

JOHN P. GUTHRIE, a descendant of the early-settled Guthrie family of Westmoreland county, and one of the old and prosperous farmers of Manor township, is a son of John and Catherine (Buchanan) Guthrie, and was born February 15, 1820, in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, near North Washington. The Guthrie family is of Irish descent, and one of its members, Capt. John Guthrie (grandfather), emigrated from Ireland to Pennsylvania during the past century, and became one of the early settlers of Westmoreland county. He was elected captain of one of the companies organized among the white settlers for protection against the Indians. After serving in one or more campaigns on the western frontier, he went to Kentucky with the intention of taking up a tract of government land, but died before he had secured his land. His son, John Guthrie (father), was born in 1791, in Westmoreland county, where he learned the trade of blacksmith, which he followed until he removed to Armstrong county, in 1847. he then bought a farm, upon which he resided until his death, which occurred in 1866, when he was in the seventy-sixth year of his age. He was a member of the Presbyterian church, and in his early life was an old-line whig. In 1856 he became a republican, and supported that party until his death. He married Catherine Buchanan, of Westmoreland county. Mrs. Guthrie was a consistent member of the Presbyterian church, and died in 1876, at the ripe old age of eighty-eight years.

John P. Guthrie was brought to this county by his parents when he was seven years of age, and attended the subscription and public schools. His first employment was coal-digging, which he followed for two years, and then was employed for some time at the Owen salt-works, near Apollo. Upon attaining his majority he engaged in farming, which he has followed ever since. He owns his father's farm of one hundred and sixty acres, and devotes his time chiefly to farming and stock-raising.

In 1846 Mr. Guthrie married Elizabeth Hancock, who was a daughter of John Hancock, of Indiana county, and died in 1847. He married, in 1864, Hannah Iseman, daughter of Michael Iseman, of Manor township. To this second union have been born four children, three sons and one daughter: John L., David H., Thomas W. and Sarah P.

Politically, John P Guthrie is a republican, and has been elected to various township offices, in which he has always served acceptably. He is a member of the Patrons of Husbandry, and believes that the principles of that organization, if carried out, would be highly beneficial to the agricultural interests of the county.