

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

Joseph C. Wagner, Landisburg, Perry County, Pa., son of the late **George** and **Mary (Stambaugh) Wagner**, was born September 23, 1849, on the homestead in Tyrone Township, where he still resides. His maternal ancestry was German, but the **Wagner** family is of Swiss descent. Its progenitor in America came here in 1740, a lonely little child, only seven years of age, orphaned on the passage across the sea by the much-dreaded "black plague;" both his parents were consigned to ocean burial. On arriving in Philadelphia, little **Jacob Wagner** was taken in charge of the directors of the poor in that city, and bound out to a farmer, to remain until he was eighteen. At the expiration of that time, he became apprentice to a blacksmith, and having acquired his trade, carried it on in Rockhill Township, Bucks County, Pa., until about 1780; he then removed to North Middleton Township, Cumberland County, Pa., where he passed the rest of his life, conducting both a smithy and a farm. He resided near what is called "Wagner's Gap."

Jacob Wagner was married in Bucks County, February 15, 1758, to **Mary Catherine Bauer**. Their children were: **Jacob**, born January 16, 1760; **John**, born May 11, 1762; **Catherine**, born May 2, 1761; **Philip**, born January 27, 1767; **Mary Magdalena**, born March 26, 1769; **Henry**, born May 1, 1770, died October 22, 1777; **Martin**, born January 2, 1773, died October 6, 1777; **George**, born November 18, 1774; **Margaretta**, born November 18, 1778; **Elizabeth**, born August 10, 1780; **Abraham**, born January 19, 1784; and **one** child, of whose birth no record has been preserved. **Jacob Wagner** died May 25, 1808, at the age of seventy-five; his remains are interred in the old graveyard at Carlisle, Pa.; his wife survived him about a year, and is buried in the same place.

George Wagner, eighth child of **Jacob** and **Catherine Wagner**, who was born November 18, 1774, in Bucks County, was consequently about six years old at the time of the removal of the family to Cumberland County. He became a farmer, and removed to a part of Cumberland County, which was afterwards included in Tyrone Township, Perry County; there he passed the last years of his life on the farm now occupied by his grandson, **Joseph C. Wagner**. **George Wagner** married **Catherine Heckendorn**; they had twelve children, as follows: **Samuel**, born March 9, 1804, died April 23, 1889; **George**, born February 19, 1806; **Nancy (Mrs. Jacob Yohn)**, deceased; **Elizabeth**; **Sarah (Mrs. John Sloop)**, deceased; **Sophia (Mrs. John Swarner)**; **John**; **David**; **Frances (Mrs. John Hager)**, deceased; **Julia (Mrs. John Stewart)**; **Mary (Mrs. Thomas Stewart)**; and **Susan**. **George Wagner, Sr.**, died December 10, 1824.

His son, **George Wagner, Jr.**, who was born in Tyrone Township, February 19, 1806, passed his life in the same township, engaged in the quiet and useful pursuit of farming; in connection with which, he also conducted a saw-mill. **One** of the eight children of **George** and **Mary (Stambaugh) Wagner** died in infancy; those who attained to mature years are: **Jacob S.**, born January 2, 1832, resides in Montgomery County, Kan.; **Susan C. (Mrs. W. H. Roddy)**, of Landisburg, Pa., born September 14, 1834; **Emily E.**, born February 27, 1837, died in childhood; **Jennie M.**, born December 12, 1839, died February 3, 1891; **James M.**, born March 1, 1842, is a minister in the Church of God at Linglestown, Dauphin County, Pa.; **George C.**, born September

29, 1847, resides in Alamosa, Col.; and **Joseph C. George Wagner, Jr.**, died September 22, 1885. **Mrs. Wagner** was born July 23, 1807, and died January 18, 1880.

The elements of an English education having been acquired in the public schools of the township, **Joseph C. Wagner** applied himself to a more extended course of studies, first at Mt. Dempsey Academy, and then at the academy of New Bloomfield. His curriculum completed, he taught in the common schools of Tyrone Township and in those of the borough of Landisburg for nine years. Since that time, **Mr. Wagner** has given his whole attention to farming. He has served on the school board, and efficiently filled the office of secretary of that body. He is a director of the Landisburg Manufacturing Company, and a stockholder in the Perry County Railroad. His political views are Democratic. **Joseph C. Wagner** was married in Spring Township, Perry County, in January, 1889, to **Lilly E.**, daughter of **Michael** and **Elizabeth Shelley**. They have one daughter, **Clara M.**, born April 2, 1890. **Mr.** and **Mrs. Wagner** are faithful members of the Church of God; **Mr. Wagner** is an elder of that church.

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