

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

James Lewis Gilfilen, deceased, was a prominent farmer near Millerstown, Perry County, Pa. **James Gilfilen**, his grandfather, was born in Ireland and emigrated to America with his brother, who settled in eastern Pennsylvania, while **James** settled in Greenwood Township, Perry County, Pa., and there he was engaged in farming until his death. His son, **Louis Gilfilen**, father of **James Lewis**, was born in Greenwood Township. He was reared a farmer, and made farming his life occupation, in which he was prosperous, and accumulated much property, being the owner of three of the best farms in Perry County, all of which became the inheritance of his granddaughter, **H. Jennie Gilfilen**. He was a prominent and influential man, and was highly esteemed. His death occurred in April, 1892, in the eightieth year of his age. **Mr. Gilfilen** married **Phanna Ulsh**, who was reared and died in Pfoutz Valley, and their children are: **William H.**, died young; **James Lewis**; and **Mary Emma**, died young. His wife was a devout Christian woman, and a member of the Church of God, but he was not connected with any church organization.

James Lewis Gilfilen was born in Greenwood Township, Perry County, Pa., in December, 1844. His boyhood was passed on the farm; he attended the common schools, and also select schools. After his marriage he resided on his father's farm, and gave much attention to agricultural pursuits. For nearly two years he was in mercantile business in Millerstown, Pa., and his death occurred in 1873, while thus engaged. In political matters, **Mr. Gilfilen** acted with the Republican Party. His religious faith and fellowship were with the Presbyterian, and in that church he maintained a consistent membership. In 1869 **Mr. Gilfilen** was married to **Miss Mary M. Jones**, daughter of **William J.** and **Susan B. (Milford) Jones**. They had two children: **Helen Mary**, who died in infancy; and **H. Jennie**, who is now at home.

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