

A History of the Juniata Valley and its People Under The Editorial Supervision of John W. Jordan, LL.D.; Librarian of Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia; Illustrated; New York, Lewis Historical Publishing Company; 1913; Volume II

## OWENS

**Ishmael Owens** was born in Wales, April 20, 1748, and was a brewer of malt and hops. He located in New Orleans, Louisiana, about 1769, and from there removed to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He remained there for a while, when he settled in Chester County, Pennsylvania, where he lived from 1774 until 1813, covering the periods of the two wars with Great Britain. Here he was married and here all his children were born. He served during the revolutionary war as a member of the Chester County light horse, and in after years was fond of recalling his experiences and describing the events which came under his observation, frequently referring to the battle of Brandywine and the massacre of Paoli. His children and grandchildren have recollection of his uniform, which was of bright blue cloth trimmed with yellow and adorned with large brass buttons. He wore a leather hat with a projection in front and plain behind, and carried a sword. He was in every respect a patriotic and exemplary citizen, and served both church and state to the best of his ability. He attended the Manor meeting house near West Chester, for, though he was an Episcopalian in his religious beliefs, he had no hesitancy in worshipping in the Presbyterian Church.

It was while he was still living in Chester county that his oldest son, **Morris**, was drafted for service at Baltimore to assist in quelling the riots of July 27-28, during the first year of the war of 1812. The company in which he served marched all night in order to reach the scene of the troubles, but reached their destination after the fighting was all over and quiet had been established. In 1813 **Mr. Owens** removed to Middletown, Dauphin County, where he resided four years, before he made his final home in Lewistown, Mifflin County. Here he died in the year 1820 from the effects of a fall, being then seventy-two years of age. He was a man well preserved for his age, and in stature was inclined to be short and stout; it is not believed that he had other relatives in this country beside his immediate family at the time of his death. He was buried in Millerstown, Perry County, where his wife was also buried over a quarter of a century afterward, in 1846. She was a **Miss Catherine Stem** before her marriage, born March 24, 1763, the daughter of **Conrad Stem**, of German descent. Children: **Morris**, born February 12, 1788; **Henry**, March 19, 1791; **Elizabeth**, October 10, 1792; **David**, March 1, 1794; **Rebecca**, June 26, 1796; **William**, November 28, 1797; **Sarah**, August 20, 1799; **Rachel**, April 5, 1801; **Lewis**, February 18, 1802; **Owen**, April 16, 1805, mentioned further; **Mary**, August 5, 1807.

(II) **Owen Owens**, son of **Ishmael** and **Catherine (Stem) Owens**, was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, where his parents resided for many years, on April 16, 1805. He was seven years of age when his father removed to Middletown, Dauphin County, and accompanied him afterward to Lewistown, in Mifflin County. Here he resided until the year 1829, when he settled in Wayne Township, now Oliver, at what is now Lockport. He was a blacksmith, and it was he who opened for the first time the three locks for boats to pass through. He remained at Lockport for four or five years, when he removed to a farm which **James Shepherd** had previously owned; and in 1861 he located on the **McFadden** farm at what is now Granville.

(III) **Walter L. Owens**, son of **Owen Owens**, accompanied his father to Granville, where he opened a store in 1865; this was made a passenger station in 1866, and during the same year a post office was established there. The place had previously been known as Wolfkill's Siding. **Mr. Owens** became a prominent man in the neighborhood and was one of the leading merchants of the town. He married **Miss Mary E. Price**, and had children as follows: 1. **Anna**, deceased; married **R. W. Kline**; children: **Charles E.**, **Frank A.** and **Ethel**. 2. **Charles G.**, of whom further. 3. **Blanche**, married **W. G. Satzler**; no issue. 4. **James H.**, married **Miss Mumper**; children: **Herbert**, **William** (deceased) and **Elizabeth**.

(IV) **Charles G. Owens**, son of **Walter L.** and **Mary E. (Price) Owens**, was born November 11, 1866, in Granville Township, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania. He received his education in the common schools of the township, and was reared on his father's farm, beginning work as a young man on the railroad. He subsequently entered the merchandise business, and for seven years has been connected with the store in Granville, where he has conducted a general trade with distinguished success. He now has full ownership of the store, and is besides in possession of other properties in the city. His influence in the community is a very strong one. On January 1, 1911, he was appointed postmaster of Granville. In politics **Mr. Owens** is a Republican, though he has never made himself conspicuous in his party or aspired to public office. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as is also his wife, to whom he was married on March 7, 1895. She was **Miss Arietta Emory**, before her marriage, born November 1, 1869, in Perry County, and is the daughter of **James** and **Mariah (Scyoc) Emory**, also natives of that county. They have had six children, all born in Granville Township, and all now at home with their parents: **Cecilia**, born January 26, 1896; **Walter**, May 8, 1898; **Owen**, January 29, 1902; **Mary**, August 7, 1904; **Bruce**, April 1, 1905; **Merle**, December 23, 1907.

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