

Commemorative Biographical Encyclopedia of The Juniata Valley, comprising the Counties of Huntingdon, Mifflin, Juniata and Perry, Pennsylvania. 1897, J. M. Runk and Company, Publishers, Chambersburg, PA

John Bair, New Bloomfield, Perry County, Pa., was born in Perry County, August 18, 1829. He is a son of **John** and **Sarah (Sugard) Bair**. His paternal grandfather, who was a native of Germany, emigrated to America and settled in Lancaster County, Pa., where he afterwards owned a large farm and a grist-mill. Later he removed to Perry County, of which county he was one of the early settlers. **Mr. Bair's** maternal grandfather, **Hartman Sugard**, was born in Hesse Cassel, Germany. **Mr. Sugard's** wife was a native of Switzerland. Shortly after their marriage they emigrated to America and settled on a farm in Cumberland County, Pa. **Mr. Sugard** had learned weaving and worked at his trade in the winter, giving his attention to the farm during the summer. He was a soldier in the Continental army, thus proving his love for his adopted country. He had a large family of sons and daughters. **Mr. Sugard** and his wife were members of the Reformed church. He died in 1842, aged eighty eight. **Mr. Bair's** father, **John Bair**, a native of Lancaster County, was a carpenter and worked at his trade in his native county for many years. 1809, he removed to a farm in Perry, then Cumberland County, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was married to **Sarah**, daughter of **Hartman** and **Sarah Sugard**. They had twelve children, all of whom are dead except one son, **John, Jr.** **Mr. John Bair** and his **wife** were members of the Reformed church. He died in June, 1853, aged fifty-seven.

John Bair received his education in the public schools of his native township. Until he was sixteen he attended school in winter and worked with his father on the farm in summer. One year after his father's death, he left home and went to seek his fortune in Juniata County, Pa. At first he found work as a wood-chopper, and was afterwards employed in various ways. In 1858, he went to the place on which he now resides, then forest land, and at once began to clear and cultivate it. He built a large house and barn, and improved the land in various ways. His labors have been well repaid, and he has now a valuable property. For some years he was also engaged in the manufacture of shingles. **Mr. Bair** is a self-made man and owes his present ease and comfort to his own industry and economy. He is one of the oldest citizens of Carroll Township, highly honored and esteemed by all who know him. He is a member of the Republican Party.

John Bair was married, March 4 1852, to **Ann**, daughter of **John** and **Mary (Ervin) McGill**. Their children are: **Catherine F. (Mrs. Joseph D. Arnold)**, and **Mary M. (Mrs. David L. Hess)**, twins; **William S.**; **James M.**; **Ellen B. (Mrs. John Kohr)**; **Nettie E.**; **Tirzah G.**; **John S.** ; and **Sarah J.**, deceased. **Mr. John Bair** and his family are members of the Presbyterian Church.

Mrs. Bair's paternal grandparents were natives of Ireland who emigrated to America and settled in Juniata County. Her grandfather was a minister of the Presbyterian Church. Her maternal grandparents were natives of Ireland who settled on a farm in Perry County. Her parents were born in Juniata County. Her father, **John McGill**, spent his life in farming. He married **Mary**, daughter of **Moses Ervin**. They have nine children: **Margaret**; **Moses**; **Martha J. (Mrs. Madison How)**; **Hugh**, deceased; **Mary J. (Mrs. Samuel McMinn)**; **William**; **Elizabeth**, deceased; **Ann (Mrs. John Bair)**; and **Sarah J. (Mrs. Thomas Cracken)**.