

Scraps of Dauphin County History, by E. W. S. Parthemore, 1896, Harrisburg, Pa, Harrisburg Publishing Company

The **Reed Family** of Reed Township, Dauphin County. One of the earliest families to settle in Powell's Valley, following **Anthony Powell**, the first settler, who gave the name to the creek and valley in the upper end of Dauphin County, was **James Reed**. Among his issue was one son. **James. Capt. James Reed** resided all his life in what is now Reed Township. He was a brave soldier in the War of the Revolution, and as captain in the campaign in New Jersey did heroic service. He died in the year 1789 and was buried in the graveyard of the Presbyterian Church back of Dauphin. He married **Miss Esther Ayers**, b. 1756; d. 1830; daughter of **William Ayres** and **Mary Kein**, and had issue:

- i. **John**, b. June 26, 1783; m. May 12, 1807, **Sarah Ferree**.
- ii. **Deborah**, b. October 9, 1785; d. aged 13 years, 5 months and 27 days by drowning.
- iii. **Elizabeth**, b. September 11, 1787, in Montgomery County, Pa.; m. her cousin, **Hiram McNeill**, son of **Anthony McNeill** (b. 1723; d. February 27, 1791) and **Elizabeth Ayres**. He was born October 6, 1765; d. March 23, 1837. Was associate judge of Montgomery County, Pa., and died there. Had issue.
- iv. **William**, b. July 9, 1789; d. November 6. 1864.
- v. **Mary**, b. September 8, 1791; m. **Thomas McConnell**.

I. **William Reed (James, James)**. He was born on the old homestead below Halifax, Pa. Was a man of prominence and elected county commissioner in 1847, but died before his term expired, and Reed Township was named in honor of him. He married, first, **Elizabeth Steel**, of Perry County, Pa. She was born December 25, 1787. They had issue:

- i. **James**, b. March 21, 1822; m. **Julia Steese**.
- ii. **Hetty**, b. March 6, 1825; d. s. p.
- iii. **Margaret**, b. March 27, 1827; m. **Dr. J. Ourtman**.

William Reed married secondly **Clarissa (Hatfield) Kline**, b. January 11, 1800. They had issue:

- iv. **William**, b. September 7, 1831; m. **Elizabeth Baskins** and had issue.
- v. **Cyrus**, b. September 1, 1833; d. June 4, 1855, at Salina, Mo.
- vi. **Elizabeth**, b. February 22, 1835; m. **Thomas J. Sawyer**. Reside at Halifax, Pa.
- vii. **John**, b. May 30, 1838; d. February 23, 1843.

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