

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

Rev. John Garman, Shermansdale, Perry County, Pa., was born in Franklin County, December 5, 1826. He is a son of **Conrad** and **Rebecca (Kramer) Garman**. His maternal great-grandfather, **John Kramer**, was of German ancestry; he was a farmer of Lebanon County, and had served in the Revolutionary war. **Mr. Garman's** maternal grandfather, **John Kramer**, was a native of Lebanon County, and was a farmer, miller and distiller in Franklin County. With him **Mr. Garman** lived from the time of his father's death, which occurred when he was but three years old, till he was a young man. **John Kramer** was married to **Mary Killinger**; their children are: **Jacob**; **Eliza (Mrs. John Lyons)**; **Susan (Mrs. Jacob Gelwix)**; **Catherine (Mrs. Jacob Shugart)**; **John**, a salesman, died at the age of forty-eight years; **Pollie**, deceased; and **four** who died in infancy. **John Kramer** died in 1851, aged seventy-seven years. **Mrs. Kramer** died in 1866, aged eighty-four years. One was a member of the Reformed Church and the other of the Lutheran Church. Both were earnest and faithful Christians. **Conrad Garman, Mr. Garman's** paternal grandfather, was a farmer of Lebanon County. **Conrad Garman**, the father of **John Garman**, was a miller. He married **Rebecca**, daughter of **John** and **Mary Ann (Killinger) Kramer**. Their children are: **John**; and **Mary (Mrs. George Thomas)**, of Cumberland County. **Mr.** and **Mrs. Garman** were both members of the Lutheran Church. **Mr. Garman** died in 1838. **Mrs. Garman** died at the age of eighty-six years, in October, 1891.

John Garman acquired his education in the public schools of Cumberland County, which he attended until his nineteenth year. He then served an apprenticeship of three years in learning wagon and coach-making. For ten years he worked at his trade, and then farmed until 1872; during all these years he was studying to prepare himself for the ministry. **Mr. Garman** also served in various township offices in this period of his life; he was constable for one year and justice of the peace for five years in Cumberland County and school director for three years. In Perry County he served three years as director of the poor. He settled many estates.

Mr. Garman enlisted in the War of the Rebellion, under Captain Lynn, in the One Hundred and Fifty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, but served only a short time, as he was constable at that time, and was required as a witness in several criminal cases; he was therefore discharged. **Mr. Garman** entered the ministry of the United Brethren Church in 1872. His first charge was in York, where he remained one year; his next call was to Yocumtown, York County, here he served three years. In 1876 he came to Perry County and served Shermansdale Church for two years; he was then transferred to Carlisle, where he remained three years. In 1878, **Rev. Mr. Garman** was permanently established in Carroll Township, and purchased the farm which is his present home; from that date he has had charge of the Pleasant Grove Church, Snyder Church, Cherico charge and Pisgah charge, for two years. His advanced years rendered these charges too burdensome for his strength, so he relinquished all but the church at Pisgah. Here he did efficient work until 1884, when he announced his resignation on account of failing health. He is now living on his farm near Shermansdale, with his son, resting after many years of labor.

John Garman was married December 2, 1851, to **Margaret**, daughter of **William** and **Margaret (Rhoads) Ferguson**. Their children are: **William F.**, of Harrisburg; **John L.**; **Annie M. (Mrs. Harry Trauger)**; **Sheridan**; **Harry**, who farms at home; **Susan E.**; **Zephaniah**; and **Ina Pearl**, died in 1878, aged three months.

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