

Biographical and Portrait Encyclopedia of the Nineteenth Congressional District, Pennsylvania, Containing Biographical Sketches Of Prominent And Representative Citizens Of The District Together With An Introductory Historical Sketch Samuel T. Wiley, Esq.; Philadelphia: C. A. Ruoff Company, 1897.

**Henry N. Bowman**, justice of the peace of Camp Hill, Cumberland County, is a son of **John** and **Elizabeth (Davis) Bowman** and was born in his present home August 4, 1840. The **Bowmans** are of German nativity. **John Bowman**, great-great-grandfather of our subject, was a native of Northern Germany, who came to America and located at Ephrata, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, where he became one of the prominent farmers of Lower Manor Township. He was a member of the Dunkard Church and lived to be ninety-five years of age. **Samuel Bowman**, great-grandfather of our subject, was born in that township but removed to East Pennsboro, Cumberland County, where he became an extensive land owner and farmer.

Our subject has in his possession the will in which he disposed of his property among his children. Part of this property is located in a part of what is now Perry County. He had two sons, **John** and **Henry**. **John**, the grandfather of our subject, in the division of the property, received some farming lands in Pennsboro Township. This ancestor was a native of Ephrata, Lancaster County, Pa., where he was born in 1768. In 1780 he came to Camp Hill where he accumulated considerable wealth and property, owning as much as eleven hundred acres of land in Perry County and also a large distillery, beside which he held several hundred acres in East Pennsboro Township and kept the Bowman Hotel at Camp Hill. He was a member of the Dunkard Church. By his wife **Regina Wolf**, who was also a Dunkard, he had a family of five children: **Samuel**, a minister of the Dunkard Church; **John**, father of our subject; **George**, farmer of this township, who died in Mount Carroll, Illinois, where he moved later in life; **Fannie**, who married **Rev. Simon Driesbaugh**; **Susan**, who married **George W. Criswell**.

**John Bowman** was born September 5, 1805, and followed farming all his life. He was a member of the Church of God and a co-worker with **John Winebrenner**, the founder of this body. His death occurred December 4, 1893. He married **Elizabeth**, daughter of **Zacheus Davis**, a native of Lancaster County, who came to Shippensburg when a young man and became a carpenter and builder. The **Davises** were Welsh Presbyterians. The maternal grandmother of our subject was **Catherine (Hyer) Davis**, a daughter of **Lewis Hyer**, a veteran of the Revolutionary War. **John Bowman** had four sons and two daughters: **Dr. John D.**, deceased, late a physician of Harrisburg and a member of the legislature from Cumberland County in the '60's; **Zacheus**, a retired farmer of Camp Hill; **Henry**, our subject; **George**, dentist of Mechanicsburg; **Ann E.**, wife of **Dr. A. W. Nicholas**, of Camp Hill; and **Alice**, who died single.

Our subject was brought up on a farm and received his education at White Hall Academy, after finishing which, he engaged in mercantile pursuits at Harrisburg until 1862, when he entered the First City Troop, of Harrisburg, and took part in the battle of Antietam and minor engagements until mustered out of the service in September 1862. He then came to Camp Hill and conducted a general store until 1878, when he became part owner of the White Hall Soldiers' Orphan School, with **Captain Moore**, his brother-in-law. In 1888 **Captain Moore** retired and **Professor S. B. Heiges** and the present subject conducted the school for two years, at the expiration of which time the State took charge of the institution and our subject became manager, a position he

held until the consolidation of the schools in 1890. Since that time he has been devoting his attention to his farming interests. In politics **Mr. Bowman** is a staunch Democrat but popular enough, despite his pronounced Democracy, to be elected justice of the peace in a strong Republican district in 1880, and to be re-elected at the expiration of each term ever since. In 1896 he was a Democratic candidate for Clerk of the Courts and Recorder, and though McKinley carried the county by eleven hundred plurality, **Mr. Bowman** was defeated by but two hundred and eighty-three votes. He is a member of Harrisburg Council, No. 7. Free and Accepted Masons; of Pilgrim Commandery No. 11, Knights Templar; Samuel C. Perkins' Chapter, No. 209, Royal Arch Masons, of Mechanicsburg; past master of Eureka Lodge, No. 302, Master Mason, of Mechanicsburg; of Corn Planter Tribe, No. 61, Improved Order of Red Men, of Harrisburg; Robert Kippit Council, Junior Order United American Mechanics, of Harrisburg, and of Post No. 58, Grand Army of the Republic, of Harrisburg. He is an active member and elder in the Church of God.

June 14, 1866, he married **Jennie M.**, daughter of **Jacob Kline**, a merchant of Lower Allen Township, by whom he has had three sons and three daughters: **Harry J.**, at home; **Allie**, wife of **E. N. Cooper**, of Camp Hill; **Jesse**, shipping clerk at Harrisburg; **Addison M.**, attending Shippensburg State Normal school, and **Lizzie** and **Rose**, both dead.

**Mrs. Bowman's** mother was **Elizabeth**, a daughter of **Michael Longsdorf**, a farmer of New Kingston, and a soldier of the war of 1812.

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