

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

Charles Tressler, New Bloomfield, Perry County, Pa., a son of **David** and **Catherine (Ensminger) Tressler**, was born April 25, 1858. He is a native of Perry County, as were his parents also, **David Tressler**, his grandfather, was born in Berks County, Pa., and came to Perry County early in life, settling in the northern part of the county. He was a blacksmith, but afterwards turned his attention to farming, and purchased and cultivated the farm which is still the homestead of the family. He was an honored and trusted citizen; for a number of years he was coroner of Perry County, and later justice of the peace. He married **Miss Bernheisel**; three of their children are deceased: **Rebecca**, died at the age of sixty-seven; **Catherine (Mrs. John Dunn)**; and **Solomon**. Those now living are: **John**; **Samuel**; **David**; **Elizabeth**, widow of **George Leonard**; **Susan**, widow of **David Billett**; **Andrew**; **William**; **George**; and **Sarah J. (Mrs. George Billett)**, of Springfield, O. **Mr. and Mrs. David Tressler** are both deceased; they were members of the Lutheran Church and were interred in the Lutheran Cemetery at Loysville.

David Ensminger, **Charles Tressler's** maternal grandfather, was a farmer, and came to Perry County at an early day to locate a land claim. He took up land near Dellville, which at that time was a wilderness. Clearing and gradually improving his chosen tract, he succeeded in making of it a fine and profitable farm; none more desirable as a home or as an investment could be found in the township. **David Ensminger** married **Barbara Messenger**, of Cumberland County. Their only child now living is **Mrs. Tressler**; those deceased are: **David**, died in July 1892; **Henry**, died in Ohio; and **George**. **Mr. and Mrs. Ensminger** were both members of the Lutheran Church; **Mr. Ensminger** died about 1860; his wife in August, 1876, aged seventy-seven years; both died on the homestead.

David Tressler, Jr., the father of **Charles Tressler**, is a farmer, and now cultivates the farm adjoining the homestead, on which his son resides. He is a gentleman of known intelligence and fidelity, to whom more than one important trust has been committed, in the church and in the community. He has held for several years each, the offices of supervisor and school director in the township; has settled up many estates, as administrator, and is now in charge of the settlement of the **Ensminger** estate; and in the Lutheran Church, of which he and his wife are members, he has for years been deacon, and is now also trustee. The children of **David** and **Catherine (Ensminger)Tressler** are: **Charles**; **Margaret (Mrs. Charles Fritz)**; **Emma (Mrs. Albert McKee)**; **John W.**, married to **Jessie L. Owens**, and resides in Victor, Col.; **Catherine**, widow of **James Brindle**; **Lillie**; **Mary E.**, wife of **William Kell**, attorney-at-law, of New Bloomfield; **David A.**; **Elmer P.**; **Ellen P.**; **Laura**; and **one** that died in infancy.

Charles Tressler was educated in the public schools and the academy at New Bloomfield. From his majority until the age of twenty-five, he worked on the home farm with his father; he then began farming for himself on the place which is now his home. He is a skilful and diligent farmer, whose land is well tilled and productive. **Mr. Tressler** has held more than one position of responsibility; he is a Republican in sentiment; while by no means an office-seeker, he has been elected inspector of elections for his township, auditor for three years, and tax collector for one year. In 1881, he was elected to the school board, on which he served three years; and in 1896,

he was made supervisor, for a term which has not yet expired. **Charles Tressler** was married, December 21, 1882, to **Ellen M.**, daughter of **John** and **Sarah (Comp) Shearer**. Their children are: **William B.**; **Mary A.**; and **Frank A.** **Mrs. Tressler** died July 23, 1895, at the age of forty-one. She was a consistent member of the Lutheran Church, to which her husband also belongs, and in which he exercises the office of deacon.

John Shearer, **Mrs. Tressler's** father, was born in Perry County, October 2, 1813. He was a mason; for a number of years he was engaged in tanning, and later in life turned his attention to farming; at the time of his death, in September, 1891, he had retired from active business. His wife, **Sarah**, was the daughter of **Mr.** and **Mrs. Andrew Comp**; their children are: **Andrew**, died in October, 1894; **John W.**, died in infancy; **Wilson**, died in 1873; **Ellen (Mrs. Tressler)**, deceased; **Mary Ann (Mrs. Henry Biseline)**; **Eliza (Mrs. Lewis Haver)**; **Sarah Jane (Mrs. Ezra E. Fleischer)**; **Willard**; and **Dr. A. L. Shearer**, residing at Duncannon. **Mrs. Shearer**, who, in spite of having almost reached her eightieth birthday, enjoys good health, resides with her son-in-law, **Mr. Tressler**. She is a faithful member of the Lutheran Church.

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