

WILLIAM DEVLIN, who for many years has been engaged in agricultural pursuits in Armstrong township, Indiana county, was born on the homestead farm in that township, Jan. 8, 1833, son of Richard and Nancy (Ramsey) Devlin.

William Devlin, the paternal grandfather of William Devlin, was born in Ireland and came to the United States in young manhood, settling first in the Ligonier valley and later moving to Armstrong township, where he purchased the tract of land that had been settled by John Barr. Here he carried on farming during the remainder of his life, and at the time of his death was the owner of 160 acres of good land. He had three children, namely: James, Matthew and Richard.

Richard Devlin, son of William, and father of William Devlin, was born in the Ligonier valley, and moved to Armstrong township with his parents. He settled on 160 acres of land which they had patented, and erected a log cabin in the woods, clearing a little of his land each year, although at times harassed by the hostile Indians. Eventually he became the owner of a good property and died in comfortable circumstances, with the respect and esteem of all who knew him. Mr. Devlin married Nancy Ramsey, daughter of Hugh Ramsey, of Armstrong township, and they had the following children: Jane, who died unmarried; John R., who was a member of the 11th Pennsylvania Volunteers, for four years during the Civil war; James, who was also a member of that famous regiment, with which he served three years, and is now living on a farm adjoining that of his brother William; Hugh, who died at the age of twelve years; and William.

William Devlin, son of Richard, received his education in the Armstrong township schools, and at the age of ten years began to work on the homestead place. He has followed farming and stock raising to the present time, making a specialty of tine horses, and in spite of his eighty years is hale and hearty and continues to do his own farm work. He has a tract of ninety acres, in a good state of cultivation, and he still owns the coal there. The present barn was erected in 1866 and the house in the following year, and both give evidence of good workmanship by still being in excellent condition. Mr. Devlin is a Democrat in his political views, and has served as road supervisor for seven years. He has been a member of the United Presbyterian Church all his life, and has been liberal in his support of its movements.

Mr. Devlin married Hanna J. Wacob, daughter of John and Susan (Elwood) Wacob, and to this union there have been born children as follows: Mae, who married Ed. Sharp; Belle, who married Harvey McCurdy; Nancy, who married John Kerr; and James H., the owner of a farm in Armstrong township, who married a daughter of Elder Sharp. Mrs. Devlin has passed her sixty-fifth milestone, and like her husband is still in full possession of her faculties, and still does her own milking every day, keeps house for her husband, the family having all left home, and carries on her household duties in the same manner that she did years ago. Both she and her husband have numerous warm friends in the township in which they have lived for so many years, and are held in universal esteem.