

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

George A. Bistline, Elliottsburg, Perry County, Pa., was born in Toboyne Township, Perry County, January 28, 1856. He is a son of **John** and **Margaret (Stump) Bistline**. His paternal grandfather, **George Bistline**, a native of Perry County, was a wagon maker and farmer. He died in 1863, aged seventy-years. He married **Miss Jennie Laiser**, who died May 10, 1877, aged eighty-one. Their children are: **Michael; Sarah (Mrs. Samuel Hassinger); Margaret; Kate; John; Eliza; Susan; Fannie**; and **George**. All except the first two are dead. **Mr. George Bistline** and his family were members of the Lutheran Church, in which he held many offices. **Mr. Bistline's** maternal grandparents were also natives of Perry County. His grandfather, **Mr. Stump** was a blacksmith and worked at his trade nearly all his life. He married **Miss Barbara Neighic [Neidigh]**. They have seven children: **Margaret (Mrs. John Bistline); Matthew; Alexander; Mary (Mrs. William Anderson); John; Thomas**; and **Simon**. All except the first three are dead. **Mr. Stump** and his wife were members of the Lutheran Church. He died while quite a young man; his wife lived to be sixty-seven. **Mr. George A. Bistline's** father, **John Bistline**, wagon-maker and farmer, was a native of Perry County. He was interested in local affairs and was supervisor of Spring Township for three years. He was married to **Margaret**, daughter of **John** and **Barbara (Neighic) [Neidigh] Stump**. They have nine children: **Mary (Mrs. David Kistler); George A.; Sarah (Mrs. John Steward); Solomon**, deceased; **Margaret**, died September 22, 1877, aged eight years, two months and thirteen days; **Jane**, died aged twenty-one years; **Matilda**, died in November, 1880, aged thirty-one; and two that died in infancy. **Mary**, who married **David Kistler**, had children: **Tillie; William; Charlan; Ramon** and one **infant**, deceased. **Sarah**, who married **John Steward**, had children: **Florence; Charlie; Mabel**. **Mr. John Bistline** and his family were active members of the Lutheran Church, in which he was an office bearer for many years. He died November 20, 1879, aged fifty-seven; his widow is still active in church work; she resides at the homestead with her son, **George A.**

George A. Bistline received his education in the district schools of Spring Township. When he was two years old his father removed to Spring Township, to the farm on which **Mr. George A. Bistline** now resides. This farm had been owned and cultivated by his grandfather, **George Bistline**. He learned farming with his father, and has never left the homestead. His father also taught him wagon making and at this trade he found profitable employment during the intervals of farm work. He is a prosperous farmer and has improved the property which he inherited.

George A. Bistline was married January 8, 1883, to **Jennie**, daughter of **John** and **Catherine (Reapsomer) Rice**, born March 17, 1861. They have five children: **Margaret**, born November 23, 1883, died September 28, 1885; **Annie C**, born July 9, 1884; **Josiah**, September 25, 1886; **Aaron**, born May 22, 1889; **Miles G.**, born June 14, 1896. **Mr. Bistline** and his family are members of the Lutheran Church.

John Rice, **Mrs. Bistline's** father, was born in Tyrone Township, Perry County, Pa., October 28, 1834. His wife, **Catherine**, died May 28, 1871, aged thirty-three years, leaving six small children: **Jennie; Daniel; Adda; Horace; Maggie**, died September 2, 1888; **Susan**, died November 10, 1884.