

CYRUS A. EVERHART, a faithful soldier of the Army of the James and one of the best and most progressive farmers of Kittanning township, was born in Franklin township, Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, Independence Day, 1833, and is a son of Henry and Susan (Keck) Everhart. The Everharts were early settlers west of the Allegheny mountains. Cyrus A. Everhart's paternal great-grandfather, Everhart, was born in board the ship which brought his parents from Germany to this country. Christian Everhart (grand father) came from Huntingdon to Westmoreland county in an early day and frequently left his farm to seek safety in a neighboring fort from the Indians. He was an elder in the Lutheran church, served in the war of 1812 and died in Franklin township, aged sixty-six years. He married Mary Snyder and one of his sons was Henry Everhart (father), who was born in 1808. He came in 1847, from Westmoreland county to Kittanning township, where he died October 1, 1888. he was a farmer by occupation, a democrat in political faith and a Lutheran in religious belief. He had been an elder in his church of many years and had held various offices of his township. All his methods of business were honorable and he enjoyed the respect and esteem of his friends and neighbors. Although an unassuming man, yet he was an active worked in his church and an energetic business man. He married Susan Keck, who was born in Mercer county November 25, 1810, and died int his township April 24, 1875. She was a Lutheran and her father, Christian Keck, a solder of the war of 1812, was a native of Mercer county, where he died in 1854, aged seventy years. Henry and Susan Everhart had six children, of whom five are living.

Cyrus A. Everhart was reared in Westmoreland and Armstrong counties and received his education in the common schools. On April 15, 1864, he enlisted in Co. H, 199<sup>th</sup> regiment, Pa. Vols., and served in the Army of the James around Petersburg, where he was in some of the severest and bloodiest engagements of the war. He was honorably discharged from the Union service in Philadelphia, on July 8, 1865, and returned home, where he remained until 1878, when he was appointed as one of the attendants at the Soldiers' Home at Dayton, Armstrong county. He held this position for eighteen months and then was engaged, during 1880-81, in the agency business. Since then his health has been impaired to such an extent as to disable him from physical labor and he has given his time chiefly to managing his farm. At the present time he is serving as jury constable of the courts of Armstrong county.

In 1854 he united in marriage with Sarah Heilman, daughter of Frederick and Margaret Heilman, of this township. They have been the parents of seven children, of whom five are living: R. Frederick, married to Mollie Heilman, and now assisting in the management of his father's farm; James Parks, engaged in the dairy business at Ford City; David Lee, a teacher; Angeline, wife of U. F. George, of Kittanning; and Mary E., at home.

Cyrus A. Everhart owns one hundred acres of the homestead farm in Kittanning township. It is well improved and productive land, and Mr. Everhart has brought it into a high state of cultivation. He has studied well the nature of his land and uses methods of farming which give him the largest returns in crops while they do not exhaust the soil. He is a democrat in political sentiment and has held various township offices. Genial, courteous and obliging, he is justly popular in his community.