

the Lehigh Canal, in boat building and in manufacturing rope.

Benjamin Kemerer became a resident of Philadelphia in 1848, where he became a member of the firm of Rex, Kemerer & Co., one of the leading stores in the city at that time, and continued to do business until 1858. He then went to New York City, where he was engaged in merchandising on commission, and also in the transportation line. His death occurred in Philadelphia in 1882, when he was sixty-six years of age. He was a member of the Lutheran Church, and was a Republican in politics. His wife, Mary (Bachman) Kemerer, was born in Upper Saucon Township, Lehigh County, and came of a good family of that district. Mrs. Kemerer died in 1867, leaving three children, of whom Sarah died in Philadelphia; our subject is next in order of birth, and Albert H., a member of the firm of Dickie & Co., is engaged in the real-estate business in Pittsburg.

The birth of J. B. Kemerer occurred December 21, 1844, and his education was mainly acquired in the public and high schools of Philadelphia, from the latter of which he graduated in 1861. He then came to Bethlehem, where he pursued a course of legal studies with U. J. Wenner, and in 1876 he was admitted to the Bar. Prior to this he had been engaged for three or four years with the firm of H. B. Claffin & Co., the largest wholesale house in New York. Since being admitted to the Bar, Mr. Kemerer has continued in active practice at his present location, and has been very successful. In 1887 he formed a partnership with Clarence A. Wolle in the real-estate and fire insurance business, and has made a specialty of commercial law and the examination of records. With others he projected and laid out the west side addition to West Bethlehem, a tract of fifty or sixty acres, and has done much for the town in which he dwells. Moreover, he laid out forty acres of North Bethlehem, and it is mainly due to this firm that the Boston capitalists who control the excellent electric railway system connecting Allentown, Catasauqua, Bethlehem and South Bethlehem, were induced to invest their money there.

As a Democrat, Mr. Kemerer has done a good service to his party, and in 1889 his prominence led

to his election as Burgess of Bethlehem, to which office he was re-elected the following two years. From 1880 to 1889 he represented the Third Ward in the City Council, and for the last two years was President of the same. He served on the Highway or Street and Water Supply Committees, and was Chairman of the Street, Police and Law Committees. Under his influence, and during the last year he served in the Council, macadamizing was begun on Main Street, and later other improvements were introduced. At the present time he is a member of the State Central Democratic Committee from Northampton County. At the spring election of 1894, Mr. Kemerer was again elected to the office of Chief Burgess for a term of three years.

In this city, in 1865, J. B. Kemerer married Miss Amanda J. Seem, daughter of Joseph Seem, who was a farmer by occupation. Mrs. Kemerer was born near Bethlehem, and by her marriage has become the mother of one son, Albert G., who is engaged in business with his father in the insurance department. The residence of the family is located on North Main Street, and both Mr. Kemerer and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.



CHARLES H. KISTLER follows the combined occupations of farmer and wagon-maker, and has a good estate located in Washington Township, Lehigh County. He also has a wagon shop on his place and has been engaged in that business here since 1877. Mr. Kistler is a native of Lehigh County, having been born in Lynn Township November 23, 1850, to Josiah and Caroline Kistler, also natives of the above township.

The death of our subject's father occurred when he was a lad of eleven years. Three years previous to this, however, his parents being in limited circumstances, he was taken into the home of his uncle, with whom he remained until reaching his fifteenth year. At this time he returned to the

home farm and superintended its operation for his widowed mother. She was the mother of a large family of children, of whom five survive, those besides our subject being, Wilson, who resides in Allentown; Lewis H., who lives in Kansas; Mary, the wife of Daniel Tyson, who makes her home in Lehigh County; and Henry H., who is also a resident of Kansas.

Charles H. Kistler began the trade of a wagon-maker one year prior to attaining his majority, in the meantime prosecuting his studies in the schools of that period. He learned his trade at Claussville, where he worked for two years, and subsequently entered the employ of P. A. Semmel, of Slatington, whence he later came to his present stand. Mr. Kistler is the owner of seventy-three acres of land, which he devotes to general farming and has improved in a very able manner.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Mary C. Anthony was celebrated in 1873. The lady was born in this county, and by her union with Mr. Kistler has become the mother of seven children, viz.: Howard H., George E., Florence J., Mabel C., Sallie C., Willie W., and Charles, deceased. Our subject has always been greatly interested in educational affairs and for six years served as a member of the Board. He is a Republican in politics and takes an active part in local affairs. The Lutheran Church finds in him one of its most devoted and consistent members, he having been connected with that denomination for many years. Mr. Kistler is a truly self-made man and one much liked throughout his community for his sterling worth and integrity.



AMANDES C. NOLF. This gentleman may truly be called a self-made man, as will be seen by the perusal of his history. He is now serving as Justice of the Peace of Franklin, where by reason of his intelligence, sterling character and reliable citizenship he ranks among the

well-to-do business men of the place. He is Secretary of the Sun Slate Company, and was born in Northampton County, this state, December 17, 1853.

John and Susannah (Heckman) Nolf, the parents of our subject, were likewise natives of the above county, but the latter is now deceased. Our subject was reared to man's estate in his native place, and assisted his father in cultivating the home farm until he reached his majority. In the meantime he carried on his studies in the public schools, and subsequently became a student at the Weaversville Academy. After being graduated from that institution, he spent the following nine years teaching school in Washington Township, his first charge having been at Slatedale. He afterward taught for a time in Williamston, and for seven years was a tutor in the public schools of Franklin.

When engaging in a business life, Mr. Nolf became bookkeeper and office manager for the Sun Slate Company, and so successful was he in all that he did that in 1891 he was taken into the firm, with which he has since been connected. The President of the company is Justice Moyer, who formerly served as its Treasurer, but is now its manager. In 1876 Mr. Nolf was united in marriage with Miss Mary, daughter of Tilghman Kuntz, of Franklin. Their union has been blessed by the birth of one daughter, who bears the name of Goldie.

In politics our subject gives allegiance to the Republican party. He has never sought office, but at the solicitation of his fellow-citizens he has filled the responsible position of Justice of the Peace since 1884, of which office he is the present incumbent. He is a prominent member of the United Evangelical Church, which body he serves as President of the Board of Trustees at Slatington. He has always been greatly interested in Sunday-school work, and has been the efficient Superintendent of the school for many years.

Mr. Nolf thoroughly identifies himself with whatever will best promote the highest interests of this county, and he is numbered among its most loyal citizens. Socially he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Slatington,

and is now serving as District Deputy Grand Master of that order in this county. He is also connected with the Order of Red Men at Slatington, and with the Knights of Malta.



WILLIAM S. KUHNS, a hardware merchant and dealer in plumbers' supplies of Lehighton, is numbered among the native sons of the Keystone State, and is a representative of one of the early families of Carbon County. He was born on a farm in this county, on the 17th of August, 1856, and is a son of David and Mary (Seiger) Kuhns. The father was an agriculturist and owned and operated a farm in Carbon County, upon which he spent his entire life. He was called to his final rest in 1864, and his wife also died on the old homestead. This worthy couple were the parents of twelve children, seven sons and five daughters.

The member of the family in whom our readers are most interested is the well known hardware merchant of Lehighton, William S. Kuhns. In the usual manner of farmer lads he was reared to manhood, spending the winter months in attendance at the district schools of the neighborhood, while in the summer season he aided in the labors of the fields. Early in life he became familiar with farm work in all its departments. In order to acquire a better education he also attended school in Weissport and Lehighton. He made his home upon the farm until he had attained his majority, when, not wishing to follow the occupation to which he was reared, he left home and began learning the trade of a tinsmith with his brother, B. A. Kuhns, who was carrying on a store in Schuylkill County. When he had mastered the business he worked as journeyman for several years. In 1882 he embarked in business on his own account in Lehighton, beginning operations on a small scale as a hardware merchant. His stock at first was quite limited, but he enlarged his facilities to meet the growing demand, until he now has a fine store,

well equipped with everything found in his line. He has also added a stock of furnaces, and in 1894 put in all kinds of plumbing supplies.

On the 21st of October, 1877, Mr. Kuhns was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Rhodes, a daughter of Reuben Rhodes, of Lehighton, and their union has been blessed with a family of nine children. The parents are both members of the Evangelical Association, and take a commendable interest in church and benevolent work. Their home is a pleasant residence, and its hospitable doors are ever open for the reception of their many friends.

Mr. Kuhns is a practical workman in all the departments of his business, and as he thoroughly understands the goods in which he deals, he can order to good advantage and place upon the market his stock at reasonable prices. He has the confidence of the public, and well deserves the same.



FRANK P. SHARKEY is the efficient and popular Postmaster of Mauch Chunk, and his able administration of the affairs of the office has won him the high commendation of all concerned. He is also an attorney-at-law, and although a young man, has won at the Bar a prominence which might well be envied by many an older practitioner.

Mr. Sharkey was born in the city which is still his home, on the 27th of March, 1859, and is a son of Patrick and Catherine (O'Neil) Sharkey, both of whom were of Irish descent. For many years the father was a merchant at Mauch Chunk, and was recognized as one of its prominent and progressive business men. The greater part of his life was here passed, and his death occurred in this city in 1870. His wife still survives him, and is now living in Mauch Chunk. They were the parents of a family of eight children.

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curing during his early youth. In the public schools he acquired a good English education, which served as a foundation for the knowledge which he afterward gained. He subsequently went abroad, pursuing his studies in Carlow, Ireland, and in the London University, where he remained for five years. On the expiration of that period he returned to the United States and began the study of law under the preceptorship of Hon. Allen Craig, one of the best known legal practitioners in the state, now serving as Judge of the Forty-third Judicial District. Thus his time was employed until April, 1887, when he was admitted to the Bar, and at once opened an office and began general law practice in his own interest.

Mr. Sharkey takes quite an active interest in local and state politics, and is a staunch supporter of the men and measures of the Democracy, having voted with that party since attaining his majority. He was appointed County Solicitor in 1891, and filled that position during the succeeding three years in a capable and faithful manner. In December, 1893, he was appointed Postmaster of Mauch Chunk by President Cleveland, and is now discharging the duties of that office with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. He is a wide-awake and enterprising young man, whose excellent ability destines him to rapid advancement, either in politics or at the Bar, whichever line of work he decides to follow.



JULIUS A. REMMEL is the well known, popular and efficient Postmaster of Mauch Chunk, and in this position has served for the past fifteen years, discharging his duties with a promptness and fidelity that have won him high commendation and led to his long retention in office. He is a native of the city which is still his home, for

his birth here occurred on the 8th of January, 1850. His parents are Nicholas and Charlotte (Howard) Rimmel. The father was a pattern-maker by trade, and followed that occupation during the greater part of his life, thereby supporting himself and family. He was called to the home beyond in January, 1893, and in his death the community lost one of its worthy citizens. His wife still survives him, and is yet living in Mauch Chunk.

No event of special importance occurred during the boyhood and youth of Julius A. Rimmel. He was quietly reared in his parents' home, and in the public schools of Mauch Chunk acquired a good English education which fitted him for the practical duties of life. During his younger years he was variously employed, following any occupation whereby he might earn an honest living. For a time he engaged in clerking, being thus employed in the dry-goods store of J. W. Heberling & Co., with which he continued his connection for several years. Later he secured a position, and served as mail messenger on the road for a term of three months, and was then offered employment in the Postoffice of Mauch Chunk, serving as Assistant Postmaster. The duties of that office he faithfully performed until 1888, when he was appointed Postmaster under the administration of Benjamin Harrison, then President of the United States.

Mr. Rimmel was married in 1884, the lady of his choice being Miss Josephine V. Babcock, a well known resident of Mauch Chunk, and a daughter of Charles Babcock. They became the parents of one son, William L., but he died in early life.

In his political views, Mr. Rimmel is a Republican, and always supports the men and measures of that party. He is a warm advocate of its principles, and does all in his power to aid in its growth and insure its success. Socially, he is connected with the Royal Arcanum, and is a member of Carbon Lodge No. 242, F. & A. M. As a citizen he is wide-awake and progressive, and his support is given to those enterprises which he believes will prove of public benefit. His long connection with the Postoffice has made him familiar with the general public, and his pleasant and affable manner and the many excellences of his char-