

JAMES MARTIN WILEY, veteran of the Civil war, is now living retired on the farm in Blacklick township, Indiana county, where he has had his home for the last twenty-six years. He was born in Blacklick township, and belongs to a family of Scotch origin. His grandfather, John Wiley, born in 1775, came to western Pennsylvania about 1800, with his brother Hugh, from Franklin county, this State, and settled near Blacklick creek in what is now Burrell township, Indiana county. He followed milling as well as general farming, having been the miller at Campbell's mills in 1813, when those historic mills were burned. His death occurred about 1837. He married Margaret Mateer, and they had children as follows: Jane, who married John McCracken; Robert, who married Jane Repine; Samuel, who married Sarah Wiley; Margaret, who married John Grant; John; Susan, who married William Forsha; Sarah; Hugh, who married Rachel Forsha; James, who married Jane Patterson and (second) Mrs. Elizabeth 'Stevenson; Elizabeth, who married Elrod Johnson, of Westmoreland county; Mary, who married Joseph Lindy; and Martha.

John Wiley, son of John and Margaret (Mateer) Wiley, was born in 1807. His education was obtained at the local subscription schools, and in his early life he worked with his father, becoming familiar with farming and milling. After reaching manhood he engaged in various occupations. Moving to Dilltown in 1840 he followed farm work there, and subsequently located at Blairsville, where the latter part of his life was spent and where he died March 3, 1867, aged fifty-nine years, eight months, fourteen days. He was buried in the Lutheran cemetery at Blairsville. Mr. Wiley was a member of the Lutheran Church and in politics was first a Whig, afterward a Republican. His wife, Sarah (Altman), daughter of George Altman, died in Blairsville Feb. 4, 1891, aged ninety years, twenty-two days, and was buried in the cemetery there. Seven children were born to their union: James Martin; Amy, who married Joseph McWhiney and resides at Parkersburg, W.Va.; Martha, who died in young womanhood; Matthew, who lives at Allegheny and is in the railway express service; and three who died young.

James Martin Wiley was four years old when the family moved to Dilltown, where he grew up and attended school. In his youth he worked at farming, and for a time was fireman on the Pittsburg branch of the Pennsylvania railroad until he enlisted, in May, 1863, becoming a member of Company E, 1st Battalion, six months' cavalry, under Captain Trimble. He served until December of that year, being mustered out at Pittsburg, and upon his return home resumed railroading, on the West Pennsylvania branch. For fifteen years he was conductor on local freight trains, during that time making his home at Blairsville. When he gave railroad work, in September, 1879, he settled down to farming in Derry township, Westmoreland county, living there for seven years, at the end of which time he returned to his present location in Blacklick township, Indiana county. He bought a 170-acre tract from Samuel Earhart known as the James Dixon farm, and here engaged in farming and stock raising until he relinquished arduous labor, his sons now looking after the place, which is finely kept up. Mr. Wiley was an industrious and thrifty man throughout his active years, and the leisure he is now enjoying is well deserved. He has a genial disposition and high character, and

he is a man who had done his duty in every relation of life. He has served his township as school director for two terms and as supervisor one term, and is a member of the Blairsville M. E. Church. In political sentiment he is a Republican, but votes independently. He was formerly a member of the G. A.R., belonging to Blairsville Post.

On Oct. 20, 1868, Mr. Wiley married, in Derry township, Westmoreland county, Rebecca Akers, who was born April 21, 1841, in Fulton county, Pa., daughter of Timothy and Mary Ann (Barton) Akers. Seven children have been born to this union: Elrod; Annie; Amy, wife of John Bishop; Scott, a farmer, now settled in Nebraska; George, residing in Blairsville; Herman, who is on the homestead; and Harry, on the homestead. Mrs. Wiley is a member of the Blairsville M. E. Church.