

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

George Kern, New Germantown, Perry County, Pa., a son of **Simon** and **Magdalene (Gutshall Kern)**, was born in Toboyne Township, Perry County, in 1835. His grandfather, **Simon Kern**, a native of Berks County, died in Toboyne Township, Perry County, in the house now owned by his grandson, **George**. **Mr. Kern's** father, **Simon Kern**, a native of Berks County, was one of the early settlers of what is now Toboyne Township, Perry County. At that time the Indians were very troublesome, and kidnapped two of his sisters, of whom nothing was ever heard. **Simon Kern** was married to **Miss Gutshall**. Their children are: **David**, died in Perry County; **John**, died in Perry County; **Simon**, a soldier in the Civil War, died in Toboyne Township; **George**; **Polly (Mrs. Samuel Kern)**, both are dead; **Sarah (Mrs. David Hollenbaugh)**, a widow of Blain, Pa.; **Peggy (Mrs. William Hall)**, died in Toboyne Township. **Mr. Hall** resides in Kansas; **Susan**, married first to **Andrew Hollenbaugh**, and afterwards to **William Dumshe**, died at Elliottsburg, Perry County, where **Mr. Dumshe** now resides; and **Esther (Mrs. Barney Rhodes)**, both deceased.

George Kern was born in the house in which he now resides. He had no opportunities for acquiring an education, and began work on the farm when he was very young. They had little or no farm machinery; wheat and clover were thrown on the barn floor and trodden out by horses, and farmers worked early and late. He remained at home, and at his father's death he and his brother, **Simon**, divided the homestead. **Mr. Kern** is a staunch Democrat, but not an office-seeker. Hearing rumors of the battle of Antietam, he and five companions drove over the mountains to witness it. They reached the place at night and some whiskey which they had brought with them was stolen by the soldiers. **George Kern** is in the prime of life, a man of fine physique, with iron-gray hair. The lines of his smooth face reveal the resolute, genial gentleman.

He was married in Jackson Township, Perry County, to **Mary Barbara**, daughter of **Daniel** and **Sarah (Bower) Gutshall**. She was born in Jackson Township, in 1842. Her parents, who are both dead, had these children: **Jane (Mrs. John Tressler)**, of Jackson Township; **Mary Barbara (Mrs. George Kern)**; **William**, county commissioner, resides at Blain, Pa.; **Solomon**, a farmer in Blain; **Caroline (Mrs. Amos Watt)**, of Newport, Pa.; **Wilson**, of Harrisburg, Pa., is a foreman in the Pennsylvania Railroad Company's shops; **Sarah (Mrs. David Bower)**, of Bloomfield, Pa.; **J. Diana (Mrs. Wilson Morrison)**, of New Germantown, Pa.; **Abraham**, resides in Pueblo, Col.; **Harry**, died from the effects of a kick from a horse; **George W.**, of Jackson Township; **Malinda**, died aged eleven.

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