

Encyclopedia of Pennsylvania Biography By John W. Jordan, LL.D., Librarian Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia; Author of "Colonial Families Of Philadelphia;" "Revolutionary History of Bethlehem," and Various Other Works. Illustrated, Volume I, New York, Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1914

Beidleman, Edward E., Lawyer, Legislator. **Jacob Beidleman**, pioneer ancestor of **Mr. Beidleman**, was born in Germany, and settled in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. He saw service in the Patriot army during the Revolutionary War. He reared a family, among whom were **Peggy, Sally, Elias, Jacob, Adam** and **John**. The parents were Lutherans in religion. Both died in Shippensburg, Cumberland County, and were there buried.

Jacob Beidleman, son of the emigrant **Jacob**, was born in Bucks County, 1785, and removed to Cumberland County when a young man, following his trade of blacksmith at Shippensburg for the greater part of his life. He was obliged to abandon his calling by reason of a hurt which he received while shoeing a horse, and from which he never entirely recovered. When again able to take up employment he gave himself to freight hauling for his brother, and was so engaged until his death, February 5, 1835, at the age of about fifty years. He was a member of the Lutheran Church, and in politics was an old-line Whig. His wife, **Elizabeth (Reinhart) Beidleman**, born in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, long survived her husband, dying about 1854, aged about sixty years. Children: **Sarah**, wife of **David Wilson**, of Cumberland County; **Elizabeth**, wife of **David Holmes**, of Bloomfield, Perry County; **William; John**, died in infancy; **Mary; Adam**, married a **Miss Holmes**, of Maryland; **Margaret**, wife of **Henry Wise**, of Cumberland County; **Sophia**, wife of **George Fry**, of Franklin County.

William Beidleman, third child and eldest son of **Jacob** and **Elizabeth (Reinhart) Beidleman**, was born in Shippensburg, Cumberland County, November 26, 1817. He received a meager education in the pioneer common schools of that day, attending only for a few weeks in the winter seasons. He engaged in teaming in his young manhood, and before attaining his majority removed to Harrisburg and entered the employ of the **Calder** family, in whose service he remained for three generations. He retired from active occupations some years ago, and is now making his home with his son, **Thomas D. Beidleman**, in Harrisburg. He is a member of Christ (Lutheran) Church, and in politics is a Republican, and is fraternally connected with Fulton Council, No. 35, Order of American Mechanics. He married, February 5, 1845, **Hannah Hong**, born in Delaware, April 28, 1823, died November 4, 1902, daughter of **Jesse Hong**. Children: **Margaret**, wife of **Charles Spickler**, of Lancaster County; **Emma; Thomas D.**, of whom further; **Edward B.**, married **Mary**, daughter of **Frederick Heiney**, of Harrisburg; **Newland** (deceased), married **Ackalina Davis**, of Harrisburg; **Sophia**, deceased; **Mary Jane**, wife of **Alexander Jackson**, of Baltimore, Maryland; **William C.**, of whom further.

Thomas D. Beidleman, third child and eldest son of **William** and **Hannah (Hong) Beidleman**, was born in Clarke's Valley, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, October 15, 1848. He came to Harrisburg with his parents when he was seven years old, and there received his education in the public schools. In August, 1867, when nineteen years of age, he became labor foreman in the Lochiel Iron Works, which position he acceptably filled until April, 1889, when he resigned in order to engage in a general merchandise and grocery business at Lochiel, and which he conducted with gratifying success until 1900, in which year he sold his stock and good-will to

the Lochielburg, Merchandise Company, and entered upon a life of well-earned retirement. During his entire mercantile career he bore himself with unsullied reputation, and was held in high regard by all with whom he had dealings, as well as by the community at large. He is an active and exemplary member of the Pine Street Presbyterian Church. In politics he is a Republican. He married, December 29, 1870, **Susan Ensinger**, daughter of **John G.** and **Julia (Seibold) Ensinger**. Her father was born in Germany, 1795, and died in Powell's Valley, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, 1854, aged sixty-nine years. He was a well-to-do farmer, owning a farm in Montgomery County, which he sold, purchasing another in Powell's Valley, to which he removed. He was a member of the Lutheran Church, and in politics was a Democrat. He was twice married. His first wife was born in 1810, and died in 1863, and both are buried at the same place. She bore him six children, and his second wife bore him eight children. To **Thomas D.** and **Susan (Ensinger) Beidleman** were born three children: **Bertha A.**, wife of **Gilbert L. Culmerry**; **Edward E.**, of whom further; **Hannah M.**, wife of **Stewart Heist**, of Harrisburg, now residing in Oreland, Montgomery County.

William C. Beidleman, youngest son of **William** and **Hannah (Hong) Beidleman**, was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, January 28, 1861. He was reared in his native city, educated in the public schools thereof, and has spent his entire active career in the employ of the government. He engaged in the mail service early in life. In 1881 he was appointed to a clerkship under Postmaster M. W. McAlarney, and has continued in the mail service ever since with the exception of the first administration of Grover Cleveland. He has served in various capacities in the office. He was appointed superintendent of the Hill station post office on Thirteenth Street, south of Market Street, Harrisburg, March 10, 1906, which position he is now filling. He is a member of the Knights of the Golden Eagle, Castle No. 40. He takes an active part in church work, holding membership in Zion Lutheran Church, in which he serves as vestryman and is also a member of the pastor's Bible class. He is a Republican in politics. **Mr. Beidleman** married, March 26, 1885, **Elizabeth Rupp Hursh**, a daughter of **Abraham** and **Caroline (Reamshart) Hursh**. Their children are: **Helen H.**, **Harry H.** and **Constance B. Beidleman**.

Edward E. Beidleman, attorney at law, Harrisburg, is a native of that city, born July 8, 1873, son of **Thomas D.** and **Susan (Ensinger) Beidleman**. He received his education in the public schools, graduating from the high school with first honors. He then took a course in the Keystone Business College, and was subsequently engaged with his father in business for a time. Having determined upon the law as his profession, he registered as a student in the office of Hon. Samuel J. M. McCarrell, and under his masterly tutorship was qualified for admission to the bar, on January 28, 1898. He at once entered upon practice, in which he has been usefully and industriously engaged to the present time, having drawn about him a large clientele embracing many of the largest personal and corporate interests in the city. A Republican in politics, **Mr. Beidleman** has from his entrance upon manhood taken an active interest in political affairs, and holds a place of influence in the counsels of his party. In 1904 he was elected to the legislature, and was re-elected in 1906. He bore an important part in that body in the sessions of 1905 and 1907, and the extra session of 1906, serving upon several of its most important committees—the judiciary, of which he was chairman; general committee, the committee on public grounds and buildings; the committee on municipal corporations; the public printing committee and the committee on rules—and was recognized as one of their most industrious and judicious members. As a member of the Harrisburg Board of Trade he has rendered valuable aid in

promoting the commercial and industrial interests of the community. He has attained to high rank in the Masonic order, being affiliated with Robert Burns Lodge No. 464, and with all the superior bodies up to and including the thirty second degree, Scottish Rite. He is also a member of Zembo Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine ; the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Royal Arcanum, the Patriotic Order Sons of America, John Harriss Lodge, Knights of Pythias; the Independent Order of Red Men, and the Knights of the Maccabees. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church..

Mr. Beidleman married, November 6, 1901, **Catherine Nissley**, daughter of **Dr. Samuel Nissley**. Her father was a prominent physician practicing in Ohio and later in Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania. In the latter place he was for some years physician for the Pennsylvania railroad, and is now there engaged in a large general practice. **Mrs. Beidleman** was **Dr. Nissley** 's only child by his first wife, and her mother died when she was but two years old. **Mr.** and **Mrs. Beidleman** are the parents of one child, **Katherine Nissley Beidleman**, born October 7, 1902.

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