

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

**H. M. Freed**, merchant, of Liverpool, Perry County, Pa., is a son of **Abraham** and **Mary (Moyer) Freed**, and was born near Freeburg, Snyder County, Pa. (then Union), February 2, 1842. The ancestors of **Mr. Freed** came from Germany, and were among the earliest settlers in Bucks County, Pa., where they were engaged in agricultural pursuits.

**Abraham Freed**, grandfather of **H. M. Freed**, was born and reared near Richlandtown, Bucks County, Pa., whence he removed about 1800. At this time, he was married and had two daughters, and was comparatively a poor man, being able to load all his worldly possessions into a two-horse wagon, which he drove from Bucks County to Meiserville, Snyder County, Pa. There he bought a farm, which he afterwards exchanged for another farm, near Freeburg, in the same county. This farm he occupied until he sold it to his son, **Abraham**, and then resided on a tract of fourteen acres adjoining the homestead, until he went to live with his daughter **Abigail**, near Mt. Pleasant, Pa.; there he died, about 1860, in the ninetieth year of his age. He never united with any church, but in his religious views inclined toward the Mennonite Church. He was an old time Whig. By his first wife he had three daughters and two sons; his second wife was **Catherine Stroup**, widow of **William Ramstone**; they had one daughter, **Abigail**.

**Abraham Freed**, father of **H. M. Freed**, was born in Snyder County, Pa., where Meiserville now stands, in 1805; was educated in the public schools, and reared a farmer. He was married near Freeburg to **Mary Moyer**, born in that locality. In 1842, he removed to the neighborhood of Selinsgrove, Snyder County, Pa., and for six years farmed as a tenant, after which he bought the old homestead near Freeburg, on which, in 1854, he built a new barn. He made considerable additions to the original tract of land. Here his death occurred in February, 1876. Besides the homestead he owned two other farms, and was one of the most prosperous men of the region. His wife died in 1886; she was a member of the Reformed Church. For some years before his death, he had been a member of the Lutheran Church. Their children are: **John**, a farmer near Freeburg, married **Susan Craig**; **Elizabeth**, married **Henry Garman**, in Snyder County; **Abraham**, farmer on the old homestead, married **Jane Apple**, deceased; **George**, a farmer, died in November, 1888, in Snyder County, married first, **Ellen Roush**, and secondly, **Sarah Garman**, who survives; **Philip M.**, farmer in Snyder County, married **Caroline Craig**; and **Mary A. (Mrs. William Freeman)**, of Snyder County, Pa.

When **H. M. Freed** was a year old, his father removed to the vicinity of Selinsgrove, where he began his schooling. Six years afterwards his father returned to Freeburg and bought the old homestead, and **H. M. Freed** finished his education in the Academy of Freeburg. He remained with his father and assisted him in farming until he was twenty three years of age, with the exception of the last summer, during which he went to Trumbull and Mercer Counties, O., and bought cattle, which he drove to Pennsylvania, and disposed of in Montgomery, Schuylkill and other counties. For four winters previous to his twenty-third year he had taught school in Snyder County. In 1865, he formed a partnership with **Daniel Stuck** and opened a general store at McKees Half Falls, Snyder County, Pa., and this partnership continued until 1867, when he bought his partner's interest in the business and conducted it until 1871; he then sold the stock

and bought his present property in Liverpool, consisting of two dwelling houses, a warehouse and a store room. Here he put in a general stock of goods and has built up a large and profitable trade, constantly enlarging his stock to answer the demands of his increasing business. To the original business he has added a clothing department. In addition to his mercantile interests, he owns a farm and one-half of another farm in Snyder County. **Mr. Freed** is a Republican, and has served as school director. For twenty years he has been superintendent of the Sunday-school of the Lutheran Church, of which he is an active member, and is now one of the board of trustees. His genial manners and public spirit make him popular, and his love of reading keeps him informed on all current topics. He possesses those qualities which secure to him the esteem and confidence of the community.

**Mr. Freed** was married February 17, 1867, to **Miss Louisa A. Sechrist**, of Chapman Township, Snyder County, Pa., daughter of **John Sechrist**, deceased. Their children are: **Annie**, at home; **Mary Jane (Mrs. Frank Hamilton)**, of Liverpool, Pa.; **Henry S.**; **Esther L.**; and **Laura M.**; all at home; **George A.**, died in boyhood; **Arthur M.**, died aged seventeen years.

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