

years Mr. Weiss was actively engaged in building creameries through Bucks county, being one of the pioneers of that industry. Of late years, however, he has led a less active life, and devoted his time to the management of his farm, which is known as "Fairview," and which as a summer boarding house is patronized by many people from Philadelphia and elsewhere. Mr. and Mrs. Weiss having the reputation of being excellent providers and entertainers. In politics Mr. Weiss has always been actively engaged as a Republican, but has never sought or held office. By his marriage to Frances Allebach, daughter of Jacob and Ellen (Van Fossen) Allebach, farmers, of Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, which was celebrated March 12, 1859, the following children were born: Joseph Franklin, deceased; Ellen, deceased; and Elmira, born September 10, 1862, who married Joseph B. Shelly, son of Elias Shelly, a farmer, of Milford township. Joseph B. Shelly was engaged for a time in the hotel business, but after several years retired from that line of work and engaged in the agency for farming implements and wagons, building up a large business in and about Quakertown. In politics he was an ardent Republican, but never served in any official capacity. He was a Mennonite in religion, member of East Swamp church, and for several years took an active part in religious affairs as teacher and superintendent of Sunday schools at East Swamp. Their children were: Herbert Arthur, Henry Eugene, Lilly Alberta, Frances Mabel, George Joseph, Cora Irene, and Penimah May Shelly. Mr. Shelly died August 2, 1903, since which time Mrs. Shelly has successfully conducted the business in which her husband was engaged at the time of his death. Mr. Weiss and his family are members of the Mennonite church, at East Swamp, Pennsylvania.

**JACOB KOOKER.** One of the well-known men of Solebury is Jacob Kooker. The great-grandfather of Mr. Kooker was Peter Kooker, a native of Germany, who emigrated to this country in company with a brother, Jacob Kooker, who settled near Norristown, Montgomery county, on land known as Big Meadows. Peter Kooker (great-grandfather) settled in Nockamixon township, near Rufe's hotel (now Revere). He was married three times; his first wife was Elizabeth Raub, who bore him one child, Jacob Kooker, mentioned hereinafter. His second wife was Kate White, who was a widow with several children by her first marriage, and his third wife was also a widow, Mrs. Myers, who was the mother of one son by her first marriage, Jacob Myers, who, at the peril of his life ran back and rescued the nag of the One Hundred and Fourth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, when they had been driven back from their position by the rebels during the civil war.

Captain Jacob Kooker, grandfather of Jacob Kooker, was captain of the Leopard Kulemen during the war of 1812. He was numbered among the good citizens of Bucks county, and died of consumption at the early age of thirty-nine years. He married Mary Magdaline Calfe, who was born in Tinicum township, June 2, 1790, died August 10, 1868, and her remains were interred at Upper Tinicum churchyard. They were the parents of nine children, as follows: John, a carpenter and undertaker by trade, who resided at Holland, New Jersey, where he was married. Henry, mentioned at length hereinafter. Elizabeth, wife of Jacob Sigafos, of Tinicum township, Bucks county. Samuel, a farmer and retired gentleman, who resided near Pineville, Pennsylvania. Sarah, wife of William Auld, of Carversville, Bucks county. Annie, wife of Charles Slack, of Yardley, Bucks county. Margarette, wife of Joseph Welsh, of Holland, New Jersey. Mary, who died at the age of two years. Catharine, wife of Charles F. Smith, of Clayton, Bucks county. These children with their husbands and wives are all now deceased with the exception of Louisa, widow of Samuel Kooker, who lives at Pineville, Pennsylvania.

Henry Kooker, father of Jacob Kooker, was born March 11, 1815, in Nockamixon, and was a son of Jacob and Mary Magdaline (Calfe) Kooker. When a boy he went to live with an uncle, John Calfe, in Tinicum township, and there he grew to manhood. Later he went to Hunterdon county, New Jersey, and for several years was employed at Godley's mills, ultimately becoming salesman for the mills. At the time of his marriage he returned to Bucks county, Pennsylvania, and settled in Solebury whence he removed to Clayton, Buckingham township, remaining some years and engaging in lime burning. Subsequently he moved to Tinicum township, where he resided nine years, then moved back to Buckingham township, and on his retirement from business both he and his wife made their home with their daughter, Ida Roberts, wife of Charles S. Roberts, or New Hope, Pennsylvania. Until the breaking out of the civil war Mr. Kooker was a Democrat in politics, but then became a Republican. He was a member of Solebury Baptist church, in which body he served as deacon for many years. He married, November 5, 1840, Elizabeth Strouse, who was born in Tinicum, Pennsylvania, January 12, 1821, daughter of Frederick and Elizabeth (Sigafos) Strouse, of Nockamixon township, the latter named having been born October 13, 1792, died August 10, 1868, and buried at Upper Tinicum churchyard. After the death of his wife Mr. Strouse went to live with his daughter Catharine, wife of Cyrus Foreman, who resided in the vicinity of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and there resided until his death and was buried in that city. Mr. and Mrs. Strouse were the parents of seven

children, three sons of whom died in youth and childhood, and the names of the others were as follows: Annie, deceased, who was the wife of the late Paul Rymond, of Tinicum. Elizabeth, deceased, wife of the late Henry Kooker, of New Hope. Mary, deceased, who was the wife of the late John Wilkinson, a cotton manufacturer of New Hope, who operated the cotton mills there for several years. Catharine, wife of Cyrus Foreman, aforementioned, who is the only survivor of the family. Henry and Elizabeth (Strouse) Kooker were the parents of the following children: William S., a physician in the city of Philadelphia. Mary, who married Walker Booze, of New Hope. Jacob, mentioned at length hereinafter. Charles H., who is a contractor and builder in Philadelphia. John, a resident of New Hope, who carries on pork butchering and is the owner of a large hardware store. Ida, wife of Charles S. Roberts, a lumber and coal dealer of New Hope. The deaths of Mr. and Mrs. Kooker occurred May 10, 1903, and February 10, 1898, respectively, and the funeral services were conducted at the Solebury Baptist church, of which they had both been members for many years.

Jacob Kooker, son of Henry and Elizabeth (Strouse) Kooker, was born September 11, 1846, in Buckingham township. He received his education in the public schools, at the age of twenty began to teach, but at the end of a year turned his attention to farming, becoming a tenant in Solebury. After two years he removed to the farm in Buckingham now owned by Judge Paxson, where he remained six years, and then purchased the store at Holicong. He conducted the business for one year and then sold out and bought his present farm in Solebury township. He deals extensively in horses and cattle, owns the Keystone carriage works in Doylestown, and is also a dealer in real estate, owning several farms and properties at the present time (1905). He was the first man in this section to buy wagons from the manufacturers in carload lots, and is still in the business, carrying at the present time a stock of over two hundred and also deals extensively in harness, organs and pianos. As a clerk for sales he is better known than any other man in the county. He is a member of the Carriage Dealers' Protective Association, and was recently a delegate to a convention of that organization. He now holds the office of registration assessor. In politics he is a Republican, and his church membership is with the Solebury Baptist church, in which for so many years his father served as deacon. He married, December 17, 1867, Martha Naylor, daughter of Reeder and Elizabeth (McNealey) Naylor, of Solebury township, and the following children have been born to them: Annie, who is the wife of Ellsworth Lippencott, of New Hope, and has four children: Bertha, Nellie, Herbert J., and Eva. Nellie G., who married Spencer Rob-

erts, a gardener and florist with Judge E. M. Paxson, and has one child, Martha K. Roberts. Margaret N. Edgar S., who is assistant station agent at Buckingham Valley station on the Reading Railroad from New Hope to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

PRESTON W. HAGERTY. Among the prosperous and influential business men of Chalfont, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, who have aided materially in the development of its mercantile pursuits, is Preston W. Hagerty, whose birth occurred in Nockamixon township, Bucks county, April 4, 1852. This township (which was spelled Noximinson in a deed of 1762) signifies, in the Delaware language, "the place at the three houses," and is supposed to have been settled prior to 1730. Judging from a list of the names of landowners in 1742, the original settlers were English-speaking people.

John Hagerty, father of Preston W. Hagerty, was a son of James Hagerty, who emigrated to this country from Ireland, settling in Nockamixon township, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, where he followed farming as a means of livelihood. John Hagerty was a shoemaker by trade, and this line of work he followed in connection with agricultural pursuits in the state of New Jersey. He was united in marriage to Catherine Walters, daughter of Jacob Walters, a native of Germany, who migrated to America, settling at the Forge, in Warren county, New Jersey. In 1852, accompanied by his family, John Hagerty removed to Nockamixon township, Bucks county, and thereafter made his home in that attractive locality. The following named children were the issue of his marriage: Mary M., James, Jacob, Sarah E., Solomon, Annie, Sophia J., John W., Hannah M., and Preston W.

Preston W. Hagerty was reared on his father's farm, and was indebted to the common schools in his neighborhood for his educational advantages. At the age of eighteen years he engaged with his brother Jacob in the produce commission business, and at the expiration of three years, one of which he was employed in driving a team, he purchased the business and conducted a wholesale produce trade for ten years, achieving a well merited success as a result of his reliable methods. In the meantime he purchased a farm which he conducted until 1884, in which year he entered into business relations with his brother-in-law, John S. Rickert, purchasing the store at Chalfont. This connection continued until the death of Mr. Rickert, ten years later, when Mr. Hagerty purchased his interest and has since conducted the business alone; he also purchased the buildings. His general mercantile business has increased to large proportions, and is now one of the most extensive of its kind in that section of the county. The respect and