

Commemorative Biographical Encyclopedia of Dauphin County, Chambersburg, Pa., J. M. Runk and Company, 1896.

Crane, Irvin J., was born at Liverpool, Perry County, Pa., February 4, 1829. His father, **George W. Crane**, was of English ancestry and was born in Lycoming County, Pa. He removed to Perry County when quite a young man, and spent the greater portion of his life there. He was a farmer for some years, and subsequently was a pilot on the Susquehanna River. He was a justice of the peace of Perry County for thirty-nine years. In 1845 he was elected recorder, register and clerk of Orphans' Court of Perry County, and served two terms. He died at Jersey Shore, Lycoming County, at the residence of his daughter, September 7, 1852, after a useful life, at the age of sixty-eight years. The mother, **Jane M. Watt**, was of Scotch-Irish ancestry; she was born in Mifflin (now Juniata) County, and died in 1854. They had a family of six children, of whom **Irvin J.** is the only survivor.

He spent a part of his boyhood in his native place, where he received the advantages of a good common school education. When about seventeen years of age he removed to Bloomfield, Pa., and began his business career as a clerk in the county court. He served in this place for six years. For one year **Mr. Crane** was a teacher in the public schools. On January 10, 1853, he entered the service of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. He was first a brakeman for thirteen months, then passenger conductor for seven years, then ticket agent for one year. In 1864 he enlisted in the Fifth Pennsylvania cavalry, U. S. A., and served therein till the close of the war. He was honorably discharged and mustered out of service in June, 1865, at Philadelphia, Pa. He returned to Harrisburg and re-entered the service of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. He was transferred to the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago railroad, and appointed yardmaster at Alliance, Ohio; in this position he remained until 1873, when he returned to Harrisburg and was made assistant yardmaster of the Middle division, Pennsylvania railroad, and afterwards became yardmaster. In 1888 he was appointed weighmaster of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, which position he now holds.

Irvin J. Crane was married in Philadelphia, August 24, 1848, to **Margaret R. Smith**, daughter of **Nathaniel** and **Rebecca Smith**, of Phoenixville, Chester County, Pa. They have had four children, the sole survivor of whom is **Mary C.**, wife of **I. J. Davis**, residing in Pittsburgh, Pa. **Mrs. Crane** died at Harrisburg.

Mr. Crane was married the second time at Harrisburg, June 14, 1857, to **Laura C. Burr**, of Perry County. To them have been born seven children, five of whom are living, named: **Scott S.**, superintendent Altoona & Logan Valley Electric railway, at Altoona, Pa.; **Harry G.**, assistant yard master, Pennsylvania railroad, at Harrisburg; **Louise C.**, wife of **Frank Caum**, residing at Hartford, Conn.; **Currance G.**, wife of **John W. Caum**, residing in Harrisburg, Pa., and **Richard L.**, also a resident of Harrisburg.

Mr. Crane is a member of Conrad Lodge, No. 270, F. & A. M., of Alliance, Ohio; Mt. Moriah Chapter, No. 166, Hollidaysburg, Pa.; Mountain Commandery, No. 10, K. T., of Altoona; Dauphin Lodge, No. 160, I. O. O. F.; Miriam Rebecca Lodge, No. 12, D. of R. In politics he is a staunch Democrat. **Mr.** and **Mrs. Crane** are members of the Covenant Presbyterian Church, which the family attend. **Mr. Crane** is a man of solid character and great personal worth, as his forty three years of service in the Pennsylvania Railroad Company attests.