

History of the State of Kansas, Atchison County, William G. Cutler, Published in 1883 by A.T. Andreas, Chicago, IL

David Lukens, of **Lukens & North**, proprietors of the Diamond Mills, was born in Mifflin County, Pa., December 19, 1833. His parents died while he was young, and he was taken by an uncle to Perry County, where he received his schooling, and was taken by his uncle into a saw mill when twelve or fourteen years old. About 1855, he struck out for himself and went to Des Moines, Iowa, where he worked in a saw mill about two years. In 1857, settled in Atchison, Kas., where he was employed to run a sawmill. During the years 1860-61 and '62, he engaged in mining in Colorado, then returned to Atchison. In 1864, he purchased the sawmill he had previously been employed in, known as the "Pomeroy Mill," located at Winthrop, on the opposite side of the river from Atchison. From this time until 1877, he did a very large business in lumber, at the same time raising large crops of corn on the Missouri bottoms, some years as high as 10,000 bushels of corn, most of which he fed to his own teams. He returned in 1877, and the following year commenced the erection of the Diamond Mills.

Mr. Lukens was married in Lancaster County, Pa., January 1, 1868, to **Miss Mary J. North**, of that county. They have four children living - **Arthur, Edwin, Mary** and **David Jr.** **Mr. L.** is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

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