

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES  
—OF—  
MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES.  
JANUARY SESSION, 1900.

ALLEGANY COUNTY—*Five Members.*

J. H. CRITCHFIELD, Republican.

J. H. Critchfield was born July 2, 1841, in Somerset county, Pennsylvania. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company I, One hundred and Forty-second Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, and participated in every battle fought from Fredericksburg to Cold Harbor, where he was captured and taken to Andersonville, Ga. In 1860 commenced teaching school, following that profession until 1881. He has been engaged in merchandising since that time.

WILLIAM CLOSE—Republican.

William Close is a miner, residing at Gilmore. He was born in Allegany county, in 1860, at Miller Mine, near Midland. He attended the public schools until he was 14 years old. Then he entered the mines, working with his father in the various mines about Midland and Ocean. In 1885 he entered the employ of the George's Creek Coal and Iron Company as a driver, and, after following that occupation for three years, he engaged in digging coal for the same company, and is now working in their mines.

JOSEPH RADCLIFFE, Republican.

Joseph Radcliffe was born at Vale Summit, May 13, 1886. He has been working in the coal mines since he was 16 years old. He has never held public office.

E. EARL GRAEFF—Republican.

E. Earl Graeff is a native of Pennsylvania. He moved to Cumberland in January, 1891, and soon became promi-