

Commemorative Biographical Encyclopedia of The Juniata Valley, comprising the Counties of Huntingdon, Mifflin, Juniata and Perry, Pennsylvania. 1897, J. M. Runk and Company, Publishers, Chambersburg, PA

Martin John Bernheisel, Green Park, Perry County, Pa., was born in Tyrone Township, Perry County, December 29, 1839, son of the late **Solomon** and **Hannah (Dunkelberger) Bernheisel**. The first of the Bernheisel family to settle in Perry County was **Martin Bernheisel**, great-grandfather of **Martin J.**; he was a resident of Tyrone Township, and at one time owned all the land now occupied by the Perry County almshouse; he purchased the tract, comprising 264 acres, of **William McClure**, the original warrantor. In 1794, **Mr. Bernheisel**, conjointly with, **Michael Loy**, gave to the Lutheran congregation of Shermans Valley the land on which their first church building was erected. **Mr. Bernheisel's** sons were: **Adam; John; Samuel;** and **Jacob**. **Adam Bernheisel** was married to **Eve Loy**; they moved west, having sold the farm, April 12, 1810, to the directors of the poor.

John Bernheisel was married to **Catherine Loy**, a sister of **Mrs. Adam Bernheisel**; both were daughters of **Michael Loy**. **Jacob Bernheisel** married **Sarah**, daughter of **Peter Sheibley**. All the brothers, except **Adam**, were residents of Perry County. **John Bernheisel** passed his entire life in Tyrone Township; his farm, situated between Elliottsburg and Green Park, is still in the possession of the family. Upon it was a saw-mill, built sometime in the "thirties;" and a clover-mill erected in 1826, which was changed by **Solomon Bernheisel** into a grist-mill, about 1874, and refitted with steam power in 1878. **John Bernheisel** was an active business man, and interested in the progress of his neighborhood.

The first store property in Green Park was built by **John Bernheisel**, a cousin of **Martin J. Bernheisel**, in connection with **Judge Mootzer**, and the post-office at that point was established about the same date, 1860. **Solomon Bernheisel**, also a life-long resident of Tyrone Township, was born there in 1808. His principal business enterprise, up to 1836, was a carding and saw-mill; in that year, he erected the mill now occupied by his son, **Martin J.**, in which clover seed and sumac were ground; about 1874, it was converted into a grist-mill, and operated by **Mr. Bernheisel** until near the close of his life. He also owned and cultivated a farm of sixty-six acres. Of the ten children of **Solomon** and **Anna Bernheisel**, two are deceased; those surviving are: **Alvina (Mrs. Emanuel Sheibley); Caroline; Martin J.; Luther; Solomon; David; Annie (Mrs. Oliver Baird);** and **Samuel H. Solomon Bernheisel** died August 7, 1889, aged eighty one years, one month and eleven days. His wife, **Hannah Bernheisel**, died October 31, 1892, aged eighty years, three months and five days.

A citizen all his life of Tyrone Township, **Martin J. Bernheisel** was educated in its schools, has carried on his business of milling here, and here has married and reared his family. He is one of the useful and substantial residents of the county, possessing influence, and regarded with respect and confidence. He has served as clerk of the township, and been for two terms a school director. He is a supporter of the Republican Party. On June 19, 1863, **Mr. Bernheisel** enrolled as a private in Capt. E. Spencer Miller's Independent Battery, Emergency Men, and served until July 25, 1863, when he was honorably discharged, his term of service having expired. **Martin J. Bernheisel** was married in September, 1865, to **Catherine**, daughter of **William** and **Susanna Heim**. They have nine children; **one** was accidentally drowned when only three years old ; those remaining are: **Ora H.; Austin S.; Mary H.; Susan C; Frederick S.; Catherine E.; Luther A.;** and **Edith E**. The family attends the Lutheran Church, in which **Mr. Bernheisel** is a deacon.