

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.

DONOHUE & HENNEBERRY,
PRINTERS AND BINDERS,
1891.

CHAPTER XXIII.

JOHN JACOB EVERHARD.

John Jacob Everhard, fifth son of Jacob and Barbara Everhard, was born April 29, 1792, in Westmoreland county, Pa., and in youth moved with his parents to Armstrong county, Pa. Then, in 1812, to Trumbull county, Ohio. In 1814, he bought a quarter section of land in Chippewa, Wayne county, Ohio, receiving his deed in 1818, signed by James Monroe, president of United States, and Josiah Meigs, land commissioner. For six months he lived entirely alone on this land, there being no other family within a scope of many miles. He constructed a rude shelter for himself out of the bark of an immense chestnut-tree, by placing one end of the bark on the ground, and the other against the trunk of the fallen tree. Here he regaled himself with venison and wild turkey, prepared by his own hands, for the country then was a dense forest, almost uninhabited, so that but little food could be obtained, save wild game, of which there was plenty; and as our hero was an expert hunter and *sure shot*, he was not often in want. And here, on this identical *spot*, where he made his *home*, until removed by death, in his more substantial and commodious house, built afterward, he often entertained and delighted his boys by relating his *thrilling exploits* and "hunting stories," telling how in the dark, dismal night the wolves would howl around his premises, while the bears were cracking the turkey and venison bones by him thrown out.

And it is said that none of his sons failed to imbibe their father's love for hunting, and some of them acquired his skill and success as hunters.

In January, 1815, he was united in marriage to Miss Elisabeth Smith, who lived but a short time. In January, 1818, he was married again to Mary Harter, of Stark county, Ohio, a native of Center county, Pa. She died April 9, 1874, being seventy-four, and he died February 9, 1867, being seventy-five years of age.

His education, in so far as it pertained to schools, was limited, because his means and opportunities were limited; he, however, taught school when a young man. But such an education as may be acquired by diligently studying the Bible, history, newspapers and nature, he possessed very liberally. He also possessed a legal mind and decision of character, coupled with good common sense, which enabled him to transact much business. For over fifteen years he was engaged in administering estates; and conducting in the different courts suits relative to disputed lines and surveys, and titles of real estate; during which time he formed the acquaintance, and had in his employ, some of the most eminent attorneys and jurists in the State of Ohio. He had one case of this kind which was in the courts fifteen years before he gained it. It was, however, always a source of great satisfaction to him that he was never sued in the courts, and that he never sued any one on his own behalf.

From his youth he was an earnest and active member of the Lutheran Church, as was also his wife. He was always ready and willing to perform any and every office and function of the Church. So devoted was he that nothing but illness or unavoidable circumstances prevented his attendance at church, together with his entire family, or interrupted his family devotions, in which all under his roof were expected to participate. He was rigid and uncompromising in his religious belief, and lived his convictions; but being exceedingly anxious that

others also should enjoy this privilege which he valued so highly, he was not given to criticising the religious beliefs of others, however much at variance with his own. He regarded all matters pertaining to the Christian religion so *sacred* that he would not himself, nor would he allow any of his family, to speak lightly or in a jesting way of any one's religious beliefs. He was chaste in his language and it is a pleasant remembrance to all who knew him in his home life that each day they heard his voice in prayer and praise, and no one ever heard him utter a profane or obscene word. He believed in a wholesome self-restraint and strictly temperate habits. From his youth he was a total abstainer from intoxicating drinks. He was especially opposed to having strong drink at public gatherings or at house and barn "raisings," and in the harvest field; and when this practice was almost universal, his courage to act out his convictions was severely tested. He had a large barn of heavy timbers to raise, which required a large number of men, but when it was fairly under headway the men demanded whisky, which he would not furnish. The men then declared they would have it or quit work, and if he did not furnish it they would do it themselves. To this he also objected, so they quit the job. But another day was appointed for the "raising," and a *new* set of men were invited, and to the credit of the good sense of this part of the community, be it said, he found men enough to raise the barn without whisky.

He was bitterly opposed to human slavery, and was a "free-soiler" when it was considered a disgrace to be so known. He, with two others, constituted the entire "free-soil" party for a number of years in Chippewa township. He was opposed to secret societies, and never belonged to any, and never signed any "pledges."

He possessed strong individuality, and was not a follower of public opinion, but was more likely to shape the opinions of others. But in no sense was he a "reformer" or *extremist*.

He never enthusiastically *ranted* on temperance, abolitionism or secret societies, but rather tried to convince by reasoning calmly and by his exemplary life.

In his person he was a large and strong man, with a splendid constitution, though slightly lame on account of being bitten by a huge rattlesnake while reaping in the harvest field.

All things considered, he was a noble specimen of the age and times in which he lived, and his life and example ought to teach his descendants valuable lessons of character and usefulness.

CHILDREN OF J. JACOB EVERHARD.

1. *Lydia*, daughter of J. Jacob Everhard, was born November 25, 1820, in Chippewa, Wayne county, Ohio, and married to Nathan Hartman, October 25, 1838, who died September 25, 1839. She was again married, February 28, 1855, to Isaac Weidman, and they now reside on a farm near Poe, Medina county, Ohio.

Her children are :

1. *Phebe Hartman*, married first to Joseph Brown, who did not live very long. She then married a Mr. Loomis, of Fairfield, Iowa, where she now resides. She is a Presbyterian.

2. *Charles O. Weidman*, who is a farmer, and resides in Poe, Medina county, Ohio.

3. *Mary Weidman* lives with her mother at Poe, Medina county, Ohio. They are both Lutherans. *Lydia*, during the time she was the widow Hartman, taught school and conducted a millinery store.

2. *Sybilla*, second child of J. Jacob Everhard, was born February 22, 1822, and was married to Peter Wall, June 18, 1841. They resided at different times in Sharon, Spencer and York, in Medina county, Ohio. At the last named place she died November 5, 1882. She was a member of the Lutheran Church until nearly the close of life, when she joined the Methodist Church.

1. *Reuben*, first child of Sybilla Wall, was born December 30, 1842, in Sharon, Medina county, Ohio. He served in the Union army during the War of the Rebellion. After returning home, on July 3, 1865, he was married to Miss Mary Hartman; he resides in York, Medina county, Ohio, and is engaged in tilling the soil. In early life he belonged to the Lutheran Church, but now he and his family belong to the Congregational Church. Their children are:

1. *Kendric*, born April 9, 1866, died July 22, 1866.

2. *William J.*, born November 28, 1869. He is engaged in teaching school, and assists his father on the farm at home. He is a member of the Congregational Church.

3. *Jessie*, was born July 13, 1884.

2. *Jacob J.*, second child of Sybilla Wall, was born May 16, 1849. He studied medicine with Dr. Garver, and then graduated at the Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, June 19, 1876. He married Miss Louise Bleil, August 29, 1876, and they now reside at York, Medina county, Ohio, and he is doing a good business, having the confidence and respect of the entire community. They have two children, viz.: Edith Amelia, born July 16, 1877, and Georgia Lillian, born November 24, 1888.

3. *Hanson*, third child of Sybilla Wall, born October 18, 1853, in Spencer, Medina county, Ohio, and was mar-

ried to a Miss Lane, March 4, 1874. He is a painter by trade. They have one child, Daisy, born June 28, 1876.

3. *Aaron Everhard, M.D.*, third child of J. Jacob Everhard, was born March 10, 1824, in Chippewa, Wayne county, Ohio, and received his education in the common schools, and in a select school, then taught school four years, after which he studied medicine with A. M. Armstrong, M.D., of Doylestown, Ohio, and finally graduated from the medical department of Western Reserve University, at Cleveland, Ohio, in 1848. He practiced his profession one year in Medina county, Ohio, one year in Pleasant Valley, Wisconsin, and in 1850 moved to Hamilton, Wisconsin. He was united in marriage to Miss Ann Vennette Marsh January 19, 1851. In 1855 he was elected superintendent of schools for Pleasant Valley, Wisconsin. In 1856 he moved to Ripon, Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, where he now resides. He was elected mayor of this city in 1871, and again in the years 1874, 1875, 1876, 1877 and 1878; and re-elected in the years 1882, 1883, 1884 and 1885, when he resigned his office to take charge of the post-office, which he did January 1, 1886, under President Cleveland. The doctor has an extensive practice, and stands high in the medical profession. He has had a large number of students under his instruction, all of whom have been successful practitioners. He is a good surgeon, and is at present employed as surgeon for the North-Western Railroad Company.

CHILDREN OF DR. AARON EVERHARD.

1. *Hanson*, born November 5, 1851, in Hamilton, Wis., and died December 28, 1854.

2. *Titus Andrew*, born February 1, 1854. He attended the city schools, and also Ripon College. He

learned the tinner's trade in Buda, Ill.; and April 29, 1878, was married to Miss Emma E. Battell, and went into business in Applington, Iowa. In 1883 moved to Dakota and took Government land and lived on it until 1889; then worked at his trade in Bryant, Dak. His wife died June 6, 1888. He has one daughter, Emma A., born May 9, 1888.

3. *William Harter Everhard, M.D.*, born May 4, 1857. He attended the city schools, also Ripon College, and studied medicine with his father, and then graduated from Rush Medical College, Chicago, Ill. He married Miss Ellen T. Taggart, May 19, 1883, and moved to Volga, Dak., and in December, 1884, moved to Ripon and entered into partnership with his father. Then in 1886 he returned to Volga, Dak., where he now resides. They have three children: 1. Frank, born February 14, 1884; 2. Bertha, born May 3, 1886; 3. An infant son born June 28, 1888.

4. *Hendrick Marsh* was born May 16, 1859. He attended the city schools in Ripon, Wis. He went to Dakota and took Government land, and on February 7, 1887, was joined in marriage with Miss Lena Mattun. His infant daughter was born in February, 1888, in Po, Bryant, Dak.

5. *Mary Jennette*, born September 19, 1861. She was educated in the city schools and Ripon College, and married January 9, 1883, to the Rev. Geo. D. Herron, now pastor of the Congregational Church, at Lake City, Minn. They have three children: 1. Newman Everhard, born December 12, 1883, and died July 14, 1884; 2. Margaret Vennette, born September 10, 1885; 3. William Everhard, born May 7, 1888.

6. *Frank Aaron Everhard, M. D.*, sixth child of Dr. Aaron Everhard, was born March 6, 1864, and was educated in the city schools, and Ripon College; then studied medi-

cine with his father, and in 1887 graduated from Rush Medical College, Chicago, and entered into partnership with his father at Ripon, Wis.

7. *Eleanora S.* was born September 3, 1867. She was educated in the city schools, and entered the senior year at Ripon College in the year, 1889. She is a member of the Congregational Church.

4. *Reuben*, fourth child of J. Jacob Everhard, was born in Chippewa, Wayne county, Ohio, October 3, 1825. He attended the village school and received a good common English education, and then taught school and assisted on his father's farm, until August 15, 1850, when he was married to Miss Mary M. Maginnis, and settled in Adams county, Wis. His wife died April 23, 1875, and he was again married to Lucy Hunting on March 8, 1876. He is a farmer by occupation, and a member of the Presbyterian Church. He resides in New Chester, Adams county, Wis., and has been justice of the peace and county commissioner for a number of years.

CHILDREN OF REUBEN EVERHARD,

1. *Franzula* was born June 5, 1851, and married December 27, 1867, to Charles Hollenbeck. She died March 28, 1874.

2. *James M.* was born October 27, 1853. He was married to Rachel Irwin, and had two daughters, but both died; also his wife in November, 1888. He lives at Kassan, Minn.

3. *Charles A. Everhard* was born July 31, 1853, and married Jane Irwin. He resides in Tacoma, Washington.

4. *Rosalia M. Everhard* was born December 8, 1862, and married to P. M. Holm.

5. *Lousia Everhard* was born July 16, 1866, and died February 6, 1884.

6. *Bessie Everhard* was born December 18, 1876, in New Chester, Adams county, Wis.

7. *Ethel Everhard* was born February, 7, 1880.

8. *Mabel Everhard* was born February 19, 1882.

5. *Hannah Everhard*, fifth child of J. Jacob Everhard, was born April 23, 1827, in Chippewa, Wayne county, Ohio, and was married to Mathew Laggart in 1850. They resided in Orville, Ohio for some time, and then moved to Etna, Kosciusko county, Ind., where he engaged in the lumber trade. In youth she was a member of the Lutheran Church, but in 1855 united with the Disciple Church. She was a devoted Christian, and died in the faith of an eternal life. She was of a remarkably cheerful and happy disposition, never complaining even in the most adverse circumstances. In early childhood, and during her school days, and in her associations with her playmates, she was noted for being unusually kind and self-sacrificing, and hence was esteemed and loved by all.

CHILDREN OF HANNAH LAGGART.

1. *Newton Everhard Laggart* was born in Orville, Ohio, September 2, 1852. He resides in Etna Green, Kosciusko county, Ind., and is engaged in the milling business.

2. *Horace Milton Laggart* was born in Orville, Ohio, July 5, 1854. Residence in South Bend, Ind. Is in the stock-raising business.

3. *Clarabelle Laggart* was born December 14, 1855, in Orville, Ohio, and died April 1, 1857. Is buried at Etna Green, Kosciusko county, Ind.

4. *Judson Laggart* was born April 27, 1858, in

Orrville, Ohio. Is a breeder of stock at Etna Green, Kosciusko county, Ind.

5. *Rhoda C. Laggart* was born July 16, 1861, at Etna Green, Kosciusko county, Ind., and died at the home of her aunt in Wayne county, Ohio, November 21, 1879. She was an affectionate and greatly loved girl.

6. *John Jacob Everhard, M. D., Jr.*, sixth child of J. Jacob Everhard, was born November 25, 1829, in Wayne county, Ohio, and was married March 19, 1863, to Miss N. V. Gertrude Scoville, who was born May 30, 1846, at Conneautville, Crawford county, Pa. He is by profession a physician and surgeon. He studied with Dr. Aaron Everhard, of Ripon, Wis., and graduated at Rush Medical College, Chicago, in 1857. He resides at Mantorville, Dodge county, Minn., and has a very extensive practice, being a very successful surgeon and physician. He is a member of the "American Medical Association," and surgeon for the Chicago & North-Western Railway. He is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and his wife is a member of the Congregational Church. Since the above was written, he moved to Seneca, Kans. They have four children, viz.:

1. *Jessie Josephine*, born April 14, 1864, in Mantorville, Dodge county, Minn. She has a good education and is teaching in the public schools at Duluth, Minn. She is a member of the Congregational Church.

2. *Carrie* was born April 17, 1866, in Mantorville, Minn., and died October 1st, of the same year.

3. *Winifred Agnes* was born July 6, 1869, in Mantorville, Minn. She is a fine Christian lady, belonging to the Congregational Church. She is a graduate of the State Normal school, of Minnesota, and at present teaching in the public schools at Duluth, Minn.

4. *Gordon Glayde*, born April 30, 1874, in Kasson, Dodge county, Minn.

7. *Mary Everhard*, seventh child of J. Jacob Everhard, was born February 24, 1832, in Chippewa, Wayne county, Ohio. She attended the village school at Doylestown and the Vermillion Institute at Hayesville, Ohio. She then taught school for some years, and on October 7, 1858, was married to England D. Dague, also a native of Wayne county, Ohio. They resided several years in Ohio, then moved to Monroeville, Ind., where he engaged in the manufacture of staves. After this he moved to Danville, Ill., where he died April 17, 1885. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

CHILDREN OF MARY DAGUE.

1. *Nathan H. Dague*, born October 7, 1859, and married March 24, 1884, to Minnie F. Lovelace, to whom were born two children, viz.: Helen L., June 21, 1885, and Bessie B., May 23, 1888. He is a railroad office clerk. They are members of the M. E. Church.

2. *Emmitt D. Dague* was born December 29, 1860, and died January 21, 1862.

3. *Venette M. Dague* was born September 27, 1862. She is a school teacher and member of the Presbyterian Church.

4. *Arthur L. Dague*, born November 18, 1863. He is a telegraph operator, and was married October 10, 1889, to Miss Lucy Mater.

5. *Clinton T. Dague* was born March 11, 1866, and died January 22, 1870, in Monroeville, Ind.

6. *Lewis E. Dague* was born June 28, 1872. He is a clerk in a store.

8. *Elijah Melancthon Everhard*, eighth child of J. Jacob Everhard, was born August 20, 1834, in Wayne county, Ohio. He attended the common schools and also Wittenberg College, and was a very successful teacher when quite a young man. He was married October 2, 1861, to Miss Elizabeth Manly, of Shreve, Ohio. They took up their residence in Etna Green, Kosciusko county, Ind., and then in 1866 moved to Warsaw, Ind., where he died September 11, 1868. He was a lumber merchant, and by industry, economy and remarkably accurate business habits, was very successful. He was also noted for order and precision and for zeal in all that he did, especially in matters of religion and morality. He was exceedingly chaste in his language and entirely free from all filthy habits, such as the use of tobacco in every form and all intoxicating drinks. He was a very exemplary Christian. To them were born three children, viz.:

1. *Ambrose B.*, born September 4, 1863. He is a lawyer by profession.

2. *Eudora*, born March 2, 1866.

3. *Eulolia G.*, born December, 1867. She is a teacher by profession and a member of the Baptist Church.

9. *Andrew Everhard*, ninth child of J. Jacob Everhard, was born in Wayne county, Ohio, in the year 1835. He went to Wisconsin when a young man and enlisted in the Union army, August 21, 1862, at Ripon, Wis., and was mustered into the United States service September 25, 1862, at Oshkosh, Wis. He was a corporal in Company B, Thirty-second Regiment, Wisconsin infantry. He was a genial, cheerful, young man, a delightful companion, and noted for the warmth of his friendship. He died at Mem-

phis, Tenn., May 24, 1863, of typhoid fever, and his body was sent to Ripon, Wis., where he is buried.

10. *William H. Everhard*, tenth child of J. Jacob Everhard, was born July, 1837, in Chippewa, Wayne county, Ohio. He was attending school at Vermillion Institute, Ashland county, Ohio, when the War of the Rebellion broke out, and enlisted at the first call for the "three-months men." When his time was out, he enlisted again, and was taken prisoner at Harper's Ferry. After his return from the war he was married to Miss Margaret Elizabeth Huffer, daughter of Abraham Huffer, of Sonora, Ohio. Formerly he was engaged in teaching, but now is a traveling salesman, residing at Davenport, Iowa. He is an active business man.

He had five children, viz.:

1. *Desmond Ogden*, born October 31, 1865, at Ithica, Ohio. He now resides at Davenport, Iowa. He was married in February, 1890, to Miss Martha W. Babcock.

2. *Leida* was born in Huffersville, Green county, Ohio, November 9, 1867. She was educated and taught school until December 24, 1884, when she was married to Jacob Arthur Vandruff, of Rock Island, Ill. They have two children.

3. *Mary Gertrude* was born September 6, 1869, at Peoria, Ill. She graduated in the High School of Davenport, and is now a teacher in the public schools of that place and a very promising young lady.

4. *Edith Isabelle* was born April 7, 1871, and graduated in the High School of Davenport, Iowa, in June, 1889. She now resides with her parents at the above named place, and is destined to make her mark in the world.

5. *William Huffer* was born September 9, 1876, in Davenport, Iowa, and is at home with his parents, attending the public schools of that city.

11. *Nathan S. Everhard, M. D.*, eleventh child of J. Jacob Everhard, was born January 8, 1841, in Chipewa, Wayne county, Ohio. He engaged in farming and teaching, having obtained a good English education, until 1863, when he began the study of medicine with Dr. Aaron Everhard, of Ripon, Wis. He then attended medical lectures at the Medical Department of the Michigan University; also the Cleveland Medical College, Medical Department, Western Reserve University, graduating in the spring of 1867. He was married to Miss Ella M. Finley, daughter of Wm. Finley, October 17, 1867, and located at Wadsworth, Ohio, in June, 1868, where he is now engaged in the practice of his profession, and is a very popular and successful physician. He is a member of the American Medical Association, the Ohio State Medical Society and the Union Medical Association of Northeastern Ohio, of which society he has been once president and twice vice-president. He is also surgeon for the Western Division of the New York, Erie & Western R. R., and is a member of the Board of Censors of the Medical Department of the University of Wooster, Ohio. In February, 1886, he was formally offered the chair of *Theory and Practice* in the Medical Department of this university. He has taken an active part in schools and educational enterprises. In his own city he has been a member of the School Board for nine years past. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Church.

12. Moses Everhard, Margaret Ann Everhard and Levi Everhard, children of J. Jacob Everhard, died in childhood and are buried beside their parents in the cemetery at Doylestown, Ohio.

