

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

**Hon. Benjamin F. Junkin**, New Bloomfield, Perry County, Pa., was born in Cumberland County, Pa., November 12, 1822, son of the late **John** and **Maria (Adams) Junkin**, of Cumberland County. In 1823, they removed from Cumberland to Perry County, where **John Junkin** bought the **Stroop** farm, near Landisburg; here they resided until 1853, when **Mr. Junkin** sold the property, and removed with his family to Muscatine County, Ia. **Mrs. Maria (Adams) Junkin** dying, **Mr. Junkin** was married again, to **Susan Guss**.

During their residence upon the Stroop farm, **Benjamin F. Junkin** attended a select school. In 1838, he became a student at Lafayette College, Easton, Pa., under the presidency of **Rev. George Junkin** D. D. He began the study of law in 1841, his preceptor being Hon. Samuel Hepburn; he was admitted to the Cumberland County bar in August, 1844. In the ensuing year, he removed to Perry County, and began practice at New Bloomfield. In 1852, he was selected district attorney for a term of three years. He was elected to Congress on the Republican ticket in 1858, to represent the district which embraced Perry, Cumberland and York counties. In 1871, he was made president judge of the Ninth Judicial District, then composed of Cumberland, Juniata and Perry Counties. In this office he was the successor of Judge Graham. **Judge Junkin** resumed practice at the close of his term, and still devotes to it much time and attention. In 1884, he was a representative of the Republican Party as presidential elector from Pennsylvania. Belonging to the old school of lawyers, whose training was such as to ensure absolute mastery of every point presented for their consideration, **Judge Junkin** is noted for the soundness and the thoroughness of his legal knowledge. His reputation as a lawyer and as judge is wide and substantial. He is careful and thorough in searching out the merits and the bearings of a case, and possesses, outside of his legal acquirements, a fund of general information which is often happily subservient to the purposes of legal investigation. His intellect is quick and penetrating, and this characteristic, combined with a good memory, an active imagination, and great fluency and elegance of diction, make him a very effective orator. **Judge Junkin's** kindly and genial disposition and his keen sense of humor make him a most agreeable companion, and have won for him the regard of many friends.

**Hon. Benjamin F. Junkin** was married April 12, 1848, to **Annie E.**, daughter of **James** and **Eliza McGowan**, of Perry County. Their children are: **Mary F. (Mrs. Jacob Strickler)**, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y.; and **John E.**, who married **Elizabeth E.**, daughter of **William Willis**, Esq., of New Bloomfield. **Judge Junkin** is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

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