

Benjamin Rosenour, junior member of the firm of B. Rosenour and Sons, is a member of Mountain City Lodge No. 29, Knights of Pythias; Frederick City Lodge, No. 100, I. O. O. F., and Palestine Encampment, Chippewa Tribe, I. O. R. M., of Frederick. Benjamin Rosenour is married to Miss Hanna Siegel, of New York City.

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**GEORGE K. BIRELY & SONS**, tanners, of Frederick City. This firm consists of Lewis E. and George Birely, well-known and prominent business men of Frederick City. They are sons of George K. and Annie E. (Schley) Birely.

This long established tannery was founded by Lewis Birely, grandfather of the present owners, more than a hundred years ago. It is the only one of several tanneries of that time which is still in operation, and is the only business plant of its kind in Frederick City today. On July 18, 1909, it was entirely destroyed by fire, but through the energy and executive ability of the brothers, it was rebuilt, with modern and improved buildings, in the short period of sixty days.

George K. Birely was a native of Frederick City where he was born in 1820, and died in 1873. He learned tanning with his father, a workman of great skill and experience, and conducted the tannery at the old stand very successfully until the time of his death. He was a Republican and during the Civil War sympathized strongly with the Union. His business ability was well known in the community in which he lived where he was highly esteemed as a citizen. Mr. George K. Birely was married in 1859, to Annie E. Schley, daughter of Col. Edward Schley, and a cousin of Rear Admiral Winfield Scott Schley, of Spanish-American War fame. The Schley family is one of the oldest and most highly respected families of Frederick County. George K. and Annie E. (Schley) Birely were the parents of five children: Lewis E., whose biographical sketch follows; Fanny B., the widow of the late William T. Delaplaine; George, whose biography follows; Charles S.; and William K., of Frederick, unmarried.

Lewis E. Birely, senior partner of the firm of George K. Birely & Sons, was born in Frederick City, October 1, 1860. In 1880, he and his brother, George Birely, purchased the old tannery, established by their grandfather. Their energy, financial ability, and thorough knowledge of the business have enabled them to conduct their large establishment with marked success. Mr. Birely is unmarried. Mr.

Birely is a man of sterling character whose reliability and financial acumen have made him prominent in business circles. He is president of the Great Southern Printing Company, publishers of "The News," of Frederick, the only daily paper issued in Frederick County. He is also a stockholder and a director of the Frederick County National Bank, and is interested in various other enterprises.

George Birely, a member of the firm of George K. Birely & Sons, was born in Frederick City, August 16, 1863. He received his education at Frederick College, in his native city, and, in 1880, became associated with his brother, Lewis E. Birely in the purchase of the tannery so ably conducted by their father, where they conduct their business under the firm name of George K. Birely and Sons. They make a specialty of oak tan leather, especially adapted for the purpose of manufacturing harness, and find ready sale for the output of the plant throughout the South and West. The firm is well known, and is every where recognized for its reliability and sound financial standing. Mr. Birely is one of the ablest and most prominent business men of the county, and is a stockholder in various financial institutions in the State and county. He is treasurer and vice-president of the Great Southern Printing Company, of Frederick, and a member of the board of directors of the Central National Bank. George Birely in politics, is a Republican, interested in all that concerns the progress of the community, where he is highly esteemed as a citizen. He is unmarried.

Lewis Birely, the founder of the firm of George K. Birely & Sons, was the owner of a large number of slaves. At his death, he bequeathed to his various slaves their liberty, being one of the first citizens of Frederick to do so. In 1832, he donated a strip of land to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad to be used as a site for a depot and for a track entrance into Frederick.

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**CAPTAIN CHARLES A. DAMUTH**, a retired agriculturist, and a prominent citizen of the town of Thurmont, Frederick County, Md., was born in Frederick County, two miles from Thurmont, September 27, 1841. He is a son of David and Catharine (Stauffer) Damuth.

David Damuth, father of Charles A. Damuth, was a native of Frederick County, where he was born in 1813, and died in 1900, aged eighty-seven. His ancestors were among the early settlers of the county. He spent his life