


brave and faithful soldier until they had achieved their independence. He was married, in 1778, to Miss Jane Laird, who was born in Pennsylvania, near the present site of the city of Harrisburg. They had a family of six children, of whom John, the father of our subject, was the second born. They spent their last years in Pennsylvania.

The subject of this notice was married in Zanesville, Ohio, Sept. 6, 1865, to Miss Eliza M., daughter of Aaron and Sarah (DeWitt) Hedges. Mrs. Parkhill was born Jan. 5, 1835, in Guernsey County, Ohio. Her parents were natives of West Virginia and Ohio, respectively; the father spent his last years in Ohio, and the mother died in this county at the residence of Mrs. Parkhill, aged eighty-eight years. Her father carried a musket and did good service in the War of 1812. Her paternal grandfather, Joseph Hedges, was the son of Joseph Hedges, Sr., whose father was Solomon Hedges, the son of still another Joseph, who was the only son of Charles Hedges, and the family was of English ancestry. The last-named gentleman owned a large estate, and made a will, dated Sept. 2, 1790. His death took place in Frederick County, Md. The will was probated in 1795, leaving his property to his five children—four daughters, and one son, Joseph. This estate, like many others, is still unsettled, and the rightful heirs may possibly never come into possession of their property.

Mr. Parkhill has been a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church for the long period of fifty-eight years. His estimable wife also identified herself with this church early in life. They have two children, a son and daughter—Frank and Alice, aged twenty-one and eight years, respectively. Mr. Parkhill, politically, is a member of the Republican party.

 **R**OBERT DUNSHEE. In addition to the farming operations which he has pursued nearly all his life, Mr. Dunshee has for the last few years been interested in dairying, having for this purpose about 125 cows, and all the necessary equipments for carrying on the business in a profitable manner. He is one of the

largest land-owners of York Township, having 320 acres in one body, 140 acres adjoining his home farm, and the latter comprising 240 acres on section 20. All of this land is under a good state of cultivation, and the homestead especially is well-improved. He also owns the original homestead of his father-in-law, Asa French.

Mr. Dunshee rents a large proportion of his land. Upon one farm he has fifty cows, over fifty on another, and twenty-five at the place opposite his homestead. These are mostly cared for by his tenants. He may be most properly termed a self-made man, as he has accumulated his property solely by his own industry and perseverance. Upon arriving in this county he had one 5-frank piece and a ten-cent piece, and from this limited amount of capital he has built up his present estate. He knows all about the difficulties and hardships of pioneer life, has worked early and late, through sunshine and storm, and furnishes a fine illustration of what a man may accomplish by steady persistence and industry.

The parents of our subject were Jonathan T. and Leah (Thompson) Dunshee, who, at the time of the birth of their son Robert, which took place Dec. 15, 1831, were residing in Cambridge, Vt. The latter was there reared and educated, and at the age of twenty years started for the West. Coming to this county, he worked on the farm of Norman French four months at \$12 a month, then, making other arrangements, continued a member of the family about two years. Having then accumulated a little money, he purchased five yoke of cattle, and commenced breaking prairie for the pioneer farmers around. This he pursued four seasons, then purchased eighty acres of wild land, turned the sod and built upon it a small house. On the 2d of January, 1860, he was married to Miss Sabrina Reynolds, who became the mother of one child, which died, and herself lived only a little over a year after her marriage, passing away on the 9th of June, 1861.

Our subject contracted a second marriage, Jan. 22, 1863, with Miss Betsy, daughter of Asa M. and Clarrissa (Sumner) French, who were natives of Vermont. The paternal grandfather was Jacob French. Asa French came with his family to Illi-

nois in May, 1850, making the journey via the Erie canal to Buffalo, thence by the Great Lakes to Chicago, and from there by rail to St. Charles, completing the journey overland by team to this county. They were accompanied by the father of our subject, who came to visit his daughter, Mrs. Norman French, and later returned to New England.

Asa French, for a time after taking up his residence in York Township, prosecuted farming on rented land, then purchased a farm at the point of the bluff, on section 22. Here the parents lived and labored until the death of the mother, which occurred July 10, 1880. Two years later Mr. French went to Dakota and made a visit. After returning he then visited a daughter in Nemaha County, Kan., and there his death took place March 28, 1883. The children of the parental family are recorded as follows: Norman S. was born Oct. 9, 1837, and lives in Dakota; Lucina was born Jan. 5, 1839, married Alonzo Whitney, and is a resident of Whiteside County, this State; Betsy, Mrs. Dunshee, was born March 25, 1842; Cynthia, Mrs. C. P. Bristol, of Baileyville, Kan., was born Aug. 12, 1844.

To Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan T. Dunshee there were born twelve children, namely: Mary, Mrs. Norman D. French; Timothy T., a resident of York Township; Elizabeth, who died when an infant; Lucy J., Mrs. James Bennett, a resident of York Township; Robert, our subject; Amasa T., a resident of York Township; Heber B., died at Cambridge, Vt., when fifteen years old; Lenora, Mrs. Chandler Nichols, is a resident of York Township; W. Garrison lives in Sedgwick County, Kan.; Charles H. died at Dalton, Ga., while serving as a soldier in the Union Army; George W. enlisted during the late war in Company C, 92d Illinois Infantry, and died of measles at Danville, Ky.; Triphena died in York Township Dec. 3, 1875.

Mr. Robert Dunshee, politically, votes the Republican ticket; he has served as Road Commissioner, and as a member of the School Board several years. He cares nothing for official preferment, having about all he can attend to in looking after his farming interests. Mrs. Dunshee is a very excellent lady, and a member in good stand-

ing of the Baptist Church. The father of Mrs. Dunshee was born in Weathersfield, Vt., Nov. 21, 1801; and her mother in Morristown, that State, June 7, 1804.

THOMAS C. JENKS. One of the most attractive homes upon the outskirts of Savanna belongs to the subject of this notice. He is just near enough the city to enjoy its society and avail himself of its various advantages, and far enough from its noise and confusion to enjoy to its full extent the pleasures of country life. He has a farm 175 acres in extent, where he makes a specialty of dairying, and also carries on general agriculture. He keeps about twenty-five cows, and obtains a ready market for the products of his dairy; having all the appliances requisite for carrying on this industry in a profitable manner.

Mr. Jenks has lived upon his present farm since his boyhood. He was born in Savanna, Feb. 24, 1855, and is the third son and fourth child of Capt. W. L. B. Jenks, who died at his home in this city May 20, 1886. The father of our subject was born in Randolph County, Va., and was the son of Brown Jenks, also a native of the Old Dominion, who came West with his son, Capt. Jenks, together with other members of the family, in December, 1836. They located first at Rock Island, then an unimportant town of a few rude houses, and two years later removed to Savanna. Here the grandfather of our subject, with his son, engaged in hotel-keeping, and died a few years later.

Prior to leaving his native State, Grandfather Jenks had become the owner of an extensive tract of land in Randolph County; but during the prevalence of the "wild cat" currency in 1835, and the failure of many banking institutions, he lost heavily, and determined to seek the West, in the hope of retrieving a part of his fortune. He died in the prime of life, at the age of forty-eight years, and his large possessions in Virginia, through mismanagement and neglect, were mostly lost, or never recovered by the heirs.

Grandmother Jenks came West with her husband from her native State of Virginia, and died at the age of sixty-three years, in Savanna. W. L. B.