

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

George Washington Mitchell, M. D., was born January 4, 1834, in Perry Valley, in Greenwood Township, on the farm now owned by **Mr. Douglas**. He is a son of **William** and **Alice (McBlair) Mitchell**. His grandfather, **George Mitchell**, who was of Scotch-Irish descent, married after coming from Ireland to America; his wife was **Elizabeth (Taylor) Mitchell**. They had one daughter, who became **Mrs. McGowan**, and nine sons, all now deceased: **John; David; Isaac; Joseph; James; Samuel; Hugh; George;** and **William**. **William Mitchell**, the youngest son, was born on the old **Joseph Mitchell** farm in Perry Valley, and was brought up to farming. His father, owning six or seven thousand acres of land, was able to give each of his sons a farm. After cultivating the farm which was his portion for some time, **William Mitchell** removed about 1840 to Juniata Township, Perry County, where he died about 1881, in his eighty-fifth year. His wife had died in the previous year. Their children are: **Isabella (Mrs. Jacob Gantt)**, of Missouri; **Margaret Ann (Mrs. William C. Brown)**, of Liverpool, Pa; **George W.**, M. D.; **William**, had been with the Pike's Peak expedition in 1858, and started to return home, when he was drowned in the Platte River; **Alice (Mrs. James Adams)**, of Juniata County. Pa.; **Isaiah**, farmer of Juniata County, was for three years county commissioner; **Naomi (Mrs. H. Clay Meredith)**, of Quincy, Ill.; and **Arthur**, farmer on the homestead in Juniata Township.

At the time when his parents removed to Juniata Township, **George W. Mitchell** was five or six years old. He attended the common schools of that township, and afterwards the academy at New Bloomfield. He had entered Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa., intending to study there for three years, when, the Kansas excitement being at its height, his father wrote him to come home and go west with him. It was in 1850; they went by rail to Pittsburg, thence by steamboat to St. Louis, Mo., by rail to Jefferson City, and by steamer to Kansas City. Not being pleased with the country, the older **Mitchell** remained only a week, and then set out for home. His son accompanied him as far as Jefferson City, where he decided to stop, and from which place he went to California, Mo., and taught a subscription school there for three months. At the end of that time a man having come from Miller County, Mo., to ask him to come to that county and teach, **Mr. Mitchell** complied. After teaching there for three months, he returned home, having made up his mind to study medicine. This he did until the following October under the preceptorship of Dr. Brown, of Newport, Pa. In that fall, he matriculated at Jefferson College, Philadelphia, Pa., and graduated March 12, 1860. He practiced at Newport, Pa., from that time until December, 1861, when he removed to Andersonburg, Perry County, where he has now a very successful and lucrative practice. On February 8, 1863, **Dr. Mitchell** enlisted as assistant surgeon in the One Hundred and Nineteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, a Philadelphia regiment. He remained with the army until the close of the war, being present at the battle of Chancellorsville, then at Gettysburg, and from that time, at all of the principal battles in which the Army of the Potomac was engaged, until General Lee's surrender. After the close of the war, the **Doctor** returned to Andersonburg, where his practice has since been uninterrupted. He is a member of the medical societies of Perry County and the State of Pennsylvania. **Dr. Mitchell** is a farmer as well as a physician, owning and cultivating a farm of 75 acres. He is a warm supporter of Democratic principles.

Dr. George Washington Mitchell was married, January 29, 1861, to **Ellen C.**, daughter of **Israel** and **Catherine (Livingstone) Carpenter**. She was born in Halifax, Dauphin County, Pa., November 22, 1845; her parents were both natives of Cumberland County, Pa. The children of **Dr.** and **Mrs. Mitchell** are: **William**, attorney-at-law, of Alliance, Neb.; **Catherine J. (Mrs. B. P. North)**, of Compton, Va.; **George Arthur**, printer, of Pittsburg, Pa.; **Charles C.**, broker, interested in railroads in Nebraska; **Frank P.**, railroad employee in Nebraska; **Mary Alice**, attending school; and **Bessie May**, at home. **Dr. Mitchell** is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and has been in the eldership for the past ten years.

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