

History of York County, Biographical, Illustrated, Volume II, Chicago, J. H. Beers and Company, 1907

**John L. McCreary.** The **McCreary** family of York County are of Scotch-Irish descent, and trace their ancestry from three brothers, **Thomas, John** and **Samuel**, who came from the north of Ireland to York County, Pa., early in the eighteenth century. **John** settled in the western part, **Samuel** in the lower and **Thomas** in the vicinity of what is now known as Hanover. This **Thomas**, founder of the Hanover branch of the family, was the great-great-grandfather of **John L.**, and the next in direct line was his son, also named **Thomas**.

**John L. McCreary**, grandfather of our subject, was born in Hanover in 1793. A farmer by occupation, he died in 1824, at the early age of thirty-one, leaving a wife, **Juliana (Lease) McCreary**, and two children, **Juliana**, and **Samuel**. **Mrs. McCreary** lived to the ripe old age of eighty-four, and passed away in 1882. The daughter died in 1894, aged seventy-four.

**Samuel McCreary** was born in 1818, at Dover, York County. He was well-educated, and in early life taught school. Of versatile ability, he was for a number of years a brick maker, and also a tailor, while the latter part of his life was spent in farming. He was well known in the community and highly esteemed he served for several terms as school director in Washington Township. His death occurred in 1897, when he was aged seventy-nine. He married **Harriet**, daughter of **Aaron Blackford**, also of York County, who is still living, a resident of Franklinton. There were five children born to this union: (1) **Aaron**, died at the age of twenty-one. (2) **Juliana** married **Jesse Ruhl**, a farmer of Cumberland County, and was the mother of **Samuel**, who married **Miss Annie Beitzel**, of Cumberland County, has three children, and lives on the **McCreary** farm in Washington Township; (3) **John L.** was the third. (4) **Elizabeth** became the wife of **Daniel Baker**, a teacher formerly of Warrington Township, now of Dillsburg. They have a daughter, **Virginia**. (5) **Samuel** married **Carrie**, daughter of **Daniel Brougher**, of York County, and has one child, **Roy**. He combines the occupations of farming and teaching. (6) **Catherine** is the wife of **Joseph Hershey**, a farmer living in Franklinton.

On the maternal side **John L. McCreary** is connected with the **Blackfords** and the **Yoners**, old original families of the county. **Samuel Yoner**, his great-great-grandfather, was one of the earliest settlers of Dover, but this was then called Yonerstettle, in honor of resided, April 9, 1871, son of **Henry** and is still in a good state of preservation. **Joseph Blackford**, great-grandfather of **John L. McCreary**, died in 1834, aged eighty-four. His wife was a **Miss Garretson**, who was born and reared in Washington Township. The grandfather, **Aaron Blackford**, who reached the advanced age of ninety, married a **Miss Miller**, of Perry county, who also lived to an extremely old age, passing away in 1885. They had five children: (1) **Miller**, who was all his life in the mercantile business, was for two terms a member of the Legislature, and a director of the Dillsburg Bank. He died in 1895, aged sixty-five years. (2) **Catherine Jane**, married a **Mr. Bushey**. (3) **John** lives in Iowa. (4) **Alfred** died at the age of eighteen. (5) **Harriet** became **Mrs. McCreary**.

**John L. McCreary** was born in Washington Township in 1854, was educated there, and afterward remained at home working on the farm until he was twenty-eight years old. One year he spent working on, the **Welty** farm near Dillsburg, but at the end of that time permanently

abandoned agriculture and entered upon a grocery and general merchandise business at Dillsburg. Since 1891 he has been carrying on a bakery, and began with a small establishment which he bought from **John Arnold**. **Mr. McCreary** has steadily built up the business until it has reached large proportions, and has a capacity of fifty-five barrels of flour a week, while the output of bread alone is 18,000 loaves. In handling the delivery trade, which covers an area of twelve miles, a force of sixteen men is employed, with four large wagons and twenty horses. **Mr. McCreary** shows himself possessed of qualities marking the successful business man, is ranked as a good citizen and stands well in the esteem of the community.

In 1883 occurred the marriage of **Mr. McCreary** to **Miss Rebecca Wireman**, daughter of **John Wireman**, of York County. Their only child, **Samuel**, is at present a boy in school. In religion **Mr.** and **Mrs. McCreary** are members of the Lutheran and United Brethren Churches, respectively. He is a Democrat in political belief.

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