

History of Bedford and Somerset Counties, Pennsylvania with Genealogical and Personal History, Bedford County by E. Howard Blackburn and Somerset County by William H. Welfley, Under the Editorial Supervision of Hon. William H. Koontz, Illustrated, Volume III, The Lewis Publishing Company, New York – Chicago, 1906

**Austin Roy Kern**, a grocer of Meyersdale, Somerset County, Pennsylvania, was born in Blain, Perry County, August 28, 1874, son of **Simon P.** and **Olivia (Shaeffer) Kern**, and grandson of **David Kern**. **Simon P. Kern** was born in 1846 in Toboyne Township, Perry County, and was for eight or nine years engaged as a school teacher, but subsequently occupied himself in the mercantile business. He was justice of the peace of Perry County for twenty years, and also served as school director and councilman. He married, in 1872, **Olivia**, the daughter of **Daniel Schaeffer**, who was county commissioner of Perry County. The following named were the children born of this union: **Austin Roy**, of whom later; **Fred Alvin**, born 1876; **Clyde Campbell**, **Frank Shaeffer**, and **Grace Viola**.

**Austin Roy Kern** received his initial education in the public schools, which he attended until he was twenty-one years of age, and later attended the normal school at Millersville for two terms, and one term at Lock Haven. He then engaged in school teaching for three years, spending two terms in Blain and one term in Toboyne Township. **Mr. Kern** then entered into the mercantile business in Dawson, Fayette County, and in 1899 located in Meyersdale, where he opened the "Racket Store," on Center street. In 1902 he sold out this business and engaged in the grocery business, having his store on the south side, but now in the center of town. **Mr. Kern** is a thorough going, capable business man, and has met with good success in his business career.

He married, August 16, 1899, **Sarah Florence Rickard**, a daughter of **J. C. Rickard**, of Blain, Pennsylvania, and they have two children, viz.: **Emil Rickard**, born January 12, 1901; and **James Simon**, June 30, 1902.

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