

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

Peter G. Kell, Loysville, Perry County, Pa., was born in Tyrone Township, August 31, 1845. He is a son of the late **Andrew** and **Margaret (Kochenderfer) Kell**. The **Kell**, as well as the **Kochenderfer** family, are of German descent. **John Kell**, great grandfather of **Peter G.**, emigrated from the Palatinate in Germany sometime in 1700, and settled in Chester County, Pa. There he married **Miss Culbertson**, whose family was noted as a tall, hardy race of people, which is still their characteristic in the present generation. Subsequently he removed with his family to York County, Pa., and thence to Spring Township, Perry County, having purchased the **Gamber** farm, near the St. Peter's Church, part of which is now owned by **Frederic Souder**. **Mr. Kell** being a stranger in the community, **Gamber** was advised not to let him have possession until he had made his first payment. It was raining at the time when the **Kell** family arrived at their new home, and the ironbound chest containing the valuables was stowed away in the bottom of a wagon, so that they were placed at some inconvenience, but finally the chest was reached and payment made, largely in silver coin, which assured possession of the home. **John Kell** passed the remainder of his days on this farm, and his body and his wife's both rest in the cemetery of St. Peter's Church, of which they were members. **Henry Kell**, son of **John Kell**, who was born in York County, and had married **Esther Baker** prior to coming to this county, bought a house and lot adjoining St. Peter's Church, and carried on weaving. He afterwards bought a farm in Saville Township, where he continued to reside. **He** and his **wife** are interred in the Buffalo graveyard. They had twelve children, who all attained to mature years; only two now survive: **William**, residing in Blain; and **Mary**, widow of **Henry Hartman**, of Saville Township. Their son, **Andrew Kell**, was born in York County, Pa., in 1809. He was a farmer, an industrious worker, and progressive in his ideas. He spent many years of his life in Tyrone Township, and died suddenly of apoplexy while away from home attending a sale in Saville Township, in 1881. **He** and his **wife** are both buried in the Loysville graveyard. Of the six children of **Mr.** and **Mrs. Andrew Kell**, three died in infancy; those now living are: **William**, of Loysville, Pa.; **Henry**; and **Peter G.** His education **Peter G. Kell** received in the common schools of the township and the academy at Loysville. After leaving school, he learned carpentry. His apprenticeship ended, he worked at his trade during the summer, and taught school in the winter. This industrious and useful course he followed until the spring of 1882, when he was appointed steward of the Perry County almshouse; he held that position for eight years.

During the year 1890, **Mr. Kell** returned to look after the interests of his farm. For the ensuing two years, he was in the agricultural implement business at Loysville; in 1898, he was appointed to his present position, that of agent for the Perry County Railroad at Loysville. He is still engaged in the efficient and faithful performance of his important duties. **Mr. Kell** is a stockholder of the Perry County Railroad, and of the Shermans Valley Railroad. His political views are Republican.

Peter G. Kell was married in Harrisburg, Pa., in 1874, to **Sarah E.**, daughter of **Isaac** and **Susan Long**, of Saville Township, Perry County. They have four children: **Harry H.**; **Elmer A.**; **Ralph L.**; and **Mary L.** The family are members of and attend the Reformed Church, of which **Mr. Kell** is an elder.