

Commemorative Biographical Encyclopedia of The Juniata Valley, comprising the Counties of Huntingdon, Mifflin, Juniata and Perry, Pennsylvania. 1897, J. M. Runk and Company, Publishers, Chambersburg, PA

John R. Sheibley, Alinda, Perry County, Pa., son of **John** and **Elizabeth (Probst) Sheibley**, was born in Franklin County, Pa., August 12, 1814. His grandfather, **Peter Sheibley**, removed from Berks County to Perry County, and settled in Tyrone Township. He was a farmer all his life, and was twice married. The children of the first marriage were as follows: **Fred; Solomon; Abraham; John; David;** and **Margaret (Mrs. Henry Kline)**. **Mr. Sheibley** was married the second time to **Miss Lynn**, and they had nine children: **Daniel; Elizabeth (Mrs. Jacob Stambaugh); Sarah (Mrs. Jacob Bernheisel); Susan (Mrs. Henry Lightner); Catherine (Mrs. Fred Shaeffer); Jacob; Barnett; George;** and **Peter**. The maternal grandparents, **Mr.** and **Mrs. Probst**, were natives of Berks County, Pa., who, coming to Franklin County, settled near Chambersburg, and engaged in the hotel business. They raised a family of four children: **Nancy (Mrs. Daniel Kramer); Susan (Mrs. Christian Shearer); Elizabeth;** and **John**.

John Sheibley, father of **John R.**, was born in Perry County. His trade was that of blacksmith, which he followed as long as he was able to work. He married **Elizabeth**, daughter of **Andrew Probst**, of Franklin County. They had these children: **John R.; Elizabeth (Mrs. Sterrett Lightner); Belle (Mrs. Andrew Eiker)**, of Chambersburg; **Jacob; Peter; William; Mary (Mrs. William Allen); Sarah (Mrs. William Stone); Henrietta (Mrs. Gabriel Kline);** and **David**. All are deceased except the first three. The parents were members of the Reformed Church. The father died in 1839, aged eighty-three; the mother died at the age of forty-nine years. **John R. Sheibley** received his education in the subscription schools, which he attended until he was sixteen years old. His parents being poor, he hired out among the farmers in his neighborhood, and thus was able to contribute to the support of the family. This he did until he was twenty-seven years of age. During this time, when about sixteen years old, he went to Wayne County, O., and there drove a team for two months. He remained in Ohio for seven years, employed at intervals in blacksmithing and tanning, and then returned to Perry County, Pa. **Mr. Sheibley** was married, October 6, 1842, to **Mary**, daughter of **John** and **Elizabeth (Ernest) Rhinesmith**. They have had eight children: **Mary Ellen (Mrs. George A. Wagner); David; John A.; Margaret J. (Mrs. Samuel Dunkelberger); James C.**, died December 4, 1894, aged forty three years; and **three** that died in infancy.

Mrs. John R. Sheibley was born in Perry County, October 16, 1815. Her paternal grandfather was a native of Germany, who came to this country and settled in Little Germany, Spring Township, where he engaged in farming. He married **Susan Zimmerman**; they had these children: **John; Henry; Jonathan; Elizabeth; George;** and **Susan**. The family were Lutherans. The maternal grandparents were farmers in Perry County. The grandfather died in 1830, aged seventy-three years; his wife died some years before, at the age of thirty-seven years. The father of **Mrs. Sheibley** followed the trade of blacksmith for a number of years, but later bought a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was married to **Elizabeth**, daughter of **Henry** and **Mary (Kramer) Ernest**. They had the following children: **Elizabeth (Mrs. John R. Sheibley); Henry; Samuel; David; E. Jane (Mrs. John Wetzel)**, of Harrisburg; **John**, died aged twenty-three; **Maria**, died at eighteen years; and **George**, died July 25, 1894, aged sixty-seven years. Both parents were members of the Lutheran Church, the father holding the office of deacon and elder. He died in 1831, at the age of eighty-three. Since his marriage **Mr. Sheibley** has been engaged in farming, and in 1844, he removed to the farm on which he now resides. He is one of the oldest and most highly respected residents of the township. He is a member of the Reformed Church, and has been a deacon for many years.