

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

William Emerich, New Bloomfield, Perry County, Pa., is a native of Northumberland County, born September 22, 1840. His parents were **Benjamin** and **Susan (Forney) Emerich**. Three generations of **Emerichs**, beginning with **John George Emerich**, grandfather of **William**, were born in Northumberland County; the ancestors in the preceding generation came there from Lancaster County. **John George Emerich**, a farmer, married **Mary Ann**, daughter of **David** and **Mary Zorteman**. They had twelve children, of whom seven are deceased: **George; Rebecca; Benjamin; Elias; Sarah; Susan;** and **John**, who died February 16, 1896, aged seventy four years, one month and twenty-five days. The survivors are: **Jacob; Catherine**, widow of **John Stine; Mary**, widow of **Isaac Metz; Joseph;** and **Michael**. **John G. Emerich** died in 1873, aged eighty-three years and a little more than six months; his wife died in 1876, at the age of eighty-one years and eleven months. Both were devout members of the Lutheran Church, in which **Mr. Emerich** was for many years an office-bearer, first deacon and afterwards elder. **William Emerich's** maternal grandparents were **Peter Forney** and his wife **Catherine**, a daughter of **David** and **Pauline Rumbarger**. **Mr. Forney**, a native of Berks County, Pa., removed to Dauphin County in his youth. He was for many years a mason, but later bought a farm, and cultivated it up to the time of his death. His children are: **Susan**, deceased; **John**, deceased; **Catherine**, wife of **Michael Metz; Mary**, widow of **George Spotts;** and **Hannah**, wife of **Rev. John G. Adams**. **Mr. and Mrs. Peter Forney** were faithful members of the Methodist Church; the latter died in 1868, aged seventy-nine, and the former in 1871, at the age of ninety-three. **Benjamin Emerich**, the father of **William**, was a native of Northumberland County, whose life-long occupation was farming. He died May 4, 1842, aged twenty-four years, five months and eight days. His children are: **William;** and **Isaac**, who resides in Northumberland County. His wife, **Susan Forney**, survived him, and in 1848 was married to **Adam Zorteman**. She died March 19, 1894, aged seventy-four.

Being only one year and a half old when his father died, **William Emerich** was brought up by his grandparents, **Mr. and Mrs. John G. Emerich**. He attended the common schools of his native county until he reached the age of seventeen, after which he remained with his grandfather, assisting in the cultivation of the farm, until he was twenty-five. At that age he was married, and has made farming his chief occupation. In 1888, he bought the farm in Perry County which has ever since been his home. Since 1895, **Mr. Emerich** has represented the Massillon Machine Company, of Ohio. He has always been an industrious man, with the desire and ability for acquiring any useful handicraft; he has accordingly, by his own exertions, become a skilful shoer of horses, as well as an expert carpenter. He adheres to the Republican Party.

William Emerich's first marriage, in 1865, was to **Susan**, daughter of **Samuel** and **Anna Mary (Zorteman) Trego**. Their children are: **B. Frank; Lizzie I. (Mrs. Frank Foltz); Charles;** and **Samuel**, who died in June, 1871, when three months old. **Mrs. Emerich**, who was a member of the Reformed Church, died April 6, 1873, aged twenty-nine years, one month and seventeen days. Her parents, natives of Northumberland County, were also members of the Reformed Church. **Samuel Trego** was for many years engaged in boating. His wife, **Anna Mary**, was a daughter of **Martin** and **Mary (Eisenhard) Zorteman**. Seven of their children are deceased:

Mary; Sarah; John; Sophia; Isaac; Louisa; and Susan; the only surviving one is **Eliza J. (Mrs. Henry Witmer)**. Both **Mr. and Mrs. Trego** are deceased. The second marriage of **William Emerich**, to **Jane**, daughter of **David** and **Elizabeth (Kell) Stambaugh**, took place June 12, 1875. Two of their children died in infancy, one of them, **Sarah**, when only seventeen days old. The others are: **Clara G.; Martha M.; Calvin Luther; Katie C.; and Arden Vestal**. **Mrs. Jane Emerich's** paternal grandparents were natives of Berks County, Pa., and had a family of eleven children; her grandparents on the maternal side were born in York County, and had ten children. Both grandfathers were farmers, and all lived to an advanced age. **Mrs. Emerich's** father, **David Stambaugh**, was also a farmer, and he and his wife were natives of Perry County. Seven of their fourteen children are deceased: **Mary; Martin; Caroline; Sarah; Ellen L.; Henry;** and **Margaretta**. Those living are: **Catherine (Mrs. Jacob Shearer); Julia (Mrs. David Reeder); Jacob**, married **Catherine Louchman; John**, married **Henrietta Bellman; David**, married **Martha Ernest; Jane (Mrs. Emerich); and Anna Belle (Mrs. David Reapsomer)**. **Mrs. David Stambaugh** died in 1858; she was a member of the Reformed Church. **Mr. Stambaugh** belonged to the Lutheran Church, in which he served as an elder. He died in 1886, at the age of eighty-two.

www.theperryhistorians.org