

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

Jacob Steele, New Buffalo, Perry County, Pa., was born April 10, 1810, in Watts Township. He is a son of **Morris** and **Catherine (Liddick) Steele**, old and highly respected residents of that township. **Morris Steele** was a farmer, and a Democrat. His father, **Eberhardt Steele**, came from Germany, settled in Watts Township, and died there. The family belonged to the Lutheran Church. The children of **Morris Steele** and his wife are: **John**, deceased; **Samuel**, deceased; **Elizabeth (Mrs. John Shaffer)**, of New Buffalo, deceased; **Catherine**, widow of **Rev. Mr. Erlennoyer**, pastor of the Lutheran Church at Freeburg, Pa., for thirty-four years; she still resides there.

Jacob Steele was educated in the common schools, learned shoemaking with his father, and followed that calling for some time. He grew up on the farm, and with his brother conducted it until his marriage. After that, he resided in New Buffalo, and was for seventeen years in mercantile business, keeping the store now occupied by **Mrs. Arnold**; he sold out to **J. L. Arnold**, and has since lived retired. He built a home for his family in New Buffalo; owns two farms, and a large tract of mountain land. He is a member of Halifax Lodge, I. O. O. F., in Dauphin County. He has been an active Democrat all his life, but never sought office.

Jacob Steele was married, April 28, 1842, to **Mary Salome**, daughter of **Jacob** and **Mary (Liebrick) Urban**, of Northumberland, Pa., where she was born on January 13, 1820. Their children are: **Ada F. (Mrs. Swartz)**, of Duncannon, Pa.; **Emma M. (Mrs. David A. McAllister)**, deceased, had five children, **Carroll James**, **Jacob Steele**, **William A.**, **David A.** and **Lizzie M.** **Jacob Steele** and **David A. McAllister** are in Holyoke, Mass. **Mr.** and **Mrs. Jacob Steele** are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church; the latter has taken an active part in church and Sunday-school work since she was sixteen years old; she has been and still is a teacher. She contributes her means, time and personal efforts to missions and other benevolent enterprises. **Mr.** and **Mrs. Steele** early opened their house to Methodist ministers who came to preach, before a congregation had been organized.

Nicholas Urban, her grandfather, was born and died in Lancaster County, Pa. Her father, **Jacob Urban**, and her mother, **Mary (Liebrick) Urban**, were natives of the same county. **Mr.** and **Mrs. Urban** removed to Northumberland, where **Mr. Urban** was a tanner, and became one of the most prosperous and substantial business men. After selling his establishment, he removed to New Buffalo, carrying on a tannery there for some time, and then retired from business, and died in 1850, aged seventy years. His wife had died two years before, aged sixty-four. They were members of the Lutheran Church, in which he held office. Their children are: **Catherine**, married **John Bowes**, of Halifax, Pa., both deceased; **George W.**, merchant, formerly of Dauphin, Pa., now of Jefferson City, Mo., married **Mary**, now deceased, daughter of **Judge Green**; **Frances Ann**, widow of **Mr. McFadden**, of Lewisburg, Pa., died in Virginia; **Ambrose**, died at the age of seventeen; **Mary Salome (Mrs. Steele)**; and **John L.**, died in Burlington, Ia.