

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

William M. Brothers, retired. Duncannon, Perry County, Pa., was born November 20, 1830, in McVeytown, Mifflin County, Pa. He is a son of **Joseph** and **Catharine (Steele) Brothers**. His paternal ancestry is German; the family settled in New Jersey previous to the Revolutionary war, in which **Mr. Brothers'** great-grandfather was a valiant soldier, and gave his life for the cause of American Independence. His grandfather, **Joseph Brothers, Sr.**, and **John**, son of **Joseph**, both fought in the war of 1812-15 against Great Britain. **Joseph Brothers** removed from New Jersey to Mifflin County, Pa., where he engaged in the lumber business. He continued to reside in that county until his death, which occurred in 1838. **Joseph Brothers, Jr.**, father of **William M.**, was born near Newport, Perry County, Pa., March 31, 1801, and resided there until 1814, when he removed to Mifflin County. In 1858, he removed to Perry County, and resided in Duncannon until his death, in 1886. He was married in Mifflin County, to **Catharine**, a daughter of **Paul** and **Sarah (Byers) Steele**; of their nine children, four are now living: **William M.**; **Ann Elizabeth (Mrs. John Y. Wills)**, of Duncannon; **James S.**; and **Joseph**.

William M. Brothers spent his boyhood with his parents in Mifflin County, receiving his education in the public schools and learning the butchering business. This employment he followed until 1891, since which time he has lived retired. He has been a worthy and much respected resident of Penn Township since 1865, a period of more than thirty years.

William M. Brothers has been twice married. His first marriage took place in Mifflin County, October 4, 1854, when he was joined in matrimony to **Mary E.**, daughter of **John** and **Christina Wiels**. They had two children: **Catharine**, who died at the age of thirty years; and **Mary E.**, who died in childhood. **Mr. Brothers** lost his wife by death in 1865. His second marriage was solemnized in Perry County, December 21, 1866, when he was united to **Sarah**, daughter of **James** and **Elizabeth Coulter**. Their children are: **David**, who died in infancy; and **William Ross**.

William Ross Brothers, M. D., was born January 8, 1869, in Penn Township, Perry County, Pa. He received his education in the public schools and the New Bloomfield Academy. He read medicine with **Dr. A. L. Shearer**, of Duncannon, after which he entered the Jefferson Medical College, graduating from that institution with a meritorious standing in 1891. During the following year, he was resident physician in the city hospital, of Altoona, Pa. From 1893-95, **Dr. Brothers** practiced his profession in Ramie, Clearfield County, Pa., during which time he was company surgeon for the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Subsequently he was examining physician at Philadelphia for the Pennsylvania Railroad and for the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad. On November 1, 1896, he began practice at Duncannon, with every promise of a brilliant and successful future. **Dr. Brothers** is a member of the H. H. Hare Medical Society, of Philadelphia, and of the Alumni Association of Jefferson Medical College. He was also late visiting physician to the Lying-in-Hospital of Philadelphia. **Dr. Brothers** is a Republican.

Dr. Brothers was married at New Bloomfield, Perry County, Pa., in 1894, to **Matilda Sherwood**, youngest daughter of **George** and **Mary Swartz**. **Mr. Swartz** is deceased; his widow resides in New Bloomfield. **Dr.** and **Mrs. Brothers** have one child, **Elizabeth Swartz**, born May 3, 1895. The family attend the Presbyterian Church.