

MICHEAL PEFFER, a farmer of North Mahoning township, was born Dec. 25, 1834, in Butler County, Pa., son of George and Eva (Wyning) Peffer.

George Peffer and his wife were natives of Germany. Coming to the United States in 1832, they settled in Butler county, Pa., on wild land upon which they lived for our years. Selling this property, they came to Indiana county, and in 1836 settled on the farm now owned by their son Micheal Peffer, in North Mahoning township. This property comprised 160 acres, all heavily covered with timber, and with characteristic energy George Peffer cleared the land and put it under cultivation. He built the log cabin in which the family lived. Although he worked hard he lived to be eighty-two years of age, dying upon his farm, as did his wife. Early members of the Lutheran Church, they later connected themselves with the Methodist Church, and were highly respected by all who knew them. Although he was a farmer for many years, Mr. Peffer had learned the mason's trade. He and his wife had the following children: Andrew, who lived in North Mahoning township and died at Covode, Pa., married Elizabeth Phillips, and had two children, George, a veteran of the Civil war, who is in the lime business at Punxsutawney, Pa., and Henry, a veteran of the Civil war, who lives in North Mahoning township; Henry, who died at Fort Royal, Va., a lumberman and farmer, married Lizzie Turner and (second) Margaret Barr, and his children were Amanda, William, Eliza, Joseph and Frank (twins), Michael and Annie (by the first wife), John, Theon and Eva (by his second wife); Eva, deceased, married John Pifer, and had children, Lizzie, Mary, John, Maggie, Lydia, Samuel, Susan and Sarah; Lena, deceased, married Christ B. Sutter and had children, Henry, Webster, George, Lafayette, Jacob, Walter, Mary, Sophia, Parshan, and they had one child, Mary; Micheal is mentioned below; Lizzie, deceased, married Isaac Crossman, and had Mary, Susie and Charles.

Micheal Peffer attended school held in a log house, and his educational opportunities were limited. He has always lived on the homestead of his father, and has seen many changes in the vicinity. When he was a lad the wild game was very plentiful, and upon one occasion, while going for the cows, he was chased by a bear, but escaped. Mr. Peffer relates many interesting incidents of the early days in north Mahoning township, but space forbids giving them here. He owns 160 acres of valuable land, all under a high state of cultivation.

Mr. Peffer's first wife, Anna Flemming, born in North Mahoning township, died in 1874. By her he had one child, Flora, who married Wilbur Rishell and has two children, Kenneth and Clarence, the family living at Punxsutawney, Pa. In 1875 Mr. Peffer married (second) Emma Bath, of Perry township, Jefferson Co., Pa., a daughter of John and Rosa Bath, and they became the parents of the following children: Icia Bell is at home; Maude, who is a trained nurse, is at home; Gertrude married James Heitzenrater, of North Mahoning township, and has children, Irwin, Howard and Margaret Alice; George W. is farming the old homestead; Howard is also farming on the homestead; Minnie married Harry Jordan, a farmer of North Mahoning township, and has children, Laird and Madaline.

Mr. Peffer is a Republican in political faith. For many years he has been a valued member of the Methodist Church at Covode, Pa. A most excellent citizen,

he has led a useful life and firmly established himself in the confidence and respect of his neighbors. Belonging as he does to one of the pioneer families of his township, he has every reason to be proud of the part his relatives have played in the development of the locality. Coming here from a foreign land, his parents soon assimilated new customs, and became wealthy farming people before death claimed them. Their children grew up to be a credit to them and their community, which is under an obligation to these people for their public-spirited efforts and devotion to their adopted land.