GENERAL William Henry Harrison was elected to the presidency when his grandson, whose name entitles this sketch, was seven years old. It is not recorded that the present Benjamin took a very active part in the campaign. But he has since endeavored to make up for that lost opportunity. He was born at North Bend, Ohio, on August 20, 1833. At sixteen he entered Miami University at Oxford, Ohio, and two years later was graduated. It was in Cincinnati that he studied law, but he began the practice of his profession at Indianapolis in 1854. A legislative investigation, in which he secured employment through the democratic governor, Joseph A. Wright, brought him into notice, and gave him that introduction which so many young attorneys find a thing to be wearily waited for. Harrison naturally slipped into politics. In 1860 he was elected Reporter of the Supreme Court, but the outbreak of the war found other use for him. Governor Morton, in July, 1862, asked him to assist in recruiting a regiment, and within a month Harrison received the first commission for the Seventieth Regiment, and reported as its colonel, with a full complement, ready to go to the front. He served through the war to its close, and was, after the battle of Peach Tree Creek, recommended for promotion for meritorious conduct. He took a leave of absence in 1864, however, long enough to get himself re-elected to the office of Reporter. But in 1868 he declined a re-nomination, and diligently practiced his profession until 1876, when he was nominated for Governor. He was defeated. But in 1880 he was elected to fill the place about to be vacated by M. McDonald, taking his seat March 4, 1881. In 1887 the republicans made an effort to carry the Legislature in order that Harrison might succeed himself. They won in the State, but the democrats won the Legislature and elected David Turpie. Since then Harrison has practiced law in Indianapolis.
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SENATOR ALLISON'S name will be mentioned for the first time as a Candidate for the Presidency in the coming Convention. But your biographer has no hesitation about saying that it will be mentioned. The Senator will have the entire vote of his own State, and not a few scattering votes of other admirers through the West. Although now for the first time mentioned as a possible President, Allison is not a new-comer into the political arena. The last twenty-five years of our politics have felt his influence continuously. To begin with what one of the youngsters at a public school examination said was: "the most important event of a certain personage's life"—his birth, the historiographer notes that Senator Allison was born in the township of Perry, in Wayne County, Ohio, on the second of March, 1829. His early boyhood was passed on a farm, a fact in his favor. Alleghany College in Pennsylvania, and the Western Reserve College in Ohio prepared him for the study of the law, to the practice of which profession he was admitted in 1851. He worked at the Ohio bar until 1857 when he moved to Dubuque, Iowa. In 1860 he was a delegate to the Chicago Convention, and in 1861 was made one of the staff officers of the Governor of Iowa, rendering essential service as such in raising troops for the war. He was elected a Representative from Iowa to the thirty-eight Congress in 1862, and was re-elected to the thirty-ninth and fortieth sessions of that body. While there was nothing pyrotechnic about his career in the House, his services were recognized by positions on important Committees and in 1873, after a warm contest, he succeeded in gaining a further recognition by being chosen to represent Iowa in the United States Senate. There he has since maintained his position. He does not pose as a brilliant man, nor claim the divine gift of eloquence. Sagacity, perhaps, might stand for his most conspicuous talent. It is difficult to avoid dropping into the parlance of the boys and speaking of an ability to "get there."
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GOVERNOR RUSK was born in Morgan County, Ohio, June 17, 1830. His education was received at the public schools, and he is one of the few in this list of candidates who did not study law. In 1853 he moved to Vernon County, Wisconsin, and at once displayed his predilection for politics by getting himself into various county offices. In those days “gruff old Jerry” was probably “jolly young Jerry,” and it is hard not to believe that when, in July, 1862, he was commissioned Major of the Twenty-fifth Wisconsin Volunteers, his fancy was fired by the love of adventure and combat as well as by the love of country. At any rate, although recently elected to the State Legislature, he went “a soldier for to be.” In a short time he was made a Colonel, and in this capacity he served with Sherman from the siege of Vicksburg until he was brevetted a Brigadier General, for meritorious conduct at the battle of Salkehatchie. Any body could have told that if “Jerry” Rusk was promoted it was for bravery on the field of battle. That’s the sort of stuff he showed a couple of years ago when the anarchists were trying to turn things topsy-turvy in Milwaukee. There was no parleying or palaver. It was simply a blow straight from the shoulder. Yes, it hurt. Somebody was killed. But the community was made to feel that law was law, and to be obeyed, though imperfect. When the Brigadier-General came home he was elected Bank Controller for 1866-7, and again for 1867-68. Perhaps there was a notion that the bank notes then needed a bayonet’s point to make them pass current. It is not recorded, however, that the backs of the notes, during Rusk’s Controllership, were painted red, or any color other than a peaceful, bucolic green. Governor Rusk was elected a Representative from Wisconsin to the Forty-second Congress, and likewise to the Forty-third and Forty-fourth sessions, receiving each time majorities that told of much personal popularity. He is now serving his third term as Governor of the State of Wisconsin. Whether he has a life interest in the office, or not, is uncertain, for the people seem to grow more fond of him the longer he serves them.
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EX-GOVERNOR ALGER was born in Medina County, Ohio, on the 27th of February, 1836. At the age of thirteen he found himself an orphan, penniless, and the only natural protector of a younger brother and sister. Doubtless the remembrance of the years he spent at work as a farm hand, earning enough in the summer to spend a few months in the year at Richfield Academy is pleasant. It is questionable whether the years themselves were. However, he managed to get an education, and in some way to provide for his brother and sister, and in 1859 he was admitted to the bar in Akron. But overwork had impaired his health so at the end of 1860 he gave up his confining profession, and in company with a friend, engaged in the lumber business at Grand Rapids, Michigan. A Chicago debtor failed and ruined the young firm. Naturally this occurred just after Alger had married. The breaking out of the civil war opened a new occupation and Alger was soon made Captain of Company C of the Second Michigan Cavalry, in which he had enlisted. Another Captain in the same regiment was Philip H. Sheridan. Our Ex-Governor's fortune followed him to Booneville, Missouri, where he was wounded and taken prisoner; but his pluck followed also, and he escaped the same day. He became Lieutenant-Colonel of the Sixth Michigan Cavalry, and Colonel of the Fifth. In 1864 he was made brevet Brigadier-General of Volunteers, and June 11th, 1865, Brevet Major General "for gallant and meritorious service during the war." On retiring from the army, General Alger again went into the lumber business, this time at Detroit. He has prospered beyond the measure that is granted to common men. Though an ardent Republican, he never took an active part in politics until 1884, and the Governorship of Michigan for a single term is the only civil office he has held. To this he was elected by the largest Republican vote ever cast in Michigan, and declined a re-nomination. He is described as a man of wide information, vigorous mind, positive and outspoken opinions, but withal affable and popular
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To be the son of a great man is not without difficulties. The world will be content with nothing less than the father's excellence. It is not enough to overtop common mortals. The standard set by the predecessor must be reached or you have failed. The father's enemies are quick to disparage. The father's friends are slow to commend. Memory is jealous of the youngster that would climb into their old comrade's place. The more to the credit, then, of Robert Todd Lincoln, that he has been cheerfully permitted to stand as candidate for the seat his father filled. It is not to be understood that the son has sought the honor. Where the occasion demanded more than silence he has stated very positively that he had no desire for office. But his admirers have used his name freely, and few voices have been heard to object. None have cried that he was an unworthy son.

Robert T. Lincoln was born at Springfield, on the 1st of August, 1843. An enthusiastic biographer states that "his mother was the beautiful Miss Fanny Todd of Kentucky, and her son is said to resemble her. But he has inherited from his father the same sincere, mild expression of the eyes, and the same sagacity and cold, deliberate judgment." At the age of seven he was sent to the academy of a Mr. Estabrook, whence he went to the Illinois State University at Springfield. From there he went to Phillips' Academy at Exeter, New Hampshire, and in 1864 was graduated from Harvard. He entered the Harvard Law School, but left in 1865 to accept a commission in the United States Army as Captain and Assistant Adjutant General on Grant's Staff. But shortly after that he resigned and resumed the study of the law in Chicago, where he was admitted to the bar in 1867. He commenced practice as a member of the firm of Scammon & Lincoln, but in 1872 broke up that connection and went to Europe for a six month's trip. When he returned he became the partner of Edward Isham, with whom he has since remained, although the name of the firm has been changed at various times as the junior partners have successfully grown into it and out of it. In 1876 Mr. Lincoln was elected Supervisor of the Town of South Chicago, and in 1880 represented Cook County in the convention at Springfield which chose delegates to the National Republican Convention at Chicago in that year. In this same year he was appointed by the Governor to be one of State Trustees of the Illinois Central Railroad. Later he was made Secretary of War by President Garfield. During all these years, except while he was in Washington, Lincoln has been quietly pursuing his profession, and has earned the reputation of a careful, clear-headed lawyer.
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RICHARD J. OGLESBY.

GOVERNOR OGLESBY is another farmer. There seems to be an inspiration to greatness in being born in the open country. The day of this countryman's advent was the 25th of July, 1824, and the place, a farm in Oldham County, Kentucky. His parents were poor, and even their not all-sufficient aid was taken away when the lad was nine years old, by their death from cholera. Oglesby was adopted by an uncle, and in 1836 taken to Decatur, Illinois, where he received the most meagre education. For two years he followed the trade of a carpenter, and then at the age of twenty began to study law. The Mexican war, however, led him off as First Lieutenant of the Fourth Illinois Volunteers, and he witnessed the bombardment of Vera Cruz, and stood under a decimating fire at Cerro Gordo. After the war he again studied law, but in the spring of 1849 was again lured away to follow the gold fever and a "prairie schooner" to California. Two years brought him back to Decatur and the law, which this time he assailed with so much energy and success that he was able, about 1858, to take a trip of near two years' duration in Europe. On his return he was elected to the State Senate, but resigned to be commissioned, on April 22d, 1861, Colonel of the Eighth Illinois Volunteers. At the end of three months his regiment re-enlisted for three years, with Oglesby still its Colonel. He was promoted to Brigadier General, April 1, 1862, and in October of the same year wounded at the battle of Corinth. His wound laid him up for some months, and he attempted unavailingly to resign. Instead, he was ordered to duty in Washington and made a Major-General for gallantry, April 1, 1863. In May, 1864, he did resign, and the following November was elected Governor of Illinois. To this position he was again elected in 1872, and still again in 1884, having in the meantime served as one of the State's representatives in the U. S. Senate from 1873 to 1879, and declined a re-election.
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It will be remembered that one of the interesting youngsters who were responsible for "English as she is taught," sententiously wrote it down that "that the most important event in the life of Horace was his birth in B.C., 49." Perhaps it is a realization of this truth which leads biographers always to announce this event at the first. At any rate the custom is time-honored—and Governor Foraker was born near Rainsborough, Highland County, Ohio, on the 5th of July, 1846. During his boyhood he worked on a farm, but at the age of sixteen he found livelier occupation for himself by enlisting in the Eighty-ninth Ohio Regiment, with which he served in the Army of the Cumberland until the close of the war. He was brevetted Captain on the 19th of March, 1865, "for efficient service during the campaigns in North Carolina and Georgia," and when his regiment was mustered out, was Aide-de-Camp on Gen. Henry W. Slocum's staff. After the war he spent two years at Wesleyan University, in Ohio, and then entered Cornell, whence he was graduated in 1869. He was admitted to the bar the same year, and began his practice in Cincinnati, where from 1879 to 1882, he was Judge of the Superior Court. In the latter year he resigned on account of ill-health. The autumn of 1883, however, found him at work once more as the republican candidate for Governor of Ohio, unsuccessfully. But in 1885 he was again a candidate, and succeeded in wreaking upon the enemy a defeat from which they seem unlikely to recover.
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UNQUESTIONABLY it is true, as a general rule, that a "rolling stone gathers no moss." But it seems best for a stone to turn over at least once or twice before it is shattered into dust again. Few, perhaps none of the men now prominent among us began life in the community which at present honors him. Senator Stanford is not one of the exceptions. He was born in Albany County, New York, on the 9th of March, 1824. His education was pushed as far as the academy, but he was never entered in a university. In 1846 he commenced the study of the law in the office of Wheaton, Doolittle & Hadley in Albany, and at the end of three years was admitted to practice. He left New York for Wisconsin, however, and opened an office at Port Washington. When it is stated that a fire in the spring of 1852, which destroyed his library and effects, determined him to go to California, one hardly know whether to bless his luck or admire his wisdom. On reaching the Pacific Coast he went into business with his brothers, three of whom had preceded him. This was at a place called Michigan Bluffs. There the brothers prospered, and in 1856 moved to San Francisco to engage in operations of a larger scale. In 1860 Leland Stanford was sent as a Delegate to the National Republican Convention. From 1861 to 1863 he was Governor of the State of California, and subsequently he came into closer acquaintance with the people of the East as President of the Central Pacific Railroad, the construction of which over the Rocky Mountains he superintended, building five hundred and thirty miles in the space of two hundred and ninety three days. He is still largely interested in this and in other railroads as well as in agriculture and several manufactories, and has amassed an enormous fortune. He took his seat in the United States Senate on the 4th of March, 1885, succeeding J. T. Farley, a Democrat.
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**National Republican Convention, held in Chicago, June, 1884.**

**B. F. Jones,** Chairman.  **Samuel Fessenden,** Secretary.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Member</th>
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<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>T. Youngblood</td>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>Garrett A. Hobart</td>
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<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>Powell Clayton</td>
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<td>California</td>
<td>Horace Davis</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
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<td>Colorado</td>
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<td>Delaware</td>
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<td>- James A. Gary</td>
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<td>- E. H. Rollins</td>
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**IN CONVENTION OF 1884.**

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<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Votes</th>
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<tr>
<td>JAMES G. BLAINE</td>
<td>334½</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHESTER A. ARTHUR</td>
<td>278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. F. EDMUNDS</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHN A. LOGAN</td>
<td>634½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHN SHERMAN</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. R. HAWLEY</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R. T. LINCOLN</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. T. SHERMAN</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Second Ballot.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Votes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JAMES G. BLAINE</td>
<td>349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHESTER A. ARTHUR</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEORGE F. EDMUNDS</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHN A. LOGAN</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHN SHERMAN</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. R. HAWLEY</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R. T. LINCOLN</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. T. SHERMAN</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

### Third Ballot.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Votes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JAMES G. BLAINE</td>
<td>375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHESTER A. ARTHUR</td>
<td>274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEORGE F. EDMUNDS</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHN A. LOGAN</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHN SHERMAN</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. R. HAWLEY</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R. T. LINCOLN</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. T. SHERMAN</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Fourth Ballot.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Votes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ROBERT T. LINCOLN</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHN A. LOGAN</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOSEPH R. HAWLEY</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEORGE F. EDMUNDS</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHESTER A. ARTHUR</td>
<td>207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAMES G. BLAINE</td>
<td>541</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

First and only Ballot for Vice-Presidential Candidate in 1884.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Votes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JOHN A. LOGAN</td>
<td>773</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. Q. GRESHAM</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. B. FORAKER</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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