

ELMER F. FRASHER, M. D., physician and surgeon at Smicksburg, was born in Port Washington, Tuscarawas Co., Ohio, Nov. 12, 1861, son of Jacob M. and Grace E. (Johnston) Frasher.

Fieldren Frasher, the paternal grandfather of Dr. Elmer F. Frasher, was a native of Fayette county, Pa., and married Catherine Tantlinger, of Somerset county. They lived in Burnsville, where they kept a hotel, but later moved to Guernsey county, Ohio, Mr. Frasher taking up a farm on which they spent the remainder of their lives. They had two children: Luke, living on the old Ohio homestead; and Jacob M.

Jacob M. Frasher, son of Fieldren Frasher, and father of Dr. Elmer F. Frasher, was born in Fayette county, Pa., in 1833, and died in 1903. He was a teacher during the greater part of his life, being for thirty three years proprietor of a Business College and Normal Institute at Wheeling, W. Va. He also taught school at Troy, N. Y., Springfield, Mass., and Port Washington, Ohio. He was a pupil in penmanship under P. R. Spencer, of Spencerian fame, the "Father of Penmanship." For thirty years Mr. Frasher was a resident of Wheeling, W. Va., but his last years were spent in Washington county, Pa. As a young man, he joined the Masons, and was connected with the fraternity to the end of his life, and his religious association was with the Presbyterian Church. On May 19, 1860, he was married to grace E. Johnston, of Conneaut Lake, Crawford Co., pa., and they had three children: Ada, the wife of George Dunbar, an electrician of Pittsburg, who has one son, Harold; Elmer F.; and Zanna J., the wife of Dr. D. Sherman Smith, a dentist of Lancaster, Pa., who has one child, Grace E. Both Mrs. Dunbar and Mrs. Smith are graduates of the Wheeling Female Seminary.

Matthew K. Johnston, the maternal grandfather of Dr. Elmer F. Frasher, was born in Mercer county, Pa., and married Jane Johnston. He was educated at Meadville, Pa., and studied under Dr. Cossett, subsequently engaging in the practice of medicine in Mercer, Pa., and later at Newton Falls, Ohio. On account of his health he engaged in the jewelry business at Port Washington, Ohio, and there his death occurred, while his wife passed away at Meadville, Pa., of typhoid fever, in 1848. They had two children: John, who died young; and Grace E., who married Mr. Frasher.

Elmer F. Frasher received his early education in the public schools of Wheeling, W.Va., following which he became a student at Washington and Jefferson College, at Washington, Pa., from which institution he was graduated in 1883. He then entered the medical department of the University of Maryland, at Baltimore, where he received his degree of doctor of medicine in 1887. During the next year he served as interne in the University Hospital, Baltimore, Md., and then entered the Western Pennsylvania Hospital, Pittsburg, of which he was resident physician for one year. He was also assistant physician in the Eye and Ear Hospital, Baltimore. He took the eye and ear prize of his class while in college, as well as the gold medal prize for the highest number of points in practice in medicine, taking two of the five prizes offered in a class of ninety pupils.

In 1888 Dr. Frasher embarked upon the practice of his profession in Pittsburg, where he remained during the next five years, then going to Wheeling,

W. Va., where he acted in the capacity of medical examiner for various insurance companies for five years. He was next located in the suburbs of Pittsburg for three years, and built up a lucrative practice, but in 1900 came to his present location, of Smicksburg. Dr. Frasher carried on a general practice. His wide and varied experience in his profession, his inherent sympathy, he acknowledged ability and kindness of heart, all have combined to assist him in the alleviation of the ills of mankind, and to build up a large patronage. He has kept abreast of the various discoveries and advances of his profession, subscribing to the leading medical journals and attending lectures, and takes a great interest in the work of the various organizations, in which he holds membership. Dr. Frasher is a consistent member of the Lutheran Church. He has not taken an active part in political matters, but has always maintained an intelligent interest in those movements which have affected the welfare of his community. A leader alike in professional and social life, he has numerous friends throughout this section, and no man stands in higher general esteem among the people of Smicksburg.