

Commemorative Biographical Encyclopedia of the Juniata Valley, Comprising the Counties of Huntingdon, Mifflin, Juniata, and Perry, Pennsylvania, Volume 1, J. M. Runk and Company, Publishers 1897

John Kiner, Atkinsons Mills, Mifflin County, Pa., son of **George** and **Salome (Ebert) Kiner**, was born in Madison Township, Perry County, February 18, 1818. His grandfather, **George Kiner**, a cooper, came from Germany when a young man, and settled in Perry County, Pa. He married and reared a family of six children: **Jacob; Frederick; George; John** and two **daughters**, whose names are not known. **George Kiner**, father of **John Kiner**, had a fair German and English education, which was received in the subscription schools. He learned the trades of cooper, weaver and brickmaker, working at each of these occupations in Perry County. He owned numerous hand looms, and carried on the business of weaving during the winter months. Besides this variety of handicrafts, **Mr. Kiner** engaged in farming and stock-raising. He married **Salome**, daughter of **Lorenz Ebert**, a farmer of Perry County, of German descent. They had these children: **Lydia**, widow of **Peter Keyser**, of Perry County; **John; Henry;** of Perry County; **Catharine (Mrs. Jesse Ewing)**, deceased; **George**, of Perry County; **Ann**, widow of **Solomon Briner**, of Perry County; **Eliza (Mrs. Peter Lightner)**, deceased, of Perry County; **Sarah**, deceased; **William**, resides in Perry County; **Elvira**, widow of **Philip Gensler**, who was killed in the late war. **George Kiner**, the father, was a Democrat. He was very temperate in his habits, and was fond of hunting and other outdoor diversions. He died in Perry County, and is buried at Loysville. **Mrs. Kiner** also died on the homestead in Perry County. Both were members of the German Reformed Church.

John Kiner received a limited education in the subscription schools of Madison Township, the term lasting only during the three winter months. When only ten years old he hired out among the farmers, bravely shouldering the work, for which he received three dollars per month, all of which was given to his father to aid in supporting the family. Nine years were thus spent among the farmers. At the age of nineteen years, he learned carpentry with **Jacob Bonders** and **George Shoop**, in Perry County. His apprenticeship lasted two years, during which time he received no wages. He worked for himself for one year in Perry County, then went to McVeytown, Mifflin County, for three months, after which, in 1841, he removed to Spruce Creek, Huntingdon County, finding employment at carpentry for two years. Turning his attention to farming, he rented a farm in Franklin Township, Huntingdon County, remaining there until 1861, after which he rented successively in Tyrone Township, Blair County, for five years, and in Union Township, Blair County, for four years, buying a farm of 250 acres there, but afterwards disposing of it, and coming to Wayne Township, Mifflin County, where he bought his present place of 175 acres, known as the **John Atkinson** farm. This he improved and continued to cultivate until 1891, when he retired. He is a Republican, and cast his first vote for Gen. William Henry Harrison, in 1840. He has been school director nine years, and supervisor for three years.

Mr. Kiner was married in 1843, at Spruce Creek, to **Mary A.**, daughter of **John McPherran**, a farmer of Franklin Township. She is a granddaughter of **Andrew McPherran**, born in Ireland in 1751, who came to America and served seven years in the Revolution, in the part of Washington's army commanded by Colonel Church. The children of **Mr. and Mrs. Kiner** are as follows: **Sarah**, died young; **Leah**, died young; **Elizabeth; George**, railroad employee at Derry Station; **Andrew**, employed in railroad business at Altoona; **Mary**, deceased; **Emma; Blanche**,

deceased; **John**, in railroad business at Wilkinsburg; **William E.**; **Samuel**, on the homestead; and **Beulah**, deceased. **Mrs. Kiner** died on the homestead in 1889. **Mr. Kiner** has been for fifteen years and still is an elder in the Presbyterian Church at McVeytown.

William E. Kiner, son of **John Kiner**, was born in Franklin Township, Huntingdon County, and attended the public schools of Wayne Township. He remained on his father's farm until he was twenty-one years old, and then went to Kansas City, Mo., as bookkeeper for Charles Scribner & Company, publishers. After five years, he returned home and entered the University of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia, for the purpose of taking a course in dentistry. Three years later he graduated in June, 1896. **Mr. Kiner** is a Republican, and a member of the F. and A. M., McVeytown Lodge, No. 376, in which he has taken the third degree. His middle name is **Emmet**, so named in memory of his great-grandmother, **Elizabeth Emmet**, who was a native of Ireland, and a cousin to the celebrated Irish patriot, **Robert Emmet**. **Mr. Kiner** is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

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