

Commemorative Biographical Encyclopedia of Dauphin County, Chambersburg, Pa., J. M. Runk and Company, 1896.

Ernest, George, farmer, was born in Madison Township, Perry County, Pa., February 4, 1830. He is a son of **Daniel** and **Catherine (Ernest) Ernest**.

The **Ernest** ancestors came from Germany. They were connected with the House of Hanover, who were in full power previous to the Reformation. **Henry Ernest**, grandfather of **George Ernest**, was a native of Berks County, where he was reared and married, and engaged in agricultural pursuits. He removed with his family to Perry County, and died on the homestead in Madison Township in 1838, his wife having preceded him to the grave. Their children were: **George; David; Daniel; Elizabeth**, who was **Mrs. Runsmith**, deceased; and **Catherine, Mrs. Dysinger**.

Daniel Ernest, father of **George**, was born in Berks County, September 17, 1796. He was reared on the farm, and remained on the farm until he was a young man. At that time the family removed to Perry County, where he continued farming until his death, which occurred May 15, 1885. His wife died December 22, 1873. **Daniel Ernest** was a prominent man, taking an active part in township affairs, and filling various township offices. Their children are: **John**, a cooper, resides in Peoria, Ill., is active in city affairs, was sheriff; **Samuel**, farmer, Perry County, lives on part of the homestead in Madison Township; **George; Sarah**, died some years ago, unmarried; **Henry**, resides at Cisna Run, Perry County, Pa.; **Jane A.**, deceased, unmarried; **Mary**, deceased, unmarried; **Daniel**, retired farmer, Eshcol, Perry County; **David**, died in Perry County, June 4, 1876.

Mr. George Ernest attended subscription schools and finished his education in the public schools, which he attended in the winter of each year. He remained on the farm until he was twenty-five, when he went West, in 1855 or '56, in search of business opportunities. There were more boys at home than were needed for the farm work, so he went to Ohio, and worked among the farmers near Fostoria for one year. He then went to Illinois to see a brother. After a short visit he hired himself to a farmer west of Peoria, Ill., for a year, at the end of which time he returned home. He had saved about \$100, but in those times the currency of one State was not good in another. After his return **George** engaged in building post and rail fences in Perry County, and continued there three summers, but was unemployed in the winter. He and his companions were planning for something by which they could make money faster and more easily, and decided to open a general store at Andersonburg, Perry County, which they conducted successfully for four or five years. **Mr. Ernest** then sold his interest to his partners and went to Missouri. He there made collections for his father, who had loaned certain sums to a man whom **Mr. Ernest** hunted up. Having successfully transacted this business and returned he remained around home for about a year.

After his marriage he opened a general store in Green Park and conducted it for about eighteen months. He then removed his stock to Cisna Run (then Cedar Run), Perry County, and carried on business there for about a year and a half. He then sold out to his brother **David** and located in Elizabethville, purchasing the store of **Simon Bickel**. He remained there from 1870 to 1885, during eleven years of which time he had charge of the business. From 1885 to 1888 **Mr.**

Ernest remained in Elizabethville, without any business occupation. In 1888 he removed to Centre County, Pa., where for one year he was engaged in the lumber business. After this he located on his present place of forty-five acres in Washington Township, Dauphin County, to which he added twenty acres, and is devoting his whole attention to raising poultry and fruit.

George Ernest was married, May 30, 1866, to **Miss Elizabeth Bealor**, born September 6, 1839, at New Bloomfield, Perry County; a daughter of **David** and **Margaret (Smith) Bealor**. Their children are: **Charles David**, deceased, born January 17, 1868; **William D.**, born at Elizabethville, December 28, 1870, taught school in Dauphin County two years, then took a course in shorthand at Chicago, and then took a position as cashier of a life insurance company at Chicago. Six months after he began a service under the United States lighthouse inspector, which lasted for a year and a half. In the following June, **Mr. Ernest** entered Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg, Pa., where he remained two years. It was his intention to take a theological course and enter the ministry, but his throat would not stand the strain of public speaking. While in Chicago he attended the course of lectures of the Moody Bible Association. He has now turned his whole attention to the work of the Young Men's Christian Association, and has been engaged in the Railroad Branch, Philadelphia, Pa. He is at present general secretary and physical director of the Mt. Caramel, Pa., Association. **Harry B.**, born August 8, 1873, at Elizabethville, Pa., where he attended school, after which he taught for two winters in Washington Township. In the fall of 1895 he entered Pennsylvania College, and is taking a classical course, which he will complete in 1900, when he hopes to enter the ministry.

Mr. Ernest is a Republican and is decided in his views. He was formerly a member of the Lutheran Church. **Mrs. Ernest** belongs to the Reformed Church. **Mr. Ernest** began as a poor boy, has made his way without assistance, and is now among the prominent and honored men of the community.

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