

DESCENDANTS OF MICHAEL

CHAPTER II.

(b. 1777, d. 1852) m. 1806 Mary Mourer (b. 1784, d. 1876.)

I. **JACOB** (b. 1807, d. 1891) m. 1834 Malinda Smith (d. 1895). Eldest son of Michael. Born in Lake Township. He received the slight education afforded by the common schools of the times and supplemented it with one year in the Old Mercer Academy, after which he studied surveying under John Kelly. He was Assistant Postmaster in Mercer one year, clerked in general stores there and at Williamsfield, Ohio, taught school in various districts six terms and finally settled on a farm two miles south of his birth-place where he spent the rest of his life. In politics he was a Republican and held the offices of County Auditor, County Surveyor, Justice of the Peace and School Director. In 1842 he became a charter member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at Jackson Centre in which he was at once made an elder. In 1865 he united with the Coolspring Presbyterian Church in which he was an elder till his death. For ten years he was a colporteur for the Ameri-

can Bible Society and he was always active in humane and religious efforts. He was a man deeply devoted to the family and labored intensely for a closer knitting of the ties of kinship among us. He was the leading promoter of the first family reunions and it was he who gathered a large part of the materials that made this book possible. There are few names that should be written larger in the grateful memories of this family than that of Jacob Zahniser. Following are his children:

Henry Martin (b. 1810) m. 1860 Elizabeth DeFrance (d. 1890), m. again 1897 Margaret Desault. "Marr", as he is familiarly called, became a blacksmith and conducted a shop near the old home till he was elected County Prothonotary in 1878. In 1882, he located on a farm in Forest County from which he removed in 1885 to Tionesta where he is now working at his trade. In politics he is a Republican. In the church he was formerly a Presbyterian but is now in a Methodist Church. His children are:

Nancy L. (b. 1851, d. 1901) m. 1863 James G. Bronsley. Her children are Margaret E., Henry M., Laura M., Era M., Josephine S. Of these the oldest married, 1904, Lowell W. Barnhart, and resides at Cobelle, Wash.

Her one child is named Marietta Mae. The others are with their father at Tionesta.

Ida Malinda (b. 1863) m. 1884 J. M. Van Derlin. Her children are, James Martin, Edward Archibald, Elizabeth Nancy, Lela Esther, Arthur M., Virgil Vivian. All reside at Glade Mills, Pa.

Arthur DeFrance (b. 1865) m. 1895 Sarah Carver. He is a minister and presiding elder in the Free Methodist Church and located at Pitsburg. His children are, Ruth D., Lela E., Bernice E. Another child, Lawrence, died in infancy (1903).

Jacob Jay (b. 1867) m. 1888 Jennie S. Ball. He is a minister in the Free Methodist Church and located at New Castle. His children are, Martha Gay, Mary E., Ralph R., Walter S., Clara A., Grace J.

Edmond S. (b. 1869) m. 1895 Adda Brier (d. 1888), m. 1900 Nellie Walters. He is a minister of the Free Methodist Church and located at Sharon. By his first marriage he has one child, Richard.

Charles A. (b. 1872) m. 1893 Nettie Thompson (d. 1900). He is a tool-dresser in the oil fields and located at Tionesta.

Ralph Allison (b. 1874) m. 1898 Ellen Kenison. He is a minister in the Free Methodist

Church and located at Timesta. His children are, Edith M. and Clarence H.

Josephine Sabina (b. 1876) m. 1904 R. N. Randlett. Prior to her marriage she was a trained nurse practicing at Pittsburg. Her present residence is Pittsburg. Mr. Randlett is a draftsman. They have one child, Randolph.

Henry Martin Jr. (b. 1878). He resides at Pittsburg where he is employed as a polisher.

Archibald H. M. (b. 1881) m. 1903 Bertha Newton. He is a minister in the Free Methodist Church and located at Mayburg. He has two children, Elizabeth (d. 1905) and Howard C.

Rebecca Cole [North] (b. 1838, d. 1895) m. 1859 John North with whom she resided on a farm in Coolspring Township till the time of her death. Along with her family she was a member of the Coolspring Presbyterian Church. Following are her children:

William T. (b. 1860) m. 1887 Caroline Supplee (d. 1903). For a time he farmed in Coolspring Township but the exposure of farm life was injurious to his health and he became a bookkeeper. He is at present connected with a lumber firm in New Albin, Miss. He has one son, J. Rexford, who is a student in Fredonia Institute.

Mary Grace (b. 1861) m. 1887 D. Lawrence McMillan. Her children are: M. Elesta, Lydia Mildred and Rebecca. All reside on a farm near Jackson Centre.

Malinda S. (b. 1862) m. 1886 W. Wallace Runkle. Her children are: Mary Alice (d. 1891), Helen, Thelma L. (d. 1899), Harry N. and John L. They reside on a farm in Fairview Township, and are active in the Bethany Cumberland Presbyterian Church of which he is an elder.

Jacob Z. (b. 1864) m. 1892 Lois Caldwell. He is a farmer and resides in Coolspring Township. His children are: Kenneth, Eleanor and Rebecca.

Ira C. (b. 1866, d. 1897) m. 1895 Hanna McEwen. His entire life was spent on the old homestead.

John Norman (b. 1880) m. 1903 Belle Kenison. Resides on the farm with his father.

William F. (b. 1839) m. 1865 Martha Moger. He was a member of Co. F 57th P. V. from which he was discharged for physical disability. He again volunteered as a member of Co. F., 55th P. V. He became a wagon-maker and combines work at his trade with the conduct of a farm adjoining that of his father's homestead. He is a Republican and has held many

local offices. He is an elder in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at Jackson Centre. Following are his children:

Mary Amanda (b. 1866) m. 1892 W. L. Donaldson, a telegraph operator, with whom she resides at Harrisstown, Pa. Her children are: Dean, Stanley, Emerson, Catherine.

Catherine H. (b. 1868) m. 1900 A. M. Ward, with whom she resides on a farm near Conzant Lake, Pa.

Irvine R. (b. 1871) m. 1893 Mabel Smith. Is a member of the firm of Newell & Co., grocers, Mahoningtown, Pa.

Alfred Glenn (b. 1874) m. 1903 Lillian Loyd. Is in the offices of the P. R. R. at New Castle, Pa. He has one child, Martha.

Lois Malinda, commonly known as "Mellic," resides with her parents.

Emma Ellen (b. 1876) m. 1902 L. F. Heber, with whom she resides on a farm near Paradise, Pa. She has two children named Margaret and Marian.

George Smith (b. 1879) m. 1904 Clara Frost. Is in offices of P. R. R. at New Castle, Pa. He has one child named Lenora Margaret.

Frederick W. (b. 1880) m. 1904 Jennie Rowen. Is in the offices of the P. R. R. at James-town, Pa.

George M. (b. 1841) m. 1867 Margaret Rambo. The greater part of his life was spent on a farm in Conlaping Township. At present he has retired from active labor and is living at Fredonia, Pa. He has been an ardent worker in the cause of temperance and is a member of the Methodist Church. His children:

Malinda (b. 1868) m. 1886 Wesley W. Whieldon, a lumber dealer with whom she resides at Memphis, Tenn. Her children are: Harold D., Lucie M. and by adoption, Sarah.

Sarah Elizabeth (b. 1874) m. 1900 Clarence E. Wallace, Esq. (d. 1904). Since the death of her husband she has resumed the work of teaching in the public schools and is located at Bellevue, Pa. She has one child, Margaret J. R.

Mary M. (b. 1846, d. 1892) m. 1865 Richard Hess. She resided with her husband on a farm in Jackson Township, and later on another near Sandy Lake, Pa., till the time of her death. Her children are:

Martin Edwin (b. 1866) m. 1886 Eva Dell George (d. 1901). Most of his life has been given to the cause of education in connection with which he has enjoyed a remarkably successful career. At 15 years of age he taught his first school "in the wilds of

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Forest County", at 21 he was principal of the Sandy Lake schools, and at 24 he was superintendent of the schools of the county, at which time he was said to be the youngest man holding such a position in the entire Union. He has since served as President of Volant College, principal of the Irwin High School and Superintendent of the City Schools of Sistersville, West Va. He is now editor of "The Cleveland Post," published at Cleveland, Ohio. His children are: Mary Fay (d. 1887), Hazel Melos, George Herbert, Robert Burns, Louise Malinda.

Mary Malinda (b. 1866, d. 1870).

George Fleming (b. 1871) m. 1893 Irene Scoufield, cashier of Mutual Bank of Cairo, West Va. He has one child, Otis Clark.

Bessie B. (b. 1873) m. 1894 C. Grant Cannon, Superintendent of schools at South Sharon, Pa. Her children are: Hallis Watson, Martha Elizabeth, Mary McClure.

Harrison Claude (b. 1874).

Ellen Maude (b. 1877, d. 1897).

William V. (b. 1879, d. 1892).

Harriet Lois (b. 1880) m. 1903 J. L. Wagoner, resides at Pittsburg, Pa., and has one child, Harold Eugene.

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John North (b. 1885) associated with J. L. Wagoner in business at Pittsburg.

Milton B. (b. 1847, d. 1893) m. 1872 Rose Ann McCurdy. In early years he learned the shoe maker's trade but the greater part of his life was spent on a farm near Jackson Centre. For many years he was an active member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at that place. His children are: Alice M., Catherine M., Wm. Leslie, James H. (d. 1884), all of whom reside at Jackson Centre, Pa.

Margaret J. (b. 1849) m. 1882 James McCullough, with whom she resides on a farm in Cool-spring Township. Her children are: Malinda E. (d. 1883), Geo. Raymond, Mary M. died in infancy, James Michael.

Malinda (b. 1852) m. 1872 W. H. Vernam. Along with her husband she resided several years at Jackson Centre, Pa., but now lives in Mercer, Pa., where Mr. Vernam is connected with many leading business enterprises. Her children are:

Myrtle M. (b. 1874) m. 1892 J. W. Tyrrell, who is associated with her father in business. Their children are: Eunice Irene, Lela Pauline, John Emerson.

Mary H. (b. 1879) m. 1902 G. J. Graham, a business man of Guadalajara, Mex. She is the mother of one child, Vernam Williams.

Jacob M. (b. 1853) m. 1883 Jennie Runkle (d. 1895). He has inherited the old homestead on which he resides in Jackson Township. He is a Republican and has held a number of township offices. Along with his family he is an active member in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at Jackson Centre, Pa. His children are: Sarah M., Lewis Fleming, Mabel, Paul H.

II. **MARY [Condit]** (b. 1808, d. 1836) m. 1830 John Condit (b. 1803, d. 1880). Her short married life was spent in Sheakleyville, Pa., where her death occurred during a scourge of Typhus fever which also permanently wrecked the health of her husband. Her children are:

Caroline (b. 1831, d. 1903) m. 1855 A. W. Couse. She received what was in those times a good education. Mr. Couse was a teacher of considerable prominence and was successively instructor in a number of institutions till 1864, when he entered a banking house at St. Louis. For a number of years he has been Cashier of the Savings Bank of Tidioute, Pa. Both have been active and efficient workers in the local

churches wherever they resided. Their children are:

Ida Mary educated in the Tidioute Union Schools, at Pittsburg Female College and at Lake Erie Seminary, Painesville, Ohio. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church and was for many years a teacher of prominence at Tidioute, Pa., where she resides.

William Henry (b. 1857, d. 1871). His death resulted from injuries caused by falling from a chestnut tree.

Laura Lydia (b. 1860) m. 1882 Richard Chaffey, prominent lumberman formerly of Tidioute, Pa., now of Elkios, West Va. Both are prominent in the work of the local Presbyterian Church. Their children are: Ruth, Laura, Florence Isabel.

Paul (b. 1868, d. 1868).

Howard Ambrose (b. 1871) m. 1900 Emma Neyhart. He is a graduate of Allegheny College and of Yale Law School and a rising young attorney at Cleveland, Ohio. He is the father of one child, Margaret.

Ira M. (b. 1833) m. 1860 Laura Carpenter (d. 1866), m. again 1872 Samantha Knox. Prominent as a minister and missionary in the Presbyterian Church. Graduated from Jefferson College in 1855. He entered the Western Theological

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Seminary in 1856, but shortly before completing his course there he accepted a call to missionary work in Canton, China, where he began work in 1860, continuing till the failure of his wife's health compelled him to return to America, 1865. For four years he engaged in ministerial work at Girard, Pa., but in 1869 he returned to his chosen work among the Chinese, locating in California. After short periods of labor at San Francisco, Los Angeles and other points, he settled permanently at San Francisco where he was pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Chinese, till 1903. He is now living a retired life at Oakland, Cal. He is the author of a number of standard works, including a geography in Chinese and an Anglo-Chinese dictionary, a popular work entitled "The Chinaman as We See Him" and a number of shorter productions. His children are:

Mary Ellen (b. 1862) m. 1891 Laverne Kibbe. She was born in Canton, China, and educated in California, graduating from Ellis College, Los Angeles. She resides at Lima, Ohio. Her children are: Laura Ellen, Harmon Condit, Adelaide.

John Warren (b. 1864, d. 1884).



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III. **WILLIAM** (b. 1811, d. 1877) m. 1841 Ruth Carnahan (d. 1894). He received a common school education which he supplemented with much private study. For a number of years he taught school in the winter, working on the farm during the summer months. At the time of his marriage he settled on a farm three miles north of the old homestead, where he resided till his death. He was possessed of a remarkable memory and was a close student of history. In his young manhood he united with the Coolspring Presbyterian Church in which he was an elder, later holding the same position in the church at Sheakleyville. In politics he was a Republican. His children are:

Thompson (b. 1842) m. 1872 Alma Young. After spending his early life on the farm, he enlisted in Co. E., 57th Reg. P. V., and again in Co. F. of the same regiment, being made a sergeant and serving till the close of the war. He was once wounded in battle. Since the war he has been engaged in the lumber business. He is Republican and lives at Riceville, Crawford County. His children are:

Cora Mabel m. 1903 Lee Southworth.
Ruth Ella (d. 1878), Wm. Matthew (d. 1879).
Queenie Alice N. m. 1898 Fred W. Ames resides at Centerville, Pa., has two children: War-

ren P., died in infancy (1924), and Marjory A.

Clover (d. 1883).

Roscoe Conklin, a machinist in Chicago, Ill.

E. Della resides with her parents.

Michael Czernian (b. 1841) m. 1874 Emma Young.

Along with his brother he enlisted in Co. F., 37th Reg. P. V., in which he was a corporal, and served with distinction throughout the war. After the war he engaged in the lumber business. He is a Republican and resides at Mercer, Pa., where he is now County Treasurer. He is the father of one daughter, Nellie G. (b. 1880) m. 1900 Rev. Arthur S. Dastcomb, a Congregationalist minister. She resides in Austin, Minn., and has one child, Edmund Brooks.

Fidella (b. 1846, d. 1876). For a number of years she was a successful teacher in the common school.

Elizabeth (b. 1850) m. 1871 John D. McCullough (d. 1896). Since her marriage she has resided in Coaling Township. Her children are: William Z., a mechanic in Lincoln, Nebraska, Leonard D. (d. . . .), Pastor K., Besse L. m. 1892 to H. B. Vogan, of Franklin, Pa., Jesse I., Michael Plummer.

Margaret (b. 1851) m. 1878 John C. Carson. Resides on a farm near Stumbers, Pa. Her children are:

Claude I. (b. 1879) Medical student.

Carrie I. (b. 1879) m. 1901 O. M. Rhodes of Stoneboro, Pa. Her children are: William Lawrence and Claude O.

Jessie E., teacher in Public schools, Mabel E., Rana E., Ruth Z.

Wm. Plummer (b. 1854) m. 1878 Leticia Slater. During most of his life he has been engaged in mercantile pursuits. At present he resides at Mercer, Pa.

Ruth Emma (b. 1856, d. 1858).

Ira C. (b. 1858) m. 1880 Lizzie Stright. The following are his children:

Edna V. (1882) m. 1901 C. V. Patton, a telegraph operator of Conzant Lake, Pa., and has two children, Rita Lucinda and Mary E. Mary resides in Greenville, Pa. Wilbur (b. 1885) resides in Greenville, Pa.

Philip Kearney (b. 1862, d. 1863).

IV. JOHN (b. 1813, d. 1900) m. 1885 Susan Rankle (d. 1890). This is another Zahnisier whose life was an honor to the family. Few signs have been preserved

ileged to have as many friends and as few enemies. His entire life was spent in Lake Township where he was engaged in farming. In early life he taught school several terms. He was Justice of the Peace for nearly fifty years and secretary of the Coolspring Valley Fire Insurance Co. He was a member and elder in the Bethany Cumberland Presbyterian church in which he had made the remarkable record of having heard every sermon, save one, preached in the church during a period of 33 years. This was made possible by his exceptionally good health. During the whole of his long life he never knew a day of sickness till finally, with life's forces spent, he laid wearily down to his long rest. His children were:

Michael M. (b. 1856) m. 1879 Catherine Pool. Resides in Stotschorn, Pa. Dealer in farming implements and farm hardware. His children are: Zella Mae, a graduate of Slippery Rock Normal School and Ohio Normal Union now teaching school, and Ray

David Brainerd (b. 1855, d. 1863).

§ V. **DAVID** (b. 1815, d. 1902) m. 1843 Elizabeth North (d. 1892). Youngest son of Michael and Mary, he inherited the old homestead where he resided the greater part of his life, his last years being spent on a smaller farm a half mile farther east.

He was a man of strong, positive character. Few men are permitted for so long a period to wield such an influence on a community as he enjoyed. In politics he was a republican and he held a number of local offices at various times. He was a member and for 43 years an elder in the Bethany Cumberland Presbyterian Church in which he occupied almost every other office a layman he ever called to fill. For over 30 years he taught a Bible class in the Sunday school, and his face was seldom absent from any of the services. He was a strong man physically never being sick a day during his long and strenuous life. The following are his children:

William Arthur (b. 1844, d. 1923) m. 1867 Jane Bromley. During the war he served as a member of Co. F, 55th, P. V., returning at its close and settling on a part of his father's farm, where he spent the rest of his life. For years he was a leading figure in the community, holding many positions of trust such as various township offices, executor of wills, secretary of Coolspring Valley Fire Insurance Co., director in Mercer County Agricultural Society, and various offices in the Bethany Cumberland Presbyterian Church of which he was long a leading member. His children are:

- Laura V. (b. 1870) m. 1898 Jas. W. McEwen, a farmer, residing in Coolspring Township. Her children are: Mary Lynn and Clair.
- Charles Reed (b. 1873) m. 1896 Pearl Stroud. Graduated from Grove City College and the University of Chicago. A minister of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, formerly located at Chicago and at Sorento, Ill., later in charge of Synodical mission work in Pennsylvania, and now pastor of the Third Church of Pittsburg, Pa. His children are: Virgil Stroud, Pearl Charline (d. 1901), Chalmers.
- David Michael (b. 1876, d. 1879), Bessie V. (b. 1879, d. 1880).
- Mary Grace (b. 1881) m. 1906 Walter H. Harrison. Graduated from Fredonia Institute and for some years a teacher in the public schools. Resides near her girlhood home.
- J. Byron (b. 1885) m. 1906 Nita Diecker, a farmer, located on the old homestead.
- Michael L. (b. 1846) m. 1867 Susan Bell (d. 1901), m. again 1903 Estella Barber. Early in life he left the farm to enter mercantile pursuits, locating successively at North's Mills, Jackson Centre, Perrine's Corners and Sandy Lake. At the latter place and at Stoneboro, Pa., he engaged in banking till 1891. His present resi-

- dence is at Pittsburg, Pa., where he is engaged in the production of oil. He has always been active in the religious and philanthropic work. He was the organizer and teacher of a Bible Class of more than 200 members in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church on Shady avenue, Pittsburg. His children are:
- Harry B. (b. 1870) m. 1898 Rose Bayard. Lives in Pittsburg, Pa., and is engaged with his father in the production of oil. His children are: Helen B., Mary S. and Jack B.
- D. Lester (b. 1872). Resides at Mansfield, Ohio, and is engaged in manufacturing.
- Mabel O. resides with her father in Pittsburg where she is prominent in musical circles as a contralto singer.
- Afton J. (b. 1884) a student in Princeton University.
- Mary Ethel resides with her father. Elizabeth is the child of Estella.
- Mary J. (b. 1848) m. 1882 Frank M. Fleming, with whom she resides on a farm in Jackson Township. She is prominent in the work of the Bethany Cumberland Presbyterian Church of which she has been a member since girlhood.
- Catherine E. (b. 1850) m. 1878 to R. Dunn Porter, a farmer, with whom she resided for some years

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near Sandy Lake, Pa., later moving to a location near Sheakleyville, where they still live. Her children are:

Bessie M. resides with her parents and is engaged in teaching.

Nellie B. (b. 1882) m. 1904 Harry Lawrence, associate editor of the Grove City Reporter.

Carrie Maud, located in Pittsburg, Pa., and engaged in teaching music.

Francis D. (d. 1889), Bertha A., Lucile G., David Z. (d. 1893), William H. (d. 1897).

Maria N. (b. 1852) m. 1892 John B. Hogue (d. 1904). Resides on a farm, the late home of her husband, near New Vernon, Pa.

Caroline E. (b. 1855) m. 1886 John C. Hamilton. Educated in Waynesburg College, she was for many years prominent as a teacher in various parts of the county. Since her marriage she has resided on a farm in Lake Township. She is active in the work of the Bethany Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Her children are: Roy Kennedy, Roth E., Paul North and David Donald.

John Ira (b. 1858) m. 1882 Della Stroud. His entire life has been spent on the old homestead where he engaged in farming. He is an active worker in the Bethany C. P. Church, and has held



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REV. D. M. COWART
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many other positions of trust in the community. His children are: Howard Stroud, Ralph, David, William. There was also another child that died in infancy.

Sarah Melissa graduated from the Edinboro State Normal School. She was a teacher for a number of years till the increasing age of her parents demanded her presence at home. She is now a milliner at Stoneboro, Pa.

VI. CATHERINE (b. 1822, d. 1889) m. 1844 William North, a prominent farmer of Fairview Township, where she resided till her death. She was a faithful member of the Coolspring Presbyterian Church of which her husband was a long time elder. Her children are:

Samuel H. (b. 1845) m. 1870 Margaretta Moonen. The earlier years of his married life were spent on a part of his father's farm from which he removed to another near Greenville, Pa. In later years he has resided at Slippery Rock and New Castle, and is now located at Fredonia, Pa. His children are:

Albert Lantzani (b. 1873) m. 1899 Eva M. Howe. Resides at New Castle and is engaged as a shipping clerk. Has one child, Ethel Leola.

Elizabeth May (b. 1879) m. 1901 Carrol O. Uber,

an undertaker, with whom she resides at Slippery Rock, Pa. She has one child, Katharine Margarete.

Mary E. resides with her brother at the old home.

Michael C. m. 1880 Elizabeth L. Long. His earlier years were spent on a farm adjoining that of his father from which he moved to another near Mercer, where he now resides. His children are: Kate B., Clifford J. and Nellie E.

William M. (b. 1852) m. 1888 Amanda Cross (d. 1890), m. 1894 Emma Burdett. Conducts a general store at Norths Mills where he was postmaster till the office was displaced by rural delivery service. Is a justice of the peace and has held many other positions of trust. By his first marriage he had one child, Emma M. (d. 1890). By his second marriage his children are: Mary C. and an infant (d. 1901).

Maria G. m. 1874 Ira G. Morford, with whom she resides on a farm in Fairview Township. Her children are:

Mary Alice m. 1901 H. A. Pearson. Resides at Jackson Centre, Pa. Her children are: Ralph A. and Minnie.

William S., Ina C., Clarence.

John C. m. 1887 Anna Miller. Resides on the old homestead. His children are: Clarice M. and Condit M.