

A History of the Juniata Valley and its People Under The Editorial Supervision of John W. Jordan, LL.D.; Librarian of Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia; Illustrated; New York, Lewis Historical Publishing Company; 1913; Volume II

The **Wentzells** came to Perry from Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, where both the father and grandfather of **Clinton Hill Wentzell** were born. The rise of **Mr. Wentzell** from the bound boy of six years, to the successful lumberman of today is a striking example of what an ambitious boy and a resolute man can accomplish.

(I) **Daniel**, son of **Wentzell**, was born in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, and there grew to manhood. About 1855 he settled in Perry County at Elliottsburg, where for a time he followed his trade of stonemason. He then engaged in farming at Duncannon and Blain, in the same county, continuing until the death of his wife, whom he survived two years, making his home with his daughter, **Mrs. Lucinda Garber**. Both **Daniel Wentzell** and his wife were members of the Lutheran Church. He married **Catherine Campbell**. Children: **Harriet**, died aged twenty-six years; **David**, of whom further; **Lucinda**, married **George Garber** and resides in Blain; **Caroline**, died aged twenty-one years; **Sinary**, a veteran of the 8th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, now a farmer of the state of Iowa; **Mary**, married **Abraham Bristline**, both deceased; **Ira**, died in Bellewood, Pennsylvania, a merchant; **Dennis**, now a farmer; **Sarah**, married **Jacob Loy** and resides in Andersonburg; **Luther**, now living retired in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; **Martha Matilda**, married **George Barclay** and resides in Center, Perry County, Pennsylvania; **Anna**, married **Elmer Lighter** and resides at Oakdale, Pennsylvania.

(II) **David**, son of **Daniel Wentzell**, was born in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, September 10, 1839. He was a lad of about sixteen years when his parents moved to Perry County, where his after life was spent engaged in farming and merchandising. He settled at Blain, where for two years he cultivated a farm nearby, then establishing in general merchandise business in Blain. He was a successful merchant, remaining in active business until his death in 1876. He was a Republican; a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and both he and his wife belonged to the Lutheran Church. He married (first) **Susan Loy**, who bore him: **Luther Melancthon**, now living in Blain; **Ida**, married **John Bristline**, residing in Blain and **Orlando**, a farmer near Duncannon. He married (second) **Catherine**, daughter of **Benjamin** and **Alice (Stewart) Rice**, and granddaughter of **George** and **Catherine Rice**. The maternal grandparents of **Catherine Rice** were **William** (3) and **Margaret (Copeland) Stewart**. The **Stewarts** came from Scotland in early Colonial days—three brothers, **William**, **James** and **John**, being the emigrants. This first **William** had a son **William** (2) **Stewart**, who settled on a tract of land in the Tuscarora Valley, where he met his death at the hands of the Indians. His son, **Hiram P. Stewart**, married in the Tuscarora Valley, in 1778, **Alice Graham**, who bore him ten children, the eldest being **William** (3) **Stewart** who married **Margaret Copeland**.

Benjamin Rice was born in Juniata County, Pennsylvania, as was his wife, **Alice Stewart**. After his marriage he moved to Perry County, settling in Madison Township, where he owned and cultivated a farm of one hundred and fifty acres. In his old age he returned to Juniata County, where he died. He was an elder of the Lutheran Church; his wife also being a member of that church. Children: **Margaret**, married **John Briner**; **George**, a farmer; **William**, a farmer and a soldier of the civil war, running away from home to enlist when but sixteen years of age; **Benjamin**; **Emeretta**, married **William B. Gutshall**, a former commissioner of Perry, now

residing in Blain; **Catherine**, married **David Wentzell**, of previous mention; **David**, a hotel proprietor at Ickesburg; **Ellen**, never married. Children of **David** and **Catherine Wentzell**: **Clinton Hill**, of whom further; **Nellie**, married **Howard Kline** and resides in Lewistown, Pennsylvania; **Capitola**, residing in Blain.



(III) **Clinton Hill**, only son of **David Wentzell** and his second wife **Catherine Rice**, was born in Blain, Perry County, Pennsylvania, February 12, 1872. At the age of six years he was indentured, serving until fifteen years of age, when he started life for himself. From fifteen to eighteen years of age he worked on a farm, receiving as wages his board and seven dollars cash monthly. At the age of eighteen years he associated in the lumber business with his half-brother, **Luther M. Wentzell**. The brothers operated a single mill, two miles southeast of Blain, continuing one year when they sold their plant to an uncle, **Abraham Bristline**. The partners continued in the same business at another point, but at the end of two years **Clinton H.** sold his interest to **Luther M. Wentzell** and for the next eight years engaged in farming in Perry County. He then formed a partnership with **E. K. Weaver** and for two years again engaged in lumbering, operating mills in Jackson and Madison townships. He then purchased **Mr. Weaver's** interests and operated alone for one year. He then admitted his present partner, **W. Frank**

Stambaugh, forming the firm of **Wentzell & Stambaugh**. They are successful lumber manufacturers and dealers, owning two saw mills in Madison Township and a planing mill at Blain. They manufacture from the log and handle all kinds and sizes of pine and oak lumber, using the product of four other mills in addition to their own. At the planing mill a line of carpenters' supplies is manufactured and a general planing mill business transacted. Their products go by Pennsylvania railroad to many distant points, a large share being consumed by the Pennsylvania Steel Company (1913). **Mr. Wentzell** is an energetic, modern business man and reviews with satisfaction his rise from the humble boy to a successful man of business. He is a director of the local cemetery company and has other business interests. He is a Republican in politics and has served as school director and borough councilman. He belongs to the Junior Order of American Mechanics; The Independent Order of Odd Fellows; the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and both he and his wife are members of the Lutheran Church.

Mr. Wentzell married, December 23, 1893, **Mary Ellen McKee**, daughter of **David** and **Eve (Smith) McKee**, of Blain.

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