

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

William James Jackman, editor of the *Democrat and Register*, Mifflintown, Pa., was born at Liverpool, Perry County, Pa., Wednesday, September 20, 1837, and is a son of **James Jackman**, a native of Old England, and an early settler in Liverpool, where he carried on an extensive mercantile business and owned five large boats, dealing extensively in grain, and transacting business between Liverpool, Philadelphia and Baltimore. He was also postmaster in Liverpool and married **Eliza Louisa Mitchell**, of Millersburg.

When **William James Jackman** was nine years old, both his parents died, and **Capt. B. F. Miller** became his guardian. During 1849- 50, he boarded with his cousin, **William Mitchell**, in the town of Dauphin, and attended a private school kept by him. In 1851-52, he was a student at the academy in New Bloomfield. While here, during the latter year, he became an apprentice in the printing office of **Mr. Stroop** and in December, 1854, finished his trade with Hon. John A. Magee, then, as now, the editor of the *Perry County Democrat*. In 1856 he returned to the academy and completed his course of study there. During 1857-58, he taught school in Perry County. In 1857-58, he accompanied **Dr. James Crawford** to Texas, where he worked at his trade. He later held positions as a printer in Austin, New Orleans, Louisville, Cincinnati and Philadelphia. **Mr. Jackman** returned to Mifflintown shortly after the war broke out, and was enrolled July 24, 1861, in Company A, First Regiment, Pennsylvania Reserve Cavalry, commanded by Gen. George D. Bayard, and was honorably discharged at Philadelphia, September 9, 1864, by reason of the expiration of his term of service, having worn the uniform of a Union soldier three years, one month and twelve days. He held by promotion the positions of sergeant and hospital steward.

After his discharge he returned to Mifflintown and purchased the *Juniata True Democrat* a paper that had been owned by **Dr. E. Darwin Crawford**, deceased, and formed a partnership with **Mr. Greer**. He also owned and at the same time carried on a clothing store in the Wilson Building, on Bridge Street. On October 16, 1867, the *Democrat and the Register*, the latter paper owned by **Amos Bonsall**, were consolidated, and appeared afterward as the *Democrat and Register*, **Bonsall** and **Jackman**, editors and publishers. On November 28, 1888, after **Mr. Bonsall's** death, **Mr. Jackman** became sole proprietor. His paper has always been a marked success. It has a large circulation, is liberally supported, and is recognized as an able and influential party organ.

Mr. Jackman married **Catherine S. Ickes**, of Ickesburg, Perry County, Pa., and has had five children: four daughters, **J. Gertrude**, **Louisa K.**, **Harriet P.**, and **Martha W.**, are living; and one son died in childhood. He has two sisters: **Pamelia J.**, who married **Dr. E. Darwin Crawford**, deceased; and **Ellen Eliza**, wife of **Dr. David M. Crawford**, a brother of **Dr. E. Darwin Crawford**, residing in Mifflintown. **Mr. Jackman** has been a faithful member of the Masonic order for thirty years, and is also a member of the I. O. O. F., and the G. A. R.