

chants' National Bank of Bangor, and is connected with various enterprises that have given an impetus to the commercial and material development of the place. Of the Banner Slate Company he is serving as Secretary, and is one of its Directors. This quarry is located at Danielsville, and is one of the best in Northampton County.

In politics a Republican, Mr. Sherrer has officiated as Chief Burgess, Town Clerk, School Director and in other posts of honor. His membership is in the Presbyterian Church, of which he is a Deacon. In Sunday-school work he is especially active, and has served for some time as its Superintendent. Socially he affiliates with the Royal Arcanum, and formerly was actively connected with the Knights of Pythias. His marriage, which occurred October 12, 1869, united him with Miss Mary Angelica, daughter of Samuel Straub, of Bath, Pa. One child has blessed their union, a son named H. Straub, who was born October 18, 1875, and is now (1894) a Junior in Lafayette College.



JACOB RAUB has done more, perhaps, toward the upbuilding and improvement of Easton than any other citizen of the place. For about three years he has been much interested in real estate, and his success is owing almost entirely to his financial ability and sound judgment. Many local enterprises he has fostered and aided, among these being the shoe and felt factories, the suspension bridge and the market house. For some three terms Mr. Raub was a member of the City Council, was President of the Select Council for one term, and inaugurated the first Democratic Mayor ever elected in Easton.

John Raub, the father of our subject, was born in Forks Township, Northampton County. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and in politics was a Democrat. For some years he engaged in carpet-weaving, and at one time operated a cooperage. He was a man of diversified talents, and won considerable fame as a local doctor. He was also a great hunter, and very fond of fishing, taking

much pleasure in these sports. He was twice married, having five children by his first wife, namely: Daniel, William, John, Sarah and Mary. By his second marriage, the lady being Sarah Everhart, he had four children: Peter; Amanda, Mrs. Kutzler; Emma, Mrs. Franzer; and Jacob. The father died in 1860, but his wife is still living.

Jacob Raub was born January 25, 1854, on his father's farm in Forks Township. He received a common-school education, but early engaged in making his own living. His first employment was as a farm hand at \$4 per month, though for five years previous he had received only his board and clothing. At the age of seventeen years he began learning the trade of carpentering, and was only twenty years old when he built his first house. At this time he received \$275 from his father's estate. In 1876 he became a partner in the firm which was subsequently known as Raub, Franzer & Arner. This partnership was dissolved in 1878, and for a time our subject worked as a journeyman. He built and paid for his home and went into business on his own account. He succeeded very well from the first, as on casting up his accounts at the end of the year he found that he had cleared \$1,200; the second year he cleared \$5,000, and the following year \$3,000. His small shop was at first only 10x12, but its dimensions were necessarily increased in a short time. For years he has given employment to twenty-three men during the entire year, and has frequently done a business of \$75,000 per annum.

In 1891 Mr. Raub associated with himself William J. Daub, and embarked in real-estate business. They bought a farm lying within the city limits of Easton, this place being known as Easton Heights. It comprised seventy-six acres, a large portion of which has been sold off in lots and improved with good buildings. The ground on which stands the Moravian Church was donated by the partners, who have contributed liberally to many philanthropic societies and works in Easton. About \$75,000 worth of land has been sold, fifty houses have been erected, and numerous others are in process of construction. Mr. Raub was the first person to build a house in this portion of the city, and has been untiring in his efforts to provide in-

dustrious workmen and small salaried men with homes on easy terms. He was interested with John R. Osterstock and others in building up the tract known as "the court house lot."

In July, 1876, Mr. Raub was united in marriage with Aravesta A. Arner, who has borne him seven children, as follows: Arthur L., Howard, Reuben S., Sarah, Gertrude and Edith (deceased). The family are members of the Reformed Church.



JAMES McMAHON was the fourth Postmaster of South Bethlehem, and was a faithful officer in that capacity for a period of eight years.

He was appointed to that position in 1871 by President Grant, and was appointed for a second term by President Harrison. He resigned in the fall of 1893, and gave up the post March 21 of the following year. Under his administration of affairs the work pertaining to the office was systematized, and in the report made to the postal authorities in 1891 and 1892 the office stood No. 1 in the second class of the second division. Mr. McMahon was formerly a member of the South Bethlehem Gas and Water Company, which built the present water works, and owns several residence properties. He was the first Burgess of the place, serving for one year, from 1864 to 1865, and for a period of twelve years, though not in succession, served as a member of the City Council. In the improvement of streets, starting of schools, and in other material ways he has been identified with progressive movements, and has practically assisted in the prosperity of South Bethlehem.

The subject of this biography was born in County Limerick, Ireland, on Christmas Day, 1834. His father, John McMahon, whose birth also occurred in the Emerald Isle, owned and operated a good farm. His wife, a native of the same county, was in her girlhood Miss Mary O'Kieffe. James is the eldest of three children, and the only one of the family who has come to America. He was educated in his native land, and in 1849 set sail on the vessel "Constellation" from Liverpool, and at

the end of twenty-two days landed in New York. As he had an acquaintance in Philadelphia he proceeded direct to that city, and there attended school for a few months. As he had received thorough instruction in agricultural duties on his father's farm, we next find him an employe of an old Quaker in Haddonfield, N. J. For about a year and a-half it was part of his duty to bring produce from the farm to Philadelphia, where he sold it to regular customers. Next he became a railroad conductor, obtaining the position through acquaintances, the Barrys, who built the Northern Pennsylvania Railroad from Philadelphia to Bethlehem, now known as the Pittsburg & Reading.

In 1855 Mr. McMahon first set foot in Bethlehem, and then became an employe of the old Lehigh Zinc Company. With Mr. Wetherill he assisted in making experiments on spelter or metallic zinc for about a year. He was now a little over twenty-one years of age, and after being with Mr. Wharton, who was also in the zinc business, he was for four months at work in the oxide furnaces. For a year thereafter he had charge of the rooms where the oxide was collected, and was then made day foreman. In that capacity he served with Mr. Jenkins until 1863, when B. C. Webster, the President, became General Manager, and by him our subject was appointed Superintendent of the plant, continuing as such until May 1, 1881.

In 1881 Mr. McMahon removed to a farm which he had purchased in Iowa County, Iowa, a tract of one hundred and sixty acres. He did not remain there long, however, as he was solicited to build oxide works in Mineral Point, Wis., and accordingly did so in 1882. This corporation, the Mineral Point Zinc Company, is now a leading concern in the business, and our subject became Superintendent of the works, remaining there for six years. In 1888 he sold his Iowa farm and, returning to South Bethlehem, moved into his old home. April 4, 1889, he was again appointed Postmaster, taking charge of the office May 12. The salary was then only \$1,600 a year, affairs were in a bad condition, and the office itself was not very well situated. All these things our subject undertook to change, and succeeded in doing so. It was removed to its present large quarters, one

of the finest locations in the state; a free delivery system was introduced, and it was transferred from the third to the second class, the salary being increased to \$2,400.

One of the first members of the Church of the Holy Infancy, our subject is active in its work and cherishes a very kindly feeling toward the Moravians and other Protestants of this region who were so liberal, both in thought and in a more practical way, when this church was constructed. Since 1868 he has been a Republican, having voted for President Lincoln for his second term. He is one of the most aggressive Republicans in the county, and has been active in local committees. For nine years he was a School Director, and served for a number of years as President of the board. The schools were in a dilapidated condition when he first became interested in the matter, but now the educational facilities of the place can rank with the best in the state. In 1875 he erected his pleasant home on the corner of Locust and Fourth Streets, and has also built several other houses in South Bethlehem.

RUBEN P. FEHNEL, formerly Commissioner of Northampton County, and at present a farmer and stock-raiser of Palmer Township, was born February 13, 1833, in the county where he still resides. Here also were born his parents, Peter and Lydia (Dilliard) Fehnel, and hither in an early day came his grandfather, Conrad Fehnel, the founder of the family in the state, and one of the pioneer settlers of Moore Township.

School advantages were somewhat limited when our subject was a boy, but he availed himself to the utmost of those offered him, and gained a practical education that fitted him for contact with the world. As soon as old enough he began to aid in tilling the soil, and with advancing years increased responsibilities came to him. He remained beneath the parental roof, engaged in general farm work, until he attained his majority, at which time he began to learn the trade of a carpenter. This occupation he followed for a number of years, though his time has been devoted mainly to agriculture.

Removing in the spring of 1862 from Moore to Palmer Township, Mr. Fehnel has since resided in this part of the county. In 1873 he settled upon the farm where he has since resided. This place comprises one hundred and ten acres of land, the larger part of which has been placed under a high state of cultivation, so that at each harvest it yields large and valuable crops. While he has devoted his attention principally to the cultivation of his property, he has found time to give to the consideration of public matters, and is well informed concerning the issues of the age.

Among the local offices held by Mr. Fehnel is that of School Director of Palmer Township. He has also served as Road Supervisor, and for a period of three years filled the position of Commissioner of Northampton County. His wife was Hannah, daughter of George Marsh, late of Moore Township, but now deceased. Six children were born to this union, of whom five are now living: George; Thomas; Ida, who is the wife of Thomas Kunkle; Amanda and Owen P. Clementine is deceased. A Lutheran in religious belief, Mr. Fehnel belongs to the church situated on Bushkill Creek, in Forks Township, and in that congregation is serving as an Elder.

OLIVER K. JONES, a well known and representative citizen and retired agriculturist of Freemansburg, is a native of Northampton County. He was born November 26, 1838, to Joseph B. and Eliza (Keck) Jones, the former a native of this county, and the latter born in Lehigh County. John Jones, the great-grandfather of our subject, was said to have been a native of Wales, and was one of the early settlers of the Lehigh Valley, having come to America when a young man.

Our subject was reared to manhood in his native county, receiving his education in the common schools near his home, and later attending the private schools of Bethlehem. He has been a life-long agriculturist, economical and industrious, and therefore prosperous, and now owns one hundred and twenty-six acres of well cultivated and finely improved land, where he still resides, though living a retired life. He has served as School Director