

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

David W. Raffensperger, New Bloomfield, Perry County, Pa., was born in Centre Township, Perry County, October 19, 1857, son of **John** and **Margaret (Mehaffie) Raffensperger**. He received a common school education, and was brought up on a farm, accustomed to its routine of work, and to the labors of the forge. From the time he was twenty until he reached his majority, he worked with his father. After that, he took charge of the home farm, using his father's stock, and receiving one-third of the profits; this arrangement lasted for six years. In 1885, the year after his marriage, he began farming on the property of **John Kerr**, of Saville Township, which he had rented; here he continued for one year, and removed in 1886 to the farm of **C. Swab**, which he cultivated for two years. In the spring of 1888, he left Saville for Tuscarora Township, taking charge of the farm of **Abraham Frey**, deceased; he cultivated this place for one year, and then removed to **Mrs. Lyon's** farm, in the same township, and in the Juniata Valley. In the spring of 1890, he removed to his father-in law's farm in Centre Township, and managed it until the spring of 1894, when he removed to the farm which is his present home. In 1893, **Mr. Raffensperger** became agent for the P. C. and Lewis Mfg. Co., of Catskill, N. Y., which he still represents. He is an active member of Elliottsburg Grange, No. 626, P. of H. His politics are those of the "free silver" division of the Republican Party.

David W. Raffensperger was married December 18, 1884, to **Olive**, daughter of **Jacob** and **Mary (Clouser) Mogel**. Their children are: **Merwyn A.**; and **Leroy V.** **Mrs. Raffensperger** was born January 8, 1863. **Valentine Mogel**, her grandfather, was a native of Berks County, Pa., a carpenter, and later a farmer. His wife, **Catherine Kline**, was of the same county; in 1830, they removed from Berks to Perry County, and continued farming, which **Mr. Mogel** had begun in "old Berks." During the last years of his life, he cultivated the farm on which **Mr.** and **Mrs. Raffensperger** now reside. He was for several years supervisor. He died in February, 1848, aged sixty-five; his wife survived until 1851, dying at about the same age. Four of their children are deceased: **Catherine**; **David**; **Mary Ann (Mrs. Wilson Sauseman)**; and **Lucetta**. The others are: **Margaret (Mrs. John Wagner)**; **Esther (Mrs. Daniel Meyers)**; **Elizabeth (Mrs. Michael Weaver)**; **Jacob**; and **Valentine**, who resides in Iowa.

Mrs. Raffensperger's maternal grandparents, **Simon** and **Catherine (Hostetter) Clouser**, were of German descent, and engaged in farming. Their children are

enumerated in the following sketch of **A. H. Clouser. Jacob Mogel**, son of **Valentine** and **Catherine (Kline) Mogel**, was born in Berks County, September 26, 1826. The children of **Jacob** and **Mary Ann (Clouser) Mogel** are: **Annie Frances**, died April 4, 1857; **Elizabeth Alice**, died March 23, 1862; **Mary Louise**, died June 26, 1865; an **infant** that died June 25, 1866; **Minnie Minerva**, died July 1, 1870; **Emma J.**, (Mrs. **Samuel Q. Snyder**) ; **Cyrus K.**; **Jessie M.**; **Olive P.** (Mrs. **Raffensperger**); and **Carrie E.** (Mrs. **James Kirkpatrick**), **Jacob Mogel** has been continuously engaged in farming up to the present time. He has been chosen inspector of elections; is a Republican. **Mr. Mogel** was formerly a member of the Reformed Church, was deacon, and afterwards for several years elder; he is now an active member of the Methodist church. His first wife was a consistent member of the Lutheran Church; she died January 22, 1888, aged fifty-eight. **Mr. Mogel** married, on March 24, 1891, **Jane A.**, daughter of **David** and **Barbara (Clark) Miller**.