FRANK I. HAINES. Among the representative citizens of Lehigh County who have taken a commendable interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of this section of the state, and who have contributed their quota to its progress, we present the name of Mr. Haines, a leading resident of Trexlertown. The responsible duties connected with his present position as station and ticket agent and telegraph operator, he discharges to the satisfaction of the people, and in a manner reflecting credit upon his abilities.

Born January 7, 1849, our subject is a native of the village where he now resides. The family of which he is a member was one of the first to settle in Lehigh County, and was prominently connected with the early history of Trexlertown. His parents, Benjamin and Maria (Ruth) Haines, were natives of this county, where the father followed the occupation of a farmer. There were four children in the family, namely: William R., who lives in Allentown; Eliza, the widow of John Biery, and a resident of Allentown; Adeline, wife of Jonas Lichtenwalner, of Upper Macungie Township; and Frank I.

Upon the home farm in Lehigh County the subject of this sketch passed the years of boyhood and youth. His educational advantages were good, including attendance at the public schools of Upper Macungie Township, and one year later at Wyoming Seminary, Kingston, Pa. After finishing his studies, he taught one term of school in Lynn Township. In 1867 he was employed by the Crane Iron Company in the capacity of weighmaster, his particular work being the weighing of ore at Alburtis, Lehigh County. For about two years he

devoted his attention exclusively to this line of work, which he afterward carried on for a number of years in connection with the duties of station agent. He remained in Alburtis until December, 1890, when he came to Trexlertown and accepted the position of station and ticket agent for the Catasauqua & Fogelsville Railway Company, which is now part of the Reading Railroad system.

The lady who on the 7th of August, 1873, became the wife of Mr. Haines was Agnes, daughter of Charles Unbescheiden, of Trexlertown. Of the three children of this union, Emilie is the only survivor. While not active in public affairs, Mr. Haines is a stanch Republican, and never fails to support the principles of that party. In his religious connections he is identified with the Reformed Church at Trexlertown. Socially he is prominently identified with the Trexlertown Mutual Aid Association, and also holds membership in the orders of Knights of Malta and Golden Eagle at Alburtis.

JUDGE LEVI WENTZ, formerly Associate Judge of Carbon County, is a leading and well known citizen of Aquashicola. He is a native of Northampton County, Pa., where his birth occurred on the 12th of January, 1824, and in a family of six sons and six daughters, he is the only surviving son.

The parents of the Judge were Jacob and Magdalena (Keefer) Wentz, both natives of the Lehigh Valley. The grandfather of the former, John Y. Wentz, was a native of Germany, and the founder of the family in Northampton County. Jacob Wentz learned the trade of coopering, which occupation he followed for a number of years, and later turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. His death occurred about 1864, and that of his wife in 1852.

The boyhood of our subject was passed in Northampton County. After attaining his majority, he was employed by a brother who was conducting a
mercantile business at Kuntz's Ford. In the fall of 1846 he became a resident of Weissport, Carbon County, where he engaged in clerking for several years. He next entered into partnership with George Horn, and embarked in mercantile business for himself. They successfully conducted the enterprise until 1856, when Mr. Wentz purchased his partner's interest, thus becoming sole proprietor. A year later, however, he sold out the business and removed to this place, of which he has since been a resident. In 1862 he again engaged in merchandising, in which he continued for a number of years in this town.

Judge Wentz was the second Postmaster in Aquashicola, and served in this capacity until elected to the important position of Associate Judge of Carbon County, when he resigned his place as Postmaster. The former position he filled acceptably for a period of six years. While occupying that responsible place he was noted for his impartial and wise decisions on all matters, and for the integrity with which he discharged his duties. Politically he is a Republican, and is an active temperance man, inclining toward Prohibition principles. For several years he was identified with the slate industry, in which he had money invested.

The Judge was married January 1, 1850, to Sarah Bowman, who was born January 19, 1834, in this county, and is a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Weiss) Bowman, both natives of Carbon County. Mrs. Wentz's brother is the well known Bishop Thomas Bowman, of Chicago, who is a Bishop in the Evangelical Association. For many years her father ran a hotel at Lehigh Gap near the Chain Bridge, the place being known as Bowman's Hotel. Mr. and Mrs. Wentz have four living children: Rev. Thomas, who is now stationed at Matamoras, Pa.; Annie M., the wife of Franklin Ash; Jennie E., Mrs. A. W. Kistler; and Mary A. Mrs. Wentz's sister, Mrs. Carrie Snyder, resides in Allentown, and her brother James lives in Wilkes Barre, Pa. Another brother, Wesley W., is a resident of Slatington, Pa., and Mrs. Perry Wannemacher lives at Macungie, this state.

The education of our subject was obtained in the public schools of Northampton County, and he also for a time was a student in Professor Vanderveer's Private Academy at Easton. He is a gentleman of extended knowledge and wide information, and has always kept up his studies and general reading. He is President of the Towamensing Farmers' Fire Insurance Company, a local organization, and has been interested in many industries of the community. With his wife he holds membership with the Evangelical Association, and is now serving his fiftieth year in the position of Class-leader. He has a wide acquaintance in the Lehigh Valley, and enjoys the esteem and regard of his many friends.

John Farber. Probably no resident of Lehigh Township is more deserving of representation in this volume than Mr. Farber, who has pursued a course in life which has resulted in securing for him the hearty respect of those who know him, and in giving him a proud rank among the farmers and landowners of Northampton County. The visitor to his home will find it a well regulated establishment, where good stock in sufficient numbers, improved machinery, and a complete line of well built edifices add to the value of the naturally fertile soil. The estate consists of two hundred and sixteen acres in Lehigh Township, which are devoted by the intelligent owner to general farming.

Our subject is a native of this county, and was born April 7, 1839, to Daniel and Anna Farber, the father born in Lehigh County, and the mother a native of this county. Daniel Farber departed this life in February, 1873, greatly mourned by many true friends. John, of this sketch, grew to man's estate on his father's farm, and as was usual with the lads of that early day, attended the district school, where he acquired a good fund of general information.

The lady whom our subject chose as his wife and to whom he was married in 1860 was Miss Rebecca daughter of Reuben Beichey. To them has been
born a daughter, Laura, who is now the wife of Henry Hower. For many years after his marriage Mr. Farber gave his attention entirely to the cultivation of his farm. Later, however, he operated a gristmill in connection with tilling the soil, but after being thus engaged for some time rented the mill, and is now living on his fine estate, taking life easy and enjoying the result of former years of hard work. He is also the proprietor of a saw-mill located on his farm, which is fitted out with good machinery, and in this business he reaps a good income.

Mr. Farber has been called upon to serve as a member of the School Board and has been Assistant Assessor of Lehi Township. In politics he is a Republican, giving his voice and ballot in its favor. He is a member of the Horse Insurance Company of Lehigh, Moore, Allen and East Allen Townships. Religiously he holds membership with St. Paul’s Reformed Church.

JOHN A. KICHLINE, ex-Deputy County Sheriff of Northampton County, and a resident of Bethlehem, does the largest business of any Justice of the Peace in this city. Mr. Kichline was born in Richland Township, Bucks County, January 30, 1835, being a son of Jacob Kichline, who was also born in that locality, as was his father, who bore the given name of John. The great-grandfather of our subject, Andrew, came from Germany prior to the War of the Revolution, and with his two brothers, Peter and Wilhelm, located about 1768 in Bucks County, Peter settling near Easton, while Andrew located at Kichline, there engaging in farming and hotel keeping. The remaining brother, Wilhelm, returned to Germany and became a general in the German Army. The three brothers all took part in the War of the Revolution, being in the patriotic army.

Jacob Kichline, our subject’s father, was a farmer, owning a part of the old homestead in Richland Township, and in 1839 removed to Lower Saucon Township, where his death occurred in 1854. In politics he was a Democrat, and in religious affiliations belonged to the Reformed Church. His wife, formerly Christiana Schleifer, was a native of Richland Township, and a daughter of a farmer. After having been blind for seventeen years, she departed this life in Richland Township, being over eighty-nine and a-half years of age. Of her seven children who grew to maturity, only four survive.

Growing to man’s estate on his father’s farm, John A. Kichline passed his early years in Lower Saucon Township, giving his father the benefit of his services. He remained on the homestead until the spring of 1855, when he went to Philadephia and entered the wholesale house of Recksilver & Co. In the fall of that year, however, he returned to the old home and engaged in teaching school in Bushkill and Bethlehem Townships.

Mr. Kichline was married in 1858, in Bethlehem Township, to Miss Rebecca Long, daughter of Michael and Catherine Long, by whom he had seven children, six of whom are living: Alaric A., who is agent for the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company in Bethlehem; Sabra, who became the wife of Jeremia Ziegenfuss, and is now living at home; Minnie S., Mrs. Rhoad; and Charles R., Emma R. and Ellen T., who are at home. Michael Long, Mrs. Kichline’s father, was a shoemaker by trade.

A year after his marriage Mr. Kichline was appointed Deputy Sheriff under Sheriffs Heckman and Hower, and removed to Easton. While occupying this position he had plenty to do, as there was then a bad element in the county, but he was fortunate in escaping injury, and was faithful to the trust reposed in him. In 1864, after resigning his position, he returned to Bethlehem Township, and taught school for one term near Shimer’s Station, and afterward engaged in farming. Subsequently he served as Constable and continued to live in Lower Saucon for four years. In 1884 he became a resident of Bethlehem, and was appointed and later elected Deputy Constable. In August, 1888, he was appointed by Governor Beecher as Justice of the Peace to succeed Justice C. M.
Anstett, and in the spring of 1889 was elected Justice of the Peace of the Third Ward to serve for a period of five years. He was re-elected in 1894 for the succeeding five years, having his office at No. 209 North Main Street. Since 1891 he has been Assessor of the ward, to which position he was chosen by election, and in 1894 was elected Borough Clerk. In the Third Ward he has never had any opposition, having been returned by a good Democratic majority. For five years he was a School Director of Bethlehem Township, and for one year has been President of the Board. In politics he votes with the Democratic party, and fraternally is a member of the Mystic Chain, of which he is a Past Officer. Religiously he is in sympathy with the Reformed Church, which he regularly attends. Mr. Richline numbers many friends in this city, for he is genial and courteous in his treatment of all, and thus readily wins commendation.

THOMAS H. RITTER has made a fine success of the butcher's business, having one of the finest markets to be found in Bethlehem. He superintends the buying of his stock personally, selects only the finest to be had, and justly merits the fine trade he has acquired. A gentleman in the best sense of the word, he is active in local affairs, and numbers a host of warm friends.

The birth of Mr. Ritter occurred March 22, 1859, in Freemansburg. His great-grandfather Ritter, a native of Germany, was a farmer and an early settler in Rittersville. Grandfather Henry Ritter was born in that village, where he kept a hotel, and it was for him that the town was named. For some years he served as Postmaster of the place, and was a good business man. His wife, who died at the age of eighty-six years, was a devoted Lutheran, to which faith he also adhered. Lewis Ritter, the father of Thomas H., was also born in Rittersville, and followed the occupation of blacksmithing. Locating at Freemansburg, he carried on a shop at that place until the Northampton Furnace was built, when he took charge of the blacksmith department. He was accidentally killed, being run over by a passenger engine in 1871, when in the prime of life, aged forty-six years. His wife, who in her girlhood was Mary Henn, was born in Lower Saucon, Northampton County, and was a daughter of George Henn, a farmer in that locality, and also a Mason. Mrs. Lewis Ritter is still living, making her home at Freemansburg. Four of her six children are living: George; Ellen, Mrs. Knipe; Thomas H. and Oscar—all in this city.

Mr. Ritter, the subject of this sketch, was reared in Freemansburg until his thirteenth year, receiving a common-school education. Then he went to Easton, where for nearly four years he was a clerk for Owen Reich, a grocer. Later coming to Bethlehem, he served an apprenticeship as a machinist under Henry Trubower, of the Bethlehem Iron Company. Nine years of steady work with that concern followed, when, on account of overwork, and owing to the fact that he could no longer endure the gas, he was obliged to leave the business, and in the fall of 1884 started in his present occupation. In the spring of 1885 he located on East Goepp Street, where he bought and built up a place. Beginning on a small scale, with only one wagon for delivery, his trade gradually increased, and in a year's time he was running two wagons. The third year his business was enlarged, and in 1888 he took in, as a partner, William Winsch, the firm being known as Ritter & Winsch until 1890, when Mr. Ritter purchased his partner's interest, and has since continued alone. In addition to his regular line of trade, he has built up a slaughter-house refrigerator. The latter is 24x24 feet in dimensions, with a capacity of two hundred tons of ice, and the slaughter-house is 30x65 feet in dimensions. In connection with this are smoke houses, sheds, stables, etc. For general purposes steam-power is used with a four-horse engine and an eight horse-power boiler. The refrigerator is Brower's patent, the best known for the business. In addition to his local trade he sends meats to Freemansburg and other near points.

On the 16th of March, 1879, Mr. Ritter married