



**Hon. Charles H. Smiley**, New Bloomfield, Perry County, Pa., was born at Shermans Dale, Perry County, May 9, 1844, son of **Samuel** and **Sarah (McMurray) Smiley**. His paternal grandfather was occupied during most of his life in farming, besides serving many years as justice of the peace. He was for more than fifty years an elder in the Presbyterian Church. He married a lady who bore the same family name as himself; she was a daughter of **George Smiley**. The **Smiley** family is of Scotch-Irish descent, and its progenitors in this country were among the pioneer Presbyterian settlers. **Samuel Smiley** was a teacher in early life; he was afterwards engaged in mercantile business in Carlisle, Pa. In the early fifties he purchased a farm in Perry County which had been owned in the name of **Smiley** for one hundred years; on this farm he passed the rest of his life. While a resident of Carroll Township, he served for a number of years as justice of the peace. He

was a citizen of prominence and influence. His wife, **Sarah**, daughter of **William** and **Nancy McMurray**, was, like himself, of a Scotch-Irish Presbyterian family. Their children are: **Charles H.**; **Mary A. (Mrs. John S. Weaver)**, of Harrisburg, Pa.; **Phebe (Mrs. B. G. Zimmerman)**, of Osborne County, Kas., where her husband is engaged in mercantile business; **Belle (Mrs. Lloyd Kistler)**, whose husband is a farmer in Marshall County, Kas.; **David**, a machinist, of Allegheny City, Pa.; **Thomas**, died aged twenty-one; **Gertrude**, died aged twenty; and twin children, who died in infancy. **Samuel Smiley** died November 7, 1857; his wife survived him for thirty years, dying in May, 1887. Their daughter, **Gertrude**, being a little child at the time of her father's death, her elder brother, **Charles H. Smiley**, took her under his care, and educated her. She was teaching in Marshall County, Kas., at the time of her death.

In his early youth, **Charles H. Smiley** attended the public schools of Carlisle, Pa.; he afterwards studied at the academy at New Bloomfield, Perry County; but for the greater part of his literary education, he is indebted to his own intellectual taste and ambition, his well-chosen courses of reading, and his habits of independent study. He is a self-educated man, the possessor of a large fund of information on various subjects. Intercourse through reading with the master minds of all time has combined with native wit and an amiable disposition to mature his conversational powers, and to make his society a pleasure and a helpful stimulus. **Mr. Smiley** served in the war of the Rebellion under Generals Sheridan, Hunter and Sigel, as a member of the Signal Corps, which rendered such valuable service in the valley of Virginia. The corps was honorably discharged, August 2, 1865, at Winchester, Va.

**Mr. Smiley** has also rendered much public service in time of peace; from 1867 to 1870, he filled the office of Prothonotary and clerk of the courts of quarter sessions, and of Over and Terminer, of Perry County. He was in 1880 elected to represent the Thirty-first Senatorial District (Mifflin, Juniata and Perry counties), in the Legislature of Pennsylvania, and served until December, 1884. During his term of service, he was chairman of the Judiciary (both local and special) Committees, and secretary of the committees on Education, the Library, Insurance, etc. In 1892, **Mr. Smiley** was elected president of the Perry County Railroad Company, and still holds that position. His legal practice dates from August, 1872, when he was admitted to the Bar of Perry County. Since 1884, he has devoted his attention almost exclusively to his profession, in which he has been conspicuously successful.

**Charles H. Smiley** was married in October, 1876, to **Emily**, daughter of **John** and **Mary (Sheibly) Ferguson**. **Mrs. Smiley** was born in Washington, D. C, but her family were natives of Perry County. Their children are: **Charles H.**; and **Mary H.**, a student at Wilson College, Chambersburg, Pa. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church.