

A History of the Juniata Valley and its People Under The Editorial Supervision of John W. Jordan, LL.D.; Librarian of Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia; Illustrated; New York, Lewis Historical Publishing Company; 1913; Volume II

G. Frank Bousum, of Mifflintown, Pennsylvania, a highly esteemed and substantial citizen of his community, has for his forbearers good German stock. The **Bousums** were originally from Frankfort-on-the-Rhine, Germany, where many of the name still reside. The first of the name to cross the Atlantic in search of new and more advantageous surroundings landed in New York the latter part of the eighteenth century, or soon after the war of the revolution. The original immigrant of the name of **Bousum** remained in New York several years, finally drifting into Pennsylvania, where he established himself.

(I) **William Bousum**, the first of the name of whom any definite knowledge is had, was an early resident of Perry County, Pennsylvania. He moved from there to historic Juniata County, and lived for some years in Milford Township. He was a carpenter by vocation, and there are in Perry and Juniata Counties today many useful household articles of his handiwork. He later moved to Middletown and died there in the early nineties. He was the parent of six children: 1. **Linnie**, married **Robert Fleming**, of an old Scotch-Irish family of that section; lives in Mifflin County. 2. **Catherine**, married **James L. Steward**, and lives in Milford Township, Juniata County; he served in the civil war with distinction. 3. **Mary**, married **Mr. Minnick**; both dead. 4. **George W.**, lives in Marshalltown, Iowa. 5. **David**, died in the state of Washington. 6. **John W.**, of whom further.

(II) **John W. Bousum**, son of **William Bousum**, was born in Perry County, Pennsylvania, and moved when young with his parents to Juniata County, and afterward to Milford Township. He married (first) **Catherine Guss**, daughter of **George** and **Mary Guss**, who were born of German parents in Chester County, Pennsylvania, and in company with three brothers moved to Juniata County and settled in Milford Township. He was a shoemaker and farmer on a small scale. He owned his own home and there died in 1889. He was the father of five daughters and five sons. **John W.** and **Catherine Guss** were married in Juniata County. They lived for a short time in Mifflin County, and then Patterson, finally locating in Milford Township. He was a track foreman, and for twenty-seven years was foreman of Selin's Grove yards. He has retired from active business and lives in Columbia County. His wife died in 1873. He is a member of the Lutheran Church and in politics is a Democrat. He enlisted in the Pennsylvania volunteer infantry during the civil war, and saw active service for eighty-seven days, the term of his enlistment. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. After the death of his wife **Catherine**, he married (second) **Anna Lehman**, who is still living. Children by first marriage: 1. **G. Frank**, of whom further. 2. **R. Louis**, who lives in Mifflintown, where he has established a tailoring business. The other **two** children died in infancy. There are no children by second marriage.

(III) **G. Frank Bousum**, son of **John W.** and **Catherine (Guss) Bousum**, was born in Milford Township, Juniata County, Pennsylvania, November 8, 1869. He received his early education in the common schools of Red Bank, then matriculated at the Tuscarora Academy and later at the Susquehanna University. On leaving the university he attended the Iron City Business College at Pittsburg, and graduated from it in 1894. Immediately after graduation he was offered the

position of bookkeeper with **Guss & Seiber**, which he accepted and remained with them eleven years. Leaving them he was with the Pennsylvania railway for two years, or until 1907. In 1906 he was elected register and recorder and clerk of the orphan's court. He was reelected in 1909, and will hold the offices until January 1, 1914. In politics he is a Democrat and has served for that ticket on the town council and school board, and is now on borough council. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran Church. He is a Mason in high standing, a member of the Union Lodge, No. 324, Free and Accepted Masons, and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Mifflin Lodge, No. 911. Through his own unaided efforts, except for splendid mental equipment and a good education, **Mr. Bousum** has rapidly forged to the front as a representative man of his section. He married, June 17, 1897, **Maude Vernon Lombard**, born February 22, 1871, daughter of **Joseph** and **Sarah Lombard**, a native of Selin's Grove, Pennsylvania. Children: 1. **John Guss**, born June 12, 1898. 2. **Joyce Evelyn**, born July 25, 1906.

(The **Guss** Line).

George Guss was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, as was his wife, **Mary**. With three brothers he went to Juniata County and there settled in Milford Township. He bought a small farm, and in conjunction with his real vocation, that of shoemaking, he farmed. He accumulated quite a nice property by his dual occupations. Being of a thrifty German mind he saved a great portion of his earnings. He died in Milford Township in 1889, or thereabouts. Children, all of whom are dead but four, are: 1. **Rebecca**, lives in Milford Township, unmarried. 2. **Elizabeth**, married **Samuel W. Heaps**, and now lives in Walker Township. 3. **Mary**, now dead, was the wife of **Jonathan Kauffman** and lived in Walker Township. 4. **Martha**, widow of **M. L. Guss**, and lives in Milford Township. Those dead are: 1. **John**, a valiant soldier in the civil war, and died from effects of exposure and hardships. 2. **Alonzo H.**, died at Akron, Ohio. 3. **Reuben L.**, was a hardware merchant. 4. **Cloyd**, killed on a railroad while going to work. 5. **G. Frank**, died in 1897. 6. **Catherine**, married **John W. Bousum**, and died 1873 (see **Bousum II**).

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