

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

Etter, Calvin, was born in Newport, Perry County, Pa., in December, 1835. He is a son of the late **Henry H.** and **Mary (Shaffner) Etter**. **Henry H. Etter** was born in Lancaster County, Pa. He was for a long time engaged in boating on the canal. For many years he was proprietor of the Warm Springs Hotel, Warm Springs, Perry County. He was for a time employed under the United States Government, in the Agricultural Department at Washington, D. C. After an active and useful life, he died in Philadelphia in 1890. His wife, **Mary Shaffner**, was born in Harrisburg, and died in that city in 1865. Their children are: **Ellen**, wife of **Jesse S. Butts**, of Newport, Perry County; **Calvin**; **Sarah**, wife of **Francis Wilcox**, of San Diego, Cal., and **Mary**, wife of **Ritzel Shattick**, of Philadelphia.

Calvin Etter was reared on the farm in Perry County. He had the opportunities which the common schools afford the busy farmer's boy, and his subsequent life shows that he made good use of them. The close of school days found him well-informed, disciplined and prepared for practical work. His natural tastes led him to prefer agricultural pursuits in early life, but at the age of twenty he forsook the farm and became clerk in a general store. Here he spent several years, becoming in that time thoroughly familiar with mercantile business. In 1864 he began business on his own account in Harrisburg. He opened a grocery store, and has since been in the business since that date. With perhaps one exception, he is now the oldest grocer in the city. **Mr. Etter** has a combination of the qualities which make a successful merchant. He is systematic and methodical, able to lay out his plans and to give assiduous attention to the minutest details in their execution.

He is alert and enterprising, and always abreast of the times. Always having his own business well in hand, he has time, as well as inclination, to interest himself in social and general movements intended to promote the development and growth of the city. In social life he is a model gentleman, modest and always approachable. His success, the result of his accurate judgment, keen insight and absolute adherence to principle, is as honorable as it is large and enviable. **Mr. Etter** was married in Harrisburg, in April, 1865, to **Helen Marshall**, of Perry County. They have had four children, **one** of whom died in infancy. Their living children are; **Carrie**, wife of **Harry S. Kelly**, wood and coal dealer, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume; **Charlie Ross**, a salesman in his father's store, and **Mary Grace**.

Mr. Etter is a Republican. He has represented the Fifth ward of Harrisburg in common council for two terms, and in select council one term.

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