

Mahanoy church, and both are buried at that church. Their family consisted of thirteen children, all of whom reached maturity: (1) Michael, born March 2, 1813, died Nov. 12, 1889. (Susanna, who died May 26, 1900, aged sixty years, ten months, three days, may have been his wife.) He had two sons and three daughters. (2) John, born March 24, 1815, died Sept. 24, 1887. His wife Elizabeth, born Nov. 27, 1815, died Feb. 2, 1891. They had one daughter. (3) Mary. (4) Jonas, born Dec. 31, 1819, died July 7, 1904. His wife Catharine (Hepner), born June 15, 1819, died Oct. 27, 1891. They had one son and one daughter. (5) Elizabeth. (6) Joseph had two sons and four daughters. (7) Sarah. (8) Catharine. (9) Magdalene married David Underkoffler and they had fifteen children. (10) Benjamin, born April 29, 1829, lives at Pillow. He had two sons and one daughter. (11) Annie never married. (12) Elias, born June 21, 1833, died Dec. 7, 1888. His wife Eliza, born in 1834, died in 1893. They had two sons and five daughters. (13) Nathan, born Dec. 11, 1830, died Oct. 7, 1833.

CHARLES H. McMAHAN, of Milton, Northumberland Co., Pa., is a descendant of one of the oldest families in the upper part of the county, which has been located in the Chillisquaque Valley since about 1771.

The family originated in Scotland, where the name was MacMahan. In 1650, because of clan disturbances on account of religion, they left their native land and settled in the North of Ireland. There, between 1730 and 1740, an outbreak occurred between the Presbyterians and the Catholics, and the MacMahans, who were staunch Presbyterians, took part in the trouble. At a battle fought about 1732 five brothers were serving, and they were ever after separated. One, in some manner, was carried to France, and he became the ancestor of the celebrated Marshal MacMahon, who served as president of the French Republic.

In 1735 or 1736 John McMahan, another of the five brothers, and the ancestor of the family in this country, came to America with his wife, whose maiden name was Margaret Murray, the Murrays, Hewitts, Irwins, Chenneys and Shaws emigrating from the North of Ireland about the same time. They all settled in Sherman's Valley, in Juniata county, Pa., in the section then known as Leek township, Cumberland county. John and Margaret McMahan brought with them their eldest son, James, then two years old, and the following children were born in the new home: John (the next in the line of descent we are tracing), Elizabeth, Sara, Margaret, Rachel, Agnes, Mary and Benjamin. The family remained at the original settlement during the lifetime of the father, who passed away in Cumberland county

in 1767. He was a man of property, as an extract from his will shows: "As to what worldly goods the Lord has blessed me with I dispose of in the following manner: That all my just debts be truly and immediately paid. Next, I leave to Margaret, my beloved wife, and to her four youngest children, the use of my whole estate, real and personal, till said Benjamin is at the age of 21 years, at which time I will that my real estate be equally divided between my two sons exclusive of the place my son James lives on, which I leave to him free of any incumbrance, that to John and Benjamin, they giving to my beloved wife a neat, comfortable house, separate to herself if demanded."

John McMahan, being a strong Protestant, helped to lay the foundation of that faith in the Cumberland valley. In 1769 his son James, in company with James, William and John Murray, Thomas Hewitt, Johnson Chenney and William Fisher, traveled over from Sherman's Valley to the Chillisquaque Valley, where they took up land, about three hundred acres on the south side of the Chillisquaque creek, later owned by the Voris family. Hewitt settled on a tract on the north side of the creek, west of the Red Bridge, and Murray on the north side, east of Hewitt's place and north of McMahan's. A little later the latter's younger brothers, John and Benjamin, came hither with their venerable mother and settled to the east of James McMahan's place, on the same side of the creek, on land where Centre church now stands. Here the two brothers and their mother lived together. William Fisher settled near the mouth of the creek, and built a mill, Wilson's mill. Mrs. McMahan was accidentally drowned in the Chillisquaque creek, while accompanying young James, her 12-year-old grandson (who was driving) on the way home from this mill, by the overturning of their wagon. When Benjamin McMahan became of age he removed to Huntingdon county, Pa., where he lived and died.

James McMahan, the eldest son in the family, was known as "Major," and performed service in the Revolutionary war, serving under Washington in the Battle of Fort Duquesne. He married Mary Murray, and they were the parents of the following children: (1) John, the eldest son, married Miss Rebecca Reynolds, and built a house on a part of his father's farm. This burned, and he moved to New York State, settling near Lake Erie. His son Thomas married Rebecca Logan and settled in Point township, Northumberland Co., Pa., near Northumberland. (2) Jane married Thomas Murray, eldest son of Col. James Murray, and they were the parents of James Fisher Murray, who married Amelia Housel and moved to Mississippi. (3) James married Mary McCord, and they had one daughter, Sarah Ann, who married Austin Smith, of May-

ville, N. Y. (4) Thomas lived and died at Albany, N. Y. (5) Samuel, born in 1779, married Jane Reed, daughter of William and Mary Reed and granddaughter of William and Jane (Mitchell) Reed; William Reed, the elder, great-grandfather of Mrs. Jane McMahan, married Dolly Letson, and died in Ireland, his widow and five children coming to America. Samuel and Jane (Reed) McMahan were the parents of eleven children, Mary, Jennie (Mrs. James Blair), Rebecca (Mrs. Samuel Blair), James (who married Mary Hawthorn), Margaret (Mrs. John Giffen), William Reed (who married Sara Clark and moved to Bradford county), Sara (who died young), Samuel (who married Margaret A. Deifenbacher), Eliza Ann (deceased), John (who married Elizabeth Hendrickson and moved to Vineland, N. J.), and Thomas (who died young).

John McMahan, son of John the emigrant, was the great-grandfather of Charles H. McMahan. He took up about four hundred acres of land in Montour county, part of which is still owned by Charles H. McMahan and his brothers and sisters. He served in the Revolutionary war and later married Jane Murray, daughter of John Murray and sister of Thomas Murray, Jr. Six sons and three daughters were born to them, as follows: James, who married Margaret Murray, daughter of "Meeting House" John Murray, as he was called; Peggy, Mrs. Van Zant; John; Hannah; Benjamin, who married Hettie Brailey; Thomas; Polly; William, who married Sara Simington and (second) Effie Kerr; and Samuel. The father of this family was one of the founders of the Chillisquaque Church.

John McMahan, grandfather of Charles H., was born on the old homestead in Liberty township, Montour county. He married Mary (Molly) Simington, and to them were born children as follows: Jane, who married Alexander Clark; Robert S.; William; Elizabeth, Mrs. John Durham; John, who moved to Sumner county, Kan.; Sara, wife of Joseph K. Murray; and Thomas B., who moved to Sumner county, Kan., and married there.

William McMahan, father of Charles H. McMahan, was born March 22, 1832, and died July 29, 1894. He was a prominent farmer of his native township, Liberty, and held in high esteem there. Although the district was strongly Democratic, and he was a Republican, he was long a member of the township school board, serving for over twenty years, and he was secretary and treasurer of that body for many years. He was a staunch member of the Chillisquaque church, and served as elder up to the time of his death. Mr. McMahan married Selina Mack, daughter of Robert Mack, and she survived him several years, dying March 19, 1901. They became the parents of the following children: Anna Mary, born Jan.

20, 1863, who died July 12, 1889; Charles H.; Lizzie Simington, born May 3, 1870, who died June 7, 1890; Robert Mack; Lucy H., and John A., the three last named living in Pottsgrove, Pennsylvania.

Robert Mack, father of Mrs. Selina McMahan, was born April 6, 1811, and died Sept. 28, 1884. His wife, Mary A. McFall, born April 16, 1801, died Jan. 10, 1887. Their children were born as follows: Alpheus, April 11, 1832 (died May 31, 1834); Susan P., March 14, 1833 (married Levi Berger); Usiah, Jan. 9, 1835 (moved to Joliet, Ill., and married there); Mary, Nov. 1, 1837; Selina, Feb. 26, 1839 (married William McMahan); William H., March 15, 1841 (died March 15, 1907); Anna, July 24, 1843 (married William Voris); Margaret, Feb. 27, 1848; Elizabeth J., June 22, 1850.

Charles H. McMahan was born Aug. 16, 1865, on the old homestead in Liberty township, Montour county, Pa., and there attended the public schools during his early boyhood. Later he was a pupil at the Pottsgrove Academy, and he took the dairy course at the State College, from which he was graduated. For some years after commencing life on his own account Mr. McMahan was a traveling salesman, during this time spending several years on the Pacific coast, traveling from Southern California to British Columbia as agent and manager for W. A. Charles & Co., advertisers. While in California he wired the dipping room of the Coronada Beach hotel, which contains over eighteen hundred incandescent lights and some seventy arc lights.

Mr. McMahan was called back East by the death of his father, and he has ever since made his home in his native section. He spent some time on the farm, later traveling through the Southern States as representative of a pump company until 1902, when he opened a grain and feed store at Pottsgrove, Pa. He immediately began the manufacture of special feeds, known as McMahan's Milk and Muscle Producer, McMahan's Concentrated Protein Feed, McMahan's Special Pig Grower and Prepared Horse Feed. In 1907 he opened an establishment in Milton, Northumberland county, which he equipped with machinery for the manufacture of his special products. He designed and made the machinery himself. Since locating in Milton he has also dealt in coal, and he has built up an excellent business in both lines; there is a steady demand for his feed preparations.

Mr. McMahan married Anna Curry, daughter of William and Rebecca Helen (Lowry) Curry, of Montour county, and granddaughter of Judge Curry, whose ancestors came to Montour county before the Revolution, taking up a vast tract in Valley township. The farm which Mrs. McMahan's father owns has been in the Curry name for over 125 years.