



Samuel Rinehart, the father of Mrs. E. P. Cohill, was born in Greene Co., Pa., June 9, 1813. He was a son of Barnet Rinehart, who was also born in Greene Co., Pa. The Rinehart family is of German origin. Bennett Rinehart emigrated from Germany, and settled in Greene county, where he was slain by the Indians. His son, Barnet Rinehart, father of Samuel Rinehart, was a colonel in the War of 1812. He died in Greene county in 1845. He married Sarah Hook, a daughter of James Hook, who was a colonel in the Revolution, and one of Greene County's earliest settlers. The Hooks were of Scotch origin. Barnet and Sarah Rinehart were the parents of seven children.

Samuel Rinehart, son of Barnet and Sarah Rinehart, left home when he was but fifteen years old, and with a pack upon his back journeyed through the country on foot, finding his first employment at Point of Rocks, Md. He was employed in hauling logs out of the Potomac for four months, when John S. Washington, a store-keeper at Point of Rocks, gave him employment as a clerk. At the end of six months he was made superintendent of a lumbering firm at Harper's Ferry, where he remained about two years. He was then appointed a division assistant superintendent on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, with headquarters at Sharpsburg. He remained in this position for three years, and then engaged as a clerk in the Antietam Iron Works, under John McP. Brinn. This business, however, did not suit him, and he soon returned to the canal as section "boss," four miles east of Hancock. After six months he changed his location to Cumberland, where for the next year and a half, he was a contractor's superintendent.