

SAMUEL LEWIS, general farmer of Canoe township, Indiana county, and a veteran of the Civil war, was born may 17, 1844, on his father's farm in West Mahoning township, this county, son of George and Susan (Stear) Lewis.

John Stear, his maternal grandfather, was a native of eastern Pennsylvania, and coming to Indiana county at an early date, settled east of Smicksburg, where he secured wild land, which he cleared and cultivated, making a comfortable home for his family. The rest of his life was spent there in agricultural pursuits. Mr. Stear was twice married and became the father of the following children: George, who lived near Plumville, Pa.; Mary, who married Thomas Carr, and lived near Cherrytree, Pa.; Susan, the mother of Samuel Lewis; Margaret, who married John Carr, of West Mahoning township; and John, who lived on the old homestead.

George Lewis, of Sinking Valley, Pa., father of Samuel Lewis, received only meager educational advantages. He lived at home until his marriage, at which time he commenced farming on his own account, and was so engaged until his death, in 1846. He and his wife had four children, namely: Nancy married Anthony Wingrove, and lived in West Mahoning township (both are deceased); John enlisted in the fall of 1861 in Company A, 78th Regiment, P.V.I., at Smicksburg, was sent to Kittanning and on to Louisville, Ky., where he joined the Army of the Cumberland, was taken sick at Chattanooga, Tenn., sent to hospital at Louisville, Ky., and died Dec. 15, 1863 (he married Lizzie Moonshower); Samuel is mentioned below; Jane married John B. Sowers, and lived at Yatesboro, Pa. After the death of her first husband Mrs. Susan Lewis was married (second) to John F. Stiteler, who was born Feb. 23, 1815, in Sinking Valley, Pa., and passed away at the age of eighty-eight years, two months. They made their home in Smicksburg. She was born March 9, 1815.

Samuel Lewis had to go a long distance to the little log school, with its puncheon seats, slab desks and primitive equipments, presided over by Capt. Evan Lewis. He was still a lad when the Civil war broke out, and in August 1862, enlisted at Pittsburg in Company A, 78th P.V.I., which he joined at Pulaski, Tenn. Subsequently he participated in its various engagements, which included such memorable and hard-fought battles as Stone River, Burnt Hickory, Chattanooga, Missionary Ridge, Atlanta and Nashville, besides numerous skirmishes and minor engagements. He was a brave and faithful soldier and when his services were completed returned to the duties of peace with an excellent record. He was discharge June 19, 1865, at Nashville.

Mr. Lewis was married Sept. 13, 1866, to S. E. Johnson, of South Mahoning township, Indiana county, daughter of James and Polly (Simpson) Johnson, and granddaughter of John and Sarah (Adamson) Johnson. James Johnson was a carpenter by trade, and also owned a farm in South Mahoning township, where both he and his wife died. Their children were as follows: Mary Jane, who married J. K. Stear, of Cozad, Nebr.; S. E., who married Mr. Lewis; J. H., a farmer, who married Mary Kinter, and lived in South Mahoning township; Martha, deceased, who was the wife of John Webster, and lived in Jefferson county; Clara, who married T. W. Neff, of Altoona, Pa.; and John B., a railroad

bridge carpenter, of Pittsburg, Kans., who met an accidental death Feb. 20, 1905.

To Mr. and Mrs. Lewis have been born the following children: Austin Elmer, born April 23, 1867, a farmer in Forest county, Pa., married Ella Purdy and (second) Laura Bell Ekes, and had three children, Bell (who married Joseph States of Richmond, Pa., and has three children, Claire O., Joseph W. and Andrew J.), Preston C. and John F.; Nora B., born March 31, 1869, married John Love, of Jefferson county, and has three children, Harry A., Mabel E. and Mary B.; Arthur B., born Feb. 7, 1871, a miner of Onnalinda, Pa., married Agnes Lucas, and has ten children, Clair, Mary, William, Murray, Towner, Thomas, Samuel, Amanda, Ethel and another daughter; John W., born Jan. 20, 1873, a veteran of the Spanish-American war, who was sergeant of Company M, 3d Pennsylvania Volunteers, is now living in Colorado; James A., born Oct. 29, 1874, a miner, married Mary Jones, and has six children, Samuel Thomas, Ida May, Timothy, Blanche, Margaret and Robert; Ida C., born Feb. 22, 1877, married A. E. Ross, of DuBois, Pa., and has two children, Lester and grace; Ira R., born Oct. 18, 1878, died Nov. 13, 1878; Luther F., born Oct. 11, 1879, who was connected with a supply house at Ernest, met with an accidental death Feb. 24, 1913 (he married Sarah E. Work and they had seven children, Bertha, Ernest, deceased, Ray, Franics, Blair, James and eva); George F., born March 16, 1882, a carpenter, plumber and paperhanger living near Marchand, Pa., married Lulu Weaver and (second) Olive Loyd, and by his first marriage had one child, Earl, by his second two, Mona and Ale; Samuel, a painter, living at Madison, Pa., married Anna bell Lewis, of Smicksburg, Pa., and has tow children, William Elkin and Mary; and J. Harvey, born Oct. 14, 1887, now farming the old home place for his father, married Goldie Potts and has had three children, Ralph, ethel and Floy, the last-named dying when eight months old.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Lewis settled on the Ritchey place, where the resided for two and a half years. In 1872 Mr. Lewis purchased his present property of fifty acres in Canoe township, formerly known as the Colgin place, at that time wild land, but which has all been cleared and put under cultivation by Mr. Lewis, who follows general farming and stock raising. He is an industrious, thrifty worker, and a substantial and respected citizen of his community.

Mr. Lewis is a Republican in political views, and for thirteen years has served as a member of the board of supervisors of canoe township. He and his family are members of the United Presbyterian Church at Richmond, Pa. He is a popular comrade of the G.A.R. post at Richmond.