

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

D. M. Ehrhart, farmer, Newport. Perry County, Pa., son of **John** and **Elmira (Super) Ehrhart**, was born in Sugar Run Valley, Perry County, Pa., September 15, 1854. The maternal great-grandparents of **Mr. Ehrhart** came from Germany. His paternal great grandfather died when a young man, and his widow afterwards married **Philip Shearer**. **Michael Ehrhart**, grandfather of **D. M. Ehrhart**, was born in York County, Pa., and remained there until shortly after his marriage, when he removed to Oliver Township, Perry County, Pa., transporting his family and effects in a wagon, owned and driven by a **Mr. Himes**. He was a man of slender means and worked as a day laborer, living on a rented farm. On reaching Perry County, he bought a small home and occupied it for some years, but sold it later and moved from place to place. For some years the family lived in a log house on the Bloomfield Road. He died in Oliver Township and is buried at Altoona, Pa. His wife was **Miss Wolf**, who died in West Huntingdon, Pa. Their children are: **John E.**; **Mary**, deceased; **David**, deceased; **Michael**, a Lutheran minister, deceased; **George**, deceased; **William**, died young; **Sarah**, resides in the west; and **Susanna**, resides in the south.

John Ehrhart, father of **D. M. Ehrhart**, was born in York County, Pa., July 10, 1818. When he was sixteen months old, his parents removed to Perry County, Pa., where he received his education in the subscription schools. When a boy he drove an ore cart at the old Juniata Furnace; at the age of eleven, he was put out to work, and after this was never at home, except to make short visits to his parents. At the age of nineteen years, he learned carpentry. Three years previous to his marriage, he bought a tract of land in Sugar Run Valley, situated in the wilderness and clothed in its native forests. Here he determined to make a home, and proceeded to clear the land and build a house. A comfortable log house was soon in readiness, and this was their residence for many years. About 1865, **Mr. Ehrhart** exchanged this place for the farm which his son, **D. M. Ehrhart**, now occupies. In 1885, he relinquished active pursuits, and retired to Juniata Township, where he now resides. **Mr. Ehrhart** is a Prohibitionist; he has never sought any office.

In 1847, **John Ehrhart** married **Elmira Super**. When a small girl, **Mrs. Ehrhart** was taken by her parents to Ohio, then considered the far west. The journey thither and the return were by wagon, and the road was through the wilderness, still occupied by the Indians, who gave the travelers much annoyance. The children of **John** and **Elmira Ehrhart** are: **William**, superintendent of schools in Schuylkill County, Pa.; **Sarah Ella**, married, and resides in Juniata Township; **Jacob H.**, removed to the west in 1874, is a contractor in Missouri; **D. M.**; **Mary Jane (Mrs. D. A. Campbell)**, of Juniata Township; **George**, died in Perry County; **Charles**, died young; **Annie (Mrs. Clell Black)**, resides at Harrisburg, her husband being employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company; and **Ella M. (Mrs. Cyrus Mogel)**, resides at Altoona, Pa. **Mr. Ehrhart** is a man who loves peace, and does all in his power to make social intercourse agreeable. He never sued a man in his life, and was never sued but once, and then his opponent had to pay the costs of the suit. **D. M. Ehrhart** received his education in the common schools, and was reared on the farm. When he was about twenty-one years of age, he worked at the blacksmith trade, and this has been his occupation, at intervals, since that time. After his

marriage, he rented a farm in Oliver Township, and cultivated it for five years, after which he removed to Newport, Pa., where he resided for three years, working at brick making in the summer seasons, and in the winter doing such chance jobs as came in his way. He bought property in Newport, which he sold in January, 1888, and removed to the farm he now occupies, consisting of eighty-five acres. **Mr. Ehrhart** is a strong Republican; he has filled the office of school director for six years. His church membership is in the St. Samuel's Lutheran Church, in which he holds the office of deacon.

D. M. Ehrhart was married, December 18, 1879, to **Miss Emma McNaughton**, of Oliver Township, daughter of **George W.** and **Lavina (Rider) McNaughton**. Their children are: **Mary L.**, at home; and **Solomon E.** **Mr. Ehrhart** holds membership, and is a deacon, in St. Samuel's Lutheran Church.

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