his uncle's affairs.

About 1884 Dr. Radley began his studies as a veterinary surgeon, and entered the American Veterinary College in New York State, from which noted institution he graduated two years later with the degree of Doctor of Veterinary Surgery. Returning to Butztown, he there began his practice, continuing to make that his field of work until the fall of 1888, at which time he removed to Bethlehem, locating at the corner of Broad and High Streets. He has a regular hospital in Bethlehem, and is becoming very well-to-do through his large and lucrative practice. He owns the old homestead at Butztown, and also a farm of one hundred acres adjoining that town, which he rents. Dr. Radley has a number of good horses, and is a great lover of this noble animal. In accordance with modern ideas, he endeavors to extend his field of observation and learning continually, and to that end belongs to the Pennsylvania Veteri-

nary Association. The home of the Doctor is at No. 349 Broad Street, where he has a good residence. He is a member of the Salem Lutheran Church, and in politics votes for the nominees of the Democratic party.



**G**EORGE O. HOUSER was born July 16, 1860, in Petersville, Northampton County, where he made his home until reaching his twelfth year. He is one of the best known men of this section, is identified with the various interests of the neighborhood, and for many years held the responsible position of Justice of the Peace. He is at the present time foreman in the foundry and machine shops of Davies & Thomas.

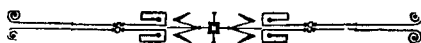
Mathias Houser, the father of the subject of this sketch, was in early life a farmer, and later became a tailor, following this trade the greater part of his life, although at one time he was engaged in the butcher business. He was prominent in the neighborhood of Petersville, was Postmaster of that town, was a Democrat in politics, and was a public-spirited and progressive man, who allowed no worthy movement to fail through negligence on his part. He was born and died in Northampton County. His widow, who is still living and resides in this city, was prior to her marriage Miss Sarah Buss. She was born in Upper Saucon Township, Lehigh County, where her father, Mathias Buss, was a farmer.

George O. Houser is one of seven children, of whom five are now living. When twelve years old he came to this city, where he remained until 1875 and then went to Weissport, Carbon County, and engaged to work in the bottling works of H. G. Steitz. Three years later he returned to this city, and in March of the following year found work in the shops of Davies & Thomas as foreman of their shipping department. He was later placed in the office of assistant bookkeeper, at which he was employed for three years, when he was again placed

in the shipping rooms, where he is now foreman, having under his charge twenty-five men.

In 1890 our subject was engaged in the shoe business in East Catasauqua, which he conducted four years under the firm name of George O. Houser & Co. With his family he occupies a good residence on the corner of Race and Elizabeth Streets. He was married in this city in 1882 to Miss Elmira E., daughter of Edward Kurtz, an old settler of this city.

Mr. Houser is highly regarded by all who know him, and in the year 1888 was elected Justice of the Peace of Upper Hanover Township. He is a worthy member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, and is Superintendent of the Sunday-school in this town. He took an active part in the building of the chapel in 1889, being President and Secretary of the building committee. In politics he upholds the principles of the Democratic party, and he is a man of sterling integrity and good business ability.



**W**ILLIAM DEIBERT, the efficient and well known Director of the Lehigh County Almshouse, is endowed by nature with such gifts as characterize true manhood in all that the word implies. He is at present residing in North Whitehall Township on sixteen acres of land which he cultivates to the best advantage.

The subject of this sketch is a native of Weisenburg Township, this county, and was born July 3, 1835. His parents were Daniel and Elizabeth Deibert, who were natives of this section. The former was a well-to-do farmer, and lived here until his decease, which occurred shortly after the close of the Civil War. Of the parental family the following-named children survive: Maria, Elizabeth Caroline, and William, of this sketch. The last-named was educated in the common schools, and entered upon his business career, learning the trade of a boot and shoe maker, when twenty years of age. He served an apprenticeship of two years, and

for twenty-three years thereafter his energies were devoted to that work.

In 1857 William Deibert and Miss Mary Semler, daughter of Frederick Semler, were united in marriage. The lady was born in this county, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of four children: Justine, now Mrs. Henry Druckmiller; Ellen, the wife of Oscar Sechler; Frank and Alice. Mr. Deibert is a strong advocate of public schools, and for six years served as a member of the School Board. His hearty support and cooperation are also given to every worthy enterprise which is calculated to benefit the community and promote its general welfare.

May 1, 1891, our subject was appointed one of the Directors of the Lehigh County Almshouse to fill an unexpired term, was re-elected in September of that year, and is now discharging the duties of the office in a most commendable manner. He is a strong Democrat in politics, and socially is an Odd Fellow of good standing. The Lutheran Church, of which he has been Deacon, finds in him a valued member, and his good wife is also connected with that denomination.



ALVIN HILL has long been numbered among the prominent merchants of Bethlehem, having been active in its upbuilding, and owning a great many houses and pieces of property in the city. He is engaged in the hide and tallow business, and owns the site of the old Moravian tannery. He was born in Brownfield, Me., December 9, 1843, and in that state his father and grandfather, the latter named Henry Hill, were born and engaged in farming during their active life. Our subject's father, Benjamin Hill, died in his native state at the age of forty-two years. His wife, whose maiden name was Hulda Parker, also of Maine, was the daughter of Caleb Parker, who fought in the War of 1812, and to obtain a livelihood followed contracting and building. Mrs. Hulda Hill died in 1870, and four of her nine chil-

dren are now living. One of the sons, Joseph, enlisted in the late Civil War for three years' service, going to the front with a Massachusetts regiment.

Alvin Hill passed the days of his boyhood on his father's farm in Maine, giving him his assistance when not pursuing his studies in the district schools. When sixteen years of age he went to Boston, Mass., and from that time he has been dependent entirely upon his own resources. He was engaged in clerking until the spring of 1864, when he enlisted for ninety days' service in the company known as the Old Fusileers, his duty being mainly in Boston Harbor. He was married in that city in 1864 to Miss Ruth J. Annis, who was born in Benton, N. H., and was reared in Stoneham, Mass. Her father, Pearley Annis, followed the occupation of a farmer. Mr. Hill resided in Stoneham until 1874, being occupied in that city in the manufacture of boots and shoes. In the spring of that year he removed to Bethlehem, where he engaged in the hide and tallow business. His brother, Joseph Hill, had formerly purchased a tannery on Monocacy Creek, and in partnership with our subject ran the same successfully for three years. The death of Joseph Hill occurred in 1882, and afterward Alvin continued to run the business alone. In 1875 he and his brother purchased the old Moravian tannery, which was probably the first tannery located in Pennsylvania, and is situated near the center of the borough on the Lehigh & Lackawanna Railroad. Here they continued in the hide and tallow business, which is now carried on by Alvin Hill alone.

The residence of Alvin Hill is located at the corner of North and Main Streets; and in addition to this he owns twelve residences in West Bethlehem, all of which he erected, four residences in Bethlehem proper; a store building at No. 62 South Main Street, formerly the old Lehigh Valley National Bank building, which is a brick structure three stories in height, also other property. He is a stockholder and Director in the Electric Light Company, a stockholder in the First National Bank, and was one of the first incorporators and stockholders of the Cutter Silk Mill. Besides those mentioned he is a stockholder in the Bethlehem Fair and Driv-

ing Park Association. In 1888 he was elected to serve on the Council from the Third Ward for three years, and in 1891 was re-elected without opposition for a further term of three years. During this time he was chairman of the Street Committee, a number of streets being then macadamized, and he was also chairman of the Water Committee and other important committees.

The first wife of our subject died in Bethlehem in 1889, and of their seven children, three are living: Edward M., who is engaged in business with his father, Harry and Joseph. The present Mrs. Hill was formerly Elizabeth Gangewere, and was born in Catasauqua. They have one child, Lloyd. The parents are members of the Wesleyan Methodist Episcopal Church, Mr. Hill being a member of the Board of Trustees, in which capacity he has acted since 1877. Fraternally he is a member of the Royal Arcanum and Heptasoph. In politics he uses his influence and ballot in support of the Democratic party.



**H**ON. SAMUEL B. PRICE, one of the most prominent and wealthy citizens of Mauch Chunk, claims New Jersey as the state of his nativity, for he was born in Hunterdon County, August 26, 1823. His grandfather, Nathan Price, was of Welsh descent. The father, Hiram Price, was a native of New Jersey, and followed farming. He married Anna Barber, who was born in the same state, and was a daughter of Samuel Barber.

Mr. Price of this sketch is the eldest of their family. He attended the schools of Northumberland County, Pa., and acquired a good education. He then began the study of medicine with Dr. Masser, after which he took a course of lectures in Jefferson Medical College in 1844-45. Previously, in 1843, he had embarked in the drug business, and later served as a bookkeeper with the firm of Packer, Douglas & Co., at Nesquehoning, remaining with them as a trusted employe for seven years. He then went to Summit Hill as one of

the firm of Bertsch, Leisening & Co., contractors with the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Company. On the expiration of that period he went to Upper Lehigh, Luzerne County, and engaged in the management of a store. He was later employed in the Upper Lehigh Coal Company for nearly twenty years, but in 1885 he removed to Mauch Chunk and retired from active business life. In May, 1886, he went abroad, visiting England, Scotland, Ireland, France, Belgium, Germany and Italy. He spent six months on the old continent, visiting the many points of interest, historic and otherwise, and then returned home.

In 1856 Mr. Price was united in marriage, the lady of his choice being Miss Harriet Bertsch, of this city. To them have been born the following children: Harry B., who is now Secretary and Treasurer of the Upper Lehigh Coal Company; Samuel B., who is engaged in the coal business in Cambria County, Pa.; and John B., who is the assistant cashier in the First National Bank of Hazleton.

Mr. Price has ever taken a prominent part in public affairs, and in 1856 was elected Treasurer of Carbon County. In 1889 he was elected Associate Judge of Carbon County for a period of five years, and is now acceptably and creditably filling that office. He has also been the Democratic candidate for Congress. He takes a very prominent part in political affairs, and does all in his power to promote the growth and insure the success of his party. His connection with business interests has added much to the prosperity and welfare of the city, for whatever he undertakes he carries forward to a successful completion. He has been actively interested in the banking business, having been connected with the First National Bank of Mauch Chunk, the First National Bank of Hazleton and the First National Bank of Shenandoah. He is a Director in the Upper Lehigh Coal Company, and for twenty years has been Secretary and Treasurer of the Nescopeck Coal Company. He possesses most excellent business and executive ability, is sagacious and far-sighted, and his enterprise and progressive spirit, which are numbered among his chief characteristics, have been important factors in his success. His life has been a busy

one, yet he has found time to devote to interests calculated to uplift humanity, and since the organization of the Young Men's Christian Association he has been Treasurer, and one of its most active and prominent workers. He and his wife are numbered among the best citizens of Mauch Chunk, and hold a high position in social circles.



**J**OHAN P. BROWN, M. D., formerly of Slatington, where he had the largest practice of any physician in the city, located in Bethlehem in May, 1894, as he desired to have a wider field of work. He was born in Winchester, Va., August 6, 1856, and there passed his boyhood attending the common schools. He was next to the youngest of eight children. His grandfather, William Brown, was also a native of the Old Dominion, and died in Virginia. His calling in life was that of a carpenter, while his son, William D., our subject's father, was a glove manufacturer. The latter was born in Winchester, and that city was his home until his death. His wife, Ann M., was the daughter of William Diffenderfer, of German descent and a carpenter by trade. Mr. and Mrs. William D. Brown were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the mother, who is still living, is a resident of Maryland.

After completing his common-school studies, Dr. Brown entered the Shenandoah Valley Academy, taking the prescribed course. Then for a period of time he studied medicine with Dr. W. S. Love, of Winchester, and in 1875 became a student in the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Baltimore. At the end of a year he engaged as a clerk in a drug store in Harrisonburg, Va., and later occupied a similar position in Columbia, Pa. In 1884 he entered the University of Pennsylvania, and two years later graduated from the medical department with the degree of Doctor of Medicine.

On commencing his practice the Doctor located in Columbia, where he was stationed for a year, and afterward engaged in the drug business at that

point. In 1888 he went to Allentown, being associated with Dr. T. T. Martin for a year. His next field of operations was in Slatington, where he continued to practice until May, 1894. Then, as previously stated, he became a resident of Bethlehem, and is rapidly making his way into the confidence of his fellow-citizens, being well received by the members of his profession. While a resident of Slatington he was local physician for the Lehigh Valley Railroad. His office is situated at No. 83 Broad Street, a central location in Bethlehem.

In 1887 Dr. Brown was married, in Lehigh County, to Miss Mary Maxwell, who was born near Laurens, in that county, and there has been born to them one child, Roy by name. Dr. Brown and his wife are both members of the First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem, and, though recent comers, are received in the best social circles of the place, their pleasant and friendly manners rapidly winning them a place in the esteem of all.



**W**ILLIAM F. DE LONG. No one is more universally esteemed in this county than he whose name appears at the head of this sketch. He is agent for the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company at Rockdale, where he is also the owner of the Rockdale Hotel and Postmaster of the place. Notwithstanding the prominent position which he holds among the citizens of his township, he is one of the most unostentatious of men, and is very popular, justly meriting the high esteem in which he is held.

The subject of this sketch is a native of this county, and was born November 30, 1845. He is a son of Solomon and Sally De Long, the latter of whom is deceased. The former, who resides in Allentown, has passed his threescore years and ten. Grandfather De Long was an old resident of Lowhill Township, while his father was prominently identified with the upbuilding of North Whitehall Township.

William F., of this sketch, lived with his parents