

Biographical Annals of Cumberland County, Pennsylvania; Containing Biographical Sketches of Prominent and Representative Citizens and of Many of The Early Settled Families. Illustrated. Chicago: The Genealogical Publishing Co., 1905.

Oliver J. F. Brownawell, a veteran of the Civil war, and a highly esteemed resident of Monroe Township, Cumberland County, living near Churchtown, is a son of **Elias**, and a grandson of **Henry**, the latter of whom was born in Cumberland County, of French ancestry.

Early in life **Henry Brownawell** was a day laborer, but later he farmed in Middlesex Township, where he died. His children were as follows: **Polly Ann** died in Middlesex Township; **Mrs. George Keller** died in Silver Spring Township; **George** died in Perry County; **Susanna** died in North Middleton Township; **Elias**; **Nancy** died in the west; **David** is living in Perry County, now in his ninetieth year; **Henry** died in South Middleton Township; **Sallie** died in Middlesex Township; **Elizabeth** died in Middlesex Township.

Elias Brownawell, son of **Henry**, was born in Middlesex Township, and received a common school education. When old enough he began working by the day, and learned the trade of a weaver. After his marriage, **Elias** located in Middlesex Township, near Carlisle Springs, where he purchased a small tract of land, upon which he built a house and engaged in day's work and weaving, remaining there a number of years. Later he moved three miles southeast of Carlisle Springs, where he engaged in farming for some years, when he removed to Perry County, and there bought forty-seven acres of land. That was his home at the time of his death in 1869. His wife, who also died at the same home, was **Catherine Lephart**, daughter of **Jacob** and **Catherine Lephart**, of Cumberland County. The children born of the marriage of **Elias Brownawell** and wife were: **Oliver J. F.**; **Simon D.**, living in Middlesex Township; **George Edward**, living in Perry County; **William Henry**, killed in Illinois, falling from a building and breaking his neck, he being a carpenter by trade; **Joseph C.**, living at Harrisburg; **Sarah S.**, living in Perry County; **Mary Elizabeth**, living in Shepherdstown; **Amanda Rebecca**, living at Carlisle; **Eleanor**, living at Carlisle; **Albert**, living at Philadelphia; and **two** children who died in infancy.

Oliver J. F. Brownawell was born in Middlesex Township, Cumberland County, Sept. 13, 1835, and received his education in the primitive schools of his day, working upon the farm during the summer months, and learning the trade of a carpenter. Like so many young men of his time, when he was ready to start out on his life work, he married, his choice being **Miss Mary Ann Kunkle**, daughter of **George Kunkle**.

After his marriage, **Mr. Brownawell**, located in Middlesex Township, and was succeeding nicely in his work, when the call came from the President for troops, and so Sept. 8, 1862, he enlisted at Mechanicsburg in Company G, 84th P. V. I. being one of the first men in the regiment, and was mustered in at Harrisburg. He served almost three years as a part of the Army of the Potomac, and later under General Grant. During all that time **Mr. Brownawell** was never wounded, but became ill and was in the hospital for a long time. Finally he was mustered out at Washington, D. C, in 1865, and returned home to Middlesex Township. The following five years were spent there, but in 1873, he removed to Monroe Township, and purchased a small farm of twenty acres, near Churchtown, and a four-acre tract- of woodland. At present he is

living on his farm, and is succeeding well. The children born to **Mr. and Mrs. Brownawell** were: **Charles F.** deceased; **Samuel O.**, of Monroe Township; **Murray J.** and **Newton A.**, of Churchtown; **Stella J.**, who married **Murray Bows**; and **Rena**, wife of **Wen Hartzler**. In politics, **Mr. Brownawell** is a Democrat, but has never taken an active part in public affairs. He is a consistent member of the Lutheran Church of Churchtown, and is very popular in it, as he is throughout his neighborhood.

(See KUNKLE, George)

www.theperryhistorians.org