

Biographical Annals of Cumberland County, Pennsylvania; Containing Biographical Sketches of Prominent and Representative Citizens and of Many of The Early Settled Families. Illustrated. Chicago: The Genealogical Publishing Co., 1905.

The Swartz family were residents of Copper East Pennsboro Township, Cumberland County. The precise time of their coming into that locality is not now ascertainable, but it is reasonably certain that it was in the early part of the last century. The county records show that a **Jacob Swartz** purchased a tract of land on the State road, a short distance west from West Fairview, April 6, 1827. He was then a citizen of East Pennsboro, but a family tradition has it that he came from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

Jacob Swartz was a carpenter, an energetic, adept mechanic, and while in his prime built many houses and barns, and did much other work in that part of the country which still bears pronounced evidence of his skill and industry as a builder. During the active period of his busy life farming was to him only a secondary employment. He married **Mary Longnecker**, a daughter of **Joseph Longnecker**, who was one of the early settlers in that section. **Jacob Swartz** died Nov. 11, 1872, at the age of sixty-eight. His wife died **Jan. 20, 1893**, at the age of eighty-six. The remains of both lie buried in the cemetery of the Brick Church, a short distance north-west of West Fairview. **Mary Longnecker** was a direct descendant of **John Jonas Kupp**, who emigrated to America about one hundred fifty years ago. **Jacob** and **Mary (Longnecker) Swartz** had the following children: **George, Abraham, Joseph, Catharine, and Mary Jane**. **Abraham** learned the carpenter trade with his father, went west and died in St. Louis, Missouri, when he was about twenty-eight years of age. He was never married. **Joseph** studied medicine, graduated from Jefferson Medical College, in Philadelphia, and located at Duncannon, Perry Co., Pa., where he met with great success and practiced his profession until his death. During the Civil War he was a surgeon in the Union Army for a period of three years. He married **Susan C. Ebert**, a daughter of **Dr. Ebert**, of Fishing Creek Valley, Perry County, by whom he had one child which died in its infancy. **Dr. Swartz** died suddenly of apoplexy in 1887, at the age of fifty-one, and is buried at Duncannon. **Catharine** never married, and remained at home until after the death of both parents. **Mary Jane** married **Andrew Stone**, of **Hampden Township**, by whom she had one child, a daughter who married **David A. Darr**, a carpenter, and is now residing in Wormleysburg.

George Swartz, the oldest member of the family, grew to manhood on the **Swartz** farm in East Pennsboro. Like his brother **Abraham**, he learned the carpenter trade, but possessing a vigorous intellect his attention naturally turned to books, and he soon acquired an education far beyond that of the average young man in his neighborhood. He then began teaching in a school close by the Brick Church, and not far from his home. His success as a teacher was marked, and, as his reputation spread, his services were called for in other places, and when, in 1857, a normal school was opened at Newville, he was selected as one of its leading instructors. Subsequently he became principal of the school, which position he filled for two terms. He rose rapidly in his profession and was noted for his proficiency in higher mathematics: firmness of discipline was one of his strongest characteristics, and good order always prevailed in schools over which he presided. He graduated from the Millersville State Normal School, receiving a diploma upon passing the examination prescribed by the laws of the commonwealth, notwithstanding the fact that he never attended said school as a student. In 1860 he became a candidate for the county

superintendency, but the contest was close and an older man was then elected. Three years afterward he was elected on the first ballot, serving through two terms with acknowledged success and ability. In 1867 he purchased a small farm near Boiling Springs, and lived upon it until the death of his father, when he sold out and bought the old homestead in East Pennsboro, where he spent the remainder of his days. He died March 30, 1899. His remains rest in the cemetery of the Brick Church, not far from the place of his birth, side by side with those of his father and mother.

George Swartz, on Aug. 30, 1860, married **Hester Eveline Fleming**, of Boiling Springs, and they had children as follows: **George Wilson**, **Flora Eveline** and **Robert Fleming**. The daughter, **Flora Eveline Swartz**, born May 3, 1866, married **Austin G. Rupp**, one of the descendants of **John Jonas Rupp**, above-named, and lives near Shiremanstown, the former home of her husband. They have five children, one boy and four girls.

Robert Fleming Swartz, born at Boiling Springs May 5, 1870, married **Bessie S. Lenhart**, of New Cumberland, Sept. 16, 1897, and now lives in Emigsville. York Co., Pa., where he is engaged in the mercantile business.



George Wilson Swartz, the eldest child of the family and the subject of this sketch, was born in Shiremanstown, Aug. 27, 1864. Later the family moved to Boiling Springs where he passed through the primary stages of his education. In 1874 his parents moved to East Pennsboro Township. He attended the country district school known as Lantz's, where teachers changed almost as regularly as did the seasons. Among his instructors was the well-known Jesse Laverty, then far advanced in years; also Stephen Magee, Charles H. Smith and Daniel E. Burtner, who taught the youth many valuable lessons. In the fall of 1881 he had a protracted spell of typhoid fever, which caused him to miss an entire term of school. However, as soon as he had sufficiently recovered, he took up the studies of trigonometry and surveying at his home, and under the instructions of his father, who was a skillful and practical surveyor, acquiring an efficiency in these branches that has always remained with him and served him well. Afterward he entered the Harrisburg Academy, of which Professor Jacob F. Seller was the principal. This institution he attended for three years, taking the honors of the school for two terms. Under thorough instructors he paid special attention to mathematics, Latin, Greek, and history. Having made rapid progress in his studies, he, in 1884, took up teaching, and for three successive annual terms taught the Mount Vernon school in Hampden Township; then for one term the Wormleysburg high school, and after that for one term was an assistant in the Harrisburg Academy. In 1886 he registered as a student-at-law with Stuart & Stuart, Carlisle, and engaged the greater part of his time at reading law until 1888, when he entered the law offices of his preceptors, and gave law his entire attention up to Sept. 9, 1889, when he was admitted as a member of the Cumberland County Bar. He immediately settled down to the practice of his chosen profession, and has kept studiously at it ever since. He is one of the most

careful, persistent, determined lawyers at the Bar, and his rule is to push the business entrusted to him step by step without delay, until it is finally concluded. This industrious habit has won for him favor and prominence, and he is now rated as one of the ablest and busiest young attorneys at the Cumberland County Bar. He has a large, valuable and well selected law library of about seven hundred volumes, to which he is constantly adding new books, as they are published, and as the need for them arises in his practice. He also has a fine miscellaneous library at his home, and is well-equipped for any professional or literary work that may come in his way. In September, 1901, he was elected a member of the faculty of the Dickinson School of Law, as professor of practice in the courts of common pleas, to the duties of which he devotes much time and labor.

On June 2, 1898, **Mr. Swartz** was married to **Miss Margaret V. Kenyon**, of Shippensburg, who formerly was a teacher in the public schools of that place. They live in a modest home on Walnut Street, Carlisle, and had one child, a daughter, **Helen**, who was born March 27, 1902.

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