

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

Miss Catherine J. Heston, New Bloomfield. Perry County, Pa., was born in Delaware County, Pa., July 7, 1832; she is a daughter of **Morris W.** and **Esther (Davis) Heston**, both of English ancestry. Her great grandfather, **Edward Heston**, was born in Philadelphia County in 1715; he was twice married, having by the first marriage six children, and by the second, eight. He was a prominent and useful citizen. He aided in the war for American independence, serving as captain in the Continental army. In peace, his services were no less distinguished; he represented his district for many years in the State Legislature, and again for many years was judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County. His son, **Abraham Heston**, was also a native of Philadelphia County, born in Hestonville, a suburb which, though now incorporated with the city, still bears the family name. He was a millwright, and the owner of a large mill; he became a successful business man, being intelligent, industrious and frugal; he was well known throughout that part of the State, especially among the Society of Friends, of which he was a member.

Abraham Heston was twice married; his first wife was **Hannah Supplee**. Their children were: **Priscilla**; **Edward**; **Mary (Mrs. Thomas Hall)**, who lived to the age of one hundred and three years; **Ellen**; **Jonathan**; **Morris W.**; **Sarah**; and **Abraham**. **Mr. Heston's** second wife was **Martha Kinsey**; they had one son, **Warner**. **Abraham Heston** departed this life at the age of eighty-seven. **George Davis**, maternal grandfather of **Miss Heston**, and his wife, **Esther (Griffith) Davis**, were natives of Wales. **Mr. Davis** was the owner of a large plantation. He was for many years a successful classical teacher. The children of **George** and **Esther (Griffith) Davis** are: **Rebecca (Mrs. Benjamin Thomas)**; **Louisa (Mrs. George Trites)**; **Sarah (Mrs. Edward Lewis)**; **Serena**; **Esther (Mrs. Morris W. Heston)**; **Susan (Mrs. Charles Barnard)**; **Margaret (Mrs. John H. Barnard)**; and **Lydia**. **Mr. and Mrs. Davis** were members of the New Jerusalem church.

Morris W. Heston learned in early life the business of pump-making, which he carried on for many years. In 1866, he removed to Perry County, becoming a resident of Centre Township, and cultivated from that time until the year 1876, the farm which is still the homestead of the family. He married **Esther**, daughter of **George Davis**; of their eight children, four have departed this life: **Hannah**; **Sarah**; **Margaret**, in 1871, aged forty-one; and **Jonathan S.**, in 1882; the others are: **Martha K. (Mrs. Alfred A. Lister)**, of Philadelphia; **Catherine J.**; **Abraham**, married to **Martha Simpson**; and **Mary H. (Mrs. Francis Thurston)**, of Nebraska. The **Heston family** were all members of the New Jerusalem Church, in Philadelphia, in which **Mr. Heston** was an office-bearer. The father, **Morris W. Heston**, entered into rest August 29, 1876, at the age of seventy-one; his wife, March 5, 1878, aged seventy-four.

Alfred A. Lister, who married **Martha K. Heston**, is a manufacturer of pumps, in business in Philadelphia. Three of their children have passed away: **Morris**; **Mary**, aged nine months; and **Sallie L.**, in 1878, aged twenty three years. The others are: **Hettie (Mrs. John McPhinony)**; **Maggie L.**, who has for the past thirty years resided with her aunt. **Miss Catherine J. Heston**; **Joseph J.**; **Alfred T.**; **William H.**; **John J.**; and **Charles H.** **Mr. and Mrs. Lister** are members of the New Jerusalem Church, in Philadelphia. **Francis Thurston**, husband of **Mary H. Heston**,

also belongs to an old and well-known family of Philadelphia. **Mr. and Mrs. Francis Thurston** now reside in Nebraska, and are engaged in farming. In earlier life, **Mr. Thurston** was for many years a lithographer. Four of their children departed this life at a very tender age: **Lizzie; Rebecca; John;** and **Kate**. Those remaining are: **Morris; Annie (Mrs. William Pine)**, resides in Michigan; **David H.**, a graduate of Bloomfield Academy, and now prominent at the bar in Nebraska; and **George**, living at home.

Jonathan S. Heston, son of **Morris W.** and **Esther (Davis) Heston**, followed the vocation of carpentry until, inspired by love of country, he enlisted under the flag of the Union, in April, 1861, for the three months' service. In 1862, he enlisted again, in Company F, Sixty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, and took part in some of the great battles of the war; among them the fight at Gettysburg, and the Seven Days fight. During the latter, he was shot through the right lung. **Mr. Heston** was enrolled as a private; but, in reward of his gallant and faithful service, he was at its close honorably discharged as lieutenant. **Jonathan S. Heston** was married first to **Emma**, daughter of **Clarence** and **Emma White**. Of three children: **Florence; Arthur;** and **Bertha**; only the last-named survives; she resides with her aunt, **Miss Catherine J. Heston**. **Mrs. Emma Heston** died in 1874. **Mr. Heston** afterwards married **Mrs. Kate Eberly**, who now resides, with their two children, **Edward L.** and **Lillie**, in New Bloomfield, Pa. **Jonathan S. Heston** and his family were members of the Methodist Church; he died in 1882, at the age of forty-two.

www.theperryhistorians.org