

HISTORY

OF

Hampshire County

WEST VIRGINIA

From Its Earliest Settlement to the
Present

BY HU MAXWELL AND H. L. SWISHER.

Illustrated.

MORGANTOWN, WEST VIRGINIA
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CHAPTER XXXIX.



LITERARY WORKERS.

BY HU MAXWELL.

Hampshire county, which is pre-eminent in many things, is not wanting in writers of note. Elsewhere in this book will be found a history of the newspapers and editors who have helped mold and lead public opinion in Hampshire; and in this chapter will be given a sketch of the lives, with extracts from their writings, of those who have ventured farther into the fields of literature.

JOHN J. JACOB, father of Gov. John J. Jacob, published in 1825 a book which possesses much historical value. It was the life of Michael Cresap, the well-known Indian fighter. Cresap lived opposite the mouth of the South branch, on the Maryland side of the Potomac, and after his death, Mrs. Cresap became the wife of Mr. Jacob. The purpose of the book was to correct a widespread error regarding the part taken by Captain Cresap in the Dunmore war. The charge had been made, and was given wide circulation by Thomas Jefferson, and by other writers, that Cresap had murdered the family of the celebrated Indian Chief Logan, and by that act plunged the border into war with the Indians. Mr. Jacob's book undertakes to prove, and it does prove conclusively, that Captain Cresap did not murder Logan's family, and that the Dunmore war was not brought on by anything done by Cresap.

GEORGE ARMSTRONG WAUCHOPE, formerly of Hampshire county, but now professor of English language and literature in the university of Iowa, has won a reputation in the



George Armstrong
Wauchope

field of letters, both as a writer and editor. He was born in 1863, and graduated from the university of Virginia 1884, and two years later received the degree of master of arts, and later that of doctor of philosophy. He taught Greek and Latin, and studied in Germany. He made a specialty of early English and the kindred languages, and won distinction in that field of investigation. He is one of the staff reviewers for *The Critic* of New York, and the editor of De Quincey's *Revolt of the Tartars*, and of the *Confession*. He has written in both prose and poetry. The following sonnet on the death of Dr. William Shrader, who sacrificed his life while experimenting with the Roentgen rays on consumption germs, will show his style.

O noble friend! high hopes inspired thy breast,
Who lately wrapped all pale in Azrael's pall
Was borne from sad Missouri's classic hall.
Thou daredst unclasp old Nature's book, to wrest
From some dim page of her fast-sealed bequest
To mortals under foul disease's thrall,
A potent charm, the dread fiend to appall.
Unselfish, thou refusedst needful rest,
But with unswerving toil consumed the night
On duty, testing the mysterious ray,
An humble martyr to the cause of truth.
Grasping the white torch of world-girdling light,
Thou hast passed forth, for the high gods did say,
"Let him, our well beloved, die in youth!"