

Strous  
family

## THE STROUS FAMILY.

Jacob Strous, born in Mifflin county, Pennsylvania, October 27, 1775, came to Ohio in the fall of 1799, performing the journey on foot. He remained with his brother-in-law, Adam Defenbaugh, six miles below Chillicothe, until 1802, when he settled near where the village of Laurelville, in Hocking county, now stands. He and Defenbaugh, who also settled there, put up, on Laurel creek, a short distance above the present mill, the first grist-mill in this region. The mill consisted simply of forked stakes driven into the ground and covered over with slabs.

In June, 1807, Jacob Strous was married to Mary Reichelderfer, and resided in the neighborhood of Laurelville until his death, which took place in 1845. He was an active and industrious pioneer, and did much for the improvement of his neighborhood.

He was the father of five children as follows: John, born January 28, 1808; Mary, born August 16, 1812; Samuel, born August 9, 1814; Elizabeth, born August 12, 1824; Allen, born December 26, 1826.

John married, November 13, 1832, Angeline Holderman, born February 22, 1811, and settled where his son, David, now lives. He followed milling and farming during his life, which was one of great industry and usefulness. He died July 23, 1875, and his wife, March 21, 1879.

Mary Strous married Hiram Flannagan. She is now a widow, and resides at Laurelville.

Samuel married Mary Swoyer, January 24, 1841, with whom he is now living in Salt Creek township, Pickaway county, Ohio. They have had five children, four of whom are living.

Elizabeth is the wife of William Webster, and resides in Pickaway township.

Allen Strous lives near Laurelville on the old homestead.

John Strous had eleven children, who are all now dead but three, and it may here be mentioned as a somewhat remarkable fact that, since 1850, there have occurred at

the house which is now the residence of the son, David H., and a view of which is elsewhere given, no less than fourteen funerals.

David H. Strous, one of the substantial and enterprising citizens of Salt Creek township, was the third child of John and Angeline Strous, and was born February 11, 1837. At the age of twenty-one he took an equal interest with his father in the mills and farm, and at the death of his father, succeeded to the entire ownership. Mr. Strous' career has been a very successful one; his energy, industry and good management being rewarded by the accumulation of a good property.

Mr. Strous was united in marriage, April 22, 1858, with Ann Bochart, and to them the following named children were born, viz.: Jane Almeda, born September 10, 1858, is now the wife of Levi Lutz, of Pickaway township; Susannah, born May 29, 1860, is now the wife of Byron Mowery, of Salt Creek township; John Elsy, born August 15, 1862—died August 26, 1863; Charles, born June 3, 1864—died September 9, 1865. Mrs. Strous, the mother of these children, died September 23, 1866. August 20, of the following year, Mr. Strous was again married, to Rebecca J. Dillon, who was born May 19, 1842. The result of this union is five children, as follows: Olive D., born August 18, 1868—died December 7, 1870; Frank D., born September 3, 1869; Eddie D., born March 3, 1872; Eva Grace, born October 16, 1874; Lizzie May, born April 8, 1876.

Just west of his residence, Mr. Strous has a beautiful grove of forest trees, containing about fourteen acres. The ground is very pleasantly situated, being higher than the surrounding land, and is skirted by Salt creek, on the bank of which is a beautiful mineral spring. A company has been formed who contemplate the improvement of the place next season as a pleasure resort.

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