

HARRY WASHINGTON BURKETT, junior member of the firm of J. Burkett & Son, for several years engaged in general merchandising at Ambrose, in South Mahoning township, was born on a farm in Grant township, Indiana Co., Pa., Oct. 20, 1880, son of Jacob and Martha J. (Nelson) Burkett.

Joseph Burkett, the paternal grandfather of Harry Washington Burkett, was a native of Bedford county, Pa., and brought his family to Indiana county during the year known as that of the "Big Frost." Here he spent the remainder of his life in agricultural pursuits.

Jacob Burkett, son of Joseph Burkett, and father of Harry Washington Burkett, was born near Bedford, Bedford Co., Pa., in 1856, and was a youth when brought to Indiana county by his parents. He was engaged in farming with his father until 1893, in which year he brought his wife and son to South Mahoning township and purchased fifty acres which he continued to operate for seven years. He then turned his attention to the general merchandise business at Ambrose, and in 1902 the firm of J. Burkett & Son was formed. In 1907 they purchased the store which they carried on until recently and twenty-five acres of land. Theirs became one of the largest and best stocked stores of its kind in South Mahoning township and was conducted in such an able manner as to gain and retain the patronage of the entire countryside. Mr. Burkett still owns and operates his farm, and while his son managed the store he traveled through his own and other townships selling goods with a team. Mr. Burkett has always been known as an industrious, hard-working man, able in business and public-spirited as a citizen. For many years he supported Democratic policies and principles, but at this time is giving his support to the Prohibition party, being a firm believer in temperance. Every movement beneficial to South Mahoning township or its people can rely upon his hearty cooperation, and the signal service he has rendered his community in assisting in its growth and development entitles him to a place among its representative citizens. In 1879 Mr. Burkett was married to Martha J. Nelson, who was born near Elderton, Armstrong Co., Pa., a daughter of the late Samuel Nelson, and sister of Ulysses Grant Nelson, of Brushvalley, Indiana county, in whose sketch, in another part of this work, may be found a review of the Nelson family. Mrs. Burkett is a woman of much business ability, but has given the greater part of her attention to her household duties. Like her husband she is a consistent member of the Lutheran Church and is active in its work. She and her husband had but one child, Harry Washington.

Harry Washington Burkett, son of Jacob Burkett, was given excellent educational advantages, attending the public schools of Grant and South Mahoning townships and a business college at Columbus, Ohio. He had been reared to agricultural pursuits, but in 1902 formed a partnership with his father in the mercantile business at Ambrose. To this enterprise Mr. Burkett gave his entire time and attention, showing business ability far above the ordinary and it was largely due to the conscientious attention that he paid to every detail that the business proved such a success. The firm of J. Burkett & Son recently sold its mercantile interests at Ambrose. Like his father, Mr. Burkett is possessed of progressive ideas and methods, and all movements calculated to advance

Ambrose or its interests, whether educational, industrial, commercial or social, find him an ardent supporter and tireless worker. Mr. Burkett has never indulged in intoxicating liquor, and is a staunch supporter of the cause of temperance, invariably voting the Prohibition ticket straight. He is a member of the Baptist Church.

On July 24, 1908, Mr. Burkett was united in marriage with Minnie Brndon, who was born in South Mahoning township, Indiana Co., Pa., daughter of Hugh Brndon, an agriculturist of that township. She is a faithful member of the Baptist Church, and is well known and highly esteemed in church and social circles. To Mr. and Mrs. Harry W. Burkett there have been born two daughters, Martha Elizabeth and Marjory Helen.

The firm of J. Burkett & Son gained an enviable position in the business world of Indiana county through honorable and upright dealing, and its members are numbered among South Mahoning township's most substantial citizens. They have prestige in business, public and social life, and are well worthy the high regard and esteem in which they are universally held.