

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

William W. Woods, Blain, Perry County, Pa., son of **Francis W.** and **Sarah (Wharton) Woods**, was born in Turbett Township, Juniata County, Pa., May 6, 1833. His grandfather, **Robert Woods**, came from Ireland during the latter part of the eighteenth century, and settled in what is now Turbett Township, Juniata County. Having purchased a tract of land, he began farming. In Ireland he had learned and worked at shoemaking, but after coming to America he gave the greater part of his time to farming, making occasionally, however, a pair of fine boots or shoes for some friend. He was a very intelligent man, and was highly esteemed. For many years he filled the office of justice of the peace in his Township. **Robert Woods** was married to **Miss Lyle**, of Chester County, Pa., and they had these children: **John**, died in early manhood; **Eliza (Mrs. Thomas Elliott)**, has a family of five children and resides in Iowa since 1843; **Joseph**, married to **Miss Smith**, who died, then to **Margaret Adams**, and had a family of six children; **Mary**, died at the age of eight years; **Thomas**, married, and had four children; **Martha**, died aged over eighty years; **Hetty**, died aged sixty-five years; **Francis Wayne**; **James**, married **Louisa Brickley**, has nine children; and one **child** that died in infancy. **Mr. Woods** died in February, 1837, aged seventy eight years; his **wife** died in 1813, at the age of forty-five.

Francis Wayne Woods was reared in Turbett Township, and received his education in the subscription schools sustained by the neighboring farmers. At the age of thirty years he came to Jackson Township, Perry County, and purchased a tract of land from **David** and **John Mooreland**. This tract consisted of about 175 acres, and was the site of the present borough of Blain. Here **Mr. Woods** began a successful career as a farmer. He was a Democrat, of the Jeffersonian type, and although never aspiring to public office, he consented to serve his township in various capacities.

Mr. Woods was married February 1, 1832, to **Sarah**, daughter of **William** and **Annie (Stewart) Wharton**. They had these children: **William W.**; **Ann Eliza (Mrs. George Martin)**, died in early womanhood; **two** sons died in infancy; **Emmeline (Mrs. John Skinner)**, resides at Dry Run, Franklin County, Pa., with seven children, **Clara**, **Frank**, **Samuel**, **Harry**, **Alice**, **Cora** and **Edith**; **Samuel**, married **Agnes Stambaugh**, resides in Jackson Township; **Francis W.**, married **Mary Klouse**; **Annie**, died aged ten years; **Harry** and **Sallie**, twins, the latter married **Arthur Garber**; **Cloyd**; **John**; and **Samuel**. **Francis W. Woods** died August 23, 1873, aged sixty-five years, six months and twenty-two days; **Mrs. Woods** died in December, 1857, aged forty-seven years and nine months. She was a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church.

William W. Woods came with his parents to Jackson Township, April 1, 1838. He attended the district schools during the winter months, and assisted on his father's farm during the rest of the year. He remained at home until his twenty-fourth year, but after his marriage he removed to Middle Springs, near Shippensburg, Cumberland County, and farmed for three years. Having bought a farm in Fannett Township, Franklin County, he removed to that place and remained three years. In 1864, he returned to Jackson Township, and bought the old **Robert Woods** farm, which he operated very successfully until 1880, when he purchased his present homestead. He

has been very successful as a farmer. Like his father, he is a Democrat, and is interested in all local affairs.

William W. Woods was married, August 4, 1857, to **Catherine Jane**, daughter of **George M.** and **Lydia Ann (Bower) Loy**. Their children are: **Francis Elaine**, died aged three years; **George L.**, married **Mary Schoeffler**, has six children living and one dead; **Emma Adella (Mrs. William F. Stambaugh)**, has two children living and one, **David**, died aged three years; and **Robert W.**, a student at Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg, Pa.

On November 1, 1891, **Mrs. Woods** died. She was born June 16, 1839, and was a faithful member of the Lutheran Church. On January 23, 1896, **Mr. Woods** married again, his second wife being **Martha**, widow of **Robert Elder**. **Mr. Woods** is one of the most enterprising farmers and progressive citizens of his Township.

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