

**GENEALOGICAL AND  
PERSONAL HISTORY**

OF

**FAYETTE COUNTY**

**PENNSYLVANIA**

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UNDER THE EDITORIAL SUPERVISION OF

**JOHN W. JORDAN, LL.D.**

Librarian of Pennsylvania Historical Society, Philadelphia

AND

**JAMES HADDEN,**

of Uniontown, Pennsylvania; author of "Washington and Braddock's Expeditions Through Fayette County," and the reproductions of Judge James Veech's work entitled "The Monongahela of Old, or Historical Sketches of Southwestern Pennsylvania to the Year 1800"

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**ILLUSTRATED**

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**Volume I.**

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the war he returned to Fayette county and for seventeen years thereafter he cultivated his father's farm.

Immediately after the sale of the farm and the erection of the Buffington Works thereon, he moved to Uniontown, where he engaged in teaming very successfully until his death. He was a man of high standing in his community, faithful and upright in all his business engagements and highly esteemed. He was a Republican in politics and served as assessor and borough auditor. He was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the Presbyterian church.

He married, April 6, 1870, Mrs. Rachel C. (Moore) Sharpnack, born in German township, Fayette county, daughter of Abraham Moore and widow of Jasper N. Sharpnack. She is a great-granddaughter of Captain Cowan, an officer in the revolution. She is also a great-granddaughter of Captain John Moore, and his wife Margaret (Colvin) Moore, who came from Maryland in 1765 and settled in Redstone township, Fayette county, on a tract yet owned in the Moore family. Aaron, son of Captain John Moore, married Mary Hancy and had: John, William, Abraham, Margaret and Mary. Abraham, son of Aaron Moore, was born in Fayette county, May 17, 1823, died August 28, 1902. He was a farmer of Fayette county and a man highly esteemed. He married Adeline McClean, born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, April 2, 1823, died December 24, 1894, daughter of John and Rachel (Cowan) McClean, old settlers of Westmoreland county. She was one of a family of eight children: Gibson, Samuel, William, Thomas, Mary, Isabel, Adeline and Rachel. Children of Abraham and Adeline (McClean) Moore: John Seymour, a farmer of German township; Aaron, deceased, and Rachel C. (see forward).

Rachel C., daughter of Abraham Moore, married (first), October 1, 1868, Jasper N. Sharpnack, born in Fayette county, son of John and Sarah Sharpnack. On October 12, just twelve days after his marriage, he was drowned. She married (second) William Elliott Finley, of previous mention. She is a member of the Presbyterian church and since she became a widow has resided at her home No. 64 South Mount Vernon avenue, Uniontown.

## RICHEY

This old Fayette county family is of Scotch-Irish descent. The first of whom we have record is

James Richey, who is named on a list of early Connellsville occupations as a "forge carpenter." He was a flat boat builder, a thriving industry in the early days. It was commenced by the westward bound emigrants and traders, who coming across the Alleghenies and over the state road, striking the river at Connellsville, found it a cheaper and easier means of transporting their household goods and merchandise. In the succeeding years it was prosecuted as a regular business by enterprising business men of the town, the Richeys, Millers and Whites building flat boats that carried the pig iron stacked along the banks of the Youghiogheny and floating it down to Pittsburgh and other river points. He continued in active business until compelled to desist by old age.

He married a Miss Sherbondy and had sons: John, David, Hunter, Andrew F., colonel of a militia regiment raised to resist invasion during the civil war. He early settled in West Virginia and at the opening of the civil war purchased the *Fairmont Virginian*, a most pronounced southern paper, changed its name to the *Fairmont National* and edited it as the first and only Republican paper in this country. He was a member of the first convention called to divide the state of Virginia, and was so useful and influential that at his death, November 21, 1867, it was said in the *Wheeling Intelligencer*: "No man in West Virginia will be more widely missed or made greater sacrifice for the cause which he espoused." He married Laverna P. Barnus and left issue.

(II) David, second son of James Richey, was born in 1809 in Connellsville, Pennsylvania. He was a mine worker and lived in Allegheny, Westmoreland and Fayette counties. He was a Democrat and a Baptist. He married Sophia Eicher, born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, daughter of John Eicher, a farmer of that county. Children of David Richey: Hiram; John J., of whom further; Mary, married James Latimer, of Fayette county; Margaret Jane, married James Echard, of Connellsville; Joseph, of near Connellsville; Francis Marion, a carpenter of near Pennsville, Fayette county; James and Maria, both died in infancy.

(III) John J., second son of David and Sophia (Eicher) Richey, was born in Connell-