

Commemorative Biographical Encyclopedia of the Juniata Valley, Comprising the Counties of Huntingdon, Mifflin, Juniata, and Perry, Pennsylvania, J. M. Runk and Company, Publishers 1897

Stiles K. Boden, Academia, Juniata County, Pa., was born in Ickesburg, Perry County, Pa., March 1, 1847, son of **Robert** and **Susanna (Rice) Boden**. His grandfather, **John Boden**, was a native of Ireland. On arriving in America he settled near Carlisle, Pa., and there became the owner of a large farm, which he lost by bailing the sheriff of the county (Cumberland). Having thus become poor, he removed to Perry County, where he owned some land near Duncannon, and where he spent the last years of his life. He did not farm in Perry County, but assisted the justice of the peace at Duncannon. His politics were those of the Whig party. He had enjoyed good educational training. He was a member of the United Presbyterian church, in which he held the office of elder. **John Boden** died at Duncannon, leaving several children, one of whom was **Robert**, father of **Stiles K. Boden**. **Robert Boden** was a native of Perry County, and received his education in its common schools. From the end of his school days until the close of his life, he was occupied in farming; he owned and cultivated 225 acres of land near Ickesburg, Pa. He possessed in addition about 100 acres of woodland. **Mr. Boden** was not only prominent for his agricultural operations, but also conducted an extensive stock farm. Being an expert in the management of horses, he also drove a stage for a number of years. He was for some time a mail carrier of Perry County. In earlier life a Whig, **Mr. Boden** afterwards became a Republican, and was a candidate on the ticket of that party for the State legislature, but was defeated. **Robert Boden** was married in New Bloomfield, Perry County, to **Susanna**, daughter of **John Rice**, a native of McAlisterville, Pa. Her father is a brother of **Jesse Rice**, of the Tuscarora valley. Following are children of this union: **John K.**, steward of the almshouse of Perry County; **Jane (Mrs. Jacob Shuman)**, of Huntingdon County, deceased; **Margaret**, widow of **Samson W. King**, of Duncannon, Pa.; **Stiles K.**; **H. Scott**, deceased; **Robert**, a farmer of Ickesburg, Perry County; **William**; **Henry**, on the homestead near Ickesburg; **Charles**, deceased; and **Mary (Mrs. John Snyder)**, of Ickesburg. **Robert Boden** was a member of the Lutheran Church at Buffalo, Perry County. He died in 1864.

Stiles K. Boden received his primary education in the public schools at Ickesburg, afterwards attending the academy at New Bloomfield for two terms. He next took a full course, and was graduated with honor, at the Fairbank Business College, of Philadelphia. He then worked on the home farm until 1884, when he removed to Spruce Hill Township, Juniata County, and farmed six years for Jesse Rice. His next agricultural employment was in Beale Township, on the Wharton farm. During the winter months he taught school in Spruce Hill and Beale Townships, five terms in the former, and six terms in the latter, in the Pomeroy schoolhouse. He was a successful teacher, and acceptable both to his pupils and to their parents. **Mr. Boden** is a Republican, an advocate of sound money. He was for two years overseer of the poor, and was also assessor of Spruce Hill Township. He is able and trustworthy, and is much respected.

Stiles K. Boden was married February 18, 1875, at Waterford, Juniata County, to **Nettie J.**, daughter of **A. J.** and **Ellen M. Ferguson**, a native of East Waterford, Pa. **Mr. Ferguson** was a merchant of that place, and was killed in 1894 on the Pennsylvania Railroad, being struck by a train. **Mrs. Ferguson** still resides at East Waterford. The children of **Mr.** and **Mrs. Boden** are: **John**, who died young; **Ellie M.**; and **Robert G.** **Mr. Boden** is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and has for three years been an elder.