

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



**Robert Bruce Zimmerman**, of Mifflintown, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, typifies a successful American of the best type. Of good old stock, that has been planted in Pennsylvania for many generations, he is a part of the state, as well as county life. The original immigrant ancestor was from Germany, but the family records do not give his name. Like so many of his countrymen, he located in Pennsylvania, lived and died there, a tiller of the soil.

(I) **Jacob Zimmerman**, a descendant of the above mentioned immigrant, was born in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania. He married **Jane Pratt Irwin**, the daughter of a neighboring farmer. He came with his family to Juniata County in the early fifties, and was a post fence maker for a railroad company, and later moved to Perry County, now Newport, about 1881, where he died. His wife died in Juniata County in 1850. Among his children was **Nathan H.**, of whom further.

(II) **Nathan H.**, son of **Jacob** and **Jane Pratt (Irwin) Zimmerman**, was born in Perry County in 1821. He was educated in Perry County and came to Juniata County with his parents. Leaving school, he was apprenticed to a tanner and learned the trade thoroughly with **Robert Moore**, following that occupation until within a few years of his death, which occurred in March, 1886. He married **Caroline Sample**, born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, in 1821, near Greenwood, died July 4, 1892. They were both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Children: 1. **Robert Bruce**, of whom further. 2. **Thomas Irwin**, of Altoona, Pennsylvania. 3. **Rebecca Jane**, married **William E. Brown**, of Milroy. 4. **Rachel Elizabeth**, died at the age of eighteen. 5. **Lydia Ann**, married **Isaac Frymoyer**, of Ephrata, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. 6. **Sarah Catherine**, married **John Parker**, of Montana.

(III) **Robert Bruce**, son of **Nathan H.** and **Caroline (Sample) Zimmerman**, was born May 19, 1850, at Oakland, Fayette Township, Juniata County, Pennsylvania. He was reared on the farm and was educated in the public schools of the township and in a private seminary. He farmed many years, and purchased one hundred and twelve acres which he brought up to a high state of fertility and productiveness. He is an ardent Republican, and was elected on that ticket in 1909 as sheriff of Juniata County. During his incumbency of the office he has given universal satisfaction to his constituency. He moved, January 1, 1910, to Mifflintown, Juniata County, where he now resides. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He married, January 23, 1878, **Ada J. Ranck**, born in Walker Township, Juniata County, Pennsylvania, in 1859, a daughter of **Phillip** and **Nancy (Hawk) Ranck**, of Juniata County. They have one son, **Banks A.**, who was educated in the public schools, and on leaving took up the occupation of farming. He married **Katherine Calhoun**, daughter of ex-Sheriff **James P. Calhoun**, of Juniata County, of one of the prominent families of that section of the state; children: **Mildred**, **James D.**, **Gladys**, **Ira Brown**, **Robert Banks**, **Paul**, and **Samuel Franklin**.