

M. Buchanan, Esq., and Hon. M. F. Meeklem, being admitted to the bar September 19, 1892. Opening an office at once, Mr. Stone engaged in the practice alone, and his business has gradually increased until he is now acknowledged to be one of the leading attorneys of the county. He has always been a Republican and taken an active part in many of the political campaigns of his county. In 1886 he was made prothonotary, which position he filled until 1892.

Among the many distinguished names of Pittsburgh lawyers whose appearances are shown on the records of the Beaver courts are Samuel Kingston, Walter H. Lowrie, A. S. Mountain, Simon Meredith, George Shaib, E. Pentland, Thomas L. Shields, James H. Stewart, George Watson, John H. Waugh, John Williamson, Charles Von Bonhorst, and many more, to merely mention whom would extend the list far beyond the limit of this article.

**Samuel Beatty Wilson, Beaver.** The subject of this sketch, who came of Scotch and Dutch lineage, was for many years a leader at the Beaver county bar. His great-grandfather, Samuel Wilson, who was of Scotch ancestry, married Mary Van Weir, a Hollander by birth. They owned a farm near Gettysburg, Pa., and there spent their lives and died, and their bodies were buried in the cemetery of that place. Of two sons born to them, Samuel and Marmaduke, the last named married Susan Beatty in 1744, and lived on the old homestead until the decease of his parents, after which he removed, with his family, to Westmoreland county. One of Marmaduke Wilson's sons, Patrick, who was born in York (now Adams) county in 1772, removed to Mercer (now Lawrence) county in 1801, and for a time was engaged in merchandising. In 1804 he married Rebecca, one of eight daughters of William Morehead. In 1811 he bought a farm some six miles north of New Castle, in Lawrence

county, and there reared his family and lived until his decease, which occurred in 1866. Here, on February 20, 1824, our subject was born, and here he passed his early life, receiving a common school and academic education preparatory to entering college. He then pursued a course of study at Jefferson college, Cannonsburg, Pa., maintaining throughout a high standard of scholarship, being especially proficient in English, Greek and Latin constructions, so that he was looked to as an authority on those subjects. He was graduated with the class of 1848, and during the following year served as principal of Darlington academy.

Having decided to fit himself for the legal profession, Mr. Wilson, in the fall of 1849, became a student in the office of Hon. Jeremiah S. Black, who was then president judge of the sixteenth judicial district, and on December 12, 1850, was admitted to the bar. Removing at once to Beaver, he was admitted to practice in her several courts, and entered upon a professional career, which for more than a third of a century brought him in connection with much of the most important litigation that came before the courts of **Beaver county**.

Mr. Wilson was a man of lofty ideals, high-minded, pure-minded and conscientious in all his dealings, and in his professional character, either as a counsellor or advocate, always maintained the full confidence of those who sought his counsel, or intrusted to him the management of their affairs. He was a man of decided opinions, which he was ready to express on all proper occasions, but with all was judicious and conservative in speech and action. He never sought or desired political preferment, but gave himself with true devotion to his professional work, his highest ambition being to be known as a thorough lawyer. Mr. Wilson was greatly aided in his work by his faithful and devoted wife, whom he married

April 12, 1854. She was Elizabeth Robinson, a daughter of Mr. George Robinson, who was then sheriff of Beaver county. During many years of their early married life Mrs. Wilson worked as her husband's assistant in his office, where she excelled, under his direction, in the preparation of legal papers, which were universally recognized as models of accuracy and neatness.

That Mr. Wilson realized his high ambition is best evidenced by the success he

achieved. A man of profound scholarship, his learning was sufficient to enable him to realize the comparative littleness of all human achievements. He outlived the ambition of display before courts and juries; he loved justice, law and peace; he learned to bear criticism without irritation, censure without anger and calumny without retaliation. Mr. Wilson's death occurred at Beaver on January 19, 1889, in his sixty-fifth year.



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Portrait of Andrew