

WILLIAM BLAIR LYTLE, farmer and dairyman of Conemaugh township, a part of whose property was formerly included in the old Lytle homestead, was born in Conemaugh township, Indiana Co., Pa., July 15, 1870, son of Alexander and Louisa Caroline (Blair) Lytle.

Alexander Lytle was the great-grandfather of William Blair Lytle.

William Lytle, son of Alexander Lytle, was born in 1802 in Conemaugh township, and died June 26, 1869, at the age of sixty-six years, eight months, thirteen days. He attended the primitive subscription schools of his day and locality, and on attaining his majority built a gristmill on Lytle's run, and was also a butcher for many years, being thus engaged at the time of his death. An active member of the United Presbyterian Church of Conemaugh, he was a trustee of the congregation for many years, and a member of the building committee when the first church was erected. Mr. Lytle was a Whig and later a Republican, and became a prominent man of his day, serving efficiently and faithfully as United States revenue collector, tax collector, assessor and school director, and to the end of his life as a member of the election board. He acquired large tracts of land and at the time of his death was the owner of several valuable farms in Conemaugh township. By his first wife, Mattie (Sloan), he had five children: Elizabeth, who married Smith Templeton; Martha; Mary J., who married Samuel Ritchie; Sarah F., and one other. Mr. Lytle's second marriage was to Sarah Collom, and they had a family of eight children, among them Alexander. Of the others Sarah, residing at Conemaugh, married Robert Millard, deceased; Caroline Margaret, the widow of James Gilkerson, is conducting a large farm in Conemaugh township; Maria, Mrs. Staples, now resides in South Bend, Ind.; William F., lives in Young township, Indiana county.

Alexander Lytle, son of William Lytle, and father of William Blair Lytle, was born in 1837, on the Lytle homestead in Conemaugh township, attended the common schools and followed farming with his parents. During the Civil war he enlisted in Company G, 206th Regiment, P.V.I., with which organization he served one year, and received his honorable discharge at Richmond, Va. Returning to his home, he again took up the peaceful occupation of farming, and the rest of his life was spent in cultivating his 120-acres farm, where his death occurred June 16, 1892. he was a stalwart Republican, and a faithful member of the United Presbyterian Church. Mr. Lytle married Louisa Caroline Blair, daughter of William and Annie (Patterson) Blair, of Westmoreland county, Pa., and to this union were born two children, Annie and William B. Mrs. Lytle and her children still reside on the old homestead place.

William Blair Lytle, son of Alexander Lytle, received his educational training in the public schools of Conemaugh township, and worked with his parents until he took charge of the arm of 120 acres, eighty-six acres which belonged to the original homestead of the Lytles. Mr. Lytle is an enterprising and progressive farmer, carrying on farming, stock raising and dairying and shipping a large amount of milk to Pittsburg. In 1903 he erected a large silo for his cattle, and he has also made numerous other improvements which make this property one of the most valuable of its size to be found in the township. The barn that now stands there is in first class shape, although it was first erected in 1839 by

Mr. Lytle's grandfather, but since that time additions have been made to it. The original Lytle home, built by the grandfather, was of logs, but was destroyed by fire in 1845 and was replaced by a large brick residence, now occupied by Mr. Lytle, his mother and his sister, the bricks for this structure having been made on the homestead. In addition to taking care of his farming interests Mr. Lytle has been employed during the last six years by the West Penn Powder Company, in teaming its product to the different mines in this section.

Mr. Lytle is a member of the United Presbyterian Church, which his mother and sister also attend. In political matters he is a Republican, and has served his township efficiently in the capacity of school director. Always ready to support any movement of a progressive nature, he is known as one of his section's best citizens, and has the unqualified esteem and respect of his fellow men.