

Dr. James B. Eby, (24 Feb 1840 – Jun 1911), Newspaper Clipping, The Perry Historians

Dr. James B. Eby, one of the most prominent physicians and public citizens of the county, died at his home in Newport at 8 o'clock Wednesday evening of last week after a protracted illness covering a period of about five years. The cause of his death was arteriosclerosis (hardening of the arteries) and he had been in such a critical condition for months past that his death was not unexpected. In fact, on several occasions previous to his death he was thought to be dead, but he was possessed of such wonderful vitality that he would rally after the vital spark seemed to have fled.

Dr. James B. Eby was the son of **Nimrod** and **Eliza (Drexler) Eby** and was born in this place (New Bloomfield). His father died in 1847 and his mother was afterwards married to **Mr. Samuel Wiggins**, of this place both of whom have been dead for many years. He was educated in the public schools of this borough and at the Bloomfield Academy. In 1863 he became a medical student with **Dr. M.B. Strickler**, of this place, and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1866. He located in Newport, where he lived the remainder of his life, practicing his profession up until a few years ago, when failing health forced his retirement. He was recognized as one of the most eminent physicians in the county and had a large and lucrative practice. He also was interested in business affairs and was president of the First National Bank of Newport for the past eighteen years; was a director of the Newport and Sherman's Valley Railroad, first secretary of the Perry County Agricultural Society; member of the Perry County Medical Society; director of the Newport Water Company, and held many other offices of trust and honor.

On the breaking out of the war **Dr. Eby** enlisted and served three months in the Second Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, after which he re-enlisted for nine months in the 133rd Pennsylvania Volunteers, Company G, Captain Sheibley, in which he was promoted to second lieutenant. He was in the battles of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. He was a member of Lieutenant Arnold Lobaugh Post, No, 297, G.A.R., of Newport.

In politics **Dr. Eby** was a Republican and for many years was one of the leaders of his party in the county, wielding a strong influence in party affairs.

In 1875 he was married to **Miss Emma S. Toland**, who died in 1881. He is survived by one son, Lieutenant **Charles M. Eby**, at present stationed at Fort Ethan Allen, VT. He leaves two half sisters, **Mrs. Laura Junkin** and **Mrs. Jessie Conn** of this place, who were his constant attendants during the closing months of his illness. The late **Mrs. John H. Sheibley** was also a sister of the deceased.

The funeral was held, being conducted by Rev. R.F. McClean, of Mechanicsburg; interment was made in the Bloomfield Cemetery, the remains being accompanied here by a detachment of his brother members of the G.A.R., who conducted the impressive burial service of the Post at the grave, Comrade J.S. Super acting as chaplain. The pallbearers were; **P.K. Brant, Dr. L.A. Carl, Dr. W.H. Hoopes, William Emenheiser** and **C.W. Smith**.