

CAPT. JOHN KINTER has been one of the most prominent residents of Rayne township, Indiana county, a leader in movements for the welfare of his locality and a public official whose services have been satisfactory in every position to which he has been chosen. He was born Aug. 6, 1841, on the old Kinter homestead, in Washington township, now included in Rayne township, son of Isaac and Hannah (Myers) Kinter, and is the last surviving member of their family. He still occupies the old homestead—the third generation of his family to live there.

Philip Kinter, the first ancestor of this family in America, came to this country from Holland and settled in Huntingdon (now Center) county, Pa., at the headwaters of Spruce creek. He died in that county. He married Barbara King.

John Kinter, son of Philip, served as a soldier in the revolution, enlisting three times and serving two months on each call. He married Isabella Findley and they had eight children, among whom were Isaac, Henry and John. In 1808 he removed from Center county to what is now Rayne township, Indiana Co., Pa., settling near Kintersburg, which was named after him. He died aged eighty-two years, his wife living to the advanced age of ninety-one. One of their sons, Henry, served in the United States army during the war of 1812 and was at one time sheriff of Indiana county.

John Kinter, son of John and Isabella (Findley), was born in 1786, came to Indiana county, in 1808, and died on a farm near the old homestead at the age of ninety-six years. His wife, Sarah (Ross), lived to the age of ninety. Their son, Isaac Kinter, born in Center county, Aug. 6, 1805, was the father of Capt. John Kinter. He was one of the foremost citizens of this section in his day, serving for years as township treasurer, was supervisor and school director, and for one term county auditor. He married Hannah Myers, and they had eight children, all now deceased but John; his last brother died in 1912. The family have all been fighters and ready to give their services to their country, and three of the sons of Isaac Kinter served during the Civil war, John D. M., and Peter C.; D. M. Kinter was a first lieutenant in the 6th regiment, Missouri State militia (he became a minister of the Christian Church), and Peter C. Kinter became a member of Company I, 135 Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, dying of typhoid fever Oct. 18, 1862, at Washington, D.C.

John Kinter, son of Isaac, was reared to manhood on the homestead and followed farming, which has been his occupation throughout life. On Aug. 7, 1862, the day after he reached the age of twenty-one, he enlisted in Company I, 135th regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the 1st Brigade, 3d Division, 1st Army Corps. In 1862 the regiment did guard duty and patrol service at Washington, D. C., and Mr. Kinter saw service at the battles of Chancellorsville and Fredericksburg. He was discharged in May, 1863, and again entered the service in march, 1865, this time joining Company F, 74th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, as first lieutenant, and was subsequently promoted to captain, serving with that rank until discharged, Aug. 29, 1865. He was one of the scouting party that went out after Mosby. During his first enlistment he had served as drum major, and he still has the drum he carried.

He is an honored member of John Pollock Post, G.A.R., and belongs to the Park Veteran Military Band of Marion Center, Indiana county.

At the close of his army service Captain Kinter returned to Indiana county and settled on the home farm in Rayne township, which he still cultivates. He has been a successful farmer and progressive in his ideas, supporting every movement which appeals to his judgment as effective for the advancement of the general welfare. He served two years as president of the Patrons Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Indiana County, and he has taken an active part in public affairs, serving the township as auditor, clerk and supervisor. He was at one time the nominee for sheriff, but failed of election. His political connection is with the Republican party.

On May 21, 1868, Captain Kinter married Elizabeth Lingenfelter, who was born Oct. 6, 1847, in Jefferson county, Pa., daughter of John and Catherine (Mauk) Lingenfelter. They have had a large family, seven of whom are still living, namely: Isaac W., a farmer of Rayne township, who married Sadie Wohlers, of that township; P. Watson, who is mentioned below; Mabel M., who lives at home; Elizabeth, who graduated at the Indiana normal school in June, 1913; John L., an electrician; Andrew R., an electrician; and Martha, who graduated from the business college at Indiana, and is stenographer for the Penn-Mary Coal Company at Heilwood, Pa. Three sons and one daughter are deceased: Guy N., who died in 1902; D. Benton, who died in 1906, survived by his wife, Clara (Hines) and son Benton; Frank D., who died in 1912, leaving his wife, Lelia A. (Shields); and Lara B., who married Rev. H. S. McClintock, of Somerset, Pa., and died in 1904, leaving her husband and one child, Laura E., who lives with her grandfather, Captain Kinter.

Captain Kinter and his wife are members of the Church of Christ, in which he was at one time quite an active worker, serving as deacon.

P. Watson Kinter, best known as "Watt" Kinter, proprietor of the hotel at Chambersville, Indiana county, was born April 11, 1873, at Kintersburg, this county, son of John and Elizabeth (Lingenfelter) Kinter. He attended the Shields school in Rayne township. In his early life he worked in the woods for some time, peeling bark, and made a trip to the West, where he was employed threshing and cow punching. In 1899 he bought a restaurant at Guthrie, Okla., which he carried on for one year. In February, 1902, he became engaged as a plumber in St. Louis, Mo. On May 27, 1904, Mr. Kinter opened a hotel at Creekside, Indiana county, which he conducted for one year, at the end of that time buying the Chambersville hotel, to which he has since given all his attention. He is well adapted for the business, in which he has met with continued success, his establishment being well patronized. Mr. Kinter is a member of the B.P.O. Elks, and in politics he is a Republican.

On June 1, 1904, he married Olive Cost, of Indiana, Pa., daughter of Joseph and Mary Elizabeth Cost, the former a plumber. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kinter, Joseph Watson, Mary Elizabeth and Ebert Paul.