

JAMES H. PETERMAN, M.D., of Cherrytree, Indiana county, engaged in private practice and as surgeon for the New York Central Railway Company, has been settled there for almost eighteen years, during which period he has become one of the most valuable citizens of the community. His professional activities have given him the opportunity to acquire an intimate knowledge of local requirements in the way of public administration and general advantages, and he has turned this information to the benefit of his fellow citizens in the performance of the duties of the various offices to which they have chosen him.

Dr. Peterman belongs to a family of German extraction, and is a grandson of Michael and Sarah (Fisher) Peterman. His grandfather came to this part of Pennsylvania at an early day, being a pioneer of Somerset and Armstrong counties, and took up land in the latter county, remaining there throughout his active years. Some time before his death he came to live with his son Jeremiah in Indiana county, where he died in 1881. His other children were: Michael married Jane Wiggins; Jacob married Margaret Beer; George never married; Elizabeth married John C. Weaver; Harriet married Samuel Groft; Martin married Susan Ross; Sarah married Peter Menges; William died when twenty-two years old; Mary died in infancy.

Jeremiah Peterman, father of Dr. Peterman, was born in Somerset county, Pa., Nov. 18, 1829, came to this region with his father, and in 1857 settled on a farm near Chambersville, in Rayne township, Indiana county, where he passed the remainder of his life, dying there July 25, 1900. In 1864 Mr. Peterman enlisted for service in the Union army, becoming a member of the 206th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until the close of the war. Politically Mr. Peterman was a Whig until the origin of the Republican party, which he supported ever afterward until his death. From 1864 until the close of his life he was a member of the Washington Presbyterian Church near his home, and his wife united with that church at the same time; for a number of years previous she had been a member of a Presbyterian Church in Armstrong county.

On April 6, 1854, Mr. Peterman married Mary Clark, like himself a native of Somerset county, Pa., born April 23, 1827, daughter of Noah Clark, who settled in Armstrong county over sixty years ago and there spent the rest of his days; he was of English ancestry. Mrs. Mary (Clark) Peterman died April 11, 1900. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Peterman: Eliza is the widow of Albert C. Smith, who died in 1890, and she makes her home with her brother, Dr. Peterman, at Cherrytree; she has one child, Carl Edgar, now a practicing dentist in Baltimore, Md. Noah C. died July 2, 1864. Jesse L. died March 15, 1864. Clara A. is the wife of John Nesbitt, of Niagara Falls, N. Y., and has a family of seven children, Janet N., Charles C., Harry, Mead, Ella, Frank and Edith; one is deceased. James H. is mentioned below. Harry E., of Baltimore, Md., is a physician and surgeon, specializing in the treatment of diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat.

James H. Peterman was born Aug. 24, 1869, near Chambersville, in Rayne township, Indiana county, and grew up on the farm, assisting with the work at home during his earlier years. He was given excellent educational advantages, attending the Hawthorne school, select schools at Marion Center

and Plumville, and the Indiana State normal school. In his young manhood he was engaged in teaching in Indiana county for four years, in Rayne and Burrell township, and for two terms taught in the select school at Hawthorne. He then entered Baltimore Medical College, to prepare for his profession, and was graduated from that institution in 1895, taking fourth prize for his work in college. The year of his graduation he commenced practice at Cherrytree, Indiana county, where he has since been settled. Since locating there he has been surgeon for the New York Central Railroad Company in addition to looking after his private practice, and he has been very successful, having established himself thoroughly in the confidence of a wide circle of patrons. He is a member of the Indiana County and Pennsylvania State Medical Societies, and of the American Medical Association. He has led a busy life, but has found time to take part in local activities, being a member of the school board of Cherrytree borough at present, and a member of the board of trustees of the Presbyterian Church, to which he and his wife belong. Socially he is a Mason, holding membership in the blue lodge at Ebensburg, in the consistory at Williamsport, and in Jaffa Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., at Altoona

On April 25, 1895, Dr. Peterman was married to Emma J. Wilhelm, who was born Sept. 5, 1872, in Armstrong township, Indiana county, daughter of Augustus and Margaret (Riley) Wilhelm, who are now living in White township, this county, where he follows farming. Mr. Wilhelm was a soldier in the Civil war, enlisting in the 63d Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, which was attached to the Army of the Potomac, and serving from 1862 until the close of the struggle. He was captured and taken to Libby prison, and after his exchange was again taken prisoner, at the battle of the Wilderness. He was confined six months at Andersonville and four months at Florence. Mr. Wilhelm was wounded at the battle of Frazier' Farm, his skull being fractured, was taken to Bellevue hospital, New York, and after his recovery returned to the army. He and his wife had a family of six children, viz.: Mary, Mrs. Lydick, of Indiana county; Melissa, wife of R. F. Getty, of Creekside, Pa.; Emma J., Mrs. Peterman; Harry, a resident of Rayne township, this county; Stephen, living in Washington township, this county; and Clay, who lives in the borough of Indiana.

Dr. and Mrs. Peterman have had four children: Eugene Paul, born Aug. 17, 1896, who died in infancy; James Elmer, now attending Baltimore City College, at Baltimore, Pd.; Marguerite; and Helen Louise.