

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

John A. Kistler, Blain, Perry County, Pa., son of **Samuel** and **Catherine (Kline) Kistler**, was born in Spring Township, Perry County, February 8, 1832. **Samuel Kistler** was also a native of Spring Township, where he was educated in the early subscription schools, the instructions there imparted being principally in the German language. His wife's education was similar to his; she did not learn to read English until after their marriage. They were an excellent couple; they resembled each other in generosity, both always ready to assist the needy to the extent of their ability; **Samuel Kistler**, indeed, went beyond it, involving his estate to a considerable extent by loans and endorsements. He was equally kind and indulgent to his family. **Mr. Kistler** was in earlier life a Whig, and afterwards became an ardent supporter of the Republican Party. Their children are: **William**, married **Emeline Gates**, has five children living; **Mary**, died aged about twenty-four years; **Abraham**, married **Sarah Eby**, who died, leaving two children, after which he married **Fanny Koch**, and they had five children; **Jacob**, married **Mary Whistler**, has seven children; **John A.**; **Caroline**, married **William Loy**, and had children, of whom three are living, after his death married **Moses Jeffries**, who also dying, she became **Mrs. Getter**; **David**, married **Caroline Myers**, has sons and daughters, removed to Colorado; and **Margaret (Mrs. Jonathan Bistline)**, of Dakota, has five children. **Samuel Kistler** was born in 1802; his wife was born September 13, 1804, and died September 12, 1890. She was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

While **John A. Kistler** was very young, his parents removed to Jackson Township, where he attended the common schools. At the age of twenty, he began to learn his trade of **James Magee**, tanner, at Huntingdon, Pa. His apprenticeship ended, he worked at the business for some time as a journeyman, and then, after a few changes of occupation, he turned his attention to farming, in Jackson Township, and has continued to follow that vocation, with but little interruption, ever since. In the first year of the great Rebellion, **Mr. Kistler** numbered himself among the gallant defenders of his country. He enlisted, September 14, 1861, in Company I, Forty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers; after three years of service, having taken part with his regiment in every battle in which it was engaged, he was wounded in 1864, in a fight on the Rappahannock River, and was soon after honorably discharged at Winchester, Va. Desiring to re-enlist, he was rejected on account of disability. He then spent about a year in Washington, D. C., after which he returned home. **Mr. Kistler** has always been an ardent Republican. He is a member of Samuel Baker Post, No. 543, G. A. R., at Blain.

John A. Kistler was married, January 5, 1866, to **Caroline V.**, daughter of **Samuel** and **Elizabeth (Wolf) Sheibley**. Their children are: **Milton**, graduate of the State Normal School at West Chester, Chester County, Pa., and of Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa., class of 1894, is now an instructor in the State Normal School at Edinborough, Erie, Pa.; **Alila Irene (Mrs. Abraham Bucher)**, has one son, **Lloyd Day**; **Olivia; Clark**, married **Blanche McCord**, has one child, **Carrie Margaret**, resides at McVeytown, Pa.; **Mary J.**, a graduate of the Edinborough State Normal School, Erie, Pa., now doing good service as a teacher in the borough school of Blain; **Edwin**, also a qualified teacher, engaged in the same important work at the Monterey School, in Toboyne Township, Perry County; and **Frederick Blain**, married **Mary Hollenbaugh**, has one

child, **Irene**. **Mr. and Mrs. John Kistler** are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Blain.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Sheibley, the parents of **Mrs. J. A. Kistler**, have a family of eight, as follows: **Mary** (**Mrs. Samuel Smith**); **Rebecca** (**Mrs. Daniel Schaeffer**); **Jane Elizabeth** (**Mrs. Alexander Metz**); **Anna**; **Leah** (**Mrs. Benjamin Bistline**); **Carrie V.** (**Mrs. Kistler**); **Matilda** (**Mrs. Henry Bear**); and **David Alexander**, married a lady in Kansas, and resides at Americus, Kan. **Mrs. Sheibley**, an excellent lady, died in 1881, aged three-score years; her husband survived her until 1886, when he died, in February, aged about seventy.

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