

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

**Henry Kirkpatrick**, New Bloomfield, Perry County, Pa., son of the late **Alexander** and **Mary (Fritz) Kirkpatrick**, was born in Perry County, May 5, 1833. His great grandfather, **Richard Kirkpatrick**, who was of Irish extraction, was one of the early settlers of Cumberland County, Pa., where he took up, in 1751, a tract of land within three miles of the present site of Carlisle. His son, **Joseph Kirkpatrick**, was born in Cumberland County. He settled on Shermans Creek before the Revolutionary war. He served in the Continental army during seven years of that war. He married **Miss Hayes**, and had children: **John; Joseph; William; James;** and **Alexander**. **Henry Kirkpatrick's** maternal grandfather, **John M. Fritz**, a native of Berks County, Pa., came early in life to Cumberland County. He was a farmer, and for a few years kept a hotel near New Bloomfield. Later, he bought a farm, upon which he erected a large and commodious house of entertainment, called at that time the New Bark Tavern. He resided there during the latter part of his life. **John M. Fritz** married **Elizabeth Robinson**, a lady of English descent. Their children were: **Israel; John; Thomas; William; Starrett; Richard; Robertson; George; Sarah; Mary; Catherine;** these, with **one** that died in infancy, are all deceased.

**Alexander Kirkpatrick**, son of **Joseph**, was born September 8, 1796, near Shermans Creek, Perry County. He was nearly all his life employed as a foundryman. His wife, **Mary**, daughter of **John M.** and **Elizabeth (Robinson) Fritz**, was born in Cumberland County, April 12, 1792. Their children are: **John**, deceased; **Catherine**, deceased; **Magdalena**, deceased; **Sarah**, deceased; **Ann**, residing in New Bloomfield; **Mary**, widow of **William Rauch**; and **Henry**. **Alexander Kirkpatrick** died in December, 1868, aged seventy-two; his wife departed this life twelve years earlier, dying at the age of sixty-four years and seven months, November 13, 1856. Both were members of the Presbyterian Church.

After attending the common schools for some years, **Henry Kirkpatrick**, at the age of seventeen, applied himself to learning carpentry, as an apprentice to **Mr. Simon Shull**, with whom he worked for two years, receiving as the wages of those two years only thirty dollars. His term of apprenticeship ended, he continued working at his trade until he was about twenty-eight years old. At this time he was married, and bought a tract of land in Raccoon Valley, Perry County, on which he erected necessary buildings, and which he cultivated for nine years. He then sold his farm, and went to Callaway County, Mo., where he was engaged in agricultural business for twenty-four years, not only tilling the soil, but also raising stock.

In the spring of 1892, **Mr. Kirkpatrick** returned to Perry County, bought a small farm, and cultivated it for a year, after which he disposed of that property, and purchased the homestead on which he now resides, and the culture of which he still manages. He has been very prosperous, and occupies an enviable position, being respected, not only for those qualities which ensure financial success, but for characteristics which inspire confidence and friendly regard. He has been called upon by his fellow citizens to perform various public services; in Missouri, he was one of the organizers of public schools in Callaway County, and served for nine years as a director. In Perry County, he has been inspector and judge of elections, and in 1861, was elected to the school board, on which he served for three years. He is a decided Republican, an advocate of the "gold basis."

**Henry Kirkpatrick** was first married, January 29, 1857, to **Elizabeth**, daughter of **John** and **Martha (Cobb) Gingrich**. Their children are: **Tabitha (Mrs. Edward Ulrich)**, of Callaway County, Mo.; **Lewis A.**, also residing in Missouri; **Martha (Mrs. Silas Bradley)**; **John W.**, partner with his brother **Lewis** in Missouri, in the grocery business; **Sarah**, for the past five years a teacher in an asylum for the deaf and dumb in Missouri; **James L.**, resides with his father on the farm; **William G.**, farmer, of Fulton, Mo.; **Mary E.**, died in 1858, one year old; **Hannah M.**, died in 1869, also aged one year; and **Charles H.**, died in infancy. **Mrs. Elizabeth Kirkpatrick** died September 9, 1890, at the age of fifty-four years, eleven months and twenty-seven days. She was a consistent and devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Her parents, **Mr.** and **Mrs. Gingrich**, were both natives of Lancaster County, Pa.; about the year 1810, they removed to Juniata County, and became engaged in farming. Seven of their children are deceased: **Jacob; Lewis**, died September 21, 1891, at the age of seventy four; **Mary Ann; David; William; Elizabeth (Mrs. Kirkpatrick)**, and **Tabitha**, who were twins. The surviving members of the family are: **John**, residing in California; **Philip**, in Missouri; and **George W.**, of Polo, HI. **Mr.** and **Mrs. John Gingrich** are both deceased; the latter died at the age of seventy-four.

**Mr. Kirkpatrick's** second marriage took place October 14, 1891. He married **Catherine G.**, daughter of **John** and **Margaret (Lupfer) McKeehan**, both natives of Perry County. **Capt. John McKeehan** was for many years in the insurance business, and was also for a long time in the furnace business. His wife **Margaret** is a daughter of **Casper Lupfer**. Some account of their family is given in the sketch of **Francis M. McKeehan** in this work. **Mr. Kirkpatrick** is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a trustee and class-leader; in Missouri, he was for many years superintendent of the Sunday-school.