

LEVI WALTER BROWN FAMILY



Photos & news articles provided by "Maggie Moerdyke"

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Levi Walter Brown

Born December 21, 1841 in Burlington Twp., Williams Co., OH, and died May 30, 1906 in Greensboro, Guilford Co., NC



Esther Converse Stone

Born October 22, 1847 in Napanoch, Ulster Co., NY, and died June 29, 1934 in Wauseon, Fulton Co., OH.

An American Consul in Galsgow, Scotland

AN AMERICAN CONSUL

HOW THE UNITED STATES IS REPRESENTED AT GLASGOW.

Consul Levi W. Brown, of Ohio, and His Interesting Family—Uncle Sam Provides Good Quarters at Glasgow—A Consul's Varied Duties.

[Special Correspondence.]

GLASGOW, Aug. 29.—One of the first United States consuls to be appointed during the present administration was Levi W. Brown, of Wauseon, O., will now represents Uncle Sam at Glasgow. This is said to be one of the most lucrative offices in the gift of the government. This, however, is a slight mistake or the others must be poor indeed. With a salary of \$3,000, the very best that could be done with the perquisites does not bring \$7,000 a year.



LEVI W. BROWN

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There is one thing that may be truly said of this United States consulate, and that is the offices are the finest in appearance and most convenient of any in Europe. As a rule these offices are shabby, dingy and most poverty stricken. Why should Uncle Sam select a man capable of representing the country in a creditable manner and then give him an office which takes away the dignity of his position by its very ordinary appearance? Many a man has been appointed to a consulate who would in the proper sort of surroundings have commanded all the respect and recognition due to an important and great country. But with a very meager salary with which to do any entertaining and such a poor showing in the way of a consulate, the representatives of the United States cannot keep up with the pompous dignitaries of other countries.

The consulate at Glasgow, however, is in a very nice neighborhood, removed from the din and noise of the main thoroughfares and in a part of the city where rents are low. Nothing could be nicer than the situation of the building, which is on the corner of Wellington and West Regent streets, both wide, clean, quiet streets. The building itself is a five story graystone affair, very much like all the other buildings in Glasgow. Our consul has a suite of three rooms on the ground floor, all light, pleasant and comfortably furnished. Judge Brown has added furnishings which help greatly in making the reception room appear homelike and comfortable.

The government does not provide a residence for the consul, and if the rents in Glasgow were very high our consul on his meager salary would not be living in the



ESTHER STONE BROWN

fashionable part of the city. As it is, he has a nice three story house in the west end. This is about two miles from the office.

Judge Brown is to return to America on a short business trip in a few days, and it is with the pleasure of a schoolboy that he thinks of it. When asked the other day if he intended to take an active part in the coming campaign, he said that was an undecided question.

Consul Brown was a member of the Republican state central committee of Ohio for several years. He was also a member of the state executive committee and chairman of its finance committee. He was probate judge in his county for three terms. He has also taken active part in church affairs, is a member of the M. E. church, and has been a lay delegate to every lay conference held since that provision has been incorporated into the church govern-

been incorporated into the church government. He was also a member of the general conference of 1880.

The judge is the firm friend of his party and a warm personal friend of both ex-Governor Foraker and Senator Sherman. His hand is always extended to Americans, and as he himself says, "His latchstring is always out to his countrymen." Socially he and his family have been well received and have made many warm friends among the Scotch people. The judge is a member of the new club, which is nonpolitical.

Mrs. Brown, who, was previous to her marriage a Miss Esther Stone, of New York state, enjoys the life in Scotland very much. The climate, which is par-



WILMA BROWN.

RUTH BROWN.

WALTER BROWN.

ticularly trying to most Americans, seems to agree with her perfectly. The whole family have enjoyed excellent health during their sojourn in Scotland and that is saying a great deal, for there are a good many of them.

There are seven children, including the eldest son, Charles M. Brown, who is still in Wauseon. He has just graduated and will enter business. The next is Miss Wilma E. Brown, a charming young woman, who shines in Glasgow society quite as gracefully as she did in that of her native town. George Clayton Brown, who

only arrived from Ohio last month, is the

next son. He is very much pleased with his father's post, but will return and enter business in partnership with his elder brother in the course of a few months. Maynard Dalton is the next son. He is his father's deputy.

Albert M., a younger son, is attending the Kelvinside academy in Glasgow. This is an excellent school for boys, and his portrait will show that they have a good example of what bright American boys are like. Walter Converse, although still a very small boy, bids fair to fill some high political position some day, for he is now a most perfect little diplomat. Ruth Armstrong Brown, the baby, a "bonny wee Scotch lassie," came as a New Year's gift to the family on Jan. 1, 1890. She is a beautiful child and the pride of the family as well as of all who know her.

The accompanying portrait of Levi W. Brown has been taken since he came to Glasgow. He has changed the cut of his beard. He formerly wore a longer beard without the mustache.

When he first came to Glasgow all the papers were writing about the arrival of the new consul, and a number printed his portrait made from photographs and sketches. A Dundee paper could get neither, so they published with their article a portrait of a typical Brother Jonathan, with a long hooked nose; thin, angular features and the regulation chin whiskers. The judge took it as a good joke and has kept the sketch, and when any one asks him for a photograph he hands that to them as a good likeness.

It was once said of Bret Harte, who was the predecessor of Francis H. Underwood, the predecessor of the present consul, "that the only man that did not know the location of the United States consulate was the United States consul," as he spent so much time in London. That never could be said of the present consul.

The most interesting outing he has had was on the Fourth of July this year, when, together with three other consuls, their families and about forty others, he went to the battlefield of Bannockburn for a Fourth of July celebration. They had fireworks and a regular American day of it.



Maynard.
Albert.

George.
Charles.

A FEW MORE BROWNS.

Among the greatest trials of the Glasgow office is the trouble with the cattlemen, and in many cases their wives. On the ships coming into Glasgow with live stock, to every twenty-five head of cattle shipped from America there is one man allowed or provided for until they get to Scotland. Then he must get back. And in most cases they spend, lose or drink their money, then fly to the consul to get them home. This, however, is not the most trying part, for they sometimes bring their

wives with them and desert them, very often taking this means of ridding themselves of them. Of course they apply to Judge Brown, and as this government

Levi Brown, Pioneer, Diplomat

"Wauseon Republican" 19 Aug 1954

Wauseon Had Top Flight Telegrapher

There is an interesting story to come out of the past, of Esther Stone Brown and her sister Eliza Stone.

Esther Brown came to Wauseon in the early Seventies as a Telegrapher for the "Old Lake Shore." She had served as a telegrapher at Wakeman, Ohio and one other place before coming to Wauseon. She and her sister Eliza, were two of the first women operators in the United States.

Mrs. Brown's sister was rated one of the best in the country and was in Chicago at the time of the "great fire" of 1871. She stayed at her post until the flames drove her away. She left in a wagon with many others. She and her two roommates buried their trunks before leaving the city. When Miss Stone went back for hers, it was gone. Eliza came to Wauseon and lived with her sister Esther for a while before going to Oswego, N. Y., where she lived to be 97. Esther Stone was the telegrapher

Pioneer, judge, consul to Scotland, all of these was Levi Walter Brown (father of Mrs. Reas Campbell.)

Levi Walter Brown, born 1841, was the youngest child of Benjamin and Ruth Brown who came to Franklin township from Vermont in 1837. Levi as a youngster grew up in a log cabin, went to school and finally became a teacher. He ran a general store in Burlington, then in 1880 moved to Wauseon.

It was about this time that his political career began, for in 1879 he had been elected Probate Judge of Fulton County. He was quite active in local, state, and National politics being instrumental in the election of Governor Foraker to the Ohio Governorship and himself being nominated in the primaries for governor of Ohio although he later withdrew his name.

In 1889 Brown received an appointment from President Harrison as consul to Glasgow, Scotland. He remained in this position several years, his daughter, Mrs. Reas Campbell, being born there.

Brown's wife and her sister achieved prominence too, for they were among the first woman telegraphers. Mrs. Brown worked in the office of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad

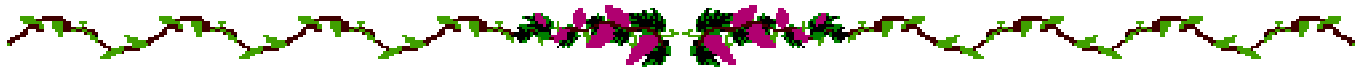
in Wauseon until she married Judge Brown in 1883.

She was the mother of Mrs. Reas Campbell.

here in Wauseon. Mrs. Brown's sister, Esther Stone was a telegrapher in Chicago at the time of the great fire and was one of those who remained at her post until all that could be done was accomplished. Miss Stone, who was written up in Time magazine, died on the 68th anniversary of the fire.



OBIT: Judge L. W. Brown of Wauseon, Fulton Co., OH 1906



Published in the June 12, 1906
Greensboro NC newspaper.

Judge L. W. Brown Dead - Prominent Western Citizen Passed Away at His Home in this City Yesterday.

Friends of the grief stricken family in this city deeply sympathize with the bereaved while hundreds of friends throughout the western states will be saddened and feel a personal loss in the death of Ex-Judge L. W. Brown which occurred at his residence 118 Tate Street in the city at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon after a lingering illness he being invalid for four years. While his death was not unexpected it comes as a great shock to many relatives and friends.

Judge Brown's condition began to grow worse Sunday night and never changed for the better. All that skilled physicians and loving and tender hands could do as done to restore him to health again but to no avail. Judge Brown and family moved to this city just one month ago yesterday from Winston-Salem where they had made their resident for two years having moved there from Toledo, Oho. They moved south in the interest of Judge Brown's health. While they have been residents of Greensboro only a short time they have made many friends who deeply sympathize with them in the death of husband and father. Judge Brown played a very important part in politics in the western states and was held in the highest esteem for his personal and political integrity and statesmanship. He was the American consul to

Glasgow, Scotland under President Harrison and his record there was a splendid one. He was for a number of years Probate Judge in his home state. He was permanent chairman of the Kansas City convention which nominated Bryan for president in 1900. He is survived by a wife, five sons and two daughters. The sons are: Messrs. Chas. M. of Cleveland, Ohio; Geo. C. of Wauseon, Ohio; Maynard D. of Clyde, Ohio; Albert M. of St. Louis, Mo.; Walter C. of this city. The daughters Misses Wilma and Ruth of this city. Mr. Maynard Brown arrived last night to attend the funeral. The other sons will not come as they cannot arrive in time for the funeral services. The funeral services will be conducted from the residence at 4 o'clock this afternoon by Rev. Dr. G. H. Detwiler, pastor of West Market Street Methodist church. The remains will be interred in the Green Hill cemetery by the Blue Lodge of Masons, the Knights Templar acting as escort. Judge Brown was a member of the Knights Templar for thirty years.



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