

# Life and Times of John Piersol McCaskey

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John Piersol McCaskey was born on a farm near Paradise in Lancaster County. The specific region was known among the residents thereof as Molasses Hill. He was descended from a sturdy line of Scotch-Irish ancestors. His grandfather, John McCaskey, emigrated from Inverness in Scotland about 1790. This grandfather was of a sturdy, resolute character and had numerous progeny. At least ten children are noted. It was the custom of each of these children, after they married and had children of their own, to name the first born, if a boy, John, after the grandfather. Thus John Piersol McCaskey, the subject of our sketch, being the oldest son of William McCaskey, was named John. Even in those adolescent days he was known as "Jack" to his family and friends, a familiar name that clung to him through life and was affectionately used by the many who knew him best.

His father, William McCaskey, was a Presbyterian; his mother, an Episcopalian. Thus the McCaskey family of Paradise divided their allegiance between the old Leacock Church near Intercourse and the Episcopal All Saints Church located at Paradise. It was a devout family and its most important book was the family Bible. Young John was taught early, in the home, to read and was encouraged to read several selections from the Bible each day. He often remarked in later years that the greatest formative influences of his boyhood were the teachings of the Bible and the ever present influence of a devout and pious mother.

We find his mother to have been a remarkable woman. Besides rearing seven children of whom Jack was the oldest, she was an excellent home maker, labored in their garden and was active in the work of her church. She lived to the ripe age of 88 and Jack would at times show us a beautiful picture depicting four generations, of which this mother was the oldest and deeply revered to the end by her devoted son. She loved music and ever as she worked, her voice was heard in melodious song. Jack himself has written this: "She sings as a bird sings because she loved melody." Jack also relates in an article in one of his song books, this homely incident. He relates that his father greatly enjoyed the sweet singing of

his wife and would often say to her, "Marget, sing something." Her love of music and song was inherited from her ancestors, who were of Scotch-Irish, German and Swiss descent. Thus this unusual mother was the life-long inspiration of Dr. McCaskey as he gave so freely of his life and labor in the dissemination of beautiful music.

Young Jack McCaskey received his first formal schooling at the Zook School, near his farm home, followed by a term at Oak Hill Academy. In May 1849 he moved with his family to Lancaster. He first attended a grammar school on South Duke Street. In those days there were five low brick school houses on that tract of land now occupied by a more pretentious three-story school built in 1892 and in recent years sold to the Salvation Army. He entered the Boys' High School in 1850, then located at the corner of Prince and Chestnut Streets, site of our present post office. We may all recall the pretty fountain that played in that old school yard. His first business venture was in selling geographical maps. It did not pay him so well. Then followed his ambition to learn printing. He applied for a job at the old Inquirer Printing Shop, opposite Trinity Lutheran Church. He was at first refused. Then he bravely came back at them by announcing, "I shall gladly work for you without pay so that I may learn the printing trade." They accepted his proposition. He applied himself and became skillful in this field. He little realized then how useful this knowledge would become as he, in later years, assumed the co-editorship of the Pennsylvania School Journal.

Prior to this experience, he had completed his High School course and had applied for and been accepted as a young teacher in his former school. This was in 1855. He soon demonstrated such talent and ability in his chosen work that he was made Principal of the High School, a position he filled so acceptably until 1906. Thus as a teacher of boys, he spent fifty-one of the happiest years of his life. It was in those early formative years that he became associated with two prominent educators who helped found our public school system as we know it today. These prominent men were Dr. Thomas H. Burrows and Elisha E. Higbee, later a professor at Franklin and Marshall College. These men left a deep impress on his life and as we sat under him in the 1890s, he was ever extolling their outstanding pioneer work in public education.

Now to turn back briefly, as he was beginning his life work of teaching, these interesting facts appear. He now enjoyed a dependable income and the thought of marriage came to him as it does to most young men. He fell in love with a charming young teacher of Lancaster, Ellen Chase. Ere long, her duties as a teacher called her to a school in Bath, New York. That meant separation and loneliness for young McCaskey. In due time he proposed marriage and was accepted by Ellen . . . by mail. A wedding day was arranged and young John set out for Bath, New York. They were there married in 1860. Then of all things, their honeymoon trip was celebrated by passage on a canal boat pulled by two mules and plying to Albany, New York. Young John on this occasion was wearing a plug hat. His charming young bride was not impressed by said hat. So, striving to please her, he straightway tossed the offending headgear into the slow moving waters of the canal, never to be seen again.

Long years after, as this young wife grew older and her hair turned to silvery white, I was happy to see her in attendance at the many lovely Arbor Day musical programs arranged by her good husband in the study hall of the old High School.

Now returning to our story, the young couple took up residence in Lancaster, a long and happy life before them. Their first family home was in the first block of South Queen Street. After becoming Principal of the High School, they moved into more commodious quarters on North Mulberry Street, at Concord Street, and near to the High School building. By 1876, the School Board had erected a fine new High School on West Orange Street near Mulberry. The memories of "Jack's Boys" cluster fondly around this building which we occupied when it was but fifteen years old. The first floor provided a study hall and class rooms for the girls. The second floor provided the same accommodations for the boys. It also provided office quarters for the City Superintendent of Schools. Finally the high ceiling third floor provided ample space for a good gymnasium which was well appointed for that day and generation. Existing printed grade lists of the early 1890s show that there were on the average slightly over 100 boys under Professor McCaskey's supervision. He and two other teachers handled the group of boys, divided into four classes.

Turning once again to the work of Dr. McCaskey, we find that beginning with the year 1866, the busy years of his life began. His intimate knowledge of printing, learned in his boyhood, had fitted him admirably for his assiduous labors on the Pennsylvania School Journal. He was first invited to this post by Dr. Thomas H. Burrows and in the years that followed, served his successors, Dr. E. E. Higbee, D. J. Waller and N. C. Schaeffer, all of whom served Pennsylvania as Superintendents of Public Instruction. During the years 1866 to 1921, Dr. McCaskey personally directed the publication of every monthly issue of this magazine. In its columns he was enabled to broadcast throughout Pennsylvania his own highly valuable teaching precepts in the field of music, memory work and the sciences. He never failed to add a few columns of his own as he encouraged his readers to perfect themselves in the realms of the spirit.

In addition to these fixed and routine labors of teaching and publishing, he was able to edit and prepare through Harper Brothers, eight separate volumes, 200 pages each, of familiar songs and ballads, the first volume appearing in 1881. They were widely used throughout the public schools of Pennsylvania. Years later, about 1916, he republished these musical gems in three cloth bound volumes under the title of "Songs for the Millions." In addition, he published in 1899 a single volume called "Favorite Songs and Hymns." He also published another beautiful book of songs and carols in 1891, a large book eight by eleven and a half inches and bound in red buckram, its title being "Christmas in Song, Sketch and Story." The marginal spaces above the musical scores contain some of the well known classics such as Dickens' "Christmas Carol" complete. This is the story that Jack was accustomed to read to his boys, lessons having been laid aside during the school week preceding Christmas. In the preparation of all these musical gems, he was most ably assisted by Professor Carl Matz, a graduate of the Kopenick Seminary of Music in Berlin, Germany. Pro-

essor Matz taught music in the schools of Lancaster for many years. He was the very soul of music itself. His very movements seemed to shed music as his rather heavy body rolled along in rhythmic sequences. He had also served as organist at Trinity Lutheran Church and conducted a piano store, truly a busy man.

Yet one more labor of love was undertaken by this illustrious man, Dr. McCaskey. In 1897 he published the "Lincoln Literary Collection" containing more than six hundred choice selections of prose and poetry by outstanding authors, together with many carefully selected extracts from the Bible such as have comforted the souls of mankind through the ages. This became a prominent textbook in Dr. McCaskey's High School. It was required that each student should memorize weekly both a prose and poetry selection designated by the Doctor. One morning of each week, other lessons being laid aside, was devoted to writing from memory the designated selections. These lessons were carefully corrected for both text and punctuation, and were written in blank books made especially for this purpose. We were graded on the quality of our work in this field as in all others. On declamation day, each Friday, a selected number of students were called to the rostrum and required to recite any one or all the selections they had learned at the call of their teacher. Often on more formal occasions the boys were required to repeat in unison any such numbers as might be called for.

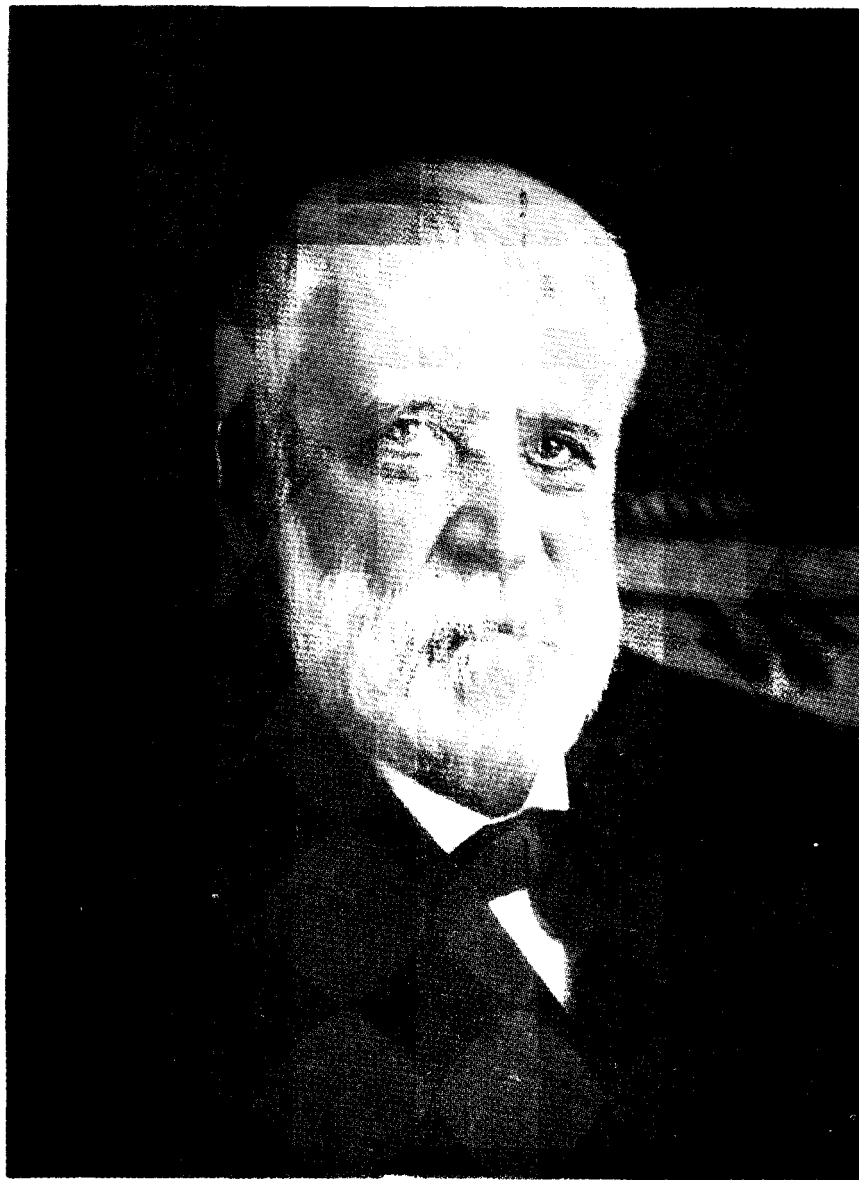
Still one more field of endeavor was undertaken. In addition to his valuable work already mentioned, his innate love of beauty led him into the field of fine engravings which he named the Lincoln Art Collection. Some were hung in the school rooms, some in our Y.M.C.A. building and the Y.W.C.A. building. Unless framed, they were perishable and I fear few now exist in sheet form.

Is it any wonder that now and then the Doctor paused to catch his breath amid these labors and would quietly refer to them as "I have led a busy life along varied lines."

Franklin and Marshall College, being fully aware of what the worthy Doctor was doing in the world of education and letters, first conferred upon him the degree of Master of Arts and some years later, in 1887, the higher degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

Now to present a few intimate glimpses of the man himself. Five days of each week were spent in the confines of the school room, but on Saturdays, when many a man shuns work and seeks only personal relaxation, the doctor set out to improve his own mental and spiritual equipment.

He was accustomed to make trips to Philadelphia, New York or other civic centers which offered concerts, lectures or stage shows of cultural value, or any other inspirational program, so that he might the better bring back an outside message to his boys. Even the wonders of nature were within the scope of his interests. How well can we recall one cold winter when he visited Niagara Falls in order to view it fully ice-bound. At his next lecture period in the school room, he came before us so full of his wonderful subject that all were enabled to see this winter wonder through his eyes.



**John Piersol McCaskey**

**Born 9 October 1837**

**Died 19 September 1935**

**Photograph made on his 70th birthday, 9 October 1907**

Tuesday mornings were usually devoted to the spelling lesson. How nobly he would stand there in front of the class and encourage the boys to "hit the line hard," tear the words apart and draw out their deep inner meaning as he called attention to their origin through the Latin, Greek, French or German root. This was worth so much to his boys. They enjoyed every minute of this exercise. Often without warning, he was apt to set aside the morning class for all and step in front of the boys and pour out his very soul in an impromptu lecture on some current or burning subject that brought all the boys to attention to hear this remarkable teaching. Their eyes were opened as never before to the great issues of life and of the Hereafter. Thus did the boys get so much more out of education which can never be found in the routine of a text book. At times his discourses would turn to the marvels of the starry Heavens of which the Psalmist had written so beautifully. How well he knew his stars and his constellations. He drew diagrams on the blackboard which we were asked to copy and take home for study so that in the starry nights we also might learn to know more about the marvelous handiwork of God. Those names of Arabic origin were on the tip of the tongue and we soon learned to deal with them as familiar friends. The worthy Doctor never lived long enough to enter into the more marvelous facts of our Universe as has been disclosed in these later days by our modern astronomers and the wonders revealed by our Palomar telescope and others. Yet I am quite sure his eyes have been opened to these great wonders in his Heavenly Home.

The Doctor was not a harsh disciplinarian but he kept proper order in the classroom. As he sat at his broad, flat-topped desk, busy on some school matter during the study period, he might hear in the distance some sound of disturbance. Then in a loud booming voice he would say "What boy did that?" If none answered, he asked "All those who were not involved in the noise raise your hands." This was apt to put the guilty ones on the spot. When the culprits were disclosed he would command them to appear in front of his desk and hand one of them a good substantial ruler. Then he would say "Now use it." Thus he brought it down upon a fellow culprit's hand, and he in turn, applied the ruler to the other chap. The results were very good. I can well recall he had some trouble with a pair of identical twins and at the length of the long school room he could not clearly distinguish them, so he would first ask "Is it Bertram or Walter?" Then followed the usual penalty. Sometimes these boys were not entirely fair to each other and the wrong boy took the rap.

It is here proper to mention how Dr. McCaskey's influence brought music into the Lancaster City School system. He had much influence with his Board of Directors who were pleased to act upon many of his suggestions. Thus Professor John B. Kevinski, a scholarly musician from Poland, was, upon his recommendation, employed by the School Board to teach the rudiments of music in the public schools of the city. This musician, with his singing violin, visited each school in the city once each week and about forty minutes were devoted to singing in each room. It was a real treat to have had this rich experience. Dr. McCaskey was also instrumental in securing the valuable services of Professor Carl Matz for the High Schools for singing and choral work. To the above were added the services of the talented Professor Carl Thorbahn, who brought instrumental music

into the High School about 1892. His lessons were conducted in the afternoons after regular school sessions. The pupils who were interested gladly stayed the extra hour for, to the individual boy, instruction was free. Much able talent was developed through the years. The best talent was invited to become part of the Orchestral School which met one evening each week and did an admirable job. The end result of all these musical endeavors was a prime factor in rendering the Spring and Fall Arbor Day Programs and the Christmas Entertainment such an outstanding success. Who of all of Jack's boys can ever forget the spiritual uplift of these entertainments, including many friends who also attended these classic events. They were truly out of this world. Many of the boys who took instrumental training could not afford expensive musical instruments. Therefore Dr. McCaskey kept a small backlog of just such musical instruments and loaned them out to the boys until they earned money to buy their own instrument. He was even known on a few occasions to make outright gifts to a needy boy by giving him an instrument of his choice.

Another incident that reflects the innate kindness of Dr. McCaskey is this. About 1889 a needy Russian lad named Solomon Sphoont arrived in Lancaster. He was ambitious to enter High School. Upon review of the case, Dr. McCaskey took this poor lad into his own home and raised him with his own sons on an equal basis. The lad proved worthy of the trust reposed in him. He was bright and showed marked scholarship, graduating near the top of his class in 1892. Dr. McCaskey then sent him on to Yale for higher learning. At Jack's suggestion the lad changed his name to William Gorden. He became associated with a prosperous law firm and became a talented and prosperous citizen. He returned to Lancaster from time to time and was a welcome foster son in the McCaskey home. Together with another son of Jack, this foster son rendered valuable assistance to him when the feebleness of old age overtook him. He was a fine and grateful foster son.

Let us dwell for a moment on the wonderful Christmas celebrations and musical feasts we enjoyed under Dr. McCaskey. Each year, during early December, the Senior or First Class, was permitted to take time off from school work to set out for the hills of Lancaster County to secure a supply of laurel and other greens. Then during later winter nights this class gathered in the spacious gymnasium "to tie the greens." Long festoons were made, tied to a stout string, and the night before the big event the boys hung the greens in the Study Hall, twining them among the tall Corinthian columns supporting the ceiling and around the windows. When the school assembled the next morning they viewed a fairy land of charm. The Christmas program was truly a glorious occasion. How we did sing the old familiar songs and carols. We really raised the rafters in our enthusiasm. The good Doctor always provided a wash basket of hard candy for the boys. Earlier in the month money had been collected by the boys and suitable gifts were given to all the teachers except Miss Mary Martin who would never accept a gift. Some years it might be easy chairs, then again reading lamps, and one year we gave Professor Matz a Meerscham pipe and tobacco. It was indeed a blessed memory. Who can forget it?

We must also mention that on Arbor Days two to three hundred shrubs and trees were provided by the school and each lad was required

to take them home and plant them. One year, when Dr. E. E. Higbee died, the plantings distributed were roses. The Arbor Day programs consisted of familiar songs, appropriate readings and an address by some prominent citizen of Lancaster.

Now one sad note. High School life was not always blithesome and joyous. Sometimes sad events must occur. It was an annual Spring custom of Dr. McCaskey to lead a band of youths from the school into the woodlands and along the Conestoga River on botanical excursions. Wild flowers would be obtained and with botany book in hand, the blooms and plants would be analyzed on the spot. The usual trip was from Engleside, foot of South Prince Street, eastward along the river to Reigart's Landing, foot of Strawberry Street at the remains of an old stone bridge. A crude raft or ferry plied between the two shores of the river. On one such occasion about the year 1888, the Doctor and his boys made the usual trip. The group crossed on the crude ferry in sections. However, too many boys and the Doctor overcrowded the raft and it tilted and threw them all into deep water. Most of them could swim and so were saved. But two of them could not swim. The Doctor, though weighted down by heavy hip boots clung to these two boys and made a brave effort to bring them to shore. One slipped from his grasp and met his death in the river. You may well believe it was a sad day for the Doctor. Never again did he lead such a botanical expedition.

In later years his able assistant did take the boys on such trips and we analyzed the flowers sitting under the woodland trees, but we crossed no rivers. We might add here that Dr. McCaskey did lead other trips later on, such as his excursion with eighteen boys in 1906 to the Gettysburg battle field, where at the "Open Book," they recited in unison Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, accompanied by a battle field guide who had actually been present when Lincoln made his famous speech.

Now a word about Professor James C. Gable. He was a most excellent teacher, much loved by the boys, who had given him the nickname of "Shaddy." He was well worthy of the respect accorded him by all the boys. In that old high school of over 100 boys, there was but one other teacher. She was Miss Mary Martin, a charming little lady of middle age who had also won the love and respect of the many boys. They called her "Aunt Mary." She loved the springtime and the floral offerings of early wild flowers which the boys were happy to lay on her desk after a country ramble. She had a lovely garden of her own. She was a most capable person and gave us much that we could treasure through life.

It is fitting that we should here make a few comments on the family of Dr. J. P. McCaskey. He had six brothers and one sister. Two of his brothers achieved prominence. One, William Spencer McCaskey, became a military man. He enlisted during the Civil War, served in the Philippines during the Spanish-American War, and earlier served in our western outposts while the warlike Indians were still in evidence. He rose to the rank of Major-General. Another brother, J. B. McCaskey, was a prominent Lancaster dentist many years ago. His one sister married James H. Marshall, formerly Assistant Postmaster in Lancaster. Two or more of the Doctor's younger brothers did not succeed in life as well as he had done. Thus



when old age overtook them and being deficient in worldly goods, the Doctor took them into his own home, provided food and shelter for them as well as loving care. When they died, before him, he, with brotherly solicitude, buried them in his own family plot on the hillside of Greenwood Cemetery.

Dr. McCaskey himself had seven children, four boys and three girls. Two of them were graduates of West Point and followed military careers. Another was a dentist and still another, a medical doctor. The latter, youngest of the children and named Donald, is now up in years and living in California. In former years he pursued his medical practice at Witmer, Pennsylvania, and in New York City. One of the Doctor's daughters died at the age of twenty. She was Elsie McCaskey, and two other daughters died while mere children.

In politics, Jack McCaskey was a Republican, casting his first vote for Abraham Lincoln. About 1906 the Republicans were looking for a strong candidate for Mayor of Lancaster. The logical man for this honor was Dr. McCaskey, who was a most popular man in the city. So he was tapped and he acceded to their wishes. He gave up with reluctance his loved work of teaching and was elected Mayor by a large majority. He served two terms of two years each, 1906-1910. We may still recall one of his major problems. There was a certain Greek merchant in the first block of North Queen Street who persisted in doing business on Sunday in violation of city ordinances. Dr. McCaskey fined him but each Sunday he was open for business again and cheerfully paid his weekly fines. The Doctor could not curb this individual. How reminiscent of our present problem over the Blue Laws of Pennsylvania! The Doctor also was strongly opposed to the bad habit of spitting on the sidewalks. He had many signs posted down town which ended with the words: "Pray, avoid it."

Now this Mayoralty campaign was the occasion of one of the signal public honors which came to Dr. McCaskey. A convocation of the many old students was called to meet in the old Study Hall of the Boys' High School in 1906. On this gala occasion about 150 former students and visitors were on hand. A beautiful Loving Cup was given the subject of our sketch. A charming program had been arranged and a beautiful booklet containing Jack's picture was handed to all who came. The principal address of the evening was given by Honorable Frank B. McClain. Among other beautiful comments, he recited some of the beautiful memory poetry from the pen of the poet, Thomas Moore.

Doth not a meeting like this make amends  
For all the long years I have been wandering away?  
To see thus around me my youth's early friends  
As smiling and kind as in that happy day.

In his fine tenor voice he also sang some charming Irish songs. It was a great evening for "Jack's Boys," never to be forgotten.

This relates to another happy civic honor accorded Dr. McCaskey. Once again, about 1926, a more memorable meeting was held at Hotel Brunswick. I believe it was in honor of his 89th birthday. The large ball-room was filled to overflowing. Not only local friends came, but through a mail campaign, friends came back to Lancaster from all over the United

States. There were about four hundred guests present on that gala occasion. Many heart-warming tributes were paid the Guest of the Evening. Then the Doctor himself responded to the call for a few remarks. It is interesting to mention that this civic tribute was brought to the ears of many local citizens not actually present at the Hotel Brunswick by a relatively new and wonderful device called radio. The events of that happy evening can never be forgotten.

As an outgrowth of this meeting two funds were established by contributions from many of "Jack's Boys." One was started that evening; the other more than a decade later. The promoters of both funds had in mind the establishment of a capital fund with which to provide an annual cash prize for the High School Graduate certified by the Principal as having achieved outstanding proficiency in a variety of studies near and dear to the heart of Dr. McCaskey.

The earlier fund became involved in difficulties incident to the great economic depression of the 1930s, accounting in part for the establishment of the second fund. Recently both funds have been merged by directive of the local Court so that there now exists one fund of over \$2,000.00. This fund is now in trust with a Lancaster bank and for many years an annual prize of \$25.00 has been awarded as outlined above. This year, by reason of the increase in the principal amount, the prize was increased to \$40.00 and it is expected that it will soon be fixed at \$50.00 each June.

In May 1938, following years of planning and preparation, the new John Piersol McCaskey High School was completed and dedicated. This is still one more substantial monument to this great Educator. The old school provided for the hundreds; this new and modern school has and will continue to provide for thousands of adolescent boys and girls.

Now in summing up, let us consider what manner of man this was we have been studying so intimately. In a public address of 1906 he said: "Let us teach the supreme things, things that are generous, noble and true." His favorite memory piece, a "must" for every pupil, was "Enduring Influence." We shall quote just a few lines. "Every morning when we go forth, we lay a moulding hand on our Destiny, and every evening when we have done, we have left a deathless impression on our character. We touch not a wire but it vibrates in Eternity, we breathe not a thought but it reports at the Throne of God."

As regards his business associations, Dr. McCaskey was Secretary of and a stockholder in the Inquirer Printing Company, formerly located on South Duke Street just opposite Trinity Lutheran Church. This company later became the Wickersham Printing Company. He was an original stockholder in the Adams-Perry and in the Lancaster Watch Company and stayed with them through twenty long years of financial reverses and loss of money. He finally saw this earlier company collapse with much loss to all of its stockholders. He was able, however, at times to smile and comment that his total loss, including capital and interest, in this ill-fated venture was about \$40,000.00. He was the only one of those original stockholders to continue on as a stockholder in its successor, The Hamilton Watch Company, which was a success from its beginning about 1892, and is today one of Lancaster's prominent industries.

On each June Graduation Day, the Doctor presented a very fine portrait of himself, prepared by B. Frank Saylor, a prominent photographer of the period, to each boy in the graduating class. This practice goes back as far as the year 1880, for I own one of that year, although my own year was 1894. On the back of each portrait he wrote this inscription:

“The best of men that ever wore earth about him was a patient sufferer, a soft, meek, tranquil Spirit, the first true gentleman that ever breathed”

And he signed it: Very truly yours, J. P. McCaskey.

Down in Greenwood Cemetery one of his family markers bears this odd inscription: “For all you can hold in your cold dead hand, is what you have given away.”

Dr. McCaskey was firm in his belief that the spirit world is never far removed from us. He believed that there are guardian spirits who walk by our sides, protecting us and directing our onward journey in life. Our Bible also reflects such a concept, for our Lord and Savior, upon leaving this earth told his disciples that he would send the Holy Spirit down to earth to be a Comforter to men. To show more conclusively the Doctor's belief in this thought, I shall here add one of his favorite quotations, often employed by him both in speech and in his written words. This quotation was written by Ralph Waldo Emerson.

“Long have I followed happy guides,  
I could never reach their sides.  
On and away their hasting feet  
Make the morning pure and sweet;  
Flowers they strew—I catch the scent,  
Or tone of silver instrument  
Leaves on the wind, melodious trace,  
Yet I could never see their face.  
I thenceforth, and long after  
Listen for their harp-like laughter,  
And carry in my heart for days,  
Peace that hallows troubled ways.”

Our essay has dealt with a very remarkable man, possessed of untiring energy, with an ever present zeal for intellectual work, his constant search being for those things which are the true, the beautiful, and the good.

We laid his body to rest in Greenwood Cemetery one mild September day, full of years and of good works. The bright Autumn sun cast flickering shadows through the trees over God's Acre that received his tired body. His body was tired, yes, but his Spirit, to the end, retained its outlook on youth and on never-ending joys that shall not cease. When he died, he was but twenty days short of ninety-eight years. Each generation produces only a few men of his caliber.

If ever there was a man who walked in the footsteps of his Lord and Master, that man was John Piersol McCaskey. We have but little doubt that our Teacher and our Friend has long since heard those gladsome words: “Well done, thou good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.”

So ends an intimate narrative on one we have loved and admired. We believe the facts as stated are true and correct, for my library is full of the tangible evidence of this man's works and deeds.

(Editor's Note: Mr. Diffenderffer was stricken fatally shortly after completing the manuscript of this paper. It reposed upon his desk while undergoing the author's proofreading, and there it was found—his last effort. Harold Reid Diffenderffer, son of the author, read the article before a meeting of the historical society in place of his deceased father.)

