

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

**Milton B. Eshleman**, Newport, Perry County, Pa., son of **Jacob** and **Juliette (Witmer) Eshleman**, was born in Paradise Township, Lancaster County, Pa., February 4, 1835. The earliest record of the family in America is that of the great-great-grandfather of **Mr. Eshleman, John Jacob Eshleman**, who was born in Germany in 1707, and came to this country in 1729. He settled at Strasburg, Lancaster County, Pa., where he bought a tract of land; he was a millwright. He was married in Lancaster County to **Barbara Barr**. They had but one son, **Jacob Eshleman**, born in 1712. The father, **John Jacob**, was a Mennonite; he died in Strasburg, Pa. His son, **Jacob**, married **Barbara Groff**; their children were: **Jacob**; **John**, resided at Strasburg, married first to **Mary Weaver**, afterwards to **Alice Groff**; **Susan (Mrs. Henry Breckbill)**, of Lancaster County; **Fanny (Mrs. Joseph Potts)**, died at Strasburg; **Benjamin**, married **Fanny Herr**, both died at Greenland, Pa.; **David**, married **Mary Groff**, both died at Strasburg; **Barbara**, married **Jacob Bachman**, both died at Strasburg; and **Mary**, married **David Miller**, of Carlisle, Pa.

The eldest son of this family, **Jacob Eshleman**, who was born in 1768, conducted a milling business, having purchased a flour-mill at Leaman Place, Lancaster County. He married **Mary Breckbill**, and resided at Paradise, Lancaster County. Their children are: **Susan (Mrs. Michael Barr)**, of Quincy, Ill.; **Benjamin**, married **Elizabeth Stauffer**; **Maria (Mrs. John Warfel)**, of Lancaster, Pa.; **Barbara (Mrs. Jacob Frantz)**, of Leaman Place, Lancaster County; **Jacob**; **Ann (Mrs. George Groff)**, of Strasburg, Pa.; **Fanny**, died unmarried; **Dr. John K.**, of Downingtown, Pa., married **Fanny Edge**; **Eliza**, died unmarried; and **Martha (Mrs. Christian L. LeFevre)**, of Lancaster, Pa.

**Jacob Eshleman, Jr.**, fifth child of the above family, was born in 1802. He entered his father's mill when a boy, and acquainted himself thoroughly with its management. After his marriage, he took charge of the milling business of his father. He continued to conduct it until about 1866, when his youngest son, **Silas Eshleman**, assumed the charge. **Jacob Eshleman (3)** married **Juliette Witmer**. Their children are: **Milton B.**; **Ferree**, who married **Clara Musselman**; **Amos L.**, of Paradise, Pa., married **Esther Hoover**; **Elam W.**, of Leaman Place, Pa., married **Belle Lightner**; **Eliza**, deceased; and **Silas K.**, of Leaman Place, Pa., married **Emma Slaymaker**. The father was a member of the Episcopal Church. He died in Lancaster County, Pa., in 1880; his wife survived him about six years.

**Milton B. Eshleman** received his education in the common school and at Lititz Academy, which he attended for one term. During his vacations, and after his course of study was ended, he assisted his father in many ways both on the farm and in the mill, and was always a willing and industrious helper. For a short time before the war of the Rebellion broke out, he had charge of his father's mill. "At his country's call," like many other brave young Americans, he enlisted, in October, 1861. He went as a private in Company D, Second Pennsylvania Cavalry, and was assigned to the Army of the Potomac. His regiment lay for one winter in Philadelphia, and in the spring was ordered to Washington, where the men were mounted and armed, after which they were sent to the front. Their first battle was at Cedar Mountain, under General Pope. They were

afterwards attached to General Sheridan's command, and were in the battle of the Wilderness. In 1864, **Mr. Eshleman** was discharged, his time having expired. Upon his return to his home, his father purchased another mill in their vicinity, called the "Evergreen Mill," which **Mr. M. B. Eshleman** managed until 1876. He then removed with his wife and family to Perry County, and bought his present mill in East Newport. Here he has ever since carried on business with profit to himself and satisfaction to those who have business relations with him. **Mr. Eshleman** is a member of the G. A. R. Post at Newport. He is a "free silver" man, and an earnest advocate of Prohibition. He takes a sincere interest in the welfare of others, and desires true progress for his own neighborhood, and for his whole country.

**Milton B. Eshleman** was first married to **Jennie Williams**, who died in Lancaster County, leaving one son, **Victor E.** In 1874, he was married a second time, to **Annie Lightner**. Their children are: **Fannie E.**; and a son, **J. Edwin**. **Mr. Eshleman** is a member of the Episcopal Church.

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