

COLUMBIA COUNTY, PA BIOGRAPHIES

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FISHING CREEK TOWNSHIP

From "The History of Columbia and Mountour Counties"
Battle, 1887

DANIEL McHENRY, farmer and lumberman, P. O. Stillwater, is now the representative head of the family. He is a son of Moses, whose wife was Martha, a daughter of James EDGAR. They had eleven children, viz.: Cynthia, wife of Samuel McHENRY of Benton Township; Isabella, deceased wife of Tunis KARNS; Elias, living in Benton; Mary, widow of Samuel AMMERMAN, of Benton; James, living in Cambria, Luzerne County; John J., in Benton; Ellen, wife of John EVANS of Madisonville, Luzerne County; Martha, widow of Hiram B. McHENRY of this township; Cyrus b. (see sketch); Silas, who died in June, 1886, and Daniel. Our subject was born may 15, 1827, and when in his twentieth year, in company with his brother, James, opened the first store in Stillwater. At the end of five years he bought his brother's interest and conducted the store alone for fifteen years. During that time he bought a part of the farm of his uncle Elias, and some land adjoining from William IKELER. Later he bought ninety acres more of his uncle's land and other additions give him a farm of over 200 acres besides 140 acres of woodland. He has been an active man, in addition to farming, engaging extensively in lumbering, and operating mills for more than twenty years. In partnership with his son, Orvis Dell, he is still engaged in that business. In 1854 he was appointed postmaster under President Pierce, and has since held that position. September 30, 1867, he was appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury, Hugh McCULLOCH, assistant assessor for Division No. 5, of the Thirteenth Internal Revenue Collection District, and held that position until the district was consolidated. In 1862 he was elected county treasurer and served three years and has also held many minor positions. In 1876 he built a fine residence on the site of the original cabin, and in digging for foundations, found the remains of the old house, besides several relics of the past. November 17, 1859, Mr. McHENRY married Mary A., daughter of James Deimer McHENRY, and two children blessed their union: Orvis Dell, born November 17, 1861, is a graduate of Lafayette College, Easton, and his father's partner in business; is a young man of excellent repute; and May, born March 17, 1867, a graduate of the Moravian Seminary at Bethlehem. Mr. and Mrs. McHENRY are members of the Christian Church. A man of mark in the community, through-going in business, he exercises a wide influence, and has the respect of all. (History of Columbia and Montour Counties, Pennsylvania, 1887, Battle, Fishingcreek Township pg. 448)

CYRUS B. McHENRY, farmer, P. O. Stillwater, is a brother of the above, and was born November 3, 1830, on the homestead, where he remained until his marriage. He then moved to the place where he now resides, which was a part of the original tract and on which he built a large and well constructed house, arranged with every convenience. In 1880 he built a barn which is a model of its kind and is probably the best in the valley, and is built in the most through manner. He has also added to his farm by buying the remaining twenty-seven acres belonging to his uncle, Elias, now all owned by himself and Daniel. He has also been engaged in lumbering and has been successful in both occupations. December 28, 1852, he married Priscilla, daughter of John COWENHOVEN of Orangeville; she was born February 23, 1830, and to their union have been born the following named children: Oliver, born March 20, 1854, died August 4, 1873; Lilly B., born February 18, 1859, wife of H. B. LOW of Orangeville, and William L., born February 18, 1864, is married and resides with his parents. Mr. McHENRY takes much interest in politics, but rarely holds any except honorary positions. He is a man of unexceptionable manners and habits, and a leading member of the Christian Church, of which he has been an

elder for twenty-five years. (History of Columbia and Montour Counties, Pennsylvania, 1887, Battle, Fishingcreek Township pg. 448)

STOTT E. McHENRY, farmer, Stillwater, is a grandson of Benjamin McHENRY, who died of yellow fever, and of whom mention is made in the sketch of the McHENRY family. His wife was named Elizabeth and they had six children, viz.: Daniel; James Deimer, now deceased; Martha, widow of Peter GOLDER of Columbia county; Elizabeth, widow of Thomas DAVIS of Greenwood Township; Maria, deceased wife of Isaac KLINE; Sarah Ann was twice married, first to Mr. WINTERSTEEN, after his death to Mr. LYONS, and died in Greenwood. James Deimer was the father of Stott E., and was born on the farm which is now owned by his son, November 30, 1803, and died July 19, 1883. His wife was Rachel, daughter of Alex. CULLEY. She was born May 19, 1811, and died May 9, 1885. Their children were Alexander, living in Benton, who married Elizabeth BUCKALEW, now deceased; Hiram married Martha McHENRY and died suddenly; Mary Ann, wife of Daniel McHENRY (see above); Elizabeth, wife of Moses McHENRY (also noticed above); Benjamin Franklin married Maria HAYS of Indiana, and is a professor in Merom College; Rebecca Margaret married Smith KIMBAL and died in Williamsport; Emma, wife of John V. McHENRY, of Stillwater; Almira, wife of Silas McHENRY; Sarah Ellen, wife of William E. EDGAR, of this township; Cecelia Alice, wife of T. Hardy Edgar, also of this township, and Stott E. Our subject is the third child and was born January 23, 1831, and has always resided at the place of his birth. Until his marriage he lived with his father and, on the latter's death, inherited the old homestead, where he now resides. November 26, 1868, he married Annie, daughter of Rev. E. B. and Lucinda WILSON, both of whom are now deceased. He was a minister of the Reformed Church of the Orangeville charge. Mrs. McHENRY was born August 12, 1848, in Washingtonville, Montour County. They have had six children, as follows: Miriam Rosalie, born June 18, 1871; Percy Marion, born November 23, 1875; Daisy Tessoro, born September 26, 1881; Carroll Leon, born November 23, 1883, all living; Darcy 1886. MR. McHENRY is a good farmer and a man of independent and straightforward character, commanding the respect of his neighbors. With a fine family growing up around him he is happy in his circumstances and looks carefully after their interests. Mrs. McHENRY and children are members of the Reformed Church. (History of Columbia and Montour Counties, Pennsylvania, 1887, Battle, Fishingcreek Township pg. 448-449)

JOSEPH F. McHENRY, merchant, Stillwater, is a son of Daniel and Mary (COLEMAN) McHENRY. His father was the second son of the founder of the family, and was born March 27, 1783, and died on the seventy-ninth anniversary of his birth. His wife was born in 1792 and died October 12, 1865. They had eleven children, as follows: Benjamin, in Benton Township; William, in Dushore; Moses, in Beaver Township; Uriah P., in Millville; Elizabeth was the wife of Geo. LAUBACH, and both are now deceased; Sarah married James EDGAR, and both are now deceased; Mary, widow of Elisha ALBATSON, and resides in Greenwood township; Adeline, wife of Thomas PEALER and resides in Renova, Clinton County; Martha, wife of Jacob C. CAREY, and lives in Cambria; Charlotte, wife of Geo. LAUBACH, of Orangeville, and Joseph F. Our subject is the youngest son and was born March 28, 1831, on the farm of his father, across the creek from Stillwater, on the place now owned by J. S. WOODS. He worked on the farm until he was eighteen years of age, when he began learning the trade of a carpenter and served an apprenticeship of three years. May 4, 1869, he opened a store on the opposite side of the street to where he now keeps and there remained about six years. He then built the new store which he has since occupied. During that time he built several houses in the village of Stillwater. He also dealt largely in lumber in addition to his merchandising. He, for many years, when timber was plentiful, operated a mill, but now has his lumber sawed for him. November 7, 1853, he married Miss Almira STUCKER, and three children blessed their union: Ella C. born April 2, 1856, now the wife of Oscar D. HAGENBUCH, residing in one of her father's houses in Stillwater; Laura Delphine, who died when about eighteen months old, and Eva D., born December 12, 1868, resides with her parents. She has been attending the young ladies' seminary at Millville and also at Orangeville. Mr. McHENRY has held several township offices and is now its treasurer. He owns several pieces of land and lots in Stillwater Village, but his time is mainly taken up with his store and lumber business. He built for himself a fine residence opposite his store and is very

comfortably situated. He and Mrs. McHENRY and all his family are members of the Christian Church, and he is looked on by his fellow men as a good citizen. (History of Columbia and Montour Counties, Pennsylvania, 1887, Battle, Fishingcreek Township pg. 449)

MOSES McHENRY, merchant, Stillwater, is a grandson of John, the "old hunter," and Helena CUTTER, his wife, who had ten children, viz.: Jennie, who married Joseph LEMMONS and after his death Amos Ellis; Elizabeth, wife of Lorenzo MENDENHALL; Samuel, father of Moses; Stephen and Ephraim, all now deceased; the living are Matthew, in Jackson Township; John, Rhohr and Maria (widow of Thomas HESS). All live in Benton, and Sally (widow of Thomas YOUNG) resides in Jackson Township. Samuel C., the father of Moses, was born in Benton in 1808, and on his marriage removed to Jackson; thence to Benton in 1842, to a farm which he received from his father, cutting down the woods to make room for his house. This farm he cleared and lived on until his death, January 19, 1880. He was an industrious man and also inherited his father's love for hunting. Notwithstanding that he paid a large sum of bail money for others, he accumulated a good property, leaving three farms paid for at his death. He was a plain man, a captain in the militia service and a member of the Christian Church. For a number of years after returning to Benton he kept a hotel, called the "Hunter's Home," which he gave up later in life. He married, in 1828, Miss Cynthia McHENRY, who resides on the homestead in Benton. They had seven children: Eli, married Sarah YOUNG, of Benton; John V., married first to Martha STOCKER, and after her death to Emily McHENRY; James M., now married to Catherine HESS, in Benton; Benjamin Franklin, who died when a child; Martha, also died young; Sarah is the wife of Theo. LEWIS and resides in Benton, and Moses (subject), who is the second son and was born October 7, 1832, in Jackson Township. In 1854 he went to Stillwater and clerked for his uncle, Daniel, who then kept a store and a hotel in that place. After working for him for five years he became his partner in both hotel and store, which relationship continued some three years. They then dissolved, and until February, 1865, our subject worked for his uncle, when a partnership was again formed, which lasted until 1876, when he bought the real estate and divided the goods, gradually closing out. He remained out of business until 1878 when he built the store in which he has carried on the business since in partnership with his brother. June 14, 1866, he married Elizabeth McHENRY, a distant cousin. They have two children; James Gaylord, now in his nineteenth year, who assists his father in the store, and Bertha Leah, now in her tenth year. In February, 1886, Mr. McHENRY was for the third consecutive time elected justice of the peace, and has been acting postmaster for his uncle Daniel almost ever since he came to Stillwater. He and his wife are members of the Christian Church, and he has the reputation of being a careful and upright business man. (History of Columbia and Montour Counties, Pennsylvania, 1887, Battle, Fishingcreek Township pg. 449)