

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

Cyrus M. Brackbill, Spruce Hill, Juniata County, Pa., was born June 20, 1834, in the Township in which he now resides. He is a son of **William** and **Ellen (Hartman) Brackbill**. His grandfather, **John Brackbill**, born in Germany, emigrated to America, settling in what is now Turbett Township, Juniata County, where he lived for a number of years. He subsequently removed to Fulton County, Pa., where he died. He married, and was the father of five children. One of these, **William Brackbill**, was born in Turbett Township. Having received a common school education, he learned stone-masonry, and followed that calling for some years, assisting in the erection of some prominent stone buildings in the valley. He also engaged in the manufacture of clover hullers, which he made his principal occupation during the latter part of his life. He was a Democrat. **William Brackbill** married, in Turbett Township, **Ellen Hartman**, a native of Perry County. They had eleven children: **Elizabeth**, who died young; **Luther**, who also died in early life; **Cyrus Jr.**, of Spruce Hill Township; **George**, who died young; **Stewart**, deceased; **John**, of Spruce Hill Township; **Lemuel**, of Franklin County, Pa.; **Emeline**, who died young; **Elmira (Mrs. George McMeen)** of Illinois, deceased; **William**, deceased; and **Robert**, of Spruce Hill Township. **William Brackbill** was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His death occurred in Spruce Hill Township, April 13, 1863; his wife survived until March 14, 1892.

Cyrus M. Brackbill attended the public schools of Turbett and Spruce Hill Townships. In early life he labored among the farmers, receiving but meager wages. At the age of twenty-five, he learned carpentry, at which trade he worked until 1876; having then, by industry and economy, saved sufficient money, he purchased the farm belonging to **Mr. Pomeroy**, which he greatly improved in value by the erection of suitable buildings and the planting of a choice orchard. **Mr. Brackbill** has held the offices of school director and tax collector, and has also been supervisor for two terms. He was at one time a member of the Grange. He is a Democrat.

Cyrus M. Brackbill was married, in Spruce Hill Township, April 11, 1858, to **Mary G.**, daughter of **George** and **Elizabeth (Patton) Martin**, of that township. They have the following children: **William L.**, miller and railroad employee, married, August 16, 1882, **Ella J. Cassner**, of Spruce Hill Township, has four children, one deceased; **George A.**, farmer, of Spruce Hill Township, married, January 1, 1889, **Elmira M. Patterson**, has five children, one deceased; **Anna J.**, at home; **John Samuel**, who died young; **James M.**, of Spruce Hill Township, married, in September, 1894, **Sarah Voder**, has one child; and **L. Irvin**, who, after completing his academic course, has been for six years a capable and successful teacher; he was married June 3, 1897, to **M. Etta Mauger**. His wife having died in 1885, **Mr. Brackbill**, February 24, 1887, contracted a second marriage, in Spruce Hill Township, with **Sarah A.**, daughter of **David** and **Elizabeth (Reed) Barton**, born in Spring Run, Franklin County, Pa. Her father was a native of Ireland, and a blacksmith. **Mr. Brackbill** is a faithful member of the Presbyterian Church.

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