



The Hillsgrove Covered Bridge over the Loyalsock about a mile upstream from the center of the village. Shown as it was restored in the late 1960's by Corbin Lewis.

Hillsgrove Township

ORGANIZATION.

Hillsgrove township at the time that the first settlements were made formed a part of Shrewsbury township, Lycoming county. At the time the county was organized, in 1847, it formed a part of Plunkett's Creek township, Lycoming, and retained that name until 1856, when an act of the legislature was passed changing the name to Hillsgrove. The village and post office had been called Hillsgrove during the time the township was called Plunkett's Creek. The name Hillsgrove is derived from the name of a prominent early settler John Hill. Hillsgrove township is bounded on the south and west by Lycoming county; on the east by Forks and Shrewsbury townships.

SURFACE AND DRAINAGE.

Hillsgrove township has two elevations. The south and southeastern sections have a north-western slope. The western section has a southern slope. The first elevation is drained by the Loyalsock creek, which flows through the township from the northeast toward the south-west, and the tributaries of the Loyalsock, which are Dry Run, Ogdonia, and Kettle creek, a branch of Og-

donia. The second elevation is drained by the Loyalsock and its tributaries from the north which are Mill creek, Slab Run and Huckell's Run. The north-western corner of the township is drained by the headwaters of Plunkett's creek, which empties into the Loyalsock creek in Lycoming county.

NATURAL RESOURCES.

The valley of the Loyalsock is quite narrow and contains some very fertile flat land. The soil on the elevations is mostly of the conglomerate formation and is not very fertile. Coal has been opened in the southern section and also in the western section of the township. The Loyalsock affords excellent water power and for many years a number of mills were located on the stream.

PRODUCTS AND INDUSTRIES.

The chief industry of the township for nearly a century has been lumbering. In the early days the pine timber was cut and manufactured at the mills along the Loyalsock and rafted to the mouth of the creek and thence down the Susquehanna to the markets along the river. Later hemlock timber was manufactured, and after the tannery was built, most of the timber was floated to Montoursville and manufactured there.

For the last thirty years a tannery has been in operation at Hillsgrove and leather has been manufactured extensively. On the bottom lands along the Loyalsock creek are found some excellent farms.