

WILLIAM H. CAMPBELL, farmer of Burrell township, Indiana county, is a member of an old settled family of this section and a citizen whose industrious life has gained him the respect of all who know him. He is a veteran of the Civil war. Mr. Campbell was born Feb. 29, 1844, in West Wheatfield township, this county, son of John Campbell, and grandson of David Campbell, the first American ancestor of this branch of the family.

Toward the end of the eighteenth century Wheatfield township embraced all the territory south of the Purchase Line; sixteen townships have since been formed within her original boundaries. The first settlers in this district were emigrants from Ireland, from the counties of Antrim and Armagh, they landing in America July 21, 1792. Stories of the New World soon attracted others left behind, and David Campbell, who was born in Ireland in 1794, came some time later to join this colony in Wheatfield. Leaving his native home he took passage on a sailing vessel to America, and after a stormy voyage of more than six weeks found himself on the shores of the New World. He proceeded westward over the Allegheny mountains to Conemaugh valley and finally located on Blacklick creek near the present site of the village of Heshbon. He came to what is now East Wheatfield township in 1814, later purchasing by patent 219 acres of land on Blacklick where he spent the remainder of his life. Assisted by his sons he cleared the land and erected buildings, and his farm became one of the productive tracts in the locality. Mr. Campbell was laid to rest in the Campbell graveyard on the homestead place.

Mr. Campbell was twice married, his first wife being Elizabeth Kerr, daughter of Samuel and Jane Kerr, and by her he had two children, John and Elizabeth (who married William Murphy). By his second wife, Margaret (Mahan), he had a large family: Christopher, Robert M., James, Samuel, David, Porter M., Jane (who married William Palmer), Margaret A. and Alexander (who died young). Samuel, David and Porter were all soldiers in the Civil war.

John Campbell, son of David, born Dec. 19, 1812, in West Wheatfield township, grew to manhood there and obtained his education in the subscription schools then in vogue. But he made such good use of his rather meager opportunities that he became a schoolmaster, following his profession in West Wheatfield for some years. He also followed farming there, owning a tract of ninety-six acres upon which he carried on general farming and stock raising. Well-informed, intelligent, and interested in all that went on in the community, he was a valued and esteemed citizen. He lived to a ripe old age, dying on the farm June 8, 1896, at the age of eighty-three years, five months, twenty days, and was buried in the Bethel Church cemetery in West Wheatfield township. In politics he was a Democrat, in religion a member of the United Presbyterian Church. On Dec. 30, 1841, he married Mary Herron, who was born in East Wheatfield township, daughter of William Herron, and is also buried in Bethel Church cemetery. She, too, was a member of the United Presbyterian Church. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Campbell: Elizabeth, born Aug. 23, 1842, married Isaac Alcorn, of West Wheatfield township; William H., is mentioned below; Christopher D., born Feb. 27, 1846, farmer of Brushvalley township, married Sarah Campbell; David, born July 30, 1848, died young; John

H., born Jan. 18, 1851, is a farmer in Burrell township; Martha Jane, born April 25, 1853, married John McNutt; Mary Ellen, born Jan. 9, 1856, died young; Margaret, born in 1858, married John Piper, of Garfield, Pa.; Samuel H., born Dec. 4, 1860, lives at East Liverpool, Ohio.

William H. Campbell grew to manhood on the home farm, spending his boyhood days in attendance at the local public schools and in assisting his father. He remained at home with his parents until he enlisted, in August, 1864, in Company H, 206th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, under Capt. J. C. Greer and Col. H. J. Brady, serving until the close of the war. He was mustered out at Richmond, Va. Returning home he continued to do farm work in West Wheatfield township until he settled upon the Sides farm in Burrell township, a tract of ninety acres which he operated for six years. He next moved to the Samuel Ray place in Burrell township, containing 130 acres, which he operated for Mr. Ray until 1908, when the property was sold to Wilber P. Graft, of Blairsville, this county, for whom Mr. Campbell has since carried it on. He is a practical farmer and stock raiser, as his long management of the same farm would indicate, and everything about the place testifies to his neatness and good taste as well as to his industry. He is a hard worker, and is well liked by his associates. Mr. Campbell takes a public-spirited interest in whatever concerns the general welfare, but has been particularly active in securing good public school facilities in his locality, having served for over twenty years as school director of Burrell township; he has served three years as president of the school board and five years as secretary. He cast his first vote while in the army, for Lincoln, and has been a Republican ever since. His religious connection is with the United Presbyterian Church at Blairsville, of which he is a leading member, having served as member of the building committee, as member of the finance committee and (at present) as ruling elder. He takes a deep interest in every branch of church work. Mrs. Campbell also belongs to that church.

Mr. Campbell's first marriage was to Mary Miller, a native of West Wheatfield township, daughter of David Miller, of Somerset county, Pa. Children as follows were born to them: John, who is a resident of Vandergrift, Pa., where he is employed in the tin sheet mill; David Miller, an employee of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, now residing at Madison, Pa.; and Elva Jane, who married John J. Armstrong, of Girard, Ohio. Mrs. Campbell died April 5, 1880, on the homestead. On March 22, 1883, Mr. Campbell married (second) Pirmillia (Anna) Hutchinson, of West Wheatfield township, daughter of Cornelius and Catherine (Fry) Hutchinson, and by her has had five children: Elsie, who is deceased; Harry Ray, who is engaged in the postoffice at Turtle Creek, Pa.; William Lloyd, in the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company at Blairsville, Pa.; Earl Scott, also in the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company at Blairsville; and Mary Catherine, at home.