

GEORGE W. CREDE, Jr., a prosperous merchant of Blairsville, is a son of George W. and Catherine (Stolz) Crede, and was born in Allegheny city, Pennsylvania, January 28, 1852. His father, George W. Crede, is a native of Allegheny city, and in early life was engaged as a boatman on the Pennsylvania canal. He then removed to Pittsburgh, where he drove the first team which the Adams Express company employed in that city. He remained with the above-named company until 1885. He is a republican and a member of the Reformed church. He married Catherine Stolz, daughter of John Henry Stolz, of Allegheny city, who was a native of Hesse, Germany. He was one of the thousand Hessians captured by Washington at Trenton, after he made his famous passage through the floating ice in the Delaware river on Christmas night, 1776. John Henry Stolz was hired, with others of his countrymen, by his ruler, to George III., of England, and, without his consent, was sent to America to fight against the Colonies. He was not averse to being captured and never asked to be exchanged. After being held as a prisoner for a short time he was released and came to Allegheny county, where he resided until his death.

George W. Crede, Jr., was reared in Allegheny. After being graduated from the high schools of that city, he attended the Iron City Business college, from which he was graduated at the end of his term. He then accepted a position as assistant clerk on a government boat running between Pittsburgh and the head-waters of the Missouri river, continuing on different boats for some two years. During these trips the lives of all on board were frequently endangered by attacks of the Indians. In 1871 he became a book-keeper in the cork factory of Armstrong Brothers & Co., of Pittsburgh, and held that position for seven years. In the spring of 1877 he opened a general mercantile establishment at Blairsville, which he has conducted successfully ever since. He has a choice selection of dry goods, notions, carpets, etc. His store is on the corner of Walnut and Market streets and he has secured a liberal patronage.

In 1878 he married Lizzie Speiss, daughter of Louis Speiss, of Blairsville.

He is a republican in politics, and a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, and the Patriotic Order of the Sons of America. In 1868 he joined Heath's Zouaves, of Allegheny city, which organization became Company 1, 14<sup>th</sup> regiment, and afterwards was made Company D, 18th regiment National Guard of Pennsylvania. He served in these companies until 1877. In June, 1889, he was appointed inspector of rifle practice, which position he held until May 31, 1890, when he resigned. George W. Crede attends the United Presbyterian church and is a useful citizen as well as an active business man. He is, in point of service, the oldest member of the National Guard of Pennsylvania in Allegheny county.