

Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. Genealogy, Family History, Biography, Containing Historical Sketches of Old Families and of Representatives and Prominent Citizens Past and Present. In Two Volumes – Illustrated, Volume II, Chicago, J. H. Beers and Company, 1916

**Morris W. Hikes** is a native-born citizen of Pine Grove who has taken his share of municipal responsibilities in an active life, doing his part in maintaining good business and living conditions in the progressive borough where his life has been spent. His connection with movements which stimulate good citizenship or are the expression of public spirit shows how thoroughly he has the general welfare at heart, and his own career stamps him as well fitted to assist in its defense.

There are on record several of the name of **Hikes** among the immigrants to Pennsylvania during the Provincial period. One **John Henry Hyckes** arrived Sept. 16, 1738, on the ship "Queen Elizabeth," from Rotterdam, landing at Philadelphia. In 1751 a **John Peter Heygies** sailed on the ship "Duke of Bedford," carrying 160 passengers, from Rotterdam, and landed at Philadelphia. **John George Heiges**, who landed at Philadelphia, shipped Oct. 22, 1754, on the "Henrietta," from Rotterdam, whose passengers were from Hesse and Württemberg. **George Hikes**, great-grandfather of **Morris W. Hikes**, was born March 8, 1725, supposedly near Württemberg, in the southern part of Germany. He was among the very earliest settlers in Adams County, where he remained until his death, engaged in farming, passing away Jan. 3, 1800, and is buried at the Bermudian Church, at York Springs, Adams County. He was a soldier in the Revolution, and spent the winter of 1777-78 with Washington at Valley Forge. He was married to **Margaret Albert**, daughter of **Lorentz Albert**, and their three children were **Charlotte C. Frederick** (who died unmarried) and **Henry**. The daughter was married about 1794 to **John Albert**, a clockmaker, and about 1812 they emigrated to Perry County, Pa., where they settled and reared their large family—thirteen children. It was with this family that **Singleton Hikes**, father of **Morris W. Hikes**, spent most of his youth.

**Henry Hikes**, grandfather of **Morris W.**, was born Feb. 14, 1790, in Adams County, Pa., and died Nov. 10, 1871. His entire life was passed in his native county, where he was a prosperous farmer and extensive landowner. He married **Mary Erb**, and they became the parents of eleven children, eight sons and three daughters, all now deceased, viz.: **Henry, Moses, Frederick, George, John, Singleton, Howard, Eli, Christina, Mary** and **Catherine**. **Singleton Hikes** was born in May, 1823, near York Springs. When a young man, in 1846, he moved to Pine Grove, Schuylkill County, from Landisburg, Perry County, and here he spent the remainder of his long life, dying Aug. 26, 1904. Though he did some farming he was occupied principally at his trade, that of carpenter, which he followed until his death. No man in the community was more sincerely respected. He was a member of the United Brethren Church and a devoted religious worker, one of the oldest Sunday school superintendents in this locality, and always used his influence for the promotion of good works. Having taught school for some time in his earlier life (he was so engaged in Pine Grove Township), he was well fitted for his efforts to provide proper training for the young, both as a Sunday school worker and a member of the township board of school directors. In 1849 he married **Catherine Harvey**, and they made their home at North Pine Grove, where they reared their family, viz.: **Sarah**, the wife of **Jeremiah Klingler**, residing at Fredericksburg, Lebanon Co., Pa.; **John C.**; living on the old homestead in Pine Grove; **Isaac**, deceased; **Morris W.**; **Howard** and **Walter H.**, both deceased. The mother was born in Reading, Pa., and died July 24, 1894.

**Isaac Harvey, Sr.**, grandfather of **Mrs. Hikes**, was of English ancestry. He was at Reading, Pa., among the early settlers. He married **Margaret Ruppert**, and they had a large family. **Isaac Harvey, Jr.**, son of **Isaac**, was born Nov. 16, 1801, at Reading, Pa., and died at Pine Grove April 27, 1875. He moved to Pine Grove in its earlier days, and was engaged in transporting coal from the mines for the Union Canal Co. His wife, **Mary (Wunder)**, was born May 29, 1803, and died July 11, 1854. They had a numerous family: **Daniel, Esther, Henry, George, John, Isaac, Franklin** (a resident of Missouri), **Mary, Sarah** (widow of **John Fuller**, of Boulder, Colo.), **Annie, Tamson** (deceased), **Rebecca, Catherine**, and **three** who died in infancy.

**Morris W. Hikes** was born Jan. 26, 1862, in Pine Grove Township, where he spent his youth and received the principal part of his education, attending the State Normal School at Millersville for a short time. For eight years he was engaged in teaching in this county, in Pine Grove, East Union and Porter Townships. In 1890 he commenced the business he has since followed, painting and paperhanging, and he has been notably successful as an interior decorator, in which line he commands a wide patronage. With skill and taste developed by experience, and by scrupulous care in the fulfillment of contracts, he has obtained solid standing among local craftsmen.

**Mr. Hikes** has been associated with the administration of local affairs for over twenty years. In 1893 he was elected a justice of the peace, and held the office continuously until 1914. In December, 1903, he received a commission as notary public, and still acts in that capacity. He was one of the organizers of the Pine Grove Fire Company, founded in 1894, has served as president, and is now secretary of the company; he is a member of the State Firemen's Association. **Mr. Hikes** has various social connections, belonging to the Knights of the Golden Eagle, of which he has been recording secretary since 1898; to Tremont Lodge, I. O. O. F., of which he has been a member since 1893; and to the Pine Grove Blue Lodge, F. & A. M., of which he is a past master.

On Dec. 25, 1884, **Mr. Hikes** married **Kate L. Drine**, who is a native of Pine Grove, one of the six children born to **Owen** and **Mary (Mease) Drine**. **Mr. Drine** was born in 1822 in Orwigsburg, and coming to Pine Grove in 1842 followed the shoe business here for many years, being a shoe maker and dealer. He was a devoted member of St. Paul's United Evangelical Church and highly respected as a model Christian. He died in Pine Grove at the home of his daughter, **Mrs. Hikes**, Dec. 16, 1898. His wife, who died Jan. 31, 1872, was a native of Lebanon County, Pa., and was a descendant of one of the earliest families of this part of Pennsylvania, being a daughter of **Daniel Mease**. The **Meases** became established at an early day in the northern part of Lebanon County, near Lickdale. **Mr.** and **Mrs. Drine** had the following family: **Sarah**, widow of **E. J. Haak**, living at Pine Grove; **Emma**, wife of **Franklin Maurer**, of Pine Grove; **Kate L.**, **Mrs. Morris W. Hikes**; London, who is deceased; and **Louisa** and **Irene**, who died in infancy. Four children have been born to **Mr.** and **Mrs. Hikes**: **Lloyd D.**, who is a graduate of Albright College, is now engaged in the laundry business at Tremont, Schuylkill County (he is a musician of considerable local reputation, has been a member of the Pine Grove band, and Tremont band); **V. La Rue**, **Ina B.** and **Mary Catherine** are at home.