

SAMUEL LIGHTCAP (deceased) was for many years a successful and prosperous farmer of East Mahoning township, Indiana county, whither he came with his parents and other members of the family in 1845. He was a native of Cumberland county, Pa., born Oct. 2, 1811, and was a son of Godfrey Lightcap, the founder of the family in America, who was born in Germany and settled in Cumberland county at an early day. There he married Jane McElaney, and they had a large family, viz.: Solomon, who settled in Rayne township, Indiana county; Polly, who died in middle age; Jane, who married John Loughery; Hugh, who made his home in Rayne township; Lucinda, who married Edward Branden; Margaret, who died unmarried; Benjamin, who lived on the old homestead in Rayne township; Juliann, who married James McQuilkin, of South Mahoning township; Jemima, who was the first wife of Edward Branden; and Samuel and Johnson, twins, the latter mentioned elsewhere, in the sketch of his son J. Scott Lightcap. Godfrey Lightcap moved across the Allegheny mountains in 1819, and first settled in Westmoreland county, later, in 1845, moving to Indiana county, making a permanent home in Rayne township, where he settled down to farming. He became a large land owner, his holdings lying in Rayne and Young townships. He died on his farm May 4, 1863, and is buried in the old Washington Church cemetery in Rayne township, as is also his wife, who died on the farm May 4, 1861. They were members of the Presbyterian Church.

Samuel Lightcap was a boy when his parents moved to Westmoreland county, and subsequently settled with them in Rayne township, Indiana county, whence he and his twin brother, Johnson, moved to east Mahoning township. There he acquired ownership of a tract of 216 acres known as the Hastings farm, upon which he spent the remainder of his industrious and useful life, engaged in general agriculture and stock raising. He kept abreast of the time in his work, improving his property as prosperity enabled him, and was one of the most highly esteemed residents of the neighborhood to the end of his long life, which closed April 21, 1891, when he was in his eightieth year. He died on the farm and was buried in the Marion center cemetery. Mr. Lightcap was a Democrat, and in religious connection a member of the Presbyterian Church.

On Dec. 17, 1868, Mr. Lightcap married Elizabeth Swan, who was born May 1, 1839, in Washington township, this county, daughter of James and Jane (Fleming) Swan and granddaughter of Thomas Swan, being a member of an early pioneer family of the county. Mrs. Lightcap is a woman of marked intelligence and strength of character, and though she has passed the threescore and ten mark continues to take an active interest in her home and family, and the welfare of her children and grandchildren. Mr. and Mrs. Lightcap had four children: Harriet Jane, who resides on the homestead place with her mother; Lauranna, who died when eight years old; Mary Eva, who died when ten years old; and Elizabeth Willetta, who married Robert H. Thompson and has three children, Wendell Parr (born Nov. 5, 1899), Steele Lightcap (born June 17, 1902) and Lois Ailene (born Dec. 23, 1907). Mr. Thompson, Mrs. Lightcap's son-in-law, formerly of Rayne township, is now engaged in operating the farm for her. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church.