

Sears

GENEALOGICAL AND FAMILY HISTORY
OF
THE WYOMING AND LACKAWANNA VALLEYS
PENNSYLVANIA

UNDER THE EDITORIAL SUPERVISION OF
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"Knowledge of kindred and the genealogies of the ancient families deserveth the highest praise. Herein consisteth a part of the knowledge of a man's own self. It is a great spur to virtue to look back on the worth of our line."—*Lord Bacon.*

"There is no heroic poem in the world but is at the bottom the life of a man."—*Sir Waller Scott.*

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gust. Matilda, the wife of Adolph Pittack, who is conducting a fine hotel. Frederick and Augustus C., are members of Bauer's Band and Orchestra, the celebrated and popular band of Scranton for twenty-five years. 29392

CHARLES H. SEARS. The Sears Grist Mill, of which C. H. Sears is proprietor, is one of the conspicuous and useful industries of Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania. It was built by M. A. Colvin in 1880, sold to W. V. Good in 1894, and in 1898 purchased by C. H. Sears, who enlarged and improved it wonderfully. It was formerly twenty-six by forty-six feet in dimensions, but is now twenty-six by one hundred and six feet, with an annex of twenty-four by twenty-six feet, also a boiler house. Under the former management it was conducting a business of sixteen thousand dollars annually, but under the present management it has increased to a cash business of seventy-five thousand dollars. He manufactures and handles all kinds of stock food and makes the finest quality of buckwheat in the market. Mr. Sears is a thorough believer in the idea that nothing succeeds like success, and during his business career has carried out those principles.

Mr. Sears was born in Clinton township, Wayne county, Pennsylvania, in 1850, a son of Justus and Elizabeth (Davis) Sears. Justus Sears was also a native of Wayne county, and his wife was a native of Wales. Justus Sears was a farmer and speculator, and a man of considerable intelligence and influence, standing high in the community in which he resided. His family consisted of five children, three of whom attained years of maturity, namely: Lydia, Ellen (Mrs. Kimball) and Charles H., mentioned at length hereinafter. Eleanor S. Kimball, daughter of Mrs. Ellen Kimball, is a lady of rare and high talent, a noted elocutionist and impersonator, whose ability is recognized and acknowledged by the most enlightened critics at home and abroad.

After completing his education in the common schools of his native township, Charles H. Sears taught school four years, after which he served an apprenticeship at the trade of carpenter. His first four years as journeyman was in the employ of the Delaware and Hudson Company, and later he became connected with the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Company, in whose service he remained eighteen years as trainman. On May 4, 1881, he lost a leg, his foot catching in a frog, and upon his recovery from the effects of this accident took up telegraphy. The company sta-

tioned him at Clarks Summit, where he remained for sixteen years, and in 1898 at the expiration of this period of time he retired from his position as agent to engage in his present business. In 1901 he purchased the Chinchilla Mill, which he operates to advantage, his son Grover being in charge of the same. Mr. Sears adheres to the tenets of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and his political affiliations are with the Democratic party.

In 1875 Mr. Sears married Mary E. Bartron, of Wayne county, Pennsylvania. Five children were the issue of this marriage, two of whom are living at the present time (1904): David D., manager of the Dixon Theatre, Scranton, and Grover, manager of the Chinchilla Mill. The family occupy a high social position, and their home is noted for hospitality and kindly feeling.

THOMAS E. SCHILLING, of Clarks Summit, Lackawanna county, Pennsylvania, where he has resided for twelve years, or since 1892, and has proven to its residents that he is well qualified to pursue the wagon making business to a practical and successful issue, is a man of intelligence, firmness of character and high principle, and therefore exerts a good influence in his community and is potent in its public life. He was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, in 1868, one of a family of twelve children born to Joseph and Susan (Huthmaker) Schilling, four of whom are living at the present time (1904), namely: Dollie, Jacob, Katie and Thomas E. Joseph Schilling (father) was born in Germany, from whence he came to this country when only thirteen years of age. He was a contractor and builder of some prominence, following his trade in the city of Wilkes-Barre, where he resided up to the time of his decease, 1876. His widow is still living (1904); she is a native of Ransom township, Lackawanna county, Pennsylvania.

Thomas E. Schilling was reared in his native city, Wilkes-Barre, and was indebted to the public school system for his educational advantages. He served an apprenticeship at the trade of blacksmith under the competent supervision of Ira Davis, and after thoroughly mastering all the details secured employment as a journeyman with Simpson & Company, of Archbald, with whom he remained for a number of years. In 1892 he moved to Clarks Summit and in a small way established a wagon making business, which has since grown to its present extensive proportions. He purchased a piece of ground which consists of one hundred by one hundred and seventy feet,