

A History of the Juniata Valley and its People under the Editorial Supervision of John W. Jordan, M.D. Librarian of Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa., Volume III, Illustrated, New York, Lewis Historical- Publishing Company, 1913

Horace E. Sheibley, of Bloomfield, Pennsylvania, editor and co-proprietor of The People's Advocate and Press, published at Bloomfield, can claim the proud distinction of having for his direct paternal ancestor a valiant soldier of the American Revolution.

(I) **Peter Sheibley**, the first of the name to cross the Atlantic for the shores of the New World, was born in Switzerland, April 10, 1742, and came direct from the country that is justly called "the cradle of liberty," to America. He settled in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, and from there entered the Continental army and served the entire eight years of the struggle of the colonials for their political liberty. Returning after peace had been declared; he located near Oley, Berks County, Pennsylvania, and later moved to Green Park, Tyrone Township, Perry County, Pennsylvania (at that time Cumberland County), where he took up wild land, cleared, improved and cultivated it, erecting thereon houses for himself and family. He died on this place, September 7, 1823, at the age of eighty-one, after a life well and worthily spent. He was the father of twenty-seven children, eighteen of whom reached maturity, and their descendants today are numerous and are among the most respected and reputable citizens of Pennsylvania. He married (first) **Elizabeth Probst**; (second) **Christina Linn**. Children by first marriage, reaching adult age:

1. **Frederick**, born March 14, 1772, died 1828.
2. **Mary Magdalena**, born August 15, 1777, died March 29, 1857.
3. **Abraham**, born September 2, 1778.
4. **John Daniel**, born August 14, 1781, died November 3, 1863.
5. **John**, born May 20, 1782, died October 15, 1864.

Children by second marriage, reaching maturity:

1. **Catherine**, born July 12, 1786, died December 19, 1868, married **Frederick Sheaffer**.
2. **Susanna**, born August 15, 1787, died May 1, 1874; married **John Lightner**.
3. **Elizabeth**, born September 6, 1789.
4. **John George**, born December 12, 1790, died May 27, 1875; married **Esther Tressler**.
5. **John Peter**, born May 13, 1793.
6. **Bernhart**, of whom further.
7. **Mary**, born November 1, 1797.
8. **Jacob**, born August 27, 1798, died February 9, 1882.
9. **William**, born April 27, 1800; married **Catherine Fosselman**.
10. **Sarah**, born April 6, 1802; married **Jacob Bernheisel**.
11. **Elizabeth**, born May 29, 1804; married **Jacob Stambaugh**.
12. **David**, born October 30, 1805, died March 30, 1876; married **Elizabeth Clay**.

(II) **Bernhart**, son of **Peter** and **Christina (Linn) Sheibley**, was born August 18, 1794, in Tyrone Township, Perry County, Pennsylvania, on the **Sheibley** homestead. He married **Mary Holman**, born December 1, 1803, in Spring Township, Perry County, daughter of **Conrad** and **Elizabeth Ann Holman**. **Mr.** and **Mrs. Sheibley** each grew to maturity in their respective townships, and were married at her home, and from there went to Landisburg, where he had

established himself in the wheelwright trade, making wagons and spinning wheels for the community. He retired from active business at an advanced age. He enlisted in the war of 1812 from his county, and served through the war. He was not only a splendid wheelwright, but evinced a deep interest in education, and was a subscriber to a scholarship at Marshall College, Mercersburg, which has been of benefit to some of his descendants, as they entered college on this scholarship. He was a Democrat until the organization of the Republican Party, when he gave to it his franchise, and held offices under both parties. He was earnest, industrious, honest and upright in his dealings with his fellow men, and justly merited the respect and esteem accorded to his memory in his native state and the reverence of his memory by his descendants. Children:

1. **Peter M.**, died 1892, in Rome, Georgia.
2. **Harriet M.**, married **Lewis Grubb**, died in 1908.
3. **John H.**, of whom further.
4. **Elizabeth Ann**, married **Samuel Kart**, of Kingston, Cumberland County.
5. **Sarah H.**, married **Samuel A. Lightner**, who died October 5, 1894.
6. **Henry S.**, died in 1839.
7. **William H.**, died at Landisburg in 1892 from effects of a wound received at Fredericksburg, Virginia, while serving as captain of Company G, 103d Pennsylvania Volunteers, in the civil war.
8. **Mary Jane**, died in childhood, in 1839.
9. **Samuel H.**, a grocer in Philadelphia, died 1906.
10. **James P.**, a physician of Landisburg, died October 5, 1905; served during the civil war in Company D, 7th Pennsylvania Reserves: was wounded at Gaines Mill.

(III) **John H. Sheibley**, son of **Bernhart** and **Mary (Holman) Sheibley**, was born in Landisburg, Pennsylvania, November 17, 1827, died December 1, 1900; married, June 24, 1858, **Mary**, daughter of **Nimrod** and **Eliza (Drexler) Eby**; she died March 17, 1904. **Mr. Sheibley** was reared in Landisburg, and was educated in the common schools, but applied himself diligently, and at the age of sixteen, when he left school to enter a business life, he was far better educated than most boys of eighteen or twenty. At sixteen he became a printer's apprentice in the office of the Reformed Messenger, at Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. After serving five years he went to Madison Court House, Virginia, 1849-50, and there entered an academy of great repute in those days. In 1850 he went to Philadelphia and was employed in the old Johnson Type Foundry as printer until 1853. At that time he purchased the necessary material and went to New Bloomfield, Pennsylvania, and began to publish the People's Advocate and Press, and was its editor and proprietor until the time of his death. In his early years he was a Democrat, but became an ardent Republican on the organization of that party, upholding and advocating its principles. During President Lincoln's administration he was appointed an assessor of internal revenue, and in 1873 was elected to the legislature from Perry County, and served one term. He was school director and councilman at different times. He was an emergency man in 1863. As he was unable to enlist in a regular regiment he supported and looked after the families of his brothers while they were serving in the civil war, and also looked after and educated his younger brothers. He was one of the most useful men of his day, as well as one of the most upright and honest. He invariably stood for the right in the face of opposition, and was a powerful factor for good in his community, town, county and state. He was deeply mourned at his death, not only

by his immediate family and large circle of relatives and family connections, but by the state at large. Children:

1. **William Bernard**, born April 25, 1859. He was educated at Franklin and Marshall College, the same to which his great-grandfather had given a scholarship, and graduated there from in 1881, with distinction. He learned thoroughly the printer's trade, but did not engage in that business. He was appointed auditor of the Perry County Railway Company, and May 1, 1900, entered the Census Bureau department of the United States and was later transferred to the Bureau of Immigration, at Washington, D. C. On April 1, 1911, he was transferred to the same department in Philadelphia, where he is at the present time (1913). He married **Jessie Bartlett**; they have had no children.

2. **Horace E.**, of whom further.

3. **Charles N.**, died in 1863.

(IV) **Horace E. Sheibley**, son of **John H.** and **Mary (Eby) Sheibley**, was born in New Bloomfield, Pennsylvania, July 23, 1861. He received his preparatory education in the Bloomfield Academy, and worked for his father in the office of the Advocate and Press, learning most thoroughly the printer's trade. He matriculated at Franklin and Marshall College, and graduated from there in 1882 with signal honor. Leaving college, he became associated with his father in the publication of the People's Advocate and Press, and as **Mr. Sheibley** advanced in years he gradually shifted the burdens of management and editorship on the shoulders of his son, both of which responsibilities were met to the entire satisfaction of his father and the public. On the death of **Mr. Sheibley Sr.**, in 1900, he, with his brother, became owner of the plant, and has since conducted it under the name of **Sheibley Brothers**. He succeeded his father as a director of the Perry County Railway Company, and of the First National Bank, and still holds these directorships, and is also director in the Carlisle Trust Company. He is a Republican; he was a delegate to the Chicago Republican convention in 1904: was county chairman of the Republican committee, and has also been a member of the Republican state committee for several years. He has served as school director for twenty consecutive years, during which time he was also secretary, an unsurpassed record, and he was reelected in 1912 for another six years. He is a member of the Reformed Church, while his wife is a member of the Presbyterian. He is a Mason, and is affiliated with Adams Lodge, No. 319. He married, June 30, 1904, **Bessie M. Peale**, born in New Bloomfield, daughter of **Samuel A.** and **Elizabeth (McIntire) Peale**, both of whom are descendants of old English families long established in the United States. **Mr.** and **Mrs. Sheibley** have no children.

Nimrod Eby, grandfather of **Horace E. Sheibley**, on the distaff side, was born at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and is from a family that has long been established in Pennsylvania. He became a printer in his youth, which occupation he followed for many years. He moved to New Bloomfield, Pennsylvania, when quite a young man, and for many years was connected with the best interests of Perry County. He died at New Bloomfield when he was only thirty-four. He was a Democrat in politics, voting that ticket to the time of his passing away. He married **Eliza Drexler**, also a member of an old family in Pennsylvania. She was born in York County, and after **Mr. Eby's** death she returned there and later married **Samuel Wiggins**. Children of **Nimrod** and **Eliza (Drexler) Eby**:

1. Mary, mother of **Horace E. Sheibley** (see Sheibley).

2. **Ellen**, died young.
3. **Annie**, died young.
4. **James**, a physician at Newport for many years; died in April, 1911.
5. **William N.**, died in 1882; a printer and compositor on the Philadelphia Times for many years.

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