

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

W. B. Kling, Nossville, Huntingdon County, Pa., son of **Jacob** and **Nancy J. (Clayton) Kling**, was born in Tell Township, Huntingdon County, October 9, 1847. **Jacob Kling** was born in Perry County, Pa., in 1825, and in 1832 went to Huntingdon County to live with his grandmother. He married in Tell Township, and after his marriage settled on a farm which he purchased and on which he still lives. He is a strong adherent of the cause of Democracy. They had a family of nine children, seven of whom are still living. Several years ago **Mrs. Jacob Kling** died. The family are members of the Methodist Church.

W. B. Kling spent his youth in Tell Township, attending school, and until his twenty first year he stayed at home and worked on the farm. In 1870, his twenty-third year, he enlisted in the regular army at Carlisle for a term of five years. Having been assigned to Company M, Fourth Cavalry, he joined his regiment at Fort Concho, Tex., and spent one year and three months at San Antonio, Tex. In May, 1872, he was in active engagements with Indians in the Santa Rosa Mountains in Mexico. He was then with General Mackenzie on the scout into Mexico in which the treaty between the United States and that country was broken, by an armed party having crossed the boundary line. This was in May 1872, it nearly caused war between the two countries. **Mr. Kling** was promoted to corporal in 1874, and was discharged at Fort Concho, Tex., April 7, 1875. Returning home, he taught school for three years. In 1878 he built a store room in Nossville, but it soon proved too small for his increasing business, in consequence of which he tore it down and began in his present place. He has a full line of general merchandise and a constantly growing trade. True to his father's example and precept, **Mr. Kling** is a staunch supporter of the Democratic Party. He has read extensively on the much agitated issue between monometallism and bimetallism. He filled the office of auditor for the township so satisfactorily that he was re-elected for a second three years' term. Excepting one term of four years, he has been postmaster continuously since 1877.

Mr. Kling is happily endowed with versatile talents, and has many sources of enjoyment. His "bump of construction" makes him skillful in repairing watches, clocks, organs, sewing machines, in short, almost anything that can need repairing. As a hunter, he has scarcely his equal in the valley. He is very proficient in music, a ready "sight-reader," and a performer on the cornet, violin, guitar, mandolin, organ, flute and fife; he has utilized this talent by teaching vocal music, and by giving his services for ten years in the Sunday school choir. **Mr. Kling** is also fond of traveling; he has visited nearly all the principal cities of the United States, besides several Mexican cities. He was present at the dedication of the monumental tomb of General Grant, April 27, 1897.

William B. Kling was married in 1876 to **Bella**, daughter of **Thomas Gardner**. Three of their children died in infancy; those surviving are: **Esley**, in the store with his father; **Olive**, at home; **Violet**; **Rosetta**; and **Elmira**. The family attend the Methodist Church.