

CHAPTER XXXIV.

MANOAH HENRY EBERHART,

Sixth child of Abraham and Esther Eberhart, was born January 17, 1831, in Mercer county, Pa. He remained with his parents assisting on the farm during the summer and teaching school in the winter, until he was twenty years of age. By this time he had sufficiently mastered the common English branches to secure him a "certificate to teach in the free schools." His first effort was made in Stull's district, Marion county, Pa. Here in a school-house 18x24 he had enrolled seventy-three pupils, mostly large boys and girls. With such a crowd on slab-benches for seats, and boards fastened to the wall for writing-desks, and about as many text-books as pupils, it required rare tact and genius to be "master of the situation." Moral suasion was not always strong enough to make a realizing impression—it required a "birchen pointer."

The following summer he attended Allegheny College, and then taught again in the winter; and thus he proceeded for five years, teaching and attending school, and performing manual labor part of the time. During the fall term of 1853, he attended Albright Seminary, in Berlin, Somerset county, Pa., and the following winter taught in Stoystown in the same county. It was during this winter that he fully realized that he could not perform his whole duty to his pupils, his fellow-men, and much less his God, without surrendering to Him the obedience of his heart and life; hence he made the surrender and public confession, and united with the Evangelical Association in church fellowship, but a year later joined the M. E.

Church, and has been a member ever since. In the spring of 1854, he resumed his studies at Albright Seminary, also teaching part of the time. He remained a year, and then during the summer of 1855 taught a "select school" at Lexington in the same county. In the fall of said year he moved to Brookville, Ogle county, Ill., and resumed teaching. November 6, 1856, at La Porte, Ind., he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Elizabeth Briscoe, who was born December 6, 1835, in Somerset, Pa., whose acquaintance he had formed at Albright Seminary. Her father was of French, and her mother of Irish, descent. Her father, Frisby W. Briscoe, was then a teacher of thirty years' standing, and "Mary" had been with him from childhood, either as a pupil or teacher. She taught five years, in the public schools of Berlin, Pa., filling all the grades from the lowest to the highest, and was the first lady teacher in Somerset county who drew money out of the public school fund. She was baptized into the Christian Church when fifteen years of age, and is still strong in the faith. She is a woman of great moral worth, leading an exemplary life, and exerting an elevating influence in whatever circle she moves.

After their marriage, they both taught one year in Elizabeth, Jo Daviess county, Ill. During the winter of 1857-8 she was at home with her parents in the State of Indiana, and he taught in New Durham, near by. In the spring of 1858 they emigrated to Benton county, Iowa, where he had previously bought land and opened out a farm. Here they stayed until the spring of 1863, tilling the soil during the summer and teaching in the winter. In the spring of 1863 he sold his farm and quit teaching, after having taught twenty terms, and moved to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and for two years engaged in photography. He then sold his gallery and bought one in Mount Ver-

non, Iowa, in which place he has lived and run a gallery for twenty years past. ‡ He is a man of even temper, has a well-balanced mind and good social qualities.

CHILDREN OF M. H. EBERHART.

1. *Frisby Briscoe Eberhart* was born October 9, 1857. After going through the common schools he entered Cornell College and staid until well along in the Sophomore class, when he took a trip Southwest, thinking he might strike a job of railroad surveying. Near Newton, Kans., he visited Frank Knott, an old school-mate, and went into the harvest-field and was prostrated by the great heat and died very suddenly, July 26, 1878. A bronze monument keeps silent vigils over his last resting-place in the cemetery of that place. He was a promising young man.

2. *Ira Abraham Eberhart, M.D.*, second child of M. H. Eberhart, was born April 20, 1859. After passing through the public schools, he attended Cornell College several years and was one of the charter members of the Star Literary Society of that school. He then studied photography and became quite an adept in the art. Later, he turned his attention to the study of medicine. He read with Dr. Carson, of Mount Vernon, Iowa; attended one course of lectures at the State University in Iowa City, one course at Rush Medical College in Chicago, and graduated from Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, Pa., in the spring of 1889. He now bids fair for a good practice in his profession. He has located at Chicago Lawn, Ill.

3. *Harry Clay Eberhart*, third child of M. H. Eberhart, was born October 23, 1860. After having obtained a common English education it was found difficult to keep him in school on account of his active and vivacious nature, so he turned his attention to photography, in

which business he is still engaged, residing at Shell Rock, Butler county, Iowa. He was married to Miss Alice Ary on May 8, 1881. She is a very amiable, intelligent and kind-hearted lady. They have four children, viz.: 1. Howard, born July 5, 1882; 2. Murriel, born April 23, 1884; 3. Illma, born February 20, 1886; 4. Barnard, born March 14, 1888.

4. *Cora Eberhart*, fourth child of M. H. Eberhart, was born June 11, 1862. After going through the public schools, she attended Cornell College several years, and later graduated from the Kindergarten Department of the Normal School of Chicago, Ill. She then spent several years teaching kindergarten schools very successfully. She was married December 20, 1883, to John S. McGlashan, and they moved to Minaret, Gunnison county, Colo., where they still reside, engaged in the cattle trade.

5. *Essa Eberhart*, fifth child of M. H. Eberhart, was born November 24, 1868. After receiving her common-school education, she attended Cornell College several terms, and then her friends, on observing her fine voice, advised her to turn her whole attention to music and voice culture. Accordingly, she took a three years' course under the tutorship of Prof. Godfrey, and graduated from the Conservatory of Music of Cornell College in June, 1887. Since then she has pursued her musical studies faithfully and has added stenography and typewriting. She is at home with her parents.

6. *Ben. F. Eberhart*, youngest child of M. H. Eberhart, was born December 9, 1876. He is at home, attending school, and says he intends to be a doctor.