

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

Judge J. Kelly Patterson, retired, Walnut, Beale Township, Juniata County, Pa., was born near Pleasant View, Spruce Hill Township, Juniata County, Pa., February 25, 1825. The **Patterson** family originated in Ireland. The first representative of the family to come to this country was the great-great-grandfather of **Judge Patterson**, who with his six sons, **Alexander, John, Nicholas, Andrew, Solomon** and **James**, settled in Bucks County, Pa., in 1845; all were farmers. **Alexander Patterson**, great-grandfather of **Judge Patterson**, was born in Ireland in 1724. After reaching Bucks County in 1745 he spent some time there, but before the year 1778, came to Tuscarora Valley, now Juniata County, where he purchased land and spent the remainder of his life. He married **Phebe Carrol**, of New Jersey; their children are: **Diana (Mrs. John Lemon)**; **Jemima (Mrs. Hugh Alexander)**; **Mary (Mrs. Abernathy)**; **Andrew**, a farmer, of Beale Township; **John**; **Jane**; and **Rachel (Mrs. Will McCord)**.

John Patterson, grandfather of **Judge Patterson**, was born October 6, 1772, and was a farmer. He married **Nancy Lyon**, of Mifflin County, Pa.; their children are: **Alexander**, farmer, died in 1869; **James**; **Andrew**, deceased; **Elizabeth (Mrs. Moses Kelly)**, deceased; **Phebe (Mrs. William McClure)**, of Perry County; **Rachel (Mrs. James McClure)**, of Perry County; **John, William**, and **Robert**, all deceased. **Mr. Patterson** died October 10, 1843; his wife died April 16, 1865, aged eighty-five years. In 1828 he was elected a member of the State Legislature on the Whig ticket; he also served as justice of the peace. He was an elder of the Presbyterian Church.

James Patterson, father of **Judge Patterson**, was born in May, 1797, in Spruce Hill Township, where he was a tanner until 1865. He then retired and died March 22, 1869. He was married December 2, 1819, to **Jane**, daughter of **John Kelly**, of Milford Township. Their children are: **John M.**, deceased; **J. Kelly**; **Rebecca C.**, eldest of the family, widow of **Rev. John Flemming**, of Nebraska, Pa.; **Nancy J. (Mrs. William McClure)**, deceased; **Robert A.**, deceased; **Joseph A.**, a Presbyterian minister, deceased; **William A.**, Nebraska; **Samuel**; and **one son** who died in infancy, unnamed. **Mr. Patterson** was an elder in the Presbyterian Church. His political views were Republican.

J. Kelly Patterson attended the schools of his native township, and the Tuscarora Academy. He was reared a farmer and tanner, and worked in the tannery and on the farm with his father until 1856. In 1861, he bought his father's tannery and conducted it for fifteen years; he has ever since been engaged in farming; in 1879, he removed to Beale Township. Before buying the tannery, he was in mercantile business at Johnstown. **Mr. Patterson** was elected associate judge of Juniata County in 1886. He has also held various township offices.

Judge Kelly Patterson was married March 2, 1854, to **Elizabeth S. Beale**, a native of Beale Township, and a daughter of **Judge John Beale**, one of the oldest residents of that township. Their children are: **W. Howard**, farmer, on the homestead, married **Susan Brubaker**, and has four children; **Mary J. (Mrs. David Esh)**, of Spruce Hill Township; **Helen Mar**, deceased; **Almira McF. (Mrs. George Brackbill)**; **Joseph H.**; a **son** that died in infancy; and **Harry K. Judge Patterson** is a member of the Presbyterian Church of Academia. The family have occupied the same seat in church for forty years, and the judge was leader of the choir for twenty-five years. He was a charter member of the Walnut Grange.