

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

Henry B. Derickson, farmer, Millerstown, Perry County, Pa., son of **David** and **Elizabeth (Wagner) Derickson**, was born November 29, 1838. His grandfather, **William Derickson**, born March 26, 1779, was drowned while boating on the Susquehanna River, April 25, 1805. He married **Jane Buchanan**, who was born April 12, 1775, and died February 17, 1853. Their son, **David Derickson**, was born in Buffalo Township, Perry County, Pa., August 4, 1803. He was left to the care of his widowed mother when not yet two years old, by the sad accident that terminated his father's life. He received as good an education as could be obtained in the schools of that period, and learned the trade of tinsmith at Milton, Pa., where he afterwards worked several years as journeyman. After his marriage, he bought fifty acres of wood land in Greenwood Township, and cleared a space upon it large enough for the site of a log house. There in summer he grubbed and cleared and farmed, and in winter taught school, keeping up these varied occupations for thirty-one years. His death occurred January 1, 1884, at the age of eighty years, four months and twenty-seven days. He was a very worthy and peaceable man, and was highly esteemed, never making an enemy.

David Derickson was married in Liverpool Township, October 1, 1832, by Rev. Byron E. Collins, pastor of the Reformed Church, to **Mrs. Elizabeth (Wagner) Hetrick**, widow of **John Hetrick**, and daughter of **John** and **Elizabeth Wagner**, who was born in Liverpool Township, Perry County, Pa., May 15, 1802, and died July 13, 1858, in her fifty-sixth year. Their children are: an **infant**, born August 20, 1834, died unnamed; **Mary (Mrs. Jacob Troutman)**, born May 23, 1836, resides in Newport, Pa.; **Henry B.**; and **William W.**, married **Alice Earnest**, resides at Harrisburg, Pa.

The house in which **Henry B. Derickson** was born is the one in which he now lives, and which was built in the year of his birth. He was educated in the common schools, which he attended in the winter season until he was fourteen years of age. His father was engaged in teaching school, and he was kept at home to do the work on the farm. He continued on the farm for about seven years, and until he was of age, when his mother died, and his father broke up housekeeping. The next summer he spent in the employ of **George Ulsh**, from whom he received as wages ten dollars per month and his board. In the fall of the same year, he went to work for **Samuel Grubb**, of Greenwood Township, with whom he remained four years, and succeeded in saving most of his money, which he put out at interest. After his marriage, he went to farming in Greenwood Township with his half brother, **J. C. Hetrick**. At the end of three years he had cleared fifteen hundred dollars, with which he bought the old homestead; he has made substantial improvements upon it. **Mr. Derickson** voted the Republican ticket for twenty years, but has supported the Prohibition ticket for several years past, and has served as supervisor for two terms. He is a consistent member of the United Brethren Church, and is a trustee of his congregation.

Henry B. Derickson was married first August 4, 1862, to **Sarah Jane**, daughter of **Henry A.** and **Abbie (Moretz) Grubb**, of Greenwood Township, who died May 27, 1875, and by whom he had six children: **Mary E. (Mrs. John W. Furtney)**, born June 19, 1863, resides at Farmer City, Ill.; **David M.**, born January 29, 1865, married **Maggie Barr**, of Germantown, O., is a farmer, near Galesburg, Ill.; **Lincoln H.**, born April 17, 1866, married **Etta Barr**, resided first at

Farmer City, Ill., lives now at Trenton, O.; **Edward E.**, born December 25, 1868, married **Mary E. Shaffer**, of Greenwood Township, resides at Farmer City, Ill.; **Clara May**, married May 6, 1871, to **Wiley Smutz**, and resides at Danville, Ill.; and **John Holman**, born April 18, 1875, at home. **Mr. Derickson** was married the second time, November 4, 1875, to **Miss Lizzie M. Hoffman**, born in Greenwood Township, Perry County, Pa., November 22, 1810, daughter of **Samuel** and **Elizabeth (Good) Hoffman**. She received a good common school education in Greenwood Township, afterwards attended the academy at New Buffalo and then the academy at New Bloomfield, after which she studied for four terms at Millersville State Normal School. She then taught school in Lancaster County, Pa., and then for five years in Dayton, O., after which she remained at home until her marriage. The only child of **Mr. and Mrs. Derickson** is **Samuel Hoffman**, born April 9, 1879, attending school at Newport, Pa.

John Hoffman, grandfather of **Mrs. Derickson**, was born in Germany and emigrated to the United States in his early boyhood. He resided in Greenwood Township, Pfoutz Valley, was a minister in the United Brethren Church, and as the custom of those primitive times was, he traveled around the circuit on horseback. His first wife was **Magdalene Lemberg**, by whom he had twelve children; she died in Greenwood Township. Three of their children settled in Perry County. They are: **Henry**, married **Catherine Swartz**, both are deceased; **Samuel**, father of **Mrs. Derickson**; **Magdalene**, married **Ulrich Rumbaugh**, both are deceased. **Mr. Hoffman** married secondly **Susanna Long**, in Greenwood Township; they had three children. She died, aged seventy-two years, in Ohio, whither he removed in 1838. He lived to be seventy-two years of age.

Samuel Hoffman, father of **Mrs. Derickson**, was born October 30, 1811. He was educated in subscription schools and reared on the farm. After his marriage he bought and occupied his father's farm, on which he died, January 25, 1879. Honesty and uprightness characterized all his business transactions; he was genuinely benevolent, and very considerate of all in want, kindly relieving their needs, and in all his social relations he manifested an amiable and kind disposition. In his religious views he inclined toward the United Brethren Church. His death resulted from heart disease, and occurred suddenly while he was driving from home in a sleigh with his wife. The mother of **Mrs. Derickson** was born March 9, 1815, daughter of **Christian** and **Barbara (Groh) Good**, of Lykens Valley, Dauphin County, Pa. She was a kind mother and a devout Christian woman, maintaining her membership in the United Brethren Church. Her death occurred at the home of her daughter, **Mrs. Derickson**, September 9, 1893. The children of **Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman** are: **Barbara (Mrs. Wesley M. Cauffman)**, born July 25, 1835; **Susanna (Mrs. John Lauver)**, born January 23, 1837, resides in Montgomery County, O.; **Kate A.**, born January 23, 1838, died February 23, 1881; **Henry M.**, born April 23, 1839, married **Susanna Long**, resides at West Baltimore, O.; **Mrs. Derickson**; **John**, born July 15, 1843, died young; **Maria**, died aged two years; **Rachel (Mrs. B. C. Wakefield)**, born April 2, 1845, resides at Chicago, Ill.; **Phenie S. (Mrs. J. M. Acker)**, born May 7, 1846, died in Dauphin County, Pa.; **Lewis J.**, born March 29, 1848, married **Mary Thomas**, resides at Poast Town, O.; and **Samuel G.**, born September 18, 1853, died aged five years. **Mrs. Derickson** is a lady of fine natural endowments, and is highly educated and cultured. She is of affable manner and easy bearing, and in every word and deed displays a heart full of the most kindly sentiments. In conversation, she has the advantage of a very retentive memory, and the command of a large and varied vocabulary.