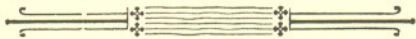


of educational advantages, for after completing the public schools of this city she entered Vassar College, and later was a student in the exclusive and renowned Ogontz in Philadelphia. The Doctor and his wife have two living children, Lewis A., Jr., and Jeannette. The parents are faithful attendants and members of the Episcopal Church.

Dr. Salade is a member of the Board of Health of Catsauqua, and is in the front ranks of all measures pertaining to sanitation and hygiene. He belongs to the Lehigh County, the Lehigh Valley and the State Medical Societies, having acted as Vice-President of the first-named organization.



**R**EV. JOHN F. POLLOCK, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Allentown, is a native of Scotland. He was born in Coatbridge, near Glasgow, January 4, 1846, and is a son of Alexander and Jean (Findlater) Pollock. In 1852 his parents emigrated with their family to the United States, and took up their residence in Blossburg, Tioga County, Pa. In his youth he attended the public schools, where his primary education was acquired, and in September, 1867, he entered Lafayette College, where he continued his studies for four years, being graduated from that institution in 1871. With the desire to enter the ministry and make its work his profession through life, he then entered the Theological Seminary of Princeton, N. J., and was graduated in 1874, after a three-years course.

After being ordained the gentleman of whom we write entered upon his life work, and accepted a call to the pastorate of the Presbyterian Church in Oxford, N. J., where he continued for nine years. During that time he won the love and confidence not only of his own congregation, but of all the people of the community, and was highly respected throughout that vicinity. On account of failing health the charge was resigned in April, 1883, and he traveled for a period of five months in Europe. After he returned he came to Allentown, in response to a call from the First Presbyterian Church of this city. Eleven years have passed since that time, but he has continued as its pastor uninter-

ruptedly. The church under his leadership has grown, and has become one of the leading religious organizations of Allentown.

In 1874 Mr. Pollock was united in marriage with Miss Lizzie Agnew, a resident of Easton, Pa., and a daughter of John Agnew. She has been a faithful companion and helpmate to her husband, aiding him in his labors and bearing a prominent part in the church work. She, also, is greatly beloved, for she possesses many excellences of character and kindness of spirit, which have gained her the warm regard of all with whom she has been brought in contact. She presides with grace over their pleasant and hospitable home, which is located at No. 35 North Fifth Street.

Mr. Pollock is a frequent contributor to various local papers on religious and moral topics. He is a ready writer, and his fluency and precision, added to the deep thought given to matters on which he writes, make his articles much sought for by the public. In the pulpit he is a logical speaker, clear and forcible, and the regard of his congregation is shown by his long retention in the pastorate of one church. Among his people he is a courteous, warm-hearted gentleman, who teaches as much by example as by precept.



**H**ON. ASA PACKER, or Judge Packer, as he was more generally known, was a philanthropist, a politician and a business man of the highest order. Few men in this community have become more widely and favorably known than he, for his name was famous not only in this, but in many adjoining states. To him is due the honor, to a large extent, of having opened up the riches of the inexhaustible beds of the anthracite coal regions.

The birth of Judge Packer occurred in Groton, Conn., December 20, 1806, and he departed this life in Philadelphia, May 17, 1879. After receiving common-school advantages he commenced learning the tanner's trade, but in 1822 went to Susquehanna County, Pa., where he learned the carpenter's trade with a relative, and he afterward worked at this calling in New York City. Re-

turning to the Keystone State, however, when the Lehigh Valley Canal was opened in 1823, he established his home in Mauch Chunk, becoming the owner and master of a boat which carried coal to Philadelphia. He also acquired an interest in other boats, but in 1831 gave up the business in order to carry on a store and boatyard. In 1837 he completed a contract for locks, becoming well known as a contractor in this line. A year later he began to build boats at Pottsville for the transportation of coal to New York by way of the new canal, which soon attracted all the traffic that had before passed through Philadelphia. Judge Packer became extensively engaged in mining and the transportation of coal, working the mines of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company and operating new mines at Hazleton.

In 1844 the Judge was elected to the Legislature and secured the creation of the separate county of Carbon, with the county seat at Mauch Chunk. Afterward he filled for five years the post of County Judge, and projected the Lehigh Valley Railroad, for which he secured the necessary subscription, and by 1855 had the line completed from Mauch Chunk to Easton, with branches to Hazleton and Mahoning. Subsequently he procured its extension northward to connect with the Erie Railroad, thus giving the anthracite coal region an outlet. He was President of the company and, though financially embarrassed before the completion of the line, shared largely in the profits that afterward accrued to the company, becoming the richest man of his day in Pennsylvania.

On the Democratic ticket Judge Packer was elected to Congress, and was re-elected as a Free-soil Democrat, serving from December, 1853, to March, 1857. In 1868 he received the votes of the Pennsylvania delegates for the Presidential nomination in the National Democratic Convention. The year following he was a candidate for Governor, and in 1876 he was a Commissioner for the Centennial Exposition. In 1865 Judge Packer gave \$500,000, eighty-one hundred and fifteen acres of land, to found Lehigh University at South Bethlehem, for the purpose of affording the young men of the Lehigh Valley advanced technical education without charge. The scheme of studies

embraces civil, mining and mechanical engineering, physics, chemistry, metallurgy and classics. By his last will he secured an endowment of \$1,500,000 to the university and one of \$500,000 to the library. His daughter, Mrs. Mary (Packer) Cummings, gave a memorial church, which was dedicated on October 13, 1887, the anniversary of the founding of the university.



WILLIAM H. GRAHAM, an influential citizen of Lehigh County, is a practical iron man, and is at present Superintendent of the Catasauqua Manufacturing Company, which is located in Catasauqua. He was born in Buffalo, N. Y., November 24, 1846, and is a son of William Graham, a native of Scotland, where his father, William by name, was born, and followed the trade of a wheelwright. The latter came to America and plied his trade in Buffalo, N. Y., until his decease. In that city the father of our subject also worked for a time, and then removed to Pittsburg, where he lived for many years prior to his decease, which sad event occurred in his sixtieth year. He was one of the substantial residents of his community, and a valued member of the Presbyterian Church.

Mrs. Catherine (Stewart) Graham, the mother of our subject, was also born in Scotland. She reared a family of six children, of whom William H. is the eldest. He was reared in Pittsburg, and attended the public schools until seventeen years of age, when he was apprenticed to learn the trades of pattern-maker, millwright and machinist. After mastering these callings he took up iron-rolling, and on learning it was made night Superintendent at Carnegie's Mills in Pittsburg. After being eighteen months in their employ, he transferred his interests to Graff, Bennett & Co., where he was General Superintendent for twelve years.

In 1889 Mr. Graham was offered the position of Superintendent in the Catasauqua Manufacturing Company. Moving here, he took charge of one mill, and in 1893 the supervision of the three mills of the company was placed under his control. He made many necessary changes, putting in

new boilers, furnaces, etc., and now the mills, when running at their full capacity, give employment to about nine hundred men. Mr. Graham gives his attention to every detail, and attends to the mixture of irons. Having made this business his occupation since 1863, he has a reputation second to none in the county.

Miss Lydia Robb became the wife of our subject June 7, 1869. To them has been born one child, who bears the name of Mazie A. Our subject belongs to St. John's Lodge No. 219, F. & A. M., in Pittsburg, and in politics is a staunch Republican. He is a man of sterling worth and belongs to the Presbyterian Church in this district. He may truly be called a self-made man, for he started out in life empty handed and by his own industrious and enterprising habits has steadily worked his way upward to a position among the substantial citizens of the community.



**H**ON. ABRAHAM W. LERCH. Through his services in the State Legislature for two terms the subject of this sketch has gained a high reputation, not only in his own district, but throughout other portions of Pennsylvania. He resides in Lehigh Township, Northampton County, where he manufactures school slates and carries on a general mercantile business. Both as a business man and in public affairs he is efficient, capable and trustworthy, and has deservedly gained more than ordinary success.

The Lerch family was numbered among the pioneers of Northampton County, and the parents of our subject, Adam and Magdalena (Waltman) Lerch, were both born here. Upon his father's farm in Allen Township, Abraham W. was born October 10, 1814. He remained at home, his time being spent in the manner common to farmer boys, until he attained his fourteenth year, when he went to live with his uncle, Abraham Lerch, a merchant in Lehigh Township, with whom he remained until his marriage. In the neighboring public schools he acquired a fair knowledge of the studies taught in that day. From the time he became an inmate of his uncle's home he aided

him in the management of his store, of which he early gained a thorough knowledge.

The marriage of Mr. Lerch took place in March, 1840, at which time Miss Mary, daughter of Elias and Sybilla Klepinger, became his wife. They have had five children, one of whom, Amanda, is deceased. The others are named as follows: Sallie, wife of Lewis Koons and a resident of Carbon County; George H., whose home is in Lehigh Township, Northampton County; James M., also living in this township; and Catherine, wife of Dr. Sieger, of Seigfried's Bridge, this state.

For many years our subject was in partnership with his uncle, whose interest he purchased in 1853, and for some years afterward was sole proprietor of the concern. In 1870 he associated himself with his sons, George H. and James M., the firm name becoming Lerch & Co. They are doing a good business, and have a well stocked establishment, where everything needed in the city or country household can be found. For many years Mr. Lerch engaged extensively in the manufacture of late roofing, but for the past few years has confined his attention to the making of school slates, and gives employment in his factory to twenty men.

Mr. Lerch has always been one of the most popular citizens of Lehigh Township. He is prominent in politics as a member of the Democratic party. For many years he served as Justice of the Peace, and in 1878 was elected to the State Legislature, in which responsible position he served for two terms. He is liberal in his views and in favor of every movement having for its object the improvement of the county. He is a member of the Reformed Church, in which he has officiated as an Elder, Deacon and Trustee.



**E**UGENE T. WILHELM, M. D. The physicians of South Bethlehem are men who compare favorably with those of any other city in point of learning, as well as in skill and ability as practitioners; and to entitle their successors to high rank among their professional brethren of the state, it only remains for them to