

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

Samuel D. Shumaker, Newport, Perry County, Pa., was born April 20, 1854, in Perry County. He is a son of **Henry** and **Margaret (Kessler) Shumaker**, also natives of Perry County. His grandfather, **Henry Shumaker**, was a native of Berks County, Pa., who came to Perry County in early life, and was a farmer. He married **Miss Sitler**; their only surviving child is **Henry Shumaker, Jr.**, father of **Samuel D.** Both of the grandparents lived to a venerable age, and passed their last days in the home of their son **Henry**. **Mr.** and **Mrs. Peter Kessler**, maternal grandparents of **Mr. S. D. Shumaker**, were among the early settlers of this region. **Mr. Kessler** was a farmer. Their children are: **Maria**, deceased; **Adam**, deceased; **Michael**, deceased; **George**, left home in his youth, and has never been heard from; **Margaret (Mrs. Shumaker)**; **Elizabeth (Mrs. George Stambaugh)**; **David**; and **Andrew**. **Henry Shumaker**, the younger, has led from his boyhood the industrious and useful life of a farmer, and is now enjoying well-earned leisure, both he and his wife still residing on the farm. Of their family of ten sons and two daughters, two are deceased: **Henry**, who died in September, 1882; and **Peninna**, who died while an infant. The others are: **Mary (Mrs. Samuel Long)**; **Elizabeth (Mrs. Daniel Minnich)**; **Samuel D.**; **Luther M.**; **Peter H.**; **John L.**; **Margaretta I. (Mrs. Charles Kistler)**; and **Andrew S.** **Henry Shumaker** has been an active worker in the community and the church, as well as in his business. He has served the township as supervisor and school director, and the county as commissioner. He has been deacon in the Lutheran Church, of which he and his wife are members.

The early years of **Samuel D. Shumaker** were passed in attendance at the common schools, and work on the home farm. After leaving school, he continued to work for different farmers until he was twenty-one years old. In 1878, he went west, and spent about seven years. He was engaged in farm work for a year in Illinois, besides six months which he passed in Chicago; in Tennessee, he was for about three months engaged in various kinds of labor; but most of the time was spent in Ohio, where he remained five years, principally occupied with farming. **Samuel D. Shumaker** was married, December 28, 1880, in Newport, Perry County, Pa., where he arrived that day, to **Martha J.**, daughter of **Philip Reis**, a native of Perry County.

Mr. Reis was in his younger days both blacksmith and farmer; the latter vocation he followed all his life. Eight children of **Mr.** and **Mrs. Reis** are living: **Elizabeth**, widow of **John Sunday**; **Henry**; **Margaret (Mrs. Nicholas Resinger)**; **Philip**; **Jacob**; **Mary Ellen**; **Martha J. (Mrs. Shumaker)**; and **Levi**. Both parents are deceased; **Mr. Reis** died in 1889. They were members of the Lutheran Church, as are also **Mr.** and **Mrs. Samuel D. Shumaker**.

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