



**Abraham J. Ellenberger**, the genial proprietor of the Commercial Hotel, and one of the oldest and most popular residents of Marysville, was born in Susquehanna Township, Dauphin County, Pa., February 18, 1844. He is the son of **Abraham** and **Catherine (Sheets) Ellenberger**, both deceased.

**Abraham Ellenberger, Sr.**, had been for years a miller in Dauphin County; but when **Abraham, Jr.**, was three years old, the family removed to the present site of Marysville, in Perry County. After leaving Dauphin County, **Mr. Ellenberger** did not again engage in his former business. He and his faithful wife both died in 1851.

**Abraham J. Ellenberger** was educated in the public schools, where he applied himself diligently to his studies. At thirteen years of age he left school, and entered the service of the Northern Central Railroad Company, showing the same faithfulness at work as at study. Patriotism inspired him, in 1863, to enlist for three months' service at Camp Curtin. He enlisted again in 1863, this time for three years, in the Seventh

Pennsylvania Cavalry, and endured much hard service under Generals Wilson and Kilpatrick. His career as a soldier was rendered brilliant when near the close of the war he made one of Sherman's heroic band on his memorable and famous march from Atlanta to the sea. The war being ended, he was mustered out at Macon, Ga., August 17, 1865, and finally discharged at Harrisburg, Pa., September 5, 1865. He then returned to Marysville, and re-entered the service of the Northern Central Railroad Company as brakeman in the yard. His faithful attention to his duties was rewarded by promotion to the post of freight conductor, and later to the position of yard master at Marysville. He remained in the service of the Northern Central Railroad Company until December, 1880, when he resigned his position after fifteen years' service. He was considered one of the most efficient and painstaking employees of the company. During the four years following his resignation, he was in the insurance business; but in June, 1884, he abandoned this for the restaurant business, which he followed for the next six years. His friendly manner and generous disposition made him exceedingly popular. These qualities have been still more clearly manifested since, in 1890, he became proprietor of the Commercial Hotel. On account of the pressing duties connected with his business, **Mr. Ellenberger** has been compelled to decline various responsible positions, which his fellow-citizens have urged upon him; but for three years he has served ably as school director.

**Abraham J. Ellenberger** was married, in Marysville, April 23, 1867, to **Rebecca J.**, daughter of **Abel D.** and **Margaret (Findlay) Owen**, well-known and highly respected citizens. She was born in Wheatfield Township, May 18, 1848. Their children are: **Calvin C.** was born June 25, 1868; **Harry D.**, born September 4, 1870; **Maggie May**, born February 28, 1873; **Annie V.**, born December 14, 1874; **Blanche B.**, born May 27, 1877; **Virgie E.**, born November 24, 1879; **Cora Effie**, born November 29, 1881, died January 13, 1882; **Mabel O.**, born March 11, 1886; and **Mary Rebecca**, born January 24, 1889. **Mr. Ellenberger** is a prominent and active member of Egyptian Commandery, No. 114, K. M. In politics, he is very liberal, casting his vote for the men and measures he thinks most beneficial for the country which he helped to save. His family are all members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Few men of Rye Township are more widely known, or more highly honored by their fellow-townsmen than **Mr. Ellenberger**. The confidence and esteem of his many friends has been won entirely by his sterling faithfulness in the performance of his duties; his readiness to befriend and help those around him, and his promptness to serve his native country, in peace, as well as in the dark days of the war.

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