

DR. JOSEPH W. SHARP, a grandson of the old Revolutionary hero and frontier Indian fighter, Capt. Andrew Sharp, and successful physician of Dayton, is a son of Joseph and Sarah (Ramsey) Sharp, and was born in Armstrong township, Indiana county, Pennsylvania, December 28, 1834. His paternal grandfather was Capt. Andrew Sharp, one of the pioneer settlers of the Plum Creek region. He was a native of Scotland, served as an officer under Washington and died at Pittsburgh, July 8, 1794, of bullet wounds received in his boat on the Kiskiminetas in a fight with Indians (see Plum Creek township). Joseph Sharp, son of the Revolutionary veteran and pioneer settler, Capt. Andrew Sharp, was born on Crooked creek, this county, in 1785, and died in 1860. he owned a good farm and the first flouring-mill at Sharp's Mills. He was a miller by trade, a United Presbyterian in religious belief, and an old-time democrat in politics. He was justice of the peace for several years before his death in 1860, when his son Thomas was elected as his successor and has served in that office ever since. He married Sarah Ramsey, daughter of Hugh Ramsey, who was a native of Scotland, and a member of the Dissenters' or Covenanters' church. To Joseph and Sarah Sharp were born seven children, four sons and three daughters: Andrew, Dr. Joseph W., John, of Johnstown, Pa.; Mary A., who married Morrison Hosack, of Clarion county, and is dead; Alexander, who entered Hampden's battery and served through the late war, after which he went to Ft. Smith, Arkansas, where he died; Sarah A., wife of J. T. Hosack, of Jackson county, Kansas; and Sarah T., a teacher of Benezetze, PA.

Joseph W. Sharp was reared on the home farm and received a good English education in the schools of his neighborhood. Leaving school, he commenced the study of medicine, entered the Medical college of Cincinnati, where he pursued his studies for one year, and then located at Perryville, Ohio, where he practiced for four years. In 1868 he came to Dayton, where he has been engaged in continuous and successful practice ever since.

He married Mary A., daughter of Alexander Walker. To Doctor and Mrs. Sharp have been born three children, one son and two daughters: Dr. Otis S., who graduated in 1884 from the Cincinnati Medical college, married Emma Gilhausen and has been engaged in the active practice of his profession at Dayton for the past six years; Margaret E., wife of M. C. Hagan, an oil-driller; and Etta M., wife of Edgar S. Hilliard, a locomotive engineer of Ft. Worth, Kansas.

Dr. J. Sharp, while supporting most of the principles of the Republican party, yet is rather independent in his views of political measures, and votes for the candidate whom he thinks best qualified for the office. Without solicitation, and often against his protest, he has been elected to various borough offices, which, in obedience to the wish of his fellow-townsmen, he always accepted and filled very creditably.