

Michael Oren, farmer, Newport, Perry County, Pa., son of **Jesse** and **Catherine (Horting) Oren**, was born in Greenwood Township, Perry County, October 27, 1822. His ancestors came from Germany. His grandfather died in Howe Township, on the **Kumbler** farm, named for his son-in-law, **Mr. Kumbler**. **Jesse Oren** was born in York County, Pa., in 1801, and came to Perry County when a young man, in the spring of 1828. In the following spring, he married **Miss Catherine Horting**, and they settled on a farm of ninety-seven acres, now owned by their son, **Michael**. This farm was probably bequeathed to **Mrs. Oren** by her father, at least in part, as **Mr. Oren** paid a balance on it to the other heirs of the estate. At that time the land was nearly all in timber; **Mr. Oren** cleared it, prepared the soil for cultivation, and erected the needful buildings. Another part of his occupation was driving a team to and from Baltimore. He was a man of fine physique, and of robust health. He had a double row of teeth, not one of which was decayed; to the end of his life his sight was as good as it was in his youth, serving him perfectly, without the aid of glasses. His reputation was widely established over the county as a capable and successful business man, of unquestioned probity. His religious views were clearly and firmly held, and he maintained a consistent course of conduct as a member of the Church of God. His death occurred at the home of his son, **Michael**, November 12, 1893, his wife having died eight years before, at the age of seventy-five years; the remains of both are interred in the cemetery of the Church of God in Howe Township. Their children are: **Michael**; **Mary (Mrs. R. H. Wingert)**, of Newport, Pa.; **Jesse**, died near Milford, in Juniata Township; **Margaret (Mrs. John L. Wingert)**, of Howe Township; **William**, died in Howe Township, aged seven years; **George**, died young; **Elizabeth (Mrs. John Basom)**, of Howe Township, whose husband served in the late war; **Annie (Mrs. Philip Zeigler)**, of Howe Township; **Catherine (Mrs. John Freeland)**, of Howe Township; **John**, farmer, in Juniata Township; and **Abraham**, of Newport. **Michael Oren's** parents removed when he was five or six years old, to Howe Township, where he attended the district schools until he was twenty-one years of age, and worked on the farm. Being of a mechanical turn, he readily learned carpentry without apprenticeship, and rendered valuable service in the erection of the home dwelling and other buildings. His first employment was as cook on a canal boat, for which he received one dollar per day, after which he worked as a carpenter with **Mr. Horting** at Newport. His readiness and ingenuity at almost any kind of work render it easy for him to keep in employment. In the spring of 1861, he built a house for himself on a lot on the river in Howe Township, and resided there until April, 1893, when he took possession of his present home, which was bequeathed to him and his brother, **Abraham**, by their father. **Mr. Oren** cordially adopted the political views of the Republican Party, and served as auditor of the township and as judge of elections. His life and character are such as to beget the good will and esteem of all his neighbors.

In the spring of 1848, **Michael Oren** was married to **Rachel Elizabeth Freeland**, born in Howe Township, June 29, 1833, daughter of **John** and **Mary (Kumbler) Freeland**. Their children are: **Ellen**, widow of **John Lynch**, resides in Harrisburg, Pa.; **John William**, died aged two years; **George W.**, works in the stone quarry at Harrisburg, Pa.; **James F.**, resides at Harrisburg, Pa.; **Louise**; **Charles H.**, drayman at Newport, Pa.; **Abraham Jesse**, railroad hand on the Newport and Shermans Valley Railroad; and **Dotty**, died aged nineteen years.