

JEREMIAH KEITH, general merchant at Grip, in Green township, Indiana county, is a son of Adam and Martha (Good) Keith, and grandson of Adam Keith. The latter was a native of York county, Pa., and came to this section at a very early day, settling in Cambria county. By occupation he was a farmer and blacksmith, following those callings in Cambria county to the end of his life. He died Feb. 25, 1849.

Adam Keith, father of Jeremiah Keith, was born in Cambria county, and in 1832 settled on the place in Green township, Indiana county, where his son Jeremiah now lives. He acquired the ownership of this farm, cleared his land and engaged in farming until his death, which occurred Nov. 6, 1882. He married Martha Good, like himself a native of Cambria county, whose father, David Good, came to this county over a hundred years ago; he died in March, 1865. Mrs. Keith passed away Sept. 8, 1878. Adam Keith was the father of twelve children, six sons and six daughters, namely: John, a half brother to the rest, now deceased, who served during the Civil war in Company D, 115th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry; David, now deceased; Jacob Liven, deceased, who was also in Company D, 115th P.V.I., during the Civil war; Barbara, deceased; Adam, now living in Green township, who was in Company I, 54th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil war; Martha, wife of Daniel Long, of Indiana county; Jeremiah; Caroline, wife of John Hines, of Blacklick township, this county; Mary, wife of Christopher Lute, of Blacklick township; Daniel, living at Barnesboro, Pa.; Maria, deceased; and Margaret, wife of George Loman.

Jeremiah Keith was born Aug. 19, 1844, in Green township, and there received a common school education. During his boyhood and youth he did farm work on the home place, being thus engaged until he entered the Union service. In 1862, for service in the Civil war. He joined Company D, 115th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the conflict, being mustered out July 20, 1865, at Washington, D. C. Among the battles in which he took part were Gettysburg, Mine Run, Chancellorsville, and Fredericksburg. He was on patrol duty in the city of Washington the night President Lincoln was assassinated, and has been in the old Ford theatre many times. Returning to Indiana county after his discharge from the army, he settled on the home place in Green township, where he has ever since resided, buying the property at the time of his father's death. For the last twenty-six years he has also been engaged in business as a merchant, having a general store at Grip, where he has acquired an extensive and steady patronage. He was a postmaster there for twenty-one years, and is well and favorably known in the vicinity, one of the most respected residents of Green township.

On Feb. 26, 1874, Mr. Keith was married to Caroline Johns, a native of Green township, daughter of James and Christina (Lute) Johns, both of whom were born in Indiana county, where their respective families settled at an early day. Mr. Johns was a farmer by occupation. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Keith: Emma L., Ann Elizabeth and Isaac are deceased, as well as two that died in infancy; Arena is the wife of Bryant Lowman, of Starford, this county; Bertha is the wife of Bert Long, of Green township; Letta is the wife of Myles Snowberger, of East Freedom; Clark Watson is the youngest of the family.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith are members of the German Baptist Church. He also belongs at Cherrytree Post No. 40., G. A. R.