

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

Lewis Sweger, Shermansdale, Perry County, Pa., was born in Saville Township, Perry County, June 9, 1836, son of **William** and **Mary Ann (Bausum) Sweger**. **John Sweger**, his paternal grandfather, was of German descent. He was a shoemaker and farmer. He was married to **Miss Weary**, who had been a school teacher. **Lewis Sweger's** maternal grandparents were of German descent, and resided in Perry County. His father, **William Sweger**, was a gunsmith, and was also engaged in farming. He was married to **Mary**, daughter of **Philip Bausum**. Their surviving children are: **Lewis**; **Joshua**; **L. Kane**; **Ellen (Mrs. Michael Loy)**; **Emma (Mrs. Henry Wolfort)**; **Tillie (Mrs. Alfred Kane)**; **John C.**; and **George W.** Those deceased are: **Sarah**; **Absalom**; and **William H.** **Mr. Sweger** died in June, 1892; his **wife** died in 1889. They were members of the German Reformed church.

Lewis Sweger attended the public schools until the age of eighteen. He then learned carpentry with **William Bausum**, of Juniata County, serving an apprenticeship of one summer. Four years he worked as a journeyman, and in 1859 engaged in business for himself, and continued until August, 1862, when he enlisted in the army. He was assigned to Company H, One Hundred and Thirty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers. He served nine months, and when discharged May 26, 1863, returned home and worked at his trade until January 9, 1865, when he enlisted in Company H, Twenty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers. He saw active service in the battles of Antietam, Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, and was honorably discharged July 18, 1865. **Mr. Sweger** returned home, and followed his trade until 1895, when he retired. **Lewis Sweger** was married February 4, 1858, to **Elizabeth**, daughter of **Benjamin** and **Sarah (Low) Reiber**. Their surviving children are: **Clara (Mrs. John Wilson)**; **Sarah Ann (Mrs. George W. Mace)**; **Maggie (Mrs. Sherman T. Dunkelberger)**; **Harry E.**; **Lewis E.**; and **Charles M.**, a teacher. Those deceased are: **Oliver O.**, died April 2, 1859; **A. T.**, died March 24, 1859; **Benjamin Luther**, died September 4, 1860, aged six months; **Thomas E.**, died January 4, 1881, aged twenty; and **Bessie**, who died August 26, 1880, aged two years. **Mr. Sweger** is a deacon in the Lutheran church.

Mrs. Sweger's paternal grandparents, **Mr.** and **Mrs. Reiber**, were natives of York County, and removed to Perry County, where they engaged in farming. **Mr. Reiber** married **Elizabeth Arnold**. The maternal grandparents resided in York County, and farmed. Her father, **Benjamin Reiber**, was born in Perry County. His

occupation was that of farming; he served as assessor a number of years. He was married to **Sarah**, daughter of **Peter** and **Elizabeth Low**, of Cumberland County. They had five children. Those surviving are: **Margaret (Mrs. C. F. Davenport)**; **Elizabeth (Mrs. Lewis Sweger)**; and **Ellen (Mrs. Elias Dunkelberger)**. Those deceased are: **Susan (Mrs. William Zimmerman)**; and an **infant**. **Mr. Low** died in 1886, aged seventy-six; his **wife** died in 1884, aged seventy-seven. They were members of the Lutheran Church. **Mr. Low** was a member of the council for many years; he served as an elder and deacon.