

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

— OF —

Members of the Senate of 1906.

Alleghany County—JOHN B. SHANNON, Democrat--Frostburg.

Mr. Shannon has been prominent in county and district politics for a number of years, his career so far culminating six years ago in election to the responsible office of register of wills, an office, by the way, which he has filled with entire acceptance to the public and satisfaction to those who have been most concerned.

For two years he has been the chairman of his party's county committee, and has been thrice named as an available candidate in connection with the Democratic nomination for the House of Representatives.

That his party and personal popularity is beyond question was demonstrated in the campaign of 1889, when Hon. John Walter Smith was elected governor of the State. With twenty-three other Democrats on the county ticket he was the sole successful Democratic nominee, defeating his Republican competitor by the remarkable plurality of about 1,200. On the other hand, his Democratic running mates were defeated by pluralities ranging from 600 to 1,800.

For nearly fifteen years previous to this time the Democratic party had not elected a single nominee to a county office. He was the first Democrat, therefore, to break through what had come to be regarded the invincible ranks of the Republican party.

That this was creditable to the best elements of both parties is shown by the fact that Mr. Shannon has none of the tricks and employs none of the shams of the professional politician. He is an open book. Candor is legibly written in every lineament of his face and expression of his countenance. He is trusted by all. No man, woman or child is regarded as too poor or lowly to merit his attention and consideration.

On the other hand, he has friends among the rich, influential and powerful, but his real strength lies in his deserved popularity among the toilers—the miners of George's Creek, the artisans, mechanics and laborers of Cumberland and throughout the county—Republicans and Democrats, alike.