

A
CENTENNIAL BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY
OF
RICHLAND COUNTY
OHIO

ILLUSTRATED

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JACOB DE LANCEY.

For many years Mr. De Lancey was actively identified with the business interests of Richland county as a contractor and builder, but is now living a retired life at his pleasant home on section 14, Cass township. He is a native of Pennsylvania, his birth occurring in Perry county, that state, January 27, 1820, and is one of a family of eight children, of whom he and his brother Joseph, a retired citizen of Bucyrus, Ohio, are the only survivors.

Francis De Lancey, the father of our subject, was born in France, and during boyhood came to the United States with his parents, who located in Perry county, where he grew to manhood upon a farm and married Mary Rice, a native of that county. There he followed farming until 1826, when he emigrated to Richland county, Ohio, and bought a farm of one hundred acres in Cass township, two miles west of Ganges. Four years later he sold that place and purchased a farm of similar size near Planktown, where he made his home until death. He died in middle life, being somewhat over forty years of age, but his wife lived to the age of ninety-two years.

On leaving home, at the age of sixteen, Jacob De Lancey commenced learning the carpenter's trade of his brother-in-law, James Crawford, and after completing his apprenticeship continued to follow that occupation for more than twenty years in this section. Industrious and economical, he

began saving money early in his career and invested his accumulations in land, his first purchase consisting of his present farm of ninety-three acres on section 14, Cass township. At the time it was wild and unimproved. After erecting a dwelling, he took up his residence there, and while he continued to work at his trade he hired his land cleared and cultivated. Later he bought the old Crawford farm of eighty-five acres, south of Planktown, and subsequently purchased one hundred acres adjoining this on the east. He rented his land and continued to follow carpentering and building until some time in the '60s, erecting many of the residences in and around Shiloh, which still stand as monuments to his skill and handiwork. Since that time Mr. De Lancey has lived quietly upon his home place, enjoying the fruits of former toil.

In 1843 he wedded Miss Sarah Crawford, a native of Beaver county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of John Crawford. By this union he had seven children, four of whom are living, namely: Joseph, who is operating one of his father's farms; Calvin, a blacksmith of Greenwich, Ohio; Mary J., the widow of William Furney; and Christina, the wife of H. H. Parrish, a shoe merchant of Bellefontaine, Ohio. The wife and mother died March 18, 1876, and for his second wife Mr. De Lancey married Miss Ellen J. Guthrie, a native of Blooming Grove township and a daughter of John E. Guthrie, who in his 'teens came to this county from Harrison county, Ohio, the place of his nativity.

Mr. De Lancey is a Democrat in political sentiment, and for the past twenty-five years has been an active member of the Lutheran church. After a useful and honorable career he can well afford to lay aside all business cares and live in ease and retirement. He is widely and favorably known, and is honored for his sterling worth and many excellencies of character.