

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF THE
GOVERNOR, COUNCILLORS AND
MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
THE N. H. LEGISLATURE. VOLUME V**

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N. H. LEGISLATURE

FOR 1889-90.

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

GOVERNOR.

There was no choice for Governor by the people at the November election in 1888, but the political complexion of both branches of the Legislature gives no doubt that their choice will fall upon the Republican candidate, DAVID HARVEY GOODSELL, of Antrim.

MR. GOODSELL is the only son of Jesse R., and Mary C. Goodell, and was born in Hillsborough, May 6, 1834, and is consequently 54 years of age. His parents removed to Antrim when he was about 7 years old, and have since resided there. He attended the town school, Hancock academy, the New Hampton institution, and graduated at Francestown Academy in 1852. He then entered Brown university, and there took high rank as a scholar: in Latin he was within one degree of perfect, and bore off the prize in mathematics. In his second year he was obliged to return home because of poor health; but a year and a half on his father's farm restored his health, and he then taught school for two terms in Hubbardstown, Mass., one term at Lancaster, Mass., and one at the New Hampton Institution. He then returned to Antrim, with the intention of making farming the business of his life. In 1857, however, the Antrim Shovel Co. was organized, and he became its treasurer and book-keeper, and finally the general agent of the company. In 1861 this company sold out to Treadwell & Co., and Mr. Goodell continued as agent for three years, until they sold out to Oakes Ames and the business was removed to Massachusetts. Then, in company with Geo. R. Carter, he began the manufacture of apple parers and invented the "lightning" parer, which had a large sale. By a disastrous fire in 1867 they lost everything, having no insurance on the property. But they rebuilt, and were running as usual in six weeks. In 1870 Treadwell & Co. failed and carried Goodell down with them, he having endorsed their paper to the amount of \$30,000. He then bought the property, enlarged the business and has since run it, and has never signed a promissory note from that day. In 1872 the Wood Cutlery Co. was organized by himself and others, in the adjoining town of Bennington, and subsequently transferred to Antrim and united with his manufacturing business, which has steadily increased till now he employs over two hundred hands and pays out to his help \$95,000 annually. He manufactures all kinds of cutlery, hammock chairs, seed-sowers, apple and potato-parers, and cherry-stoners. Besides giving the closest attention to this business, he has carried on the homestead farm, which is one of the largest and finest in the state, with all the improved farming methods employed. He has served as trustee of the N. E. Agricultural society several years, two terms as a member of the State Board of Agriculture, and was a member of the House in 1876, 77 and 78, and was largely instrumental in securing the passage of the bill for the erection of the new State Prison. During his legislative career no measure of importance which he advocated failed of passage, and none which he opposed became a law. He was a member of the Council in 1883-4, and is thoroughly familiar with State affairs. He married Hannah Jane Plumer, daughter of Jesse T. Plumer, of Goffstown, and has two children. He is an active member of the Baptist church, and was a Democrat prior to 1861. Though still in the prime of life, Mr. Goodell has won a position in the community of which any man should be proud. The large manufacturing business, which has given the town new life and prosperity, is his own creation; his farm is a model, which invites healthy progress; his private character is without a blemish and his business credit above suspicion; his reputation as a citizen, neighbor, and friend, is of the best, and his ability to fill any public position creditably and well is universally acknowledged.

COUNCIL.

District No. 1—CHARLES H. HORTON, Dover. Republican, book-binder, married; age, 72. Born in New York city, Dec. 12, 1816. His parents removed to Richmond, Va., and thence to Salem, Mass., and Boston, where he finished his education in the Eliot and Hancock schools. He served seven years' apprenticeship in Boston at the book-binding business, and in 1841 was married to Susan S. Lacoste, of Portsmouth, a descendant of General Warren of Revolutionary fame. In 1852 he removed to Dover with his family, and entered into the book-binding business, in which he has continued to the present time. He has five children. He has served in the Dover Common Council, as alderman and mayor of the city, and member of the House in 1859 and 60 and of the Constitutional Convention in 1876. In all these positions he has displayed signal ability and perfect integrity.

District No. 2—EDWARD C. SHERLEY, Goffstown. Republican, Congregationalist, farmer, married; age, 54. Born in Goffstown in 1834, and has always had his residence there. He received a liberal education at New London academy, and is an upright and trusted citizen. He has always been connected with the Republican party, and will make a sagacious and safe councillor.

District No. 3—WILLIAM S. PILLSBURY, Londonderry. Republican, Presbyterian, farmer and shoe manufacturer, married; age, 55. Born in Sutton, in March, 1833. He is the son of Rev. Stephen Pillsbury, a Baptist minister, who was the sixth lineal descendant from William Pillsbury, the first (the only one of the name to settle in this country), who was born in Staffordshire, England, in 1615 and settled at Dorchester in 1641. At the time that Edward Rawson was appointed secretary of the province of Massachusetts, William Pillsbury, the first, purchased his farm in Newburyport, which has remained in possession of the Pillsbury family ever since. The subject of this sketch served as first lieutenant Co. I, 4th N. H. Vols.; also, in Co. A of the 9th. His last year of military service was mostly in the capacity of ordnance officer, 1st Brigade, Harding's Division, defences of Washington, with headquarters at Fort Reno. He was an aide-de-camp on the staff of Governor Prescott, with the rank of colonel. He has served as county commissioner of Rockingham County, and was a member of the House in 1874. For the past eighteen years Col. Pillsbury has carried on a very successful business at Derry Depot, in the manufacturing of shoes; and from a business of a few thousand it has attained to more than half a million a year and is constantly increasing; and the town, from a little hamlet, has grown to be one of the most flourishing villages in the state. He was always a Republican.

District No. 4—FRANK C. CHURCHILL, Lebanon. Republican, Congregationalist; he is a wholesale merchant and manufacturer of Lebanon overalls, of the firm of Carter & Churchill; married; age, 38. Born in West Fairlee, Vt., Aug. 2, 1850; he lived there till 1863, then in Lyme two years, and in Lebanon since 1870. He was educated in the common and select schools and at Thetford, Vt., academy. He was a member of Governor Head's staff in 1878 and 79, with the rank of colonel. He is a director of the Lebanon National Bank, and vice-president and acting president of the Mascota Fire Insurance company. He has taken much interest in local town affairs, but has never accepted public office before, holding only such minor positions as go to "help along" in the common good of the town in which he lives, such as chairman of building committee for Memorial Hall, etc., etc. Col. Churchill has been something of a traveller and was a travelling salesman for several years for his firm. He has also visited nearly all the states in the Union, as well as several of the territories. He has always been a Republican.

District No. 5—SHERBURN R. MERRILL, Colebrook. Democrat, Methodist; he is a successful merchant and manufacturer of starch, and is engaged in farming; married; age, 78. Born in Newbury; he lived there till eight years old, then in Croydon seven years, Woodstock four years, Boston seven years, Woodstock again sixteen years, and in Colebrook for the past thirty-six years. He received his school education in Woodstock, attending for six weeks, but has always been a keen observer of men and events and has readily made up for his lack of early schooling. He served as selectman in Woodstock two years and in Colebrook in 1872; member of the House in 1873 and senator from District No. 1 in 1874 and 1881-2. He was always a staunch Democrat.

SENATE.

The Senate is composed of twenty-four members. There was no choice by the people in three districts, and another district is in doubt. Of those about whose election there is no dispute, fourteen are Republicans and six are Democrats. The following statistics refer to the probable complexion of the Senate as finally constituted:

The oldest member is Hon. William Conn, of Portsmouth, who is 70; the youngest is Hon. David Arthur Taggart, of Goffstown, who is 31, having been born Jan. 30, 1858. Seven of the members are between 30 and 40 years of age; nine between 40 and 50; five between 50 and 60; two between 60 and 70; and one who has passed 70. All are natives of the State, except four, two having been born in Maine, one in Massachusetts, and one in Vermont. Nine were born in the towns where they now reside. Six are college graduates, thirteen received a classical or academic education, and the remainder received the benefits of a common school education.

Seven are Congregationalists, four Unitarians, three Baptists, two Free Baptists, one Episcopalian, one Protestant, one "belongs to no church," and four do not express any religious preferences. Four of the Senators are unmarried.

The profession or occupation of the Senators is as follows: lawyers, five; manufacturers, four; merchants, three; and one each, brewer, druggist, farmer and lumberman, financial agent and president, master mechanic, lumberman, mechanic and foreman, merchant and lumber dealer, paymaster, tin and hardware dealer, wood and lumber dealer, and one who states no occupation.

Seventeen have served in the House, one in the last Senate, and two in the House and Constitutional Convention of 1876.

Cobb District, No. 1—NATHAN RANDALL PERKINS, of Jefferson. Democrat, engaged in the lumber business, married; age, 60. Born in Middleton, Dec. 13, 1826. He removed to Jefferson when a young man, and has since resided there. He was educated in the common school and at Lancaster academy. Served as county commissioner five years. Member of the House five terms, of the Council two years, and of the Constitutional Convention of 1876. He is one of the most energetic and sagacious business men in northern New Hampshire, and has hosts of friends all over the state.

Grafton District, No. 2—WILLIAM HENRY MITCHELL, of Littleton. Democrat, lawyer, married; age, 32. Born in Wheelock, Vt., Sept. 19, 1856. Educated at Derby, Vt., academy, and Littleton high school. His wife is the daughter of Hon. Edward F. Bingham, Chief Justice of the District of Columbia. Senator Mitchell is the junior member of the Littleton law firm of Bingham, Mitchell & Batchellor. In 1877 he entered the office with which he has since been connected, and was admitted to the bar, March 19, 1880. He was at first employed by the firm as an attorney, but in July, 1882, he was admitted as a partner. He devotes himself largely to the practical branch of the profession, is studious and painstaking in the preparation of his cases, and becomes well versed in the law applicable to the particular subject in hand. He possesses great industry and has practical judgment which is seldom at fault. He has served on the school committee and board of education, is president of the board; also president of the Littleton Musical association, and trustee of the State Normal school. Politically, he is an active member of the Democratic party, and one of the younger leaders in northern New Hampshire. He is a sagacious and conservative adviser, with no selfish ends to subserve, and is always content with securing success for the party to which he gives loyal, zealous, and faithful service.

Lebanon District, No. 3—ISAAC WILLARD, of Orford. Republican, Congregationalist, merchant, married; age, 56. Born in Orford, March 18, 1832. He lived in New York city six years, and five years in Iowa, and in Orford since 1864.

Educated at Thetford, Vt., academy. He served as postmaster ten years, until removed by the Cleveland administration; also served as notary public and justice of the peace, coroner, and town treasurer since 1876. Member of the House in 1887-8. Always a Republican.

Plymouth District, No. 4—THOMAS P. CHERRY, of Ashland. Republican, liberal Free Baptist, manufacturer, married; age, 56. Born in Holderness, Feb. 24, 1833. Educated in the Holderness high school and Tilton seminary. Has served as postmaster, deputy sheriff, town clerk, superintendent of railway mail service for the New England states, bringing the service to a higher efficiency than ever before, and U. S. pension agent. Member of the House in 1865, '66, and 1887-8. He was always an active Republican worker.

Laconia District, No. 5—THADDEUS S. MOSES, of Meredith. Democrat, Protestant, tin, stove, and hardware dealer, married; age, 54. Born in Campton, Jan. 28, 1835, and has resided in Plymouth. He attended the common schools in Campton, Plymouth, and Meredith, and the academies in Plymouth and Gilford. He has served on the board of education, as selectman two years, town treasurer since 1883, and treasurer of Meredith Village Baptist association since 1878. Member of the Constitutional Convention of 1876 and of the House in 1878. He was always a Democrat.

Winnipisogee District, No. 6—HENRY B. QUINBY, of Gilford (p. o. address, Lake Village). Republican, Unitarian, manufacturer, married; age, 42. Born in Biddeford, Me. Educated in the Biddeford city schools, Nichols Latin school in Lewiston, and at Bowdoin college, all in Maine. He was a valuable member of the House in 1887-8; also served on Governor Straw's staff. He was always a Republican.

Sullivan District, No. 7—GEORGE L. BALCOM, of Claremont. Republican, Episcopal, woolen manufacturer, single; age, 69. Born in Sudbury, Mass., Oct. 9, 1819, and has resided in Lowell, Boston, Philadelphia, and Proctorsville, Vt. Educated in Lowell, Westminster, Mass., and Harvard college. He was a member of the House in 1883-4, and served with much credit. He was formerly a Whig, and voted for Wm. H. Harrison for President in 1840.

Hillsborough District, No. 8—AUGUSTUS W. GRAY, of Bennington. Republican, Congregationalist, mechanic; at present foreman of one branch of the Goodell Company's works at Bennington; married; age, 45. Born in Bennington, May 28, 1843, and always resided there. Educated in the common schools. He enlisted in August, 1862, as a private in Co. D, 11th N. H. Vols.; was wounded at Fredericksburg, Va., Dec. 13, 1862; mustered out in April, 1865, for disability. Is a member of the G. A. R., a Mason and an Odd Fellow, and was district deputy, I. O. O. F. the past year. Has served as moderator, town clerk, etc. Always a Republican.

Merrimack District, No. 9—At the time these sketches are being prepared, this district appears to be in doubt. The Governor and Council, on canvassing the votes in December, decided that there was no choice and that the constitutional candidates for the seat were John C. Pearson, of Boscawen, and George L. Brown, of Sutton. A subsequent recount of the votes showed that Mr. Brown was elected by 6 majority. The Senate will determine whether there was an election or no choice.

GEORGE L. BROWN, of Sutton, is a Democrat, Baptist, druggist, and married; his age is 36. He was born in Dunbarton in 1852. He removed to New London in 1860, and was educated at Colby academy, taking high rank as a scholar. In 1870 he entered the employ of C. H. Martin & Co., leading druggists in Concord, where he thoroughly learned the business, and finally became a partner in the firm, which has continued under the familiar name to the present time. His summer residence is in Sutton, and he represented that town in the House in 1881-2. He is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows orders, and is a candid, genial, and popular young man, with a host of friends wherever he is known.

JOHN C. PEARSON, of Boscawen, is a Republican, Congregationalist, and is engaged in general business; he is married; age, 53. Born in West Boscawen, May 25,

1835, and has lived in Webster. His present post-office address is Penacook. He received his education in the common and high schools, at Kimball Union academy and Merrinack Normal institute. Has served as town treasurer, selectman eleven years, moderator, and county commissioner. Was a working member of the House in 1871, 72, and 1887-8, and has brought fidelity and ability to the discharge of every public trust reposed in him. He was always a Republican, and is highly esteemed as an upright and popular citizen.

Concord District, No. 10—CHARLES ROBERT CORNING, of Concord. Republican, belongs to no church but attends the Universalist. lawyer, single; age, 33. Born in Concord, Dec. 20, 1855, and always had his residence there. Educated in the public school, at Phillips academy, Andover, Mass., and by tutors. He is the son of the late Robert N. Corning, a former leading and popular citizen and post-master of Concord at the time of his death. Charles R. read law with the late Anson S. Marshall and with William M. Chase, Esq., and ex-Chief Justice Sargent, and passed an examination to the Merrinack County bar in March, 1883. He has made three trips to Europe, travelling extensively on the continent. His journeys have provided material for interesting lectures, and he has recently published an original book of travels, "From Aalesund to Tetuan," which has had a large number of interested readers. He is the author of some valuable historical and biographical pamphlets, including one on the life of the late Attorney-General Tappan, for whom he had high admiration and reciprocated friendship. He is an easy, graceful writer, of very pleasing style; and has already won a position in the literary world. He is greatly interested in all that pertains to literature and to educational advancement. He has a strong taste for politics and public life, and yet is much devoted to refined society. He has the largest and best selected private library in the city, and is an indefatigable reader and an agreeable and interesting speaker. He has served on the board of education six years, and gave much attention to the work. He is also a trustee of the State library and of the Concord public library. Member of the House in 1878 and 1883-4, serving on important committees, and is well versed in parliamentary law and legislative proceedings.

Pittsfield District, No. 11—JAMES B. TENNANT, of Epsom. Republican, Free Baptist, merchant, lumber dealer, etc., married; age, 41. Born in Deerfield in 1847. Educated at New Hampton. He has served as commissioner for Merrinack County three terms, and is a man of excellent judgment and good business qualities. He was always a Republican.

Somersworth District, No. 12—EDWARD T. WILLSON, of Farmington. Republican, no religious preference, merchant, married; age, 35. Born at Cape Neddick, Maine, Sept. 5, 1853. Educated in the district schools and at West Lebanon, Me., Academy. He is a popular and successful merchant. Has held the minor town offices, and was always a firm Republican.

Keene District, No. 13—DANIEL W. RUGG, of Sullivan. Republican, Unitarian preference; engaged in farming and lumbering; married; age, 52. Born in Sullivan, July 18, 1836. Educated in the Sullivan common schools, and at Marlow and Nelson academies. He has served as selectman four years, supervisor two years, and moderator six years. He was an active member of the House in 1885-6. Has been a Republican since 1861.

Cheshire District, No. 14—EZRA S. STEARNS, of Rindge. Republican, Congregationalist; age, 50. Born in Rindge, Sept. 1, 1838. Received the degree of A. M. from Dartmouth college. Was early connected for several years with publishing houses in Boston, New York, and Philadelphia, and in 1876-7 he was editor and manager of a daily paper in Fitchburg, Mass. Is the author of "History of Rindge, N. H.," 1876, 788 pages; "History of Ashburnham, Mass.," 1887, 1,024 pages, and has in preparation the history of Fitchburg, Mass. Member of the House in 1864, 65, 66, 67, and 70, serving on important committees, and of the Senate in 1887-8, being chairman of the committee on revision of laws, and member of committees on judiciary, agriculture, and elections. In 1866 he was member of a commission to audit the war expenses of towns, and has served many years on the Republican State Committee.