

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

**Peter Deardorff**, foreman Pennsylvania Railroad, Newport, Perry County, Pa., is a son of **Abraham** and **Susanna (Ehrhart) Deardorff**, and was born in Oliver Township, Perry County, January 2, 1839. The ancestors of **Mr. Deardorff** came from Germany. **Abraham Deardorff** was born in Adams County, Pa., and was educated in the common schools and reared on the farm. He learned wagon-making, and when a young man came to Perry County. He was a man of large frame and of great muscular strength. After marriage, he settled on a farm in Oliver Township, which his wife inherited from her father, where he died in 1871, his wife having died in December, 1861. He was an old time Whig. His first wife was **Miss Zeigler**, by whom he had the following children: **Sarah; Jacob; Eva; Mary;** and **John**; all of whom are deceased; and **Catherine**, a maiden lady residing at Newport. **Abraham Deardorff's** second wife was **Susanna Ehrhart**, and their children are: **William**, track hand on Pennsylvania Railroad, residing in Newport, Pa., married **Lavina Myers**; and **Peter**. **Mr. Deardorff** was a member of the Lutheran Church.

**Peter Deardorff** received his education in the common schools of Mt. Fairview, Perry County, Pa., which he attended only three months in the first year, and four months in the succeeding years of his boyhood, being engaged in the intervals upon the farm. In 1863, he secured regular work on the Pennsylvania Railroad, and was continuously employed until 1869, when he was promoted to the position of foreman, and assigned to the thirteenth section of the Middle Division of the Pennsylvania Railroad. The duties of this important position he has most acceptably performed since that date, and he is now one of the oldest employees in this division of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. At the time of the invasion of this State by the army of General Lee, **Mr. Deardorff** served for six weeks with the State Emergency forces. **Mr. Deardorff** is a staunch Democrat, and a firm believer in the expediency of a free coinage of silver. For one term he was inspector of elections.

**Peter Deardorff** was first married December 24, 1863, to **Miss Julia Stringfellow**, of Newport, who died August 17, 1875. Five of their children are deceased, and two living: **Victorine Demaree (Mrs. Harry Baker)**, of Donnallys Mills; and **Annie Belle**, at present a trained nurse in Frankford, Philadelphia, Pa. **Mr. Deardorff's** second marriage occurred September 10, 1878, in which he was united to **Miss Sabina Titzel**, born in Juniata Township, Perry County, Pa., October 27, 1855, daughter of **George Washington** and **Sarah (Bealor) Titzel**, both deceased. They have one child, **Minnie Pearl**, at home. **Mr. Deardorff's** religious faith is that of the Reformed Church, of which he is a consistent member.

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