

Commemorative Biographical Record of Central Pennsylvania, Centre, Clinton, Union and Snyder County, Chicago, J. H. Beers and Company, 1898

Solomon Peck, senior member of the well known mercantile firm of Peck & Son, has been prominently identified with the commercial, industrial and agricultural interests of Huston, Centre County, and vicinity for many years. His honorable business methods and untiring energy have brought to him a well-merited success, and have been of material benefit to the community by advancing its interests.

A native of Pennsylvania, he was born in Dauphin County, September 21, 1837, and in 1846 was brought to Centre County by his parents, **Simon** and **Mary Ann (Singer) Peck**, the former a native of Dauphin County, and the latter of Perry County, Penn. His paternal grandparents, **Conrad** and **Barbara (Lyter) Peck**, were also born in Dauphin County.

Our subject is second in order of birth in a family of eleven children, as follows: (1) **Sarah A.**, is the wife of **George Rossman**, a laborer of Illinois, to which State they removed in 1888, and they have five children. (2) **Anna M.** is the wife of **Ira C. Walker**, a farmer, by whom she has one child, and they removed from Centre County to Illinois in 1865. (3) **Conrad**, born April 23, 1841, married **Lydia Arney**, of Centre Hall, Centre County, by whom he has three daughters, and they have made their home upon a farm in Kansas since 1883. (4) **Catharine**, born September 6, 1843, is the wife of **Nathaniel Bowersox**, a farmer of Brush Valley, Centre County, and they have eight children. (5) **Anna E.** is the wife of **J. I. Jones**, a farmer, by whom she has two children, and they have lived in Kansas since 1887. (6) **Joseph**, born August 15, 1848, married **Minerva Spangler**, by whom he has two daughters, and is a farmer of Kansas, to which State he removed in 1878. (7) **Barbara**, born May 11, 1851, married **Samuel Leopold**, of Sugar Valley, Penn., but they now live on a farm in Missouri. (8) **Martin**, born December 3, 1853, married **Magdalene Weaver**, by whom he has two daughters, and on leaving Centre County in 1880 went to Kansas, but finally located upon a farm in Missouri. (9) **Austin**, a farmer of Illinois, born June 25, 1857, married **Alice Snyder**, by whom he has one son. (10) **Myron**, born May 20, 1860, is married and living upon a farm in Kansas.

After obtaining a good practical education in the common schools of Centre County, Mr. Peck, the subject of this review, learned the cabinet maker's trade, at which he worked until 1885, when he embarked in merchandising in Huston; he is also engaging in undertaking and farming. He is a wide-awake, enterprising business man, of known reliability, and his straightforward, honorable course has gained him the confidence of all with whom he has come in contact. He married Miss **May E.**, daughter of **John Wolf**, of Miles Township, Centre County, and they have one child, **Edwin J.**, who was born June 18, 1860, and is now connected with his father in business. On May 23, 1893, the son was wedded to **Miss Tillie E. Yearick**, a daughter of **Henry Yearick**, a retired farmer of Marion, Centre County. One child blesses this union—**Earl Henry**, born June 24, 1894.

A man of broad and liberal views, well informed on the leading issues and questions of the day, our subject is one of the prominent, influential citizens of Walker Township. In connection with his store in Huston, he also owns a fine farm just a half mile from the city limits, but makes his home in the village. A strong Democrat in politics, he has been honored by his party with several

official positions of honor and trust, including those of County auditor, overseer of the poor, school director, and justice of the peace for the past fifteen years, and it is needless to say that his duties were ever promptly and faithfully performed. Religiously, he holds membership in the German Reformed Church. He bears a remarkable resemblance to Governor Altgeld, of Illinois.