

ROBERT H. DILTS, station agent for the Buffalo & Susquehanna Railroad Company and agent for the American Express Company at Plumville, South Mahoning township, Indiana Co., Pa., was born in North Mahoning township, this county, in 1886, son of Wilson Allison and Mary J. (Widdowson) Dilts.

William Dilts, the great-great-grandfather of Robert H. Dilts, came in 1800, from the vicinity of Hagerstown, Md., to North Mahoning township, and here spent the remainder of his life in agricultural pursuits. He married Mrs. Nancy (Watson) Keen, and they had one child, Peter.

Peter Dilts, son of William Dilts, and great-grandfather of Robert H. Dilts, was born about the year 1785, and as a youth accompanied his parents to North Mahoning township. He followed in the footsteps of his father, becoming a farmer, acquired one thousand acres of land, and became a well-known man in his section, serving as justice of the peace, county commissioner and associate judge. He died in 1856, at the age of seventy-one years, and was buried in Gilgal Church cemetery. Mr. Dilts was married to Jane Coulton, who died in 1821, and his second marriage was to Jane Kinter. His children were: Elizabeth, who married John Sprankle and (second) Daniel Fair; William, who married Nancy McElhoes; John, who married Margaret Means; Peter, Jr., who married Mary Ewing; James, who married May Hall; Jemima, who married Joseph Shields; Isabella, who married John Lewis; Henry Kinter; and Sarah J., who married James B. Work.

Henry K. Dilts, son of Peter, and grandfather of Robert H. Dilts, was born on the home farm and after attending the district schools worked on the home place, where he settled. He became the owner of a tract of 250 acres, all of which he put under cultivation, and during the winter months engaged in lumbering, in addition to which he carried on the buying and selling of stock. For some years he followed the last named business as a drover, disposing of his stock east of the mountains. On the home farm, located near Trace City, he made many improvements, but eventually moved to Marion Center, where he kept a hotel during his declining years and died in April, 1893, being buried in Gilgal cemetery. Politically he was a Republican. Mr. Dilts was active in the work of the Presbyterian Church. He served as deputy sheriff under Sheriff Brown, and was school director and township superintendent of schools, displaying much executive ability in his official positions. Mr. Dilts married Nancy Allison, daughter of John Allison, and she died Sept. 3, 1912, while on a visit to her son, Wilson A. Dilts, and was buried in the Gilgal cemetery. She was a faithful member of the Presbyterian Church. She had a family of nine children, as follows: Wilson Allison; Linus, living in Jefferson county; William, who died in young manhood; Addie, who married Elijah Work; John, who died in young manhood; Sarah Belle, who married Jesse Miller and resides in Pittsburg; Harry, a successful practicing physician; Thomas, residing at Blairsville, Pa.; and Ella, who married Charles Riblett, of Youngwood, Pennsylvania.

Wilson Allison Dilts, son of Henry R. Dilts, was born in North Mahoning township May 26, 1857. He received his education in the public schools and from earliest boyhood worked on his father's farm. He continued to remain under the parental roof, being thoroughly trained in all the details of farming and stock

raising, until 1887, in which year he came to South Mahoning township and located on a farm of sixty tow acres, the old Curren property, where he has since been engaged in general farming. For some years, Mr. Dilts was a Republican, but at this time he is a stanch supporter of the principles, policies and candidates of the Socialist party. In 1883 he was married to Mary J. Widdowson, who was born at Dixonville, Pa., daughter of William Widdowson, and nine children have been born to this union: Lula, who married John Mayo, of Rochester, Pa.; Dora, Mrs. Moore, who was formerly engaged in school teaching; Robert H.; Nannie, a school teacher; Fay, who resides at home; May, also at home; June, who lives at Punxsutawney, Pa.; and Silas and John, who are at home with their parents.

Robert H. Dilts, son of William Allison Dilts, was but tow years old when the family moved to White Oak Flats, in South Mahoning township, and there he attended public school. Subsequently he became a pupil in the select school of Prof. Charles Stiffer, and then entered New Bethlehem business college, from which he was graduated in 1905. Returning to his home, Mr. Dilts worked on the farm for two years and in 1907 entered the employ of the Buffalo & Susquehanna Railroad Company at Medix Run, Elk Co., Pa. Two months later in July, 1907, he came to Plumville, to succeed S. C. Mains as agent of the company at that point, and since that time has continued to set in that capacity, in addition being agent for the American Express Company. Mr. Dilts is well fitted to discharge the duties of his position successfully, and his unfailing courtesy and obliging nature have made him a general favorite with the patrons of the road and have given him an assured popularity. Like his father Mr. Dilts is a stalwart supporter co Socialistic issues. He is known as one of the leaders of the younger faction in Indiana county, and their influence has been a distinct factor in the gains that the party has made in Plumville and the surrounding country. Both have given this subject much tho9ught and wide study, and being men of intelligence their opinions carry much weight. In his religious views Mr. Dilts is liberal, his endeavor being to live up to the teachings of the Golden Rule. He is a popular member of the local lodge of Odd Fellows and of the Order of Railroad telegraphers.

In 1907 Mr. Dilts was married to Lilla May Sager, who was born at Little Washington, Pa., daughter of E. A. Sager, and she died Nov. 23, 1909, leaving two children: Raymond Eugene, who died Dec. 5, 1911; and Nancy Maria. Mrs. Dilts was a faithful member of the Lutheran Church.