

CAPT. WILLIAM KIMPLE, formerly a merchant of Chambersville, Indiana county, and for many years postmaster at that point, is one of the best known residents of Rayne township. His long career as business man and public official brought him into contact with most of his fellow citizens in that section, and his honorable life has won universal esteem from them. Captain Kimple is a native of New Jersey, born July 4, 1835. His parents, John and Mary (Sigler) Kimple, both natives of New Jersey, came to Indiana county, Pa., in 1840, and passed the rest of their lives on a farm here. Mr. Kimple was always a farmer. They reared a family of eighteen children.

William Kimple was reared at home on the farm, where he remained until twenty-five years old. On Aug. 17, 1861, he enlisted in Company F, 105th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, was sent to Washington D.C., and saw much active service, taking part in many important battles. He was at Yorktown, Williamsburg, Fair Oaks, White Oak Swamp, Malvern Hill, Bull Run, Bristoe Station, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Kelly's Ford, Mine Run, Wilderness, Weldon Railroad, Sailors Creek and the other actions in which his regiment was engaged, remaining in the army until after the battle of the Wilderness, he was wounded in the thigh and sent to hospital, where he remained for six weeks. Rejoining his regiment, he was again wounded Aug. 22, 1864, in the foot. Mr. Kimple rose from the ranks to a captaincy, being promoted in turn to corporal, sergeant, first sergeant, second lieutenant, first lieutenant and captain; he was given the later rank May 24, 1864, for meritorious conduct, and continued to serve until his discharge, Jul 11, 1865. He is an honored member of Indiana Post, No. 28, G.A.R.

In the latter part of the year 1865 Captain Kimple opened a general store at Chambersville, where he carried on business for the following twenty-six years, and for the same length of time served as postmaster at that place. Since giving up his store he has lived in comparative retirement, though he continues to cultivate his farm in Rayne township, a fine tract of 114 acres, where he makes his home.

On Aug. 15, 1865, Captain Kimple married Maria Crissman, of Indiana county, daughter of Hezekiah and Elizabeth Crissman, the latter of whom was born in Blair county, Pa., the former in Akron, Ohio. Four children have been born to this marriage: Mary Elizabeth, who is the wife of I. C. Winecoop, a merchant, of Larimer, Westmoreland Co., Pa.; Lottie, who lives at Larimer; J. Clay, a merchant, of Beaver, Pa., who married Vernie Bell; and Gertrude, wife of W. O. Buchanan, the leading merchant of Larimer. Captain Kimple and his wife and family are members of the Baptist Church.