

HISTORY

OF THE

EBERHARTS

IN GERMANY AND THE UNITED STATES,
FROM A. D. 1265 TO A. D. 1890—625 YEARS.

BY
REV. URIAH EBERHART.

WITH AN AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THE AUTHOR,
INCLUDING MANY REMINISCENCES OF HIS
MINISTERIAL AND ARMY LIFE.

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CHAPTER XXV.

JOHN HENRY EBERHART,

Son of Paul Eberhart, was born March 30, 1768, in Northampton county, Pa., and at the age of five years moved with his father's family to Westmoreland county, Pa. He was married November 26, 1793, to Mary Magdalena Hewit, of Washington county, Pa., where they resided until 1809, engaged in manufacturing earthenware; then moved to Stark county, Ohio, and opened a farm and built a mill, and lived there until death, December 29, 1848, being eighty years of age.

As the writer now remembers, he was a noble, generous, good-hearted specimen of his race, and a little more fleshy than the average *Eberharts*. He was a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and did much to encourage the building of churches and school-houses and other good institutions. His education was principally in the German language, and he unravels the mystery relative to the changing of the name "Eberhart" (*Eberhart*), as our forefathers wrote it, to *Everhard*, as his descendants write it. When he obtained a deed for his first home the lawyer or justice wrote it *Everhard*, and he, supposing that was the English of it, did not object to it, and it was so recorded. So after this the English people called him and his descendants *Everhard*, until they finally accepted it, and so wrote it—which is to be regretted very much.

To them were born ten children, viz.:

1. *John*, eldest child of John Henry and Mary Magdalen Eberhart, was born August 29, 1794, and married to Miss Julian Harbough, who is still living with her son-in-

law, Joseph Welty, principal of the public school at Madison, Ohio, aged eighty-five.

He was a man of good intellect and had a liberal education. He taught school seven years in Washington county, Md.; then returned to Ohio, engaging in business of various kinds, among other things opening a farm in Tuscarawas county, where also he was county auditor, and later state auditor at Columbus, Ohio. He also for a time held the office of associate judge of Stark county; and, finally, he was superintendent of L. M. R. R. machine shops at Cincinnati, Ohio, where he died in 1864, aged seventy. They had six children, three of whom are living: Wesley, in Colorado; and Melancthon, in charge of the Miami R. R. bridge over the Ohio river at Cincinnati. I know not where the other one is.

2. *Catharine*, their second child, was born March 31, 1796, and died at the age of two years.

3. *Susan* was born December 4, 1797, and died at Canton, Ohio, July 10, 1881, aged eighty-four.

4. *Jacob*, fourth child, was born November 8, 1800, and died November 17, 1829. He was married to Martha Hibben, who lived a widow over thirty-one years after his death, and then married Henry Bachtel, and died in 1887, about eighty-five. They had one son, J. S., who now lives at St. Joe, Mich., running a fruit farm.

5. *Henry*, fifth child of John Henry Eberhart, was born August 6, 1803, and died June 29, 1885, aged 81 years. He was married to Miss Rebecca Slanker, who died, and he married her sister Eliza, who outlived him; dying May 10, 1888, aged 83. They had seven children, four of whom are still living—Katie and Martha at Santa Barbara, California; Lewis at Wooster, Ohio; and Henry H. is in charge of an extensive stone quarry at Massillon, Ohio.

6. *Paul* was born September 10, 1806, and died September 20, 1829, aged 23.

7. *Mary*, born February 14, 1809, and died May 30, 1855, after being an invalid over twenty years, aged 46.

8. *Philip*, their eighth child, was born September 28, 1812, and married Nancy Hane, September 1, 1846. They settled near Canton, Ohio, on a farm, and engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1875, when they moved into the city, where they still reside. He has a liberal education, so that he has taught school thirteen winters in connection with his other responsibilities. He is a man of good principles, and a worthy member of the Lutheran Church, sustaining an excellent Christian character. Of late years he has suffered terribly in the knee-joint of one of his limbs. At first it was pronounced rheumatism, then neuralgia, and finally turning into a running sore. It had to be amputated. He is among the oldest Eberharts now living in his branch of the family. They have six children living. Mary Ann and Ira are still at home with their parents. Charles lives in Canton; Elta in Cleveland, Ohio, where her husband, T. A. Heward, has been employed for many years in the office of the Standard Oil Company; A. H. and G. P., at Highmore, Dakota, are in the banking business, running the Hyde County bank. Three of their children are married, and they have four grand-children, whose names I do not know.

9. *Lydia*, ninth child of John Henry Eberhart, was born March 31, 1818, and married to Henry Ruthrauff. They now reside at Canton, Ohio. They have had seven children, four of whom are living—Luther at Canton; Mary at Kansas City, Missouri; Charles in Michigan, and Rev. J. M. Ruthrauff at Dixon, Ill., minister of the Lutheran Church.

10. *Rachel*, youngest child of John Henry Eberhart,

was born January 15, 1823, and was married to Rev. Edwin Melsheimer, a Lutheran minister. They both died in 1849, leaving two daughters, both of whom are married and live somewhere in the West.

