

Biographical Annals of Franklin County, Pennsylvania, Chicago, The Genealogical Publishing Company, 1905

Linn Family. **John Linn**, the ancestor of the **Linn family** of Perry County, whose descendants include the **Linns** of Chambersburg, Williamsport and Philadelphia, Pa., and Springfield, Ohio, was one of the pioneers of the Marsh Creek settlement in what is now Adams County, where he settled in April 1740; he was one of the squatters on the famous Manor of Masque. He was a member of the Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church. It is probable that **Robert Linn**, who died in 1772, and was buried in the Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian graveyard was his son. The only one of his children of whom we have any knowledge was his son, **John (II)**.

(II) **John Linn** (born in Adams County, in 1749—died in Sherman's Valley, Perry County, Aug. 30, 1820), son of the pioneer, was prepared for college at the school of the Rev. Robert Smith, of Pequea, and was graduated at Princeton in 1773. He studied theology under the Rev. Dr. Robert Cooper, of Middle Spring, and was licensed by the Presbytery of Donegal, Dec. 4. 1776. Soon afterward he was called to the congregations of Sherman's Valley—Upper, Center and Limestone Ridge—and was ordained and installed, June 17, 1778. He served these congregations continuously until his death. As a man he was of large and muscular frame, strong constitution and great physical endurance. He possessed more than ordinary intellectual endowments, was a good preacher, and faithful in the discharge of his ministerial duties. It was his custom to write out his discourses, but he preached without the use of his manuscript. As his salary was inadequate to the support of his family, he was under the necessity of giving his personal attention to the management of his farm, and at times he assisted in the farm work. **Mr. Linn** married **Mary Gettys**, daughter of **James** and **Mary Gettys**, of Adams County. **Mrs. Linn**'s father was a man of great force of character, and unusual business activity and energy. He was a son of **Samuel Gettys**, one of the pioneers of the Marsh Creek settlement, who died March 15, 1809. He owned a farm where Gettysburg now stands, and built the first house in the town that bears his name, which he kept as a tavern for many years. **Mr. Gettys** built his hotel and residence as early as 1783, and it is possible that the plans for laying out the town were made as early as 1780. This was in anticipation of the projected town becoming the county seat of the new county, then in contemplation. As was customary at that time the lots were disposed of by lottery. The original numbers are retained to this day, but the **Gettys** name has disappeared from the town that **James Gettys** founded. **Mary Gettys** went as a bride to Sherman's Valley. **John and Mary (Gettys) Linn** had issue:

1. **John.**
2. **Samuel.**
3. **James (III).**
4. **William.**
5. **Anna** married **John Diven.**
6. **Mary** married **Samuel Anderson.**
7. **Andrew (IV).**

(III) **James Linn** (born in Sherman's Valley, Sept. 4, 1783—died at Bellefonte, Feb. 23, 1868), son of **Rev. John and Mary (Gettys) Linn**, was graduated at Dickinson College in 1805. He studied theology with the Rev. Joshua Williams at Newville, and was licensed by the Presbytery

of Carlisle, Sept. 27, 1808. In 1809, he visited the congregations of Spruce Creek and Sinking Valley, and soon afterward received a call to Bellefonte and Lick Run, being ordained and installed, April 17, 1810, in the Courthouse at Bellefonte, then used as a place of worship. In 1839 he was released from the Lick Run charge, the Bellefonte Church securing his undivided labors. From 1861 until his death he had the assistance of a co-pastor. **Dr. Linn** married (first), Feb. 28, 1811, **Jane Harris**, who died Aug. 14, 1822, leaving issue:

1. **Claudius B.**, of Philadelphia.
2. **James Harris** (born 1815 - died April 5, 1876) was an ironmaster at Milesburg, Centre County. His wife was a daughter of **R. T. Stewart, Esq.**, but they had no issue.
3. **Samuel** died at Williamsport, Pa., Oct. 14, 1890.
4. **Ann** (died March 25, 1847) married **John Irvin, Jr.**
5. **Jane** married **Mr. Welch**. **Dr. Linn** married (second), April 15, 1829, **Isabella Henderson**, and had issue one daughter: **M. H.** married **William P. Wilson, Esq.**

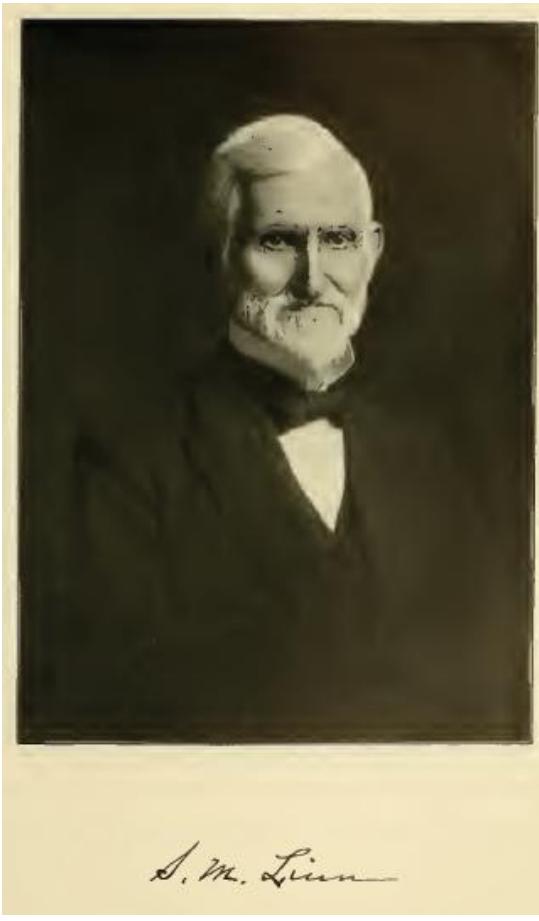
(IV) **Andrew Linn** (born in Sherman's Valley, in 1794—died in 1860), son of **Rev. John and Mary (Gettys) Linn**, was a farmer in Perry County. **Mr. Linn** married April 1, 1819, **Mary Ann McCord**, daughter of **Samuel and Mary (Blaine) McCord**. **Samuel McCord** (born Oct. 16, 1770 —died Sept. 20, 1825) was a son of **William and Mary (McKinney) McCord**. **Mrs. Linn's** mother, **Mary** (or **Polly** as she was generally called) **Blaine** (born Sept. 30, 1773—died Jan. 4, 1837), was a daughter of **Capt. William Blaine**, a brother of **Colonel Ephraim Blaine**, the great-grandfather of **James Gillespie Blaine**, **Andrew and Mary Ann (McCord) Linn** had issue:

1. **John (V).**
2. **Samuel McCord (VI).**
3. **William Blaine** was a farmer; he married **Mary Jane Turbett**, and had issue: **Andrew Gettys, James Turbett, Mary Agnes, William, Fanny, John A. and Annie E.**
4. **Anna Eliza** married, in 1861, **Andrew Loy** (born in Sherman's Valley, April 9, 1816), son of **Nicholas and Mary (Kuhn) Loy**. **Mr. Loy** was a farmer and was commissioned a captain in the Pennsylvania militia in 1835. **Anna Eliza Linn** was his second wife; they had issue: **Andrew Linn; William Gettys; James Ramsey; Mary**, who married **James Wilson**; and **Edwin**.
5. **Jane Mary**.

(V) **John Linn** (born in Perry county, Aug. 12, 1820—died at Chambersburg, Aug. 14, 1889), son of **Andrew and Mary Ann (McCord) Linn**, was a farmer in Perry County until 1860, when he removed to Franklin County, and engaged in farming near Chambersburg. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church. **Mr. Linn** married in June, 1845, **Margaret A. McClure** (born Oct. 31, 1823—died Mar. 31, 1889), daughter of **Alexander and Isabella (Anderson) McClure**. She was a sister of **Col. Alexander K. McClure**, editor of the Franklin Repository and the Philadelphia Times. The **McClures** were an old Cumberland Valley family, **Robert McClure** and **Margaret Douglas** his wife, being early settlers of West Pennsboro Township, Cumberland County. Their son **William McClure**, who married **Nancy McKeehan**, was the grandfather of **Mrs. Linn**. She was prominent in church work and one of the original members of the W. C. T. U. **John and Margaret A. (McClure) Linn** had issue

1. **Alexander McClure (VII).**

2. **Mary** married **Enos B. Engle**: they had issue: **Alexander S.**, living; and **Harry, Margaret** and **Etta**, deceased.
3. **William A.**, born Dec. 25, 1850, died Nov. 14, 1861.
4. **James McCord** died in Texas, in 1877.
5. **Samuel, born** in 1857, died March 1, 1870.
6. **Edwin** lives in Texas.
7. **Belle Anderson**, born June 17, 1862, died July 1, 1862.



(VI) **Samuel McCord Linn**, (born in Perry county, Nov. 18, 1822), son of **Andrew and Mary Ann (McCord) Linn**, was educated in the public schools, but at the age of fifteen became a clerk in a store at Landisburg, and afterward at Carlisle and Harrisburg. He was engaged as a merchant at Landisburg, 1845-49, and then went to Philadelphia as a salesman. He came to Franklin County in 1851, and was engaged in merchandising at St. Thomas, 1852-63. In the latter year he came to Chambersburg and engaged in the forwarding and commission business with **David Oaks**, the firm being **Oaks & Linn**. He bought **Mr. Oaks'** interest in 1866, and in 1868, he received **R. E. Coyle** as a partner in the business. This partnership lasted until 1890. Their business as dealers in grain became very extensive, and they had branch warehouses at Marion, Lemaster, Richmond and Fayetteville. At that time they were among the largest dealers in the valley. He retired from the business in 1890. In 1889 he was elected president of the National Bank of Chambersburg, of which he became a director in 1858 and with which he has been identified until the present time. He has been president of the Chambersburg Gas Company, and has also been

president of the Franklin Fire Insurance Company, since 1879. He has been one of the leading business men of the county for more than half a century, and is a self made man, attributing his success to close attention to business. In politics as a young man he was a Whig, and upon the organization of the Republican Party he joined its ranks, voting for John C. Fremont in 1856. He has always been an advocate of the temperance cause, and has been a candidate for the Legislature on the Prohibition ticket. He is a member and trustee of Falling Spring Presbyterian Church. **Mr. Linn** married Jan. 10, 1849, **Martha Jane Brown**, daughter of **Stephen O. and Margaret (Brewster) Brown**, and granddaughter of **Allen Brown**, a pioneer settler of Lower Path Valley. **Samuel M.** and **Martha Jane Linn** had issue.

1. **Margaret Brewster**, born in 1851, died April 8, 1879.
2. **Mary Ann McCord**, born in 1857, died Jan. 23, 1893.

(VII) **Alexander McClure Linn** (born in Perry County, March 19, 1846), son of **John and Margaret A. (McClure) Linn**, was educated in the public schools, and at the Chambersburg Academy. In September, 1864, he enlisted as a private in an Independent Battery of Light Artillery, recruited at Lancaster, and served until the close of the war. After the war he returned to Chambersburg, where he worked on his father's farm for a short time, and then went to Washington and Oregon in the employ of the Northern Pacific Railroad, where he remained four years. After a brief visit to his home, he went to Anniston, Ala., where he engaged with the Woodstock Iron Company for two years. He then entered the employ of the Cumberland Valley Railroad, in the service of which he still remains. He has filled numerous positions on the road, and is now conductor of a passenger express train. He is a man of more than usual culture, and gives much attention to the study of local history and genealogy. He is a member of the National Scotch-Irish Society of America.

Mr. Linn married in 1887, **Clara A. Scott**, daughter of **James D. Scott**, a brother of the late **Thomas A. Scott**, President of the Pennsylvania Railroad. There was no issue. He married (second), in 1894, **Clara H. Conley**; they have issue:

1. **Samuel McCord**, born Dec. 29, 1895.
2. **Jacob Humbird**, born Sept. 30, 1897.
3. **Robert McDonald**, born Aug. 13, 1899.