

Robert Hunter Wright, of Hazleton, was born in Greenwood Township, Perry County, Pa., December 4, 1841. He is a descendant of **Isaac Francis Wright**, a native of England, who emigrated to this country when quite a lad. He was a carpenter by trade and resided in Philadelphia until his death, which was caused by a fall from a building. He married in this country **Hannah Taylor**, a daughter of **William Taylor** and granddaughter of **Isaac Taylor**, of Lower Merion Township, Montgomery County, Pa. The wife of **Isaac Taylor** was a daughter of **Maurice Llewellyn**, to whom William Penn gave a deed for six hundred and forty acres of land in Lower Merion Township, fronting on the Schuylkill River. **Charles Wright**, the only son of **Isaac Francis Wright**, was but three months old when his father died. His mother married for a second husband, **George Mitchell**, with whom she and her son **Charles** moved to the Eagle Hotel, in Chester County, near Morgan's Corner, where she remained as proprietress, while her husband went back to Ireland to secure the "fortune coming," with which he purchased a tract of nearly two thousand acres of land in Greenwood Township, Perry County, Pa., extending from the summit of the Buffalo Hills north, and from one-half mile of the Juniata River east. **Charles Wright** removed to Perry County when he was ten years of age, or about 1790, and lived with his mother and step-father until he married **Deborah Van Camp**, which occurred in his twenty-sixth and her twenty-second year. They moved into the woods to begin life for themselves, but they did not stay long, for, possessed of a vigorous mind and a strong, healthy body, he "cleared" his way out. He was a democrat in politics, and as such was elected to the county offices of director of the poor and county commissioner for one term each. He changed his politics during the late civil war, and was ever afterwards as ardent a republican as he had hitherto been a democrat. He was a prominent member of the Presbyterian Church. The **Van Camp** (or **Van Campen**) family were descendants of the Holland Patroons, and settled in the Dutch village of Esopus (now Kingston), thirty six miles northeast of New York City. **William Van Camp**, the ancestor of the line, was married to **Elizabeth Decker**, by whom he had three children—**John**, **Jane**, and **Lydia**—before 1763.

They were informed in the evening that Indians lurked near, meditating a midnight attack, and before 10 p. m., with whatever could be hurriedly packed on two horses, leaving behind them four cows, ten sheep, and six hogs to arrest the pursuit of the plundering savages, who sacked and burned the village before the dawn of the next day, the **Van Camps** were on their way through the forest toward Pennsylvania. Where they settled after this flight is not certainly known (the family stories differ), but from the most reliable sources were said to have lived in Columbia County, along the North Branch of the Susquehanna River. How long these fugitives were unmolested is not known, but it is certain that another surprise by the savages was more successful, for **Lydia** was made a captive and not ransomed for a period of nine months. The children of **William** and **Elizabeth Van Camp**, after their flight from New York, were **James**, **Alexander**, **Andrew**, and **Deborah**. The latter was the wife of **Charles Wright**. The removal of the **Van Camps** from the Susquehanna took place between 1767 and 1790. They purchased the lands they owned on the Juniata River from **John Anderson**, jun., who obtained the warrant and had the survey made in June, 1767. **Charles Wright, jun.**, son of **Charles Wright**, is still living at Newport, Perry County, Pa. He is a farmer and is a native of Greenwood Township. His wife is **Eliza Jane Hunter**, a daughter of **John Hunter**, a native of the North of Ireland.

Mrs. Wright was born near Liverpool, Pa. **R. H. Wright**, son of **Charles Wright, jun.**, worked on his father's farm in the summer and attended school in the winter until he was fifteen years old. He was subsequently a clerk, and when twenty years of age he attended the Bloomfield Academy. After completing his education he taught school, engaged in the mercantile business, and various other business pursuits until 1877. (Bloomfield, in connection with this sketch, means a borough of that name in Perry County, the post office being New Bloomfield). He read law with **Charles Barnett**, of Bloomfield, and with **Jabez Alsover**, of Hazleton, and was admitted to the bar of Luzerne County March 22, 1878. He married, December 22, 1863, **Kate E. Smith**, daughter of the late **Samuel Smith**, of Bloomfield, Pa. **Mr. and Mrs. Wright** have children as follows: **Minnie Winona Wright**, now the wife of **George E. Harris**, of Bethlehem; **Lulu Itaska Wright**, **Florence Adelaide Wright**, and **Edgar Samuel Wright**. **Mr. Wright** is a man of good mental parts, and, having been an earnest student, is very well qualified for practice as an attorney at law. He does a fair share of the legal business of Hazleton, and his face is a familiar one in the county courts. He has never been especially active in politics, or other than his profession, but possesses qualities that would make him popular as a public character if he but chose to employ them with that ambition. He is as yet but upon the threshold of his professional career, which in the future, if he goes on as he has begun, will bring him enviable laurels.

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