

JOHN BEIDLER. The subject of this sketch is one of the most prominent and active of the business men of Wrightsville, and is now engaged in the hardware business. For many years he carried on the lumber business in Wrightsville, and his trade extended through York and Adams Counties in Pennsylvania, and Frederick and Harford Counties in Maryland, and from his extended business connections he is well and favorably known throughout this whole region of country. He has recently placed the lumber business in the hands of his eldest son, Harry B. Beidler, and devotes his attention to the hardware business. Mr. Beidler was born in the year 1836, on the farm now owned by him, about two miles from Wrightsville, in Hellam Township. This farm has been in the uninterrupted possession of the Beidler family since the year 1744, having been conveyed, in that year, by patent from John Penn, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, to Ulrich Beidler, the great-great-grandfather of John Beidler, and has been transferred from one generation to another of his descendants until it reached the present owner. Ulrich Beidler, above mentioned, was one of the first of the German settlers of the Creitz-Creek Valley, though we have no record of the exact date of his arrival. The records of the family show that he and his wife Barbara left three sons and three daughters. One of the daughters, Anna, was married to Henry Strickler, and was the maternal ancestor of many of the Stricklers now living in the valley. Barbara,

another daughter, was married to Jacob Blasser. We have no record of the descendants of the other daughter, Frena, or of the two younger sons, Peter and Jacob, though it is more than probable that descendants of Jacob Beidler, who, it is known, left children, may be found. The eldest son of Ulrich Beidler, Daniel Beidler, and who inherited the home farm, married, and with his wife Barbara, had a family of one son and eight daughters, all of whom lived to grow up and become heads of families of their own. Of the daughters, Barbara was married to Joseph Erb, of Warwick Township, Lancaster County; Magdalena, to Jacob Witmer, of Cumberland County; Anna, to Daniel Flury; Frena to Jacob Grove, of Hawkins County, N. C.; Elizabeth to Nathan Barns, of Washington County, Penn.; Mary to Melchoir Bringalf, and Catharine to — Berntheisel. Daniel Beidler the second, the only son, who was born March 6, 1770, married Susanna Fitz, and on the death of his father, Daniel Beidler the first, came into possession of the homestead, paying to his sisters their respective shares of their father's estate. He had six children, namely: Jacob, born in 1804; Barbara, born in 1805; Daniel, born in 1807; Baltzer, born in 1808; Anna, born in 1809, and John, born in 1810. John died when less than a year old, and before the death of his father. Daniel Beidler the second, died suddenly, at York, August 5, 1810, and the farm passed into the possession of his widow, Susanna, and his children, Jacob, Barbara, Daniel, Baltzer and Anna. With the exception of Baltzer these all died without having married. Jacob died in 1824, Anna in 1861, Susanna (widow of Daniel Beidler the second) in 1862, Daniel in 1872, and Barbara in 1880, leaving Baltzer Beidler the only survivor and sole heir to the estate left by his father, Daniel Beidler the second. Baltzer Beidler was married

in 1834 to Elizabeth Stoner. They had but two children: John, the subject of this sketch, and Susan, who was born August 11, 1838, and died May 10, 1842. Mrs. Elizabeth Beidler died January 12, 1841, in the twenty-seventh year of her age. Baltzer Beidler died May 4, 1884, aged seventy-five years ten months and six days, when the estate passed to John Beidler, the only heir. John Beidler, the only son of Baltzer and Elizabeth Beidler, was born in Hellam Township, York County, February 10, 1836, and received a common school education. For a short time, in early manhood, he engaged in teaching in the public schools of the county. In the year 1859 he was married to Miss Mary E. Bahn, of Hellam Township, and soon after his marriage he removed to Wrightsville and engaged in the lumber business. At this time, Wrightsville was the center of a large lumber trade, and wagons came from all points south and west for a distance of twenty, thirty and forty miles, to the number often of as many as thirty in a single day, to be loaded at his yards. A few years ago Mr. Beidler opened a large hardware store at the corner of Front and Locust Streets, and he has since placed the lumber business in the hands of his son, Harry B. Beidler. Mr. Beidler has one daughter and three sons living: Cordelia S., Harry B., Daniel and Elmer J. His residence is in Hellam Township, adjoining the borough of Wrightsville.