

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

Hensel, Thomas A., was born in Lykens, Dauphin County, Pa., December 6, 1853. His grandfather, **Andrew Hensel**, was born near Gettysburg, Pa., and was a shoemaker. He was a soldier in the war of 1812. He married **Mary A. Geisse**, by whom he had six children: **Adam, George**, and **Anna Barbara**, deceased; **John, Andrew**, and **Michael. Andrew** was a Democrat. He and his wife were members of the Reformed Church. Both died in Bloomfield, Perry County, Pa.

John Hensel, father of **T. A.**, was born at Bloomfield, December 11, 1824, was educated in his native county, and learned carpentry, which he made his occupation. He has resided in Lykens since 1846. On March 1, 1853, he married **Susan Moyer**, born in Lykens Valley, daughter of **Jacob Moyer**, a shoemaker of Lykens Valley, and of an old family They had six children: **Thomas A.**; **Rebecca**, wife of **Edward Harris**; **John**, of Lykens ; **Jennie**, resides in Lykens; **Jacob**, and **Charles**, deceased. **Mr. and Mrs. Hensel** are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics **Mr. Hensel's** views are liberal.

Thomas A. Hensel was educated in the schools of Lykens and at Dickinson Seminary, Williamsport, Pa. He learned printing under S. B. Coles and S. M. Fern. From 1872 to April, 1885, he worked at the top of Lykens Valley slope, unhooking cars; a very responsible position. He served as clerk for one Eli Kohlberg, clothier, from April, 1885, to April, 1891. At the latter date, he and J. J. Nutt, as partners, bought the clothing establishment of L. Marks, who removed to Carlisle, Pa. In May, 1895, Mr. Hensel bought the interest of his partner, Mr. Nutt. He has been very successful in the clothing and furnishing business, handling only first class goods. When the firm of **T. A. Hensel** and Company began business in 1891 there were three clothing stores in Lykens. Two left town the first year, and the other was sold out by the sheriff within the next three years.

Mr. Hensel joined Wiconisco Lodge, No. 533, I. O. O. F., when he became of age, and has since joined Wiconisco Encampment, No. 181, I. O. O. F.; Estella Degree Lodge, No. 19, of Rebeccas, and Lykens Lodge, No. 106, K. of P. He has served as district deputy grand master for northern Dauphin County for several years, and as district deputy grand patriarch of the Encampment for eight years. He has attended the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for ten years.

Thomas A. Hensel was married, October 23, 1882, to **Miss Katie E. Coles**, daughter of **S. B. Coles**. They have two children, a girl and a boy. The daughter, **Lillian Anzella**, is eleven years old, and is the largest girl of her age in Lykens. **Forest Stanley**, the son, is six years old, and is also large for his age. **Mr. and Mrs. Hensel** have been active and prominent in promoting sociability in Lykens. They were members of the Social Club "L. C. C", whose balls, parties and masquerades will long be remembered as the local "good times" of 1875-1890, which drew the young people and lovers of entertainment from places fifty miles away.

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